

The Herald

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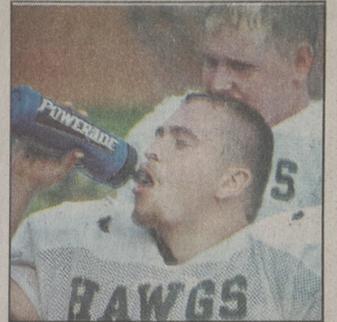
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County no longer in merger fight

By BEN LEDBETTER
 Staff Writer

SHELBY - Mary Accor did not vote for her supporters or opponents in Tuesday's Cleveland County Board of Commissioner's meeting. The commissioner and elementary school principal said she took the opinion of her con-

science when she voted against using further county dollars to finance the Kings Mountain District Schools merger fight. "I think I was speaking for all the county," Accor said. "If it was money coming out of my pocket I would continue to fund it." Accor said the issue was whether to continue to use

county dollars, not to change the current board's anti-merger opinion. "The question here tonight is whether we should continue funding on the county level," Accor said. The Commissioners' 3-2 vote against spending further county money on the merger issue now leaves Kings Mountain alone

financially in its legal fight with the Cleveland County school merger plan. Cleveland County Schools voted to stop funding any further legal costs related to the proposed merger at its last meeting. Accor, Charlie Harry and Chairperson Willie McIntosh voted to stop the county's

spending on the merger. The dissenting votes were from Vice Chairperson Tom Bridges and Ronnie Hawkins. After the citizen's recognition portion where approximately 13 people voiced their opinions on merger, two people said they supported further county

See Merger Page 3A



Mary Accor

Barnette, Smith file for board

By GARY STEWART
 Editor of The Herald



Barnette

The field is set for the Kings Mountain School Board election. Gaston County residents Trace Barnette and Mike Smith filed for the At-Large seat this week, resulting in a race for all of the three seats available in the November election.



Smith

Outside city residents Jerry Blanton, Terry McClain and Kathy Falls had filed earlier and will battle for the two outside city seats. The inside city seats of Board Chair Shearra Miller and Vice-Chair Stella Putnam are not up for election this year. The filing of Smith and Barnette will ensure that the Gaston County section of the City of Kings Mountain that is the focus of the School Board's merger lawsuit has an elected representative on the Board. Barnette was recently appointed to fill the unexpired term of Melony Bolin, who resigned due to health reasons. Barnette, who was sworn in last month and will sit in on his first meeting next Monday night, said he is running "to continue to see that our students can get an excellent

See School Page 3A



City Manager Jimmy Maney looks at a broom still stuck in the wall where someone vandalized his new home.

City Manager's new home is vandalized

By GARY STEWART
 Editor of The Herald

A new home City Manager Jimmy Maney is constructing in the Gold Run subdivision was vandalized sometime between Saturday and Tuesday. An estimated \$1,000 damage was done by a person or persons who entered the back door of the house, ripped some sheetrock from an upstairs family room and used a broom to punch holes in the sheetrock in the kitchen and breakfast nook. The broom was

still sticking in the wall within two feet of the back door, where it is believed the vandal(s) left the structure. Maney was in Shelby on city business Tuesday morning when he received a call from one of his contractors, who discovered the damage. "The last time I had been out there was Saturday," Maney noted, "and everything was fine. I did not go back out until the contractor called me. There had been someone out there working on the outside, but nobody had been on

the inside." The Cleveland County Sheriff's Department is investigating the incident. Judging by the size of footprints left on one wall and in the sandy area where a back porch is planned, it is believed the perpetrator was an adult. The print appeared to be a "size 12 or 13," Maney said. This is not the first time Maney and other city officials have been the targets of such crimes. Recently Maney,

See Maney Page 3A

City Council filing ends Friday at noon

By GARY STEWART
 Editor of The Herald

Another race developed this week when Kings Mountain businessman Rick Moore filed to oppose incumbent Gene White and Jerry Mullinax for the At-Large seat in the November city council election. In addition, two-term Ward 3 councilman Clavon Kelly filed for reelection. To date, there are races in all but two of the Ward seats - Kelly in Ward 3 and Dean Spears in Ward 4. Filing ends at 12 noon Friday at the Cleveland County Board of Elections in Shelby. Fourteen men have filed thus far. PeeWee Hamrick and Jim Belt are challenging incumbent Rick Murphrey in the mayoral race. Lamar Fletcher is challenging incumbent Howard Shipp in Ward 1; Preston Leonard is opposing incumbent Jim Guyton in Ward 2; and Jeffrey Bostic has filed against incumbent Carl DeVane in Ward 5. Moore, who owns Timms Furniture Company on South Battleground Avenue, is seeking political office for the first time. "Kings Mountain has been very good to me and I think I ought to give a little bit of my time back to the city and just see if I can make things a little



Bostic



Kelly



Moore

See Council Page 3A

Hayes declines to run for reelection

By GARY STEWART
 Editor of The Herald

After 40 years of continuous service to the City of Kings Mountain, Councilman Bob Hayes is stepping aside. Hayes, who served the Kings Mountain Police Department for 36 years before being elected to two consecutive terms on City Council, said he will not seek to retain his At-Large seat in the November election because his priorities over the next several years must be to his family. Hayes' wife, Sue, a retired employee of Winn-Dixie, recently found out that she has bladder cancer. Her cancer is in remission, but Hayes said at this time it is more important for him to be with her than to serve on City Council. "I'm 63 years old and have had forty continuous years with the City," he said. "I think it's about time to go. I just want to look after my wife and try to do a little traveling." Hayes said as a councilman he did "everything in my power to vote on issues according to my convictions, and with the utmost regard for the trust that the good citizens of Kings Mountain placed with me." Hayes said he felt like City Council over the past four years did a good job "putting the taxpayers' money to good use." "I could have received no greater honor than the confidence shown me by electing me to two terms on City Council," he said. "I always tried to do the right thing, but sometimes it is



Hayes

See Hayes Page 3A

Four seek two seats on Grover Council

By BEN LEDBETTER
 Staff Writer

Four candidates have filed for the two available seats on the Grover Board of Commissioners. The seats open are currently occupied by Mayor Pro-Tem Max Rollins and John Higginbotham. Rollins is the only incumbent running for one of the two seats. Higginbotham did not file. "I'd like to see Grover improve and be a better town," Rollins said. Rollins has served the board for approximately five years as a commissioner and as mayor. John Harry, who filled an unexpired term of current Mayor Bill Favell, said serv-

ing on town council is way to give to the town. "I guess I'm trying to give back to Grover what it's given me most of my life," Harry said. Harry, an employee at Grover Industries, is a life-long resident of Cleveland County. Bill Willis, who has lived in Grover for approximately 11 years, will be making his initial run for office in North Carolina. Willis was a town commissioner when he lived in Michigan. "I like the town," Willis said. "I like to do what I can to keep it a good place to live." Willis said he was satisfied with how the town is run

See Grover Page 3A

Grover buildings up for sale

By BEN LEDBETTER
 Staff Writer

GROVER - Because of the pressure being lowered at a meter, the town was out of water Saturday afternoon. Town officials were in the office Saturday to answer residents' questions about the outage. "The calls were two to three minutes apart," Town Clerk Barbara Barrett said. "Sometimes both lines were ringing at one time." The outage lasted approximately 90 minutes. At the town's monthly meeting Monday, the town council discussed duties of town council and the mayor. The issue was tabled to a future meeting. In closed session the council discussed the possibility of

See Buildings Page 3A



A majority of the buildings in the town of Grover will be for sale at auction Saturday on Main St.



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