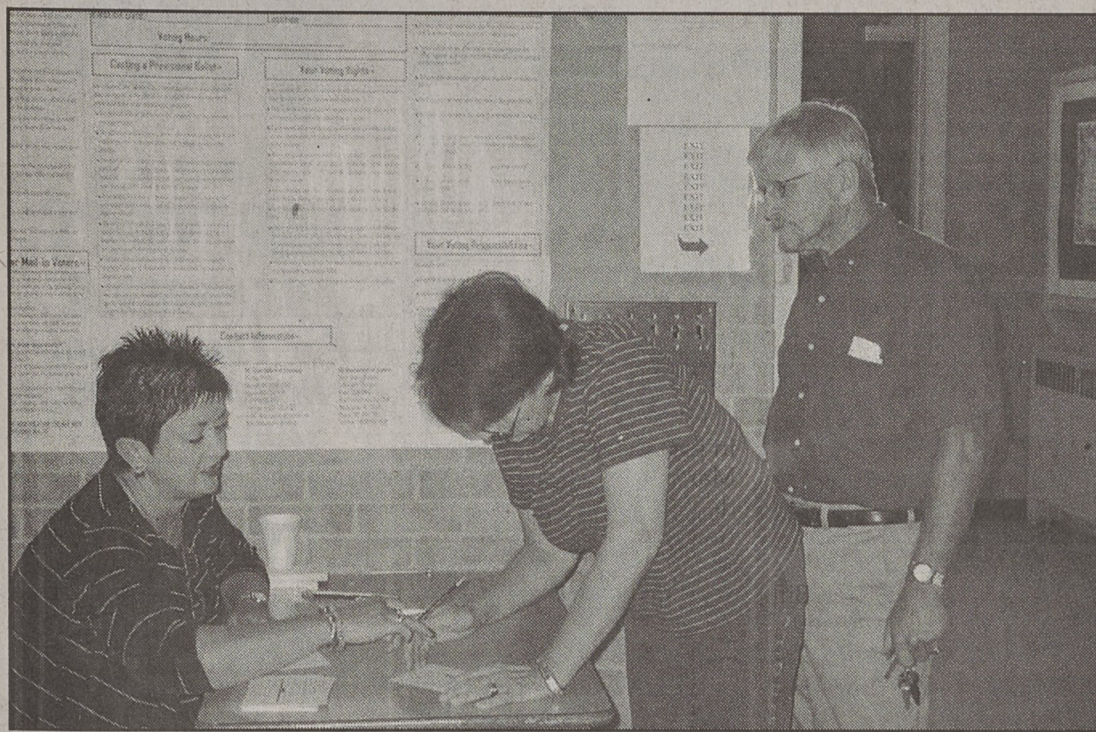


LOCAL



ANDIE L. BRYMER/HERALD

Poll worker Tricia Propst signs in Mary-Wade Smith and Bob Smith at the Ward 2 voting site Boyce Memorial Presbyterian Church.

KM residents attend NAACP convention

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

Three Kings Mountain residents have returned from the NAACP national convention in Philadelphia.

Frank and Marilyn Williams and Esther Campbell attended the organization's 95th annual convention. A total of 14 people from Cleveland County participated.

Frank Williams was impressed with Democrat presidential candidate John Kerry who addressed between 6,000 and 7,000.

"He's got it all together. I think he would make a good president," Williams said.

The organization's President and CEO Kweisi Mfume, board Chairman Julian Bond, comedian and activist Dick Gregory, entertainer Bill Cosby, Rev. Jesse Jackson and Miss America 2004 Erica Dunlap also spoke.

Jackson talked about the 2000 election. "Several others states, they said, were in the same state. It wasn't publicized like in Florida," Williams said.

A number of workshops focused on vot-

ing rights.

Williams was impressed with the number of young people attending the July convention. He would like to see more get involved at the local level.

"We really need young people. We're working on that," he said.

Williams also encourages people of all ethnic backgrounds to get involved with the organization.

"It's not a one race thing. We have a lot of white members," he said. "When we say colored people, we mean all colors. We want equality for all people."

Williams, who serves on the organization's executive board, joined in 1982. He promised himself when he retired he would attend regional, state and national NAACP events.

"That's what I've been doing," he said. Williams attended last year's convention in Miami and plans to be at the 2005 Milwaukee event.

For more information on the Cleveland County NAACP, call Williams at 704-739-7701 or President Rev. Charles Turner.

City Council to vote on extending gas lines to Ebenezer community

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

Kings Mountain City Council will vote Monday night on an approximate \$95,000 proposal to extend gas lines into the Ebenezer community.

Utility committee members approved the move during their Tuesday afternoon meeting. City councilmen Houston Corn, Rick Moore and Howard Shipp make up the committee. Moore is the chairman.

Gas Director Mike Nicholson told the committee he expects that customers who already have propane lines will sign up almost immediately. The project could be in

place by winter, he said.

Just over 70 residents signed a petition requesting gas service. The petition does not bind them to purchasing gas.

The city will use a reimbursement from the Department of Transportation to fund the project. The DOT is paying back the city for utility work it did during the Interstate 85 and N.C. 161 project.

In other business, Brian Heath of EnLine Energy gave a presentation on hedge purchasing of natural gas. The city used EnLine last year to purchase some of its gas earlier in the season at lower prices and is considering doing so again this year.

Planning and Zoning Board delays vote on Dellingers' zoning request

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER
Staff Writer

The Kings Mountain Planning and Zoning Board voted unanimously Tuesday to postpone making a recommendation on a conditional use request.

William and Shirley Dellinger of Hickam Drive requested a change from Residential 10 to Residential 20 with a conditional use.

Rodney and Heather Gillian, relatives of the couple, want to replace the single wide mobile home they currently live in with a double wide. The board said it was willing to grant the conditional use allowing the new mobile home.

The board also advised the Gillians if they want to build a barn or other structure, this information should be requested as part of the written conditional use request. The Gillians have some livestock.

According to board Chairman Jim Childers, once a property owner has received a conditional use the board cannot ever grant another conditional use to that owner. However, conditional uses remains attached to property when it is sold.

Rodney Gillian accused the city and the

board of not being helpful. Gillian wants to replace the mobile home before cold weather.

Board members and staff contend that they have previously explained the need for all planned improvements to be included on the conditional use request. The Gillians deny this.

The board said it is trying to help the Gillians.

The city council has the final say when it meets later this month. The planning and zoning board's decision is a non-binding recommendation.

In other business, the board re-elected Childers as its chairman. Lou Ballew made the nomination and Preston Todd and Tony Ruppe also voted for Childers.

Board member David Allen nominated Ron Humphries. Phil Hager, Allen and Humphries voted for Humphries.

Humphries was selected as vice-chairman. He received votes from everyone except Todd. Prior to the vote, Ballew nominated Allen, who declined the nomination.

Staff member Tripp Hord told the board that it may see changes in rules regarding fences around swimming pools.

Vote postponed on KM sewer lift stations

The Kings Mountain City Council has again postponed a vote on three sewer lift stations.

The council met July 12 to vote but rescheduled for July 16. A public notice was issued July 15 cancelling that meeting until further notice.

The delay is caused because the city does not own the three properties where it wants to build the lift stations.

The city plans to borrow \$1.48 million to build the stations and repair City Lake Dam. BB&T is expected to finance the loan at 3.9 percent interest.

BRIEFS

KMHS yearbook wins state award

The 2004 Milestones, the Kings Mountain High School yearbook, won Book of Distinction, the second highest level of recognition, at the recent North Carolina Media Association (NCSMA) Summer Institute at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

KMHS also earned second place for its advertising section and honorable mention for its copy and layout designs.

"I am very proud of my hard-working and dedicated staff members," said Tara Fleisher, KMHS yearbook advisor. "The students worked very hard this year to produce a beautiful book for their fellow students. Nine students even participated in a summer workshop to begin preparing for next year's book. They tell me it will be even better than 2004!"

All were recognized at the annual institute, held at the UNC-CH School of Journalism and Mass Communications. High school journalism students and teachers from across the state participated. The institute includes training by UNC journalism faculty and other professional journalists. NCSMA supports and monitors student journalism in the state's high schools.

"Institute activities immerse students into campus life and journalistic work. They design, write, photograph and edit their own work," said Monica Hill, director of NCSMA.

"NCSMA awards, distributed during the Institute, recognize many talented North Carolina student journalists," Hill said. "These awards reflect the quality and value of free expression."

West Elementary sets open house

West Elementary School will hold open house Thursday, August 5 from 1-3 p.m.

EDC to meet today in Shelby

The Economic Development Council will meet July 22 at 4 p.m. at the Chamber office in Shelby.

For more information call Scott Darnell or Misti Humphries at 487-8521.

Brest completes basic training

Army National Guard Pvt. William T. Brest II has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises.

He is the son of William Brest of S. Ridge St., Dallas, Texas, and Donna Goins of McCall Drive, Bessemer City.

Brest is a 2003 high school graduate of Gaston College, Dallas.

NC House passes Moore's gun bill

The state House gave final approval last week to a bill which makes firing a gun on school property a Class F felony.

Local representatives Tim Moore and Debbie Clary introduced the bill after a September, 2003 incident at Burns Middle School. A student fired shots inside the

building but no one was injured. The court ruled that a school is not an enclosure and threw out a charge of firing into an occupied building.

The bill is now awaiting Gov. Mike Easley's signature.

In a press release, Moore called the legislation a direct result of the people of Cleveland County sharing the story of what happened in hopes of making schools safer across the state.

KM man faces murder charge

A Kings Mountain man has been charged with murder and three more local residents face felony conspiracy and accessory after the fact charges in the death of John Lee Sherman Jr., 19.

The Cleveland County Sheriff's Office arrested Christopher Oneal Brown, 30, of 104 Kilgore Drive last week. In addition to murder, Brown is also charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon.

Jonathon Jake Hamrick, 22, of 108 Kilgore Drive and Kevin Lamar Lockhart, 19, of 550 Kilgore Drive has been charged with felony accessory after the fact and felony conspiracy.

Hamrick is jailed in the Cleveland County Detention Center under a \$50,000 secured bond. Due to injuries received in an unrelated shooting in Shelby, Lockhart was released under an unsecured bond. Brown was denied bond.

Sherman was found lying in the roadway of Dixon Dairy Road at approximately 7:55 a.m. July 3. His body was left there sometime after midnight, according to a press release from the Sheriff's office.

The investigation continues.

BC Class of '94 plans reunion

The Bessemer City High School Class of 1994 will hold its 10-year reunion on August 20-21.

Reunion organizers are currently seeking contact information for classmates. For more information, call Tricia Davis at (704) 458-5198 or e-mail triciard76@yahoo.com or e-mail Becky Murphy at beckyhuss@hotmail.com.

Football camp set at BCMS

Bessemer City Middle School will hold a fundamentals football camp on Saturday, July 31 from 9 a.m. - 12 noon.

BCMS students in the seventh and eighth graders are eligible to participate. Cost is \$20 and lunch will be served at the end of the camp. Additionally, a pass, punt and kick contest will be held with first, second and third place awards given.

To pre-register, call Lindell Creed at (704) 435-1466. On-site registration will be held the day of the camp at 8:45 a.m.

Students planning to play fall sports at Bessemer City Middle School are reminded that they must have a health physical before the first day of practice to participate.

Volunteers wanted to deliver meals

The Gaston County Adult Nutrition Program is looking for volunteers to deliver meals to homebound elderly residents in Bessemer City.

Volunteers spend one hour a month delivering a hot lunch to the elderly. For more information, call (704) 862-7676.

Crisis Center to hold bag sale

The Bessemer City Crisis Center will hold a \$5 bag sale during the month of July.

Store hours are Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. - 12 noon.

For more information, call (704) 629-2147. The center is located at 111 N. 12th St. in Bessemer City.

Registration set for BC pre-school

The Bessemer City Recreation Department is currently accepting registration for its pre-school program.

The three-year-old children attend on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. and cost is \$40 per month. The four-year-old children attend on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. and cost is \$50 per month.

For more information, call (704) 629-5111.

Myrick visits FMC facility

Congressional representative Sue Myrick (R-9) visited the FMC Lithium plant in Bessemer City on Monday, July 12.

Enrique Bertrain, plant manager, welcomed Myrick on behalf of the company. During her visit, Myrick toured the new organics semi-works facility and met with employees.

The FMC facility in Bessemer City employs more than 300 people and produces lithium-based chemicals and minerals for industrial and consumer applications.

BC Class of '64 plans reunion

The Bessemer City High School Class of 1964 will hold its 40th reunion on October 23 in Gastonia.

Anyone with contact information for classmates should call Liz Crosby Heffner at (704) 629-5269. Any addresses and other information for classmates can be mailed to Heffner at PO Box 161, Bessemer City, NC 28016 or sent by e-mail to lizcheffner_1@msn.com.

Cross Country practice to begin

Kings Mountain High will begin cross country practice Monday, August 2 at 5:30 p.m.

For more information call Coach John Foster at 739-0747 or 692-0634.

PRIMARY

From 1A

and family, people who got out and voted, I don't know what I would have done without them," Hutchins said.

The Kings Mountain man said he is at a point in his life where it is time to give back to the community. He believes residents will be receptive to his ideas.

"I think our county is ready for a change," Hutchins said.

Kings Mountain resident Jim Testa, who ran unopposed in the state Senate primary, will face Democrat incumbent Walter Dalton in the general election.

Representative Debbie Clary won the Republican primary against challenger Floyd Wright. She will face Democrat Jim Long in November.

Patrick McHenry had the second highest number of votes in the Republican race for the 10th District U.S. House seat. He will face Catawba County Sheriff David Huffman in a second primary in August.

McHenry is currently in the state House representing a portion of Gaston County. Tenth District Democrat contenders John Cole and Anne Fischer may face a run-off.

CORRECTION

Dr. Martha Plonk's grandfather's name was incorrect in a July 15 story. His name is William L. Plonk.