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Three candidates uncontested in bids County Council seats

By Jenny Hartley-Senior Reporter

There are three uncontested County Council races this year.

County Councilman Rudy Carter, a Democrat who represents District 5, did not face an opponent this year. He has served nine years on council and is now the council's chairman.

District 1 Councilman Larry McCullough, who faced a Republican opponent in the primary earlier this year, faces no opposition on Nov. 4. District 7 Councilwoman Kathy Sistare, a Democrat, defeated Councilman Wayne Kersey in the primary.

Carter, McCullough and Sistare are virtually assured of winning the council seats. Only a successful write-in campaign could dash any of the candidates' election hopes.

Growth a concern for Carter

Carter, 64, said getting the county's infrastructure to keep up with county growth is one of his biggest concerns as he faces a new term.

"A new courthouse and schools are on the top of the list," he said.

To address this, Carter plans to monitor growth and do as much as possible to keep ahead of each project.

"Long-range planning is good, but dealing with each problem as it arises is the only way to keep up," Carter said.

Carter and his wife, Louise, have two children, Susan Dobson and Ricky Carter, and three grandchildren. He is a graduate of Lewisville High School and owns Do It Printing Co.

Sistare wants to take unmanaged growth

Sistare, 55, is expected to be the third woman to be elected to council.

She wants to tackle unmanaged growth, unemployment and education.

Sistare said growth must be focused and well-planned.

Future proposals for new housing and commercial developments must be studied closely and "encouraged only when the developers can bring economic improvement that will have a positive impact for all the residents of Lancaster County."

The county must not ignore its education system. Schools need to be considered when the council is voting on new housing or commercial developments, Sistare said.

"This can be accomplished by a spirit of cooperation, coordination and communication among all local government and civic organizations," she said. "No one group can accomplish these tasks."

Sistare, a registered nurse, is the office administrator for Palmetto Tri-County Internal Medicine. She attended the University of South Carolina and Wingate College.

She and her husband, Mike, have two daughters, Pamela Giardiello and Trayce Griffin, and two grandsons.

McCullough wants a master plan

A Sun City resident, McCullough, 58, said he would like the county to develop a new master plan that addresses land use and traffic flows.

He also wants the county to address public safety needs in the Panhandle and provide for the county's growing number of senior citizens.

Jobs are another top issue for McCullough, as is education and training for new jobs coming into the county.

He would like the county to promote recycling, and he wants to encourage cooperation among council members.

"We need to focus on team-building within council, help eliminate the 'we/they' atmosphere," McCullough said.

McCullough and his wife, Ann, have been married for 32 years. He is a graduate of Hillcrest High School in Simpsonville and is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He has a bachelor's degree from High Point University and works as vice president and technology delivery officer with Wachovia Corp.

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