

# The Herald

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## ELECTION '05

### 3 more file for Council

By GARY STEWART  
Editor of The Herald

Races continue to develop for Kings Mountain City Council, but as the filing period heads into its final eight days Ward 4 is without a candidate and Wards 1 and 2 incumbents have no opposition.

Former Councilman Dean Spears filed Monday for one of the two at-large seats, joining Butch Pearson in that race. Then on Tuesday, Garland Wayne Edwards, who had filed on Monday for the Ward 1 seat, returned to the Board of Elections and changed his filing to at-large.

Also on Monday, Tommy Hawkins filed to run against incumbent Jerry Mullinax in Ward 3.

To date, Ward 4 Councilor Kay Hambricht and at-large members Rick Moore and Houston Corn have not filed for reelection.

Edwards, 55, a Vietnam veteran and a former city employee, is running for public office for the first time. He said his main concern is for city employees and persons in the community who have to live on low incomes.

"I was on the police force for five years and I'm familiar with how some city employees have to struggle," he said. "I have the utmost respect for police officers and they, as well as other city employees, are not getting what they're worth."

Edwards, who served with KMPD from 1971-76, said he favors making incentives available for all city employees. "With incentives you get a better working government," he said.

Edwards said he is also concerned with low income families, especially the elderly, who are facing mounting expenses.

"It's hard to get by on what they get," he said. "They have to pay power bills that keep surging upward and upward and never go down. It's hard for these people to live."

Spears, who lost to Hambricht in the Ward 4 race two years ago, said he decided to file at-large this year because he is well-known all over town and people all over town "know what I did previously."

Before being upset in the 2003 race, Spears had spent eight years on council, including the first four as an at-large representative and the last four as Ward 4 representative.

If elected, he said he would work on several goals, many of which were started while he served on Council.

"Naturally, I'm for economic development," he said. "I think any incentive that we could give would be too little. I think we should give incentives to attract industry."

Spears said he also wants to see work start back up on the main water line from Moss Lake to the city. That project started several years ago and two phases were completed, but nothing has been done recently.

"We need to work on that," he said. "We put a See Election, 4A

## KM Guard unit to be deployed

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
Staff Writer

The Kings Mountain 505th National Guard Unit is being deployed again. A send-off ceremony will be held Saturday at 2 p.m. at Kings Mountain High School, Barnes Auditorium.

No details on the ceremony are available at this time but the public is invited.

The unit will leave for Fort Dix, New Jersey next Thursday for training, according to Ellis Noell, city

special events coordinator.

Tuesday afternoon soldiers were at the Armory inspecting clothing and field equipment. Approximately 140 to 150 members will be deployed, according to First Sgt. Mauney.

This is the unit's second deployment since the September 11 terrorist attacks. The unit served at Fort Mead, Maryland in 2002 and 2003.

Family Readiness Group leader Paula Dale was on

hand Tuesday to see what items soldiers would like mailed to them during their deployment. She also works with families while the unit is away.

"We try to be here for anything they need," Dale said.

Groups which would like to do fund raisers or other shows of support for the troops may contact Dale at adpd@charter.net, 828-294-0989 or 1921 Woodridge Drive, Hickory, NC 28602.



Specialist William Yow inspects his equipment Tuesday at the National Guard Armory in Kings Mountain.

ANDIE BRYMER/HERALD

## Beating the heat



Katelyn Gladden, 5, cools off under a spray of water during Kings Mountain's annual Beach Blast Saturday afternoon at Patriots Park. The heat wave which hit 100 degrees Tuesday and 102 Wednesday with a heat index of 115, is expected to break today and high temperatures should be in the 80s this weekend.

## Heat should ease off by weekend

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
Staff Writer

Cleveland and neighboring counties have been under a National Weather Service heat advisory this week with temperatures reaching triple digits. Relief is expected to begin today as temperatures drop to between 80 and 90 degrees.

Heat related calls are up at Cleveland County EMS this week,

according to Joe Lord, agency director.

Most of these emergencies involve elderly individuals with existing respiratory problems like COPD, asthma and CHF.

Lord advises staying inside between noon and 6 p.m. when temperatures reach their peak. Drinking plenty of fluid throughout the day instead of waiting until dehydration has set in and getting more rest also helps, he said.

The Patrick Senior Center offers a cool environment for seniors. Games, puzzles and television are available in addition to regular programming.

Through a Duke Energy grant, center staff purchased 33 20-inch box fans. In the last month, 29 of those have been distributed. Seniors age 60 and older without air conditioning are eligible for the fans. Seniors who cannot use their air conditioning due to arthri-

See Heat, 7A

## National Night Out Tuesday in KM

Kings Mountain will host its third annual National Night Out Tuesday, Aug. 2 at Patriots Park from 5:30 to 9 p.m.

Police Chief Melvin Proctor describes the event as a chance to build the bridge between law enforcement and the community.

Police will grill hot dogs and hamburgers. Top 40 band Mink will play. There will be helium balloons.

KMPD detectives, traffic enforcement officers, Community Oriented Policing members and Explorers will meet with the public. Representatives from Kings Mountain Fire Department, Cleveland and Gaston counties Sheriff's offices, North Carolina Highway Patrol and Cleveland County EMS also will be at the event.

Child identification kits will be distributed.

Police say a good relationship with the public means safer communities.

"Without their help we could never do it," Proctor said. He credits the department's work with members of Mountain Crest Neighborhood Watch for cleaning up a drug problem there in 2001. The department is working with residents in Crescent Circle, Kings Row

See Night Out, 7A

## Dream Come True

### Shane Davis sworn in as Grover Police Chief

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
Staff Writer

Shane Davis fulfilled an almost lifelong ambition Monday night when he was sworn in as Grover's chief of police.

"It's always been a dream," he said.

A Grover native, Davis

has worked for Kings Mountain Police Department for the past seven years as both a patrol sergeant and as a criminal investigator.

For Davis answering calls is the best part of law enforcement.

"You can visibly see the difference you've made," he

said.

Davis is so eager to get to work that he already has researched and applied for grants for the newly formed department.

Since the early 1990s Grover contracted with the Cleveland County Sheriff's Office to provide one full-

See Davis, 3A



ANDIE BRYMER / HERALD  
Shane Davis on the job as Grover's new police chief.

## Council requires fences for all pools

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
Staff Writer

All swimming pools in Kings Mountain, regardless of when built, must be fenced, City Council decided Tuesday night.

In a unanimous vote, council approved the measure which first came up last summer. Grandmother Betty Humphries made an impassioned plea that the rules be changed. She was concerned that a partially fenced pool near her grandchildren's residence was a safety hazard. Since then work on that fence has been completed.

The new rule also gives the city the power to keep pool owners from filling pools during a drought and from draining during periods of excessive rain. Nor can pools be left untreated to become a mosquito breeding ground or be drained onto neighboring yards.

In other business, council unanimously passed a rezoning request which will allow property across from Mountain Rest Cemetery to be developed for patio and town homes. Developer David Faunce says he plans to sell the property to a company which will build the residential community.

Council unanimously approved a measure which would allow non-profit agencies to have scrolling message signs. Until Tuesday, only government agencies could have the signs.

The new rule also allows businesses to put the date on electronic signs. Until the measure passed, businesses had only been allowed to post the time and temperature.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, Realtor Kelly Hastings asked the council to join him in opposing Pentagon budget decision 753. The See Council, 7A