

## **James Kennedy is new head of electrical-inspectors unit**

### ***Supervisor in city inspections wins high post in association***

By Fran Daniel

JOURNAL REPORTER

Thursday, November 18, 2004

As the senior electrical inspector for the City-County Inspections Division, James Kennedy is used to responsibility.

He supervises a staff of seven who work out in the field and enforces state electrical codes and laws. He also educates the electrical community by giving seminars for electrical contractors on code and inspection-procedure changes .

Recently, he took on a different kind of responsibility.

Kennedy has been elected the president of the Southern section of the International Association of Electrical Inspectors for a one-year term. "It's a terrific honor," he said yesterday in his office at City Hall South in Winston-Salem.

The International Association of Inspectors, based in Richardson, Texas, is an association of electrical inspectors. It also has associate members comprising manufacturers, electrical contractors, electricians and other people in the electrical field. The association has about 17,000 members.

Kennedy said that the association's primary goal is to promote safe work, living and play environments through electrical safety.

The Southern section consists of 11 states, including North Carolina, and has about 4,000 members.

Kennedy has been a member of the association for about 30 years, serving on several boards and committees. He is a former president of the association's Ellis Cannady chapter in North Carolina. James Carpenter, the chief executive and executive director of the association, said that Kennedy is very deserving of the office.

"He'll do an excellent job of representing the Southern section," Carpenter said.

Kennedy was about 8 when he became interested in the electrical field.

"I used to work with lamps and fix them," he said.

In 1961, he graduated from N.C. A&T State University, where he received a degree in electrical technology. That same year he went to work for Twin City Electric, an electrical contractor in Winston-Salem. He joined the city of Winston-Salem as an electrical contractor in 1972 and moved into his present job about 15 years ago.

Kennedy is a die-hard Carolina Panthers fan and plays golf, a hobby that came about as the result of a golf tournament that bears his name.

The goal of the James D. Kennedy Jr. Golf Tournament, which is sponsored by the Forsyth County Electrical Contractors Association, is to further the education of Forsyth County students in the electrical field.

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