

KINGS MOUNTAIN MIRROR-HERALD

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12 Vie For Six Seats

Runoff Elections November 4

By TOM McINTYRE
Editor, Mirror-Herald

Kings Mountain will be asked to return to the polls Tues., Nov. 4 to elect six commissioners and two trustees to the Kings Mountain Board of Education. In the Tues., Oct. 7 municipal election incumbent Mayor John H. Moss was a clear winner. None of the 34 commissioner candidates received a clear majority although about 55 percent of the registered voters cast ballots. Twelve candidates, two in each district, are involved in the Nov. 4 runoff for commissioner seats. By the deadline for runoff elections, noon Monday, the six next highest vote-getters had filed formal request to local elections secretary Betty Mercier.

Guyton (three); Norman King and Don McAbee (four); James Amos and Bill Grissom (five); and James Dickey and Fred Wright Jr. (six).

The candidates for the two school board seats are Charles F. Mauney, Herman Greene, Mrs. Marion Thomasson, Mrs. June Lee, William Orr and Kyle Smith.

The school board election is being handled by the Cleveland County Elections Board, but local voters will go to the local polls to cast their ballots. Just as in the municipal elections, voters in districts one, two and three will vote at the KM Community Center and those in districts four, five and six go to the National Guard Armory.

Following last Thursday's official canvass of votes at city hall the total number of votes cast for all 34 commissioner candidates was 15,499 (6,866 at East KM and 8,633 at West KM). In the mayoral race a total of 2,260 votes were cast, including 24 write-ins.

Mrs. Mercier said a total of 1,008 ballots were given out at East KM, 1,281 at West KM.

The official results in the Oct. 7 mayoral race show 1,965 votes for Mayor John H. Moss, 147 for Gilbert Hamrick, 65 for Thomas Dellinger and 59 for Al Franklin Brackett, plus 24 for various write-in candidates.

Official results in the commissioner races, beginning with the highest down to the lowest, show Corbet Nicholson (district three) 1,059, Ray Cline (one) 914, Norman King (four) 881, James Amos (five) 841, James Childers (one) 838, Humes Houston (two) 777, James Dickey (six) 610, Fred Wright Jr. (six) 575, Don McAbee (four) 563, Bill Grissom (five) 528, W. S. Biddix (two) 523, Tommy King (four) 516, and Jonas Bridges (six) 489.

Also Hugh A. Logan (one) 441, Jerry Mullinax (two) 354, H. H. Shipp (five) 353, M. C. Pruette Jr. (six) 352, Lloyd Davis (two) 301, James Guyton (three) 299, Hugh Byrd (five) 297, Charles T.

Smith (three) 288, Jerry Ross (three) 266, Taft Clark (five) 203, Mrs. Elizabeth Lynch (two) 201, Charles Parker (six) 151, Paul Ledford (four) 131, Bill Sellers (three) 121, Everette Pearson (three) 112, George Ross (four) 71, Major Loftin (two) 61, Boyce Tesenair (six) 50, Ernest Rome (three) 45, Roy Samuel Hammett (four) 34, and Earl Wayne Worcester (three) 14.

According to the canvass of Oct. 7 voting candidates Ray Cline, district one, Corbet Nicholson, district three, and Norman King, district four, were the three high vote-getters. Candidates Humes Houston, district two, James Amos, district five, and James Dickey, district six, were the next highest vote-getters.

The Oct. 7 election began the new staggered term system for the commissioners and a four year term for the mayor. Had there been no runoff election called, then Cline, Nicholson and King

would have been elected to four year terms, Houston, Amos and Dickey to two year terms.

"Contrary to what we believed earlier," said Luther Bennett, local elections board chairman, "that the district with the highest vote-getter would still be the four-year position no matter who won the run-off, we have now been informed by the state elections board to determine the four year and two year terms following the runoff, we must go to the next highest vote-getter from the Oct. 7 election."

Bennett said he didn't know whether or not the present board had any idea how confusing this system of selection is when they approved staggered terms.

"The best way to explain how it works is to give a hypothetical situation," Bennett said.

The elections chairman said voters must keep in mind that he is talking only about the twelve candidates who will be in the Nov. 4 runoff election.

"For the sake of argument let's take district one," Bennett continued. "Here we have Ray Cline with 914 votes from the Oct. 7 election. He is challenged in the runoff by James Childers, who has 838 votes from Oct. 7. According to these figures district one has a possible four year commissioner, but only if Cline wins the runoff election. If Childers defeats Cline, then we must go to the runoff candidate in another district who polled higher than Childers in the Oct. 7 election. In this case it would be Jim Amos in district five."

Bennett pointed out that Amos polled 841 votes to Childers' 838 votes in the Oct. 7 election.

"Let me emphasize that we are only talking about the 12 men now campaigning in the Nov. 4 runoff election," Bennett said. "All of the other candidates have been eliminated from consideration."

The polls will be open Nov. 4 from 6:30 a. m. until 7:30 p. m.

City Parking Lot Plan Is Revealed

By ELIZABETH STEWART
Mirror-Herald Staff Reporter

Preliminary plans for a 76-car parking lot on Cherokee St. were presented to the commission Tuesday night and timetable calls for completion by Apr. 16.

Meanwhile, merchants in the downtown area have received preliminary working drawings of the proposed construction Mr. Fox describes as "simple and functional."

Mr. Fox said the \$49,600 parking area borders property of 20 businesses in the central business district and all merchants are invited to provide "input" into plans of the city community development project.

"We wanted to try and get away from the asphalt jungle type of thing," said Fox, who said the board that the parking lot would require a minimum "maintenance" with simple brick walkways as refuges for pedestrians. Plantings and a wrought-iron fence through the lot for loading and unloading are included in the plans. The area is located in the rear of businesses which front Battle-

ground Ave.

Plans call for "minimum standards," a tie-in at the existing pedestrian walk at the street and an 18 foot through-

"It's not elaborate", Fox emphasized. He said the timetable includes: receipt of public input on project by Friday 5 p. m.; advertising for bids Nov. 24; letting of contract on Dec. 22; beginning of construction on Jan. 5, 1976; and completion of project on April 16, 1976.

In other actions, the board awarded contact for curb and gutter and paving for 1975 street improvements to Custer Paving Co. of Gastonia, a bidder a \$117,508.90 for paving and guttering and let paving contract to Neal Perkins Construction Co. of Gastonia at \$43,180. Bids were to be 20 percent less than expected, said City Engineer Dennis Fox, and gave that as a reason for splitting the contract to obtain "very reasonable unit prices."

The board also received, but no action until next month, bids for two satellite garbage pickup carts and a wood chipper. Bids for the garbage carts were from Eastern Truff Equipment Co. of Fayetteville, \$9,300; Cumberland Lift, Inc. of Knoxville, \$19,730; and Goin Equipment Sales of Charlotte,

18,982.12. Bids for the wood chipper for the electrical department were: Safety Test Equipment Co. of Shelby, \$4,365; Western Carolina Tractor Co. of Charlotte, \$4,950; and Interstate Equipment Co., Statesville, \$5,423.98.

In another matter involving equipment, the board voted to accept the lowest bid, \$16,573.98, for a mini-computer for the city administrative office and elected to trade-in the city's old computer. Delivery was promised in 90-120 days.

The board approved unanimously abstract of canvassing by the Board of Elections of the Oct. 7 city election and drew one comment from Comm. Jim Amos who in humorous vein asked the mayor, "Why with so many votes are you not smiling?"

Bloodmobile Goal 200 Pints

The Red Cross Bloodmobile visit for Kings Mountain is scheduled Mon., Oct. 27 at the Kings Mountain Community Center, according to co-chairman Lyn Cheshire.

"This time our goal is 200 pints of blood," Cheshire said. "And the bloodmobile facilities will be set up in the gym upstairs at the community center."

The co-chairman for the visit said it was decided to

move upstairs to provide more room and cut down on the waiting period for donors. Additional personnel will be on hand here Oct. 27.

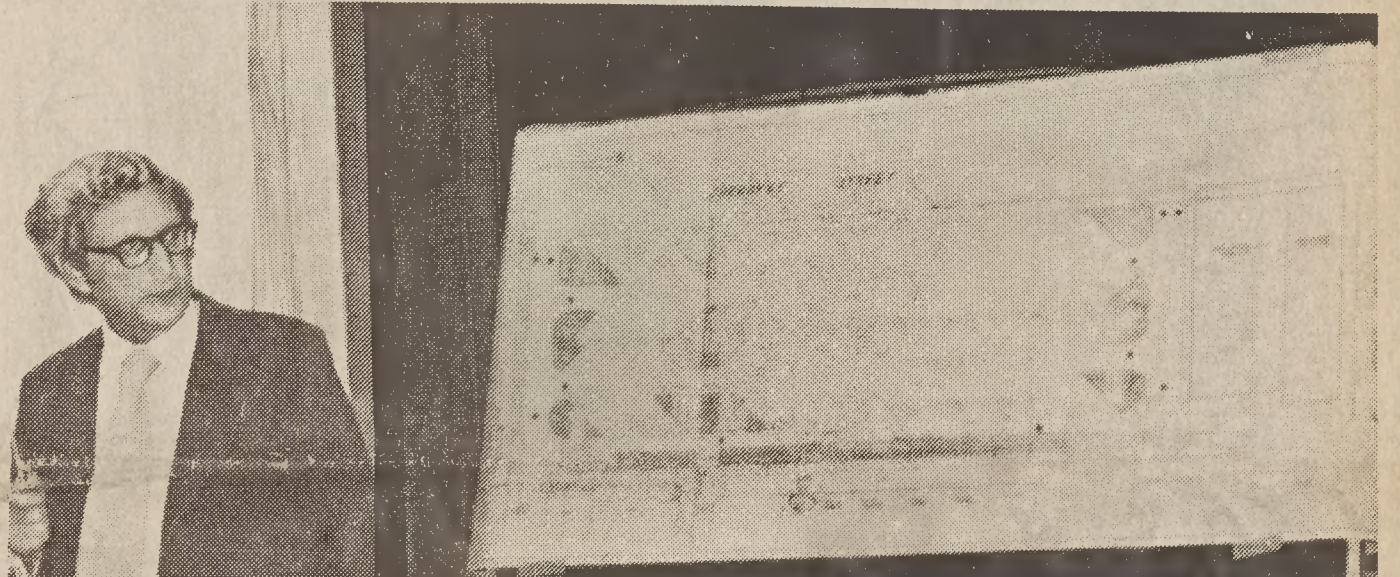
Nursery facilities will also be set up for donors and transportation will be provided on visit day by calling 739-3549.

"In the last two visits here we have come close to the 200 pint donation mark," Cheshire said. "We were actually over the goals set for those visits, but over the past few years

Kings Mountain's quota has not been met and we are way behind because of it."

This will be the first time in 10 years the 200 pint mark will have been met, "if we receive the kind of response our citizens are capable of giving," Cheshire said.

The bloodmobile will operate in the community center gym from 11 a. m. until 4:30 p. m. Bill Grissom co-chairs the bloodmobile visit with Cheshire.



PRELIMINARY PLANS OF PARKING LOT — Preliminary plans for the city's 76-car municipal parking lot on Cherokee St. were presented to the city board of commissioners Monday

night. City Engineer Dennis Fox, pictured, told the commission the project would be "simple and not elaborate but easily maintained."

Gov. Holshouser Addressed NCAE Meeting Here Friday

Governor Jim Holshouser returned to Kings Mountain for the second time last week and addressed members of District Two of the North Carolina Association of Educators during their sixth annual convention in Barnes Auditorium on the KMSHS campus.

The 1,000 educators were commended by the Governor "for not turning to strikes for personal gains" and he drew rounds of applause when he said, "When the money is available in Raleigh, the people won't forget that you put the needs of children first and went to bat in the General Assembly for improved programs and teaching materials."

Prior to the Governor's address, E. B. Palmer, executive secretary of NCAE, had brought up the matter of striking teachers with his comments, "If the teachers don't get a raise this year, I don't know what they'll do. I'm not predicting or threatening a strike but I just don't know what they'll do if they are pushed against the wall."

The Governor noted that in 1974-75 the average salaries for N. C. teachers were 18th in the nation and fringe benefits were equal to an additional 22 percent of salaries.

"North Carolina's teachers", said the Governor, "have stood up to their slogan of putting the kids first and haven't turned to strikes and picket lines. In this time of economic stress you have earned respect of the people of North Carolina."

Prior to introducing the Governor, Dean B. Westmoreland, Kings Mountain teacher who is state president of NCAE, declared that "union activity has nothing to offer teachers that NCAE doesn't offer. Unions are myths with

little to be gained and lots to lose. Why endanger the good relations we enjoy by union affiliation? It's high time we apply treatment for learning, we've had enough of diagnosis."

"Give us tools and we'll do the job", declared Westmoreland, who added, "no teacher ought to have to take his own money to buy supplies and balance his lunchroom report." It's time the public quit complaining about September heat in the classrooms and aircondition the

buildings." "Give us enough clerical assistance and we'll show you a state full of teachers ready, willing and able to do the job. These are fundamentals which deserve to come first," he added.

Mrs. Linda Rader, District Two Director, told the assembly that teachers didn't get a raise last year due to the tight economy and a raise is the number one priority of the NCAE this year.

Governor Holshouser reiterated his support of the

NCAE's efforts to promote quality education in the state. He said the association had earned respect by acting responsibly and professionally in lobbying for a statewide kindergarten program, extended terms for school personnel, improved retirement benefits, reduction of class size, expanded programs for exceptional children, improving learning disabilities, increased psychological and health services in schools and substantial salary increases for teachers.

Letters Praising City On 'Big Day' Released

The City of Kings Mountain has been ridiculed and blasted over some elements of the Oct. 7 battle celebration, but from other factions the city has been praised.

Mayor John H. Moss' office has released a batch of letters congratulating the city and the Bicentennial commission on the planning and execution of the Oct. 7 festivities.

Charlotte Mayor John Belk wrote to say "... I enjoyed being present and commend you on excellent arrangements. It was a great day for Kings Mountain and I'm sure it will be remembered for years to come..."

Limestone College President Jack J. Early said "... You are to be congratulated on the excellent manner in which the program was handled. It was especially significant that you were able to secure Vice President Rockefeller for your speaker..."

Roy Dahmer, general

manager, Eaton Corp. of Michigan, wrote "... Just a note to let you know how much we enjoyed the program last Tuesday. It was outstanding. It was also obvious that you and the committees planned well and are to be commended for a job well done. Many thanks for including us..."

"... There were so many times yesterday that I heard from people across the state and even Washington."

"... Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a small part of the Vice President's visit yesterday, which to me, and from all of the comments I heard, was an overwhelming success," writes H. E. LeGrand, plant manager of Fiber Industries, Inc., Shelby.

Miss Elizabeth Radford, DAR, Asheville, called the festivities "... truly magnificent and colorful..."

Other letters released by the mayor's office were of the congratulatory type from Paul Limerick of the Shelby

Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Wyan Washburn, president of the Cleveland County Historical Association and others.

"The letters came to my office," Mayor Moss said, "but they were meant to be shared by all of the citizens of Kings Mountain."

DIXON SPEAKER
Rev. Kenneth George, director of the city's Senior Citizens Program, will fill the pulpit at the 9:15 a. m. service Sunday at Dixon Presbyterian Church.

TO WASHINGTON
M-Sgt. Herman O. Stewart has reported for duty in D. C. after a several days visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Stewart. M-Sgt. Stewart was enroute from his home in Montgomery, Ala. where he had also been attending special classes at the University for several months. His and son, Robbie, continue to reside in Montgomery.



Photo By Gary Stewart

NEW GREETING — Motorists coming into Kings Mountain city limits are now greeted by a new sign on Highway 74 west. Recently

erected was this sign on the right advising motorists that Kings Mountain is a bicentennial community.