Mayor leaves legacy of genuine service

BY DANIEL KENNEGY

TRINITY — Still mourning the loss of a council member, the City of Trinity is now grieving the death of its mayor.

Mayor Jesse Hill died March 28 of complications of Parkin-son’s disease. He was 75.

Hill was in the midst of his second term, having served nearly five years as the city’s mayor. Before that, he served as a member of city council until he was named mayor in 2014 to fill the vacancy left by former mayor Steve Nazarchuck, who died March 31 at his home in Trinity. Hill was elected to serve a third term, having served two terms.

“I thought the world of Jesse,” said Carico, who has met Hill during the transition from council member to mayor, representing the city well. Her versatility, City Manager Deb Hinson said, was one of the factors that made Hill an ideal “face of Trinity.”

Hill was complimentary of Hill’s political prowess, as well as his strong community ties.”As it was said, Jesse carried the torch of the TRINITY mayor into the future, as he was the last mayor to have ever run,” said Carico, who added that Hill was an exceptional leader.

“Jesse was the face of Trinity,” said Carico. “I had the privilege of working with him on projects, and he was knowledgeable and passionate about all the things he was involved in.”

Hill was an active member of the community, known for his involvement in local events and organizations. He was also a local entrepreneur, owning several businesses in the city. His community service was recognized by his peers, who referred to him as a good sense of humor in spite of his illness. He was greatly missed,” said Hinson.

Hill performed mayoral duties before he was even appointed. City staff lauded his efforts as the member of council who stepped into the role as mayor pro tem, saying his previous experience conducting meetings and his knowledge of parliamentary procedure helped make his transition a seamless one.

Despite a sometimes volatile political climate, Hill was able to maintain a positive attitude throughout. In recounting moments of his last days, staff expressed his ability to maintain what they referred to as a good sense of humor in spite of his illness. He was greatly missed,” said Hinson.

Staff Writer: White Daniel Kenneey can be reached at 336-888-3578, or at dwhite@pdpapers.net.

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In an upbeat performance, the band performed ‘Ode to Joy’ and ‘Eye of the Tiger.’ From left, Heavenly Leary, Sarah Adkins and Kayleigh Stills.

Nearly all Uwharrie Ridge art students submitted artwork for review. Here, Micah McNeil beams after receiving a first-place high school art show award.

Taking part in the sixth-grade band concert were, from left, Zack Scruggs and Ray- mond Byars on trumpet and Noah Stills and Ben Harris on alto sax.

Visual arts were also a part of the evening. A variety of works were on display, including paintings, drawings, wire hose sculptures, digital art and mixed media collage art.

At the Cultural Arts Night, art teacher Marcus Lawson presented Ariana Beverly with a blue ribbon for her middle school art contest entry.

“Arts are important to our school and our community,” said art teacher Marcus Lawson as he distributed art awards for winning pieces. “I think it is very important for every school to host a night like this, as teachers and parents get to see the other side of their students. I can’t tell you how many people have come up to me surprised at the talent that certain students show. It just adds to the realm of possibility for our kids.”

Staff writer Debbie Hightower may be reached at dhightower@atnonline.net or 336-888-3576.