

The Herald

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KM City Council election Tuesday

By GARY STEWART
 Editor of The Herald

Area voters will go to the polls Tuesday, November 6 to elect representatives to the Kings Mountain and Grover city councils and Kings Mountain District School Board.

While overall voter turnout is expected to be low because this is an "off-year" election in which there are no State and Federal government elec-

tions, County Elections Board Chairman Debra Blanton said she expects a large voter turnout in Kings Mountain.

Twenty-one persons are seeking elected positions in Kings Mountain, and there is a race for all of the eight seats available.

One-term incumbent mayor Rick Murphrey is being challenged by political newcomer Jim Belt and longtime hopeful Peewee Hamrick.

All of the incumbent councilmen are seeking reelection except for At-Large representative Bob Hayes. The retired Kings Mountain Police Chief chose not to run to spend more time with his wife, who has cancer.

The other At-Large incumbent, Gene White, is seeking a seat along with former councilman Jerry Mullinax, Glenn Carroll, Bernice Chappell, and Rick Moore.

Ward 1 incumbent Howard Shipp is

challenged by Lamar Fletcher; Ward 2 incumbent Jim Guyton squares off against former KM Recreation Department employee Preston Leonard and Brenda McFalls Ross; Ward 3 incumbent Clavon Kelly faces a challenge from Gary E. Cooke, Kenneth B. Hamrick, and Wayne Worcester; Ward 4 incumbent Dean Spears is opposed by Kay Hambright; and Ward 5 incumbent Carl DeVane faces Jeffrey Q. Bostic.

In Grover, four persons are seeking three commissioners' seats. They are John Harry, Chuck Potts, Max D. Rollins and Bill Willis.

Five persons are seeking three seats on the Kings Mountain Board of Education. Incumbents Jerry Blanton and Terry B. McClain, both of whom were appointed to the Board to fill unexpired terms, are challenged by

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THE LINEUP

K. M. City Council

For Mayor
 (Vote for one)

Jim Belt
 Peewee Hamrick
 Rick Murphrey

For Ward 1
 (Vote for one)

Lamar Fletcher
 Howard H. Shipp

For Ward 2
 (Vote for one)

Jim Guyton
 Preston Leonard
 Brenda McFalls Ross

For Ward 3
 (Vote for one)

Gary E. Cooke
 Kenneth B. Hamrick
 Clavon Kelly
 Wayne Worcester

For Ward 4
 (Vote for one)

Kay M. Hambright
 Dean Spears

For Ward 5
 (Vote for one)

Jeffrey Q. Bostic
 Carl B. DeVane

For At-large
 (Vote for two)

Glenn Carroll
 Bernice Chappell
 Rick Moore
 Jerry Mullinax
 Gene White

For KM School Board

Outside City
 (Vote for two)

Jerry Z. Blanton
 Kathy B. Falls
 Terry B. McClain

At-large
 (Vote for one)

Trace Barnette
 Michael S. Smith

Grover Town Council

Commissioner
 (Vote for three)

John Harry
 Chuck Potts
 Max D. Rollins
 Bill Willis

*Polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m.

*Grover polling place is Grover Town Hall.

*Bethware polling places are El Bethel United Methodist Church fellowship hall, and Oak Grove Baptist Church fellowship hall.

*KM polling places are KM #1 Second Baptist Church, KM #2 Boyce Memorial ARP Church, KM #3 First Baptist Church, and KM #4 American Legion Post 155.

THE BEAUTY OF FALL



The Kings Mountain area is ablaze with fall color as leaves are changing and rapidly falling from trees. One of the most beautiful sites in the area has been El Bethel United Methodist Church, where this huge Maple tree is flanked by the sanctuary and fellowship building.

GARY STEWART / THE HERALD

CARE hosts KM mayoral forum

By BEN LEDBETTER
 Staff Writer

Candidates gathered last Thursday at Mount Zion Baptist Church during a forum sponsored by Concerned Citizens for Responsible Education (CARE).

Two of the three candidates running for the mayor's office in Kings Mountain attended the forum, and answered questions on topics including recreation for the city's teenage population and racial diversity in the city's hiring practices.

Candidates were given time to respond to questions from the audience during the approximate one hour, 15 minute question and answer session.

Incumbent Rick Murphrey said the current state of the city's finances is in good shape, and compared the city to a business.

"The City of Kings Mountain is a \$30 mil-

lion business," Murphrey said.

Murphrey said he was instrumental in lowering property taxes by four cents and talked about locking in gas prices during one month last year.

Jim Belt, who is a former chairman of the Planning and Zoning Board, a former member of the Board of Adjustments, and a member of the Senior Center Advisory Board, said his main issue is the citizens.

"To get along, we've got to recognize what each other's needs are," Belt said.

Belt said while the city has provided ample recreation opportunities for the children of the community something must be done for the adolescent and young adult population.

"What is happening is the young people are moving out of Kings Mountain," Belt said.

Murphrey said the city's partnership with

the Cleveland County YMCA has helped the lack of teenage recreation.

"The YMCA partnership brings a tremendous amount of opportunities that they didn't have before," Murphrey said.

The Watterson Street Greenway and possibly putting back the basketball courts at Davidson Park are other things the city is doing to increase the amount of recreation opportunities in the area.

On the issue of jobs and training, Murphrey said many industries start partnerships with area community colleges to train employees, while others train employees on the job. Companies will favor communities with low taxes and utility costs and recreation opportunities, Murphrey said.

Belt said people in the community must

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Candidates address issues at forum



Jim Guyton, Ward Two incumbent, takes time to talk with people in the audience after a candidates' forum for city council and mayor candidates Monday at the Kings Mountain Woman's Club.

By BEN LEDBETTER
 Staff Writer

Few controversial moments were present Monday night at the Kings Mountain Woman's Club Forum for candidates seeking office in Kings Mountain city government.

During the 90 minute forum, candidates answered four questions, then a sampling of those from the audience.

Fourteen candidates attended Monday night and answered questions ranging from downtown revitalization, city-owned Davidson and City Lakes, video poker, and liquor by the drink.

On the issue of selling the city-owned lakes, Mayoral can-

didate Jim Belt said he is interested in studying the issue.

"It was very interesting to me," Belt said. "We need a place for travelers."

Incumbent Rick Murphrey said he favors preserving them, a view shared by the current city council.

"I think it's an important part to preserve those lakes," Murphrey said.

Ward Five Councilman Carl DeVane said the lakes could provide further recreation opportunities and Jim Guyton said the lakes will eventually need to be repaired.

At-large Councilman Gene White said he also agreed to keeping the lakes after initially

being against it.

Ward One Councilman Howard Shipp said although he initially wanted to sell the two lakes, he is now for keeping them.

"I think that's one of the best votes I cast since I've been on City Council," Shipp said.

Ward Four incumbent Dean Spears also changed his view on the lake issue, now favoring keeping them.

Ward Five challenger Jeff Bostic said the lakes was a simple issue, and the two bodies of water add character to the city.

"That's one of the natural resources that make Kings

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