



Lou Ballew shows off her patriotic socks at the Veterans Day service Friday.



At right, Caleb McComas, 5, Charity McComas, and 1-year-old Elijah McComas, pledge to the flag.

VOTERS: elect three new faces to Bessemer City council

FROM Page 1

Kay McCathen kept her Ward 2 seat (73.06 percent of the vote or 320 votes). Challenger Mike Meeks received 26.94 percent of the vote or 118 votes.

The top vote-getter in the Nov. 8 election was Joe Will, the incumbent Ward 3 commissioner with 414 votes or 98.34 percent followed by the incumbent Ward 1 commissioner "Little Dan" Boling with 365 votes.



Left to right, Jody Walker, Dalton Walker, Ridge Pearson, Nancy Bell, Maggie Walker, and Reagan Pearson and Megan Hamrick, in front, watch the Veterans Day service. Jody's father was a veteran. He passed away on Father's Day.
photos by EMILY WEAVER

VETERANS: honored at city service Friday at Mountain Rest

FROM Page 1

1967; Wayne Thomas, US Marine Corps, Oct. 27, 1968; Melvin Ellison, US Navy, Feb. 27, 1969 and Mike Graham, US Army, Oct. 7, 1970.

"It was a crucial time in our nation's history," said Tesenair, adding, "These memories, sad and proud, these quiet grounds, this cemetery and others like it, remind us with pride our obligation and our opportunity to praise our veterans."

Now the government is taking the opportunity to return respect to the Vietnam veterans by US Senate resolution declaring March 30, 2011 as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans day. It took eight years and three votes in the US House of Representatives to get the resolution passed but that day every year is a chance to repair the wrong done to the veterans," said Tesenair.

Keynote speaker Major Chris Gilbert, of the NC National Guard, and Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey echoed Tesenair's praise of veterans defending our freedom and keeping our homeland safe.

Gilbert, deployed twice to the Middle East since 9/11 called veterans "true Patriots." He told the crowd, "You are worth fighting for," he said of the 10 year fight by US troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. He quoted the writing of Thomas Payne who said, "the harder the conflict the more glorious."

"The American flags you see today mark the final resting place of Kings Mountain heroes- men and women of all services," said the mayor.

When the parade applause quieted in front of the War Memorial on Railroad Avenue, veterans were escorted by police and marched with KM Police Department and Explorer Unit Honor Guard as music was played by the Loch Norman Pipe Band from downtown Kings Mountain to the city cemetery on E. Gold Street. The Pipe music of Highland Cathedral, Flowers of the Forest and Amazing Grace added to the solemn occasion. Shana Adams sang "The National Anthem" and "God Bless America" and Kristen Boone, Miss Kings Mountain, led the pledge of allegiance. Cleveland County Sheriff Alan Norman gave the invocation.

Mayor Murphrey and Major Gilbert placed a red, white and blue wreath on the veteran's memorial and bugler Paul Fulton's "Taps" closed the impressive ceremony.



Mayor Rick Murphrey, left, and Major Chris Gilbert, NCG, salute fallen veterans at the city's Veterans Day service.

RECOUNT: shows Harris still in lead for final seat on board

FROM Page 1

The question was: "would you consider increasing the academic requirements for athletes so they will be eligible for recruitment to colleges and universities for their athletic abilities?"

Harris was quoted as saying, "I am opposed to unilaterally raising the grade point average. 2.0 is set by the N.C. Athletic Association. If we raised it to 2.5 kids could not play in Kings Mountain..."

The response reportedly upset students and staff at Kings Mountain High, although the school was recently rewarded for having the highest GPA among athletes in the county. Harris said that he apologized to KMHS principal Ronny Funderburke last week.

On Thursday, he clarified his statement for The Herald, as follows:

"I am opposed to unilaterally raising the grade point average. If we raised it to 2.5 you could have two students, one in Gaston County and one at KMHS with exactly the same grade point average but the one in Gaston County would get to play and the one at KMHS would not. That's not fair to Cleveland County students. I would support the N.C. Athletic Association raising the bar for all schools."

Ahead of Harris in votes were incumbent Richard Hooker with 3,434, former East Elementary principal Jerry Hoyle with 3,416, incumbent Shearra Miller with 3,325 and incumbent Jack Hamrick with 3,002. The top five vote-getters will be sworn-in to serve at the school board's Dec. 12th meeting.

A candidate whose vote total falls within one percent of the next highest candidate can request a total recount by law. The recount took place at the Cleveland County Board of Elections office on Monday morning.

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