

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Actions of one can hurt many people

To the editor:

It never ceases to amaze me the things one person can do to hurt so many people. We have been so blessed this year in Kings Mountain by a beautiful program of inspirational gospel music aired on radio station WKMT. It was started Dec. 31, 2004 as an evening of music to welcome the new year. This program was hosted by a sincere and honest gentleman by the name of Jerry Mullinax. The program as so well received that it eventually became a six-night event from approximately 7 p.m. until 1 a.m. Tuesday through Sunday.

Jerry Mullinax serves on our City Council in Ward 3 and is seeking re-election. His opponent has falsely accused Mullinax of using the radio time to promote his political agenda. I have been a regular listener to this broadcast from the beginning and have heard absolutely no campaigning. Because of Mr. Tommy Hawkins' underhanded tactics he has been responsible for having our gospel music taken off the air. There is no proof that Mr. Mullinax has been anything less than honest and has run a clean campaign.

This gospel music ministry has blessed so many not only in Kings Mountain but all of Cleveland and Gaston counties.

Announcements are made of many church functions that include gospel music concerts, revivals, Vacation Bible School and homecomings. We observe birthdays, anniversaries, tributes to loved ones and have special programs designed to celebrate patriotic holidays. I keep a notebook filled with prayer requests that have come in these past months with a count of approximately 500 names.

This ministry was meant to be a blessing to anyone who wishes to listen and to lift up the name of Jesus Christ. If it was being used for any other purpose I would not be a part of it.

To all our loyal home bound friends I would like to say you are not forgotten. We will be back soon.

Iris Biddy
Kings Mountain

Radio show never mentioned politics

To the editor:

This is the first time I have written to a newspaper. I have never felt the need to do so until now.

Sine the first of this year we have been blessed by a gospel music broadcast at WKMT radio station in Kings Mountain. It has been hosted by Mr. Jerry Mullinax who is a member of the city council and is running for re-election. His opponent has accused him of using

this radio time to promote his chances of winning the election. This could not be further from the truth.

I have been a listener and supporter of this broadcast from the beginning and have never heard politics mentioned. His opponent has hired a lawyer and has had the program taken off the air until after the Nov. 8th election. I cannot believe anyone could do such a thing.

I do not live in the city limits so I can't vote in this election. If I could my vote would be for Jerry Mullinax. At least he is honest and I have a deep respect for him. I hope the citizens of Kings Mountain will rise up against this and get our gospel music back on the air.

Shirley Whitaker
Kings Mountain

Candidate's action 'petty and childish'

To the editor:

I am writing this letter in regards to the city council election in Kings Mountain Ward 3.

I personally think that Mr. Hawkins is being petty, and childish in regards to Jerry Mullinax being on the radio. Mr. Mullinax volunteers his time each night to provide the people of this area with gospel music. I listen to Mr. Mullinax and not one time have I heard him mention the election.

For Mr. Hawkins to show his petulance about this is totally uncalled for. I think Mr. Hawkins owes Mr. Mullinax and apology for his childish behavior. Mr. Mullinax has been taken off the radio until the election because of this nonsense.

If the situation was reversed and Mr. Hawkins was the one volunteering on the radio I do not think this would bother Mr. Mullinax in the least. I think Jerry Mullinax is man enough not to let something this petty bother him and man enough to know this election is won at the polls with the citizens of Kings Mountain voting for the man that they want to represent them. It is not won because of who is on the radio.

I am voting for Jerry Mullinax simply because he is the better man for the job. I want an adult to represent me, not some one who is so childish that he wants to complain simply because he has a little competition. Mr. Hawkins needs to grow up and become an adult before he runs for public office.

Debi Fletcher
Kings Mountain

Vote for Hawkins is a 'vote for you'

To the editor:

I am writing this letter to and for the citizens of Kings

Mountain. In today's society, all the way from the president to the city council, we all seek leaders who will stand up and not be afraid of their outcome or well being but the well being of those they serve. Public office is an honor, but also a very difficult task to perform. Regardless of what these leaders do, they are not going to please everyone.

There are many challenges that we all face. The greatest challenges is probably the most difficult, to stand up for what is right. It is very simple. We live in a fast paced world where everything is high tech. Sometimes we forget the bottom line, which is the people. And that is what it is all about.

To all candidates who are in office or are seeking office, remember where you came from and where you are going. I know a man who is seeking office in Ward 3. I have seen him in good and bad times - as we all have. He held his hand out to me when no one else would. He is a man with a big heart and a bright mind, who has worked hard - from school to delivering groceries for Tommy Ellison, a former council member, to having his own business. He knows what business and government area.

I don't believe in mixing politics and religion, but our country was built on the principles of freedom of speech and religion. For whatever reason you choose to vote, I urge all citizens of our community to vote in the upcoming election. And knowing Tommy Hawkins as I do, I hope that you will vote for him. Remember, a vote for Tommy is a vote for you.

Michael E. Baity
Kings Mountain

Candidate only wants equal time

Dear Editor:

I would like for the citizens of Kings Mountain to understand it was never my intent to have Jerry Mullinax taken off the air waves of WKMT Radio. I tried for 10 weeks to speak with the owner of the station about getting air time. I even sent a certified letter to the owner and he would not return my calls. I only asked to be treated fairly.

According to Federal Communications Commission laws, a person running for political office doesn't have to discuss his campaign on the air for there to be a conflict with the "equal time rule." Statutes read, "Any identifiable on-air appearance by a station employee, after becoming a legally qualified candidate, would fall under the equal opportunities pro-

vision of the Communications Act."

Jerry Mullinax a candidate running for public office, a City Councilman and an employee of a radio station should know the campaign rules and the FCC laws. One candidate in our area respectively took herself off the air temporarily after filing to run for public office. It is my hope that Jerry Mullinax will be back on the air soon and I apologize to the listeners that are missing his show. If I am elected to City Council I will also work to make sure all citizens of Kings Mountain are treated fairly. I will listen to concerns and research the rights of every citizen and see that justice prevails for all. I have been in business in Kings Mountain for over 40 years. I care about our town and want to help make it the best place to live and call home. I have been married for 41 years and have raised three children in this great community. I want to assure the residents that I will do what is right for our families. I have served on the Planning and Zoning Board for the past year and most recently fought to keep property beside First Wesleyan Church zoned residential. My opponent Jerry Mullinax was the councilman that made the motion to change the zoning to general business and Jerry's sister, councilwoman Kay Hambright seconded the motion, which will allow one of many types of businesses to open next to the church.

I am a member of First Wesleyan Church. I am President of my Sunday school class and was saddened to see the property next door zoned general business, as were many others. I am past President and President elect of the Exchange Club and I also serve on the Kings Mountain Board of Adjustments. I want the citizens of our Ward to know that I have attended 19 out of 21 City Council meetings over the past two years. I as a concerned citizen took time out of my schedule to attend these meetings and to stay informed of the issues facing our town. I am ready to be your representative for City Council Ward 3. As someone who knows and loves our town, I would be an effective leader by addressing the issues that are important to you and by always being a part of the solution. I am asking for your support and your vote for the Ward 3 City Council seat in the election on November 8th. Please get out and vote, every vote counts.

Tommy Hawkins
Kings Mountain

Moore cares about people

To the editor:

I have known Rick Moore for some time now. Over these years I have found Rick to be a man who truly cares about people and doing the right thing. I've watched as Rick has given to people who are in need knowing that he will probably never be re-paid. And that's OK because that's just the way he is. I've listened as Rick has talked about Kings Mountain and how he loves seeing progress made in his home town. I've listened as his voice echoes excitement when a new job is created or when city improvement is implemented to help out the people.

Rick has been a part of Kings Mountain and its political arena for a while now. He has seen lots of improvements made. But his job is not quite finished. Kings Mountain needs to continue moving forward. In my opinion this can only be accomplished by reelecting Rick Moore to city council at large. By doing so Kings Mountain not only keeps someone in office who is well respected in the community but also will keep someone who will dutifully execute within his power to do what's right for everyone. Rick owes no one any favors. He is not a pawn to any special interest. He is a man who has worked to make life better for everyone in Kings Mountain.

To me the choice is quite clear. There is still work that needs to be done. There are still life improvements to be made for everyone in Kings Mountain. I know of no other person more qualified to lead Kings Mountain into the future than Councilman Rick Moore. I urge all voters in Kings Mountain to vote for Rick on November 8. Keep Kings Mountain growing and on that steady path to prosperity. Help Rick to continue in his goal to make Kings Mountain better for all. I urge you to vote for Rick Moore for city council at large.

Billy Estes
Shelby

Let's continue to move forward

To the editor:

I am writing this to express my heartfelt desire that we in Kings Mountain continue to take a step forward. We can not afford to digress in the areas of progress that have been made over the last two years. We need to continue to support and vote for the individual who has not only voiced his support for us but one who has voted for us in Kings Mountain and not

taken the side of special interests.

We need someone who will stand for what is right and not be afraid to take that stand. We need someone who will vote his conscience and not what seems to be the popular way. We need someone who is tried, tested and true. We need a leader who will fight for us at city hall. We need to continue what has been working. The old adage fits perfectly here, "if it's not broken don't fix it."

On November 8th we need to continue making Kings Mountain a better place, a better place that has been helped along the way by electing Rick Moore for city council. Again I urge all of Kings Mountain voters to go to the polls and cast your vote for progress. Cast your vote for Rick Moore, city council at large, and let's keep Kings Mountain moving forward.

Melvin D. Bryant
Kings Mountain

Election Letters

Letters to the editor concerning the November 8 election will be accepted until 12 noon Monday.

Letters in excess of 300 words will not be published.

Letters endorsing candidates will not be accepted for next week's paper. As stated on last week's opinion page, it is the paper's policy not to publish candidate endorsement letters or letters criticizing a candidate on the Thursday preceding an election because there is no opportunity for rebuttal.

All letters must be signed, and for verification purposes include the address and phone number. Letters should be limited to 500 words.

Mail your letter to Editor, The Herald, P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086; bring it to The Herald at 824 East King Street; fax to (704) 739-0611; or e-mail to KMH Letters@kingsmountainherald.com. Letters sent by fax and e-mail must also include name, mailing address and phone number for verification purposes.

Letters may be edited.

Senior Center luncheon slated

The annual Kings Mountain Senior Center volunteer appreciation lunch will be Sat., Oct. 29 at 12 noon. There will be special entertainment and the Charles R. Walker Volunteer of the Year Award will be presented.

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