

Bill Alexander
Writes About
The Holy Land

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KINGS MOUNTAIN, N.C. 28086

Indoor Pool Request Tabled By City

A request from the Kings Mountain Indoor Pool Foundation that the City of Kings Mountain provide utilities for a proposed indoor swimming pool at Kings Mountain High School was tabled Tuesday night at the regular monthly meeting of the board of commissioners.

Following a lengthy discussion between the commissioners and Dr. Scott Mayse, president of the foundation, Commissioner Humes Houston made a motion that the city contribute \$15,000 annually toward the operation of the pool and lend city employees when needed for maintenance. Commissioner

Tootie Allen seconded, but Commissioner Norman King offered a substitute motion that the request be tabled until the city board's auditor can determine whether or not the city can afford the contribution. Commissioner Fred Finger seconded and the vote was unanimous.

During a question-answer period following Dr. Mayse's presentation, commissioners King, Finger and Harold Phillips indicated they were against the city providing funds for operation of the pool. Houston said he favored giving the pool foundation \$15,000 "to keep the ball rolling." Commissioners Allen and

Corbet Nicholson did not comment except for Allen's second of Houston's motion.

Both Finger and Phillips said they had checked with persons involved in the operation of the indoor pool at Shelby and that they felt the expense of operating the pool would be much higher than the \$62,500 to \$79,500 figure estimated by the local pool foundation.

Finger pointed out that the city of Shelby does not assist in the operation of the Shelby pool on the campus of Shelby High School. Dr. Mayse answered that the city of Shelby provided \$150,000 to build the pool. Commissioner Phillips said the Shelby City Manager

told him Tuesday that the city of Shelby "gave \$75,000 toward building the pool and has no obligation whatsoever" toward the operation of the facility.

"I think the pool would be wonderful," said Finger. "But one teacher tells me that there are 35 students in Esat Kings Mountain in one classroom. I think you have to look at your priorities. It's the purpose of the school system to educate the children."

"I agree," Dr. Mayse said, "but one of the purposes of city government is to look out for

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Shrine Parade April 19

The Shriners are coming to Kings Mountain April 19th at 4:30 p.m. for a parade. White Plains Shrine Club President John Grant stated that the Shriners were coming as a gift to the Kings Mountain community for all the support given to the Crippled and Burned Children.

It was announced by the head of the Shriners, Gene Morrison, that Carl Champion of Kings Mountain would serve as Visitation Chairman for the entire Shrine festivities. Champion is past President of the White Plains Shrine Club.

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Oasis Temple Band Coming To KM

KM Man Wants Flowers Left On Daughter's Grave

Campbell Lockridge, retired mine employee, is on the look out for grave robbers who are taking memorial pieces off graves at Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Lockridge wants the thieves to know that if they need flowers he'll gladly buy them for them, no questions asked, but he wants his family's memorial pieces left on his daughter's grave until he returns to her burial spot to take them off.

Lockridge said his family placed a beautiful heart and flowers on the grave of his daughter, Faye Lockridge, who died Aug. 13, 1985 at the age of 29, on Valentine's Day. He said the arrangement was removed from the grave almost immediately. On Easter Saturday, the family went to the grave and put a large straw Easterbasket containing a stuffed bunny rabbit and two dozen plastic eggs. Easter Monday when Faye Lockridge's twin sister, Kay Lockridge, went to the cemetery to place an Easterlily on the grave, the Easter basket was missing. Lockridge said the Easterlily was still in place on Wednesday, when he returned from a business trip and visited the cemetery.

Lockridge said he complained to caretakers at the city owned cemetery, who said that city policy was that only families were allowed to move flowers from their lots. Gates are locked each evening. "I'll be glad to buy those grave robbers flowers but those I put on my daughter's grave, I want to remain there", he said.

5-1 Vote Gives Hiring Power To Commissioners

In a surprise move Tuesday night, the City Board of Commissioners voted 5-1 to amend four sections of the city Code of Ordinances which will take hiring out of the hands of the Mayor and put it back into the hands of commissioners.

District Six Commissioner Harold Phillips presented the proposals, which were not on

the board agenda. District Two Commissioner Humes Houston cast the only no vote. Houston questioned the action, saying he felt Phillips should have had the items placed on the agenda.

The amended codes, as presented in written form by Phillips to all commissioners, will read:

Section 18 1/2-3: "As the

chief executive officer, the mayor is the head of the administrative branch of the city government and he is directly responsible to the board of commissioners for the administration of the affairs of this city."

Section 18 1/2-10(C) - "Individuals shall be recruited, screened, appointed on the basis of job related ex-

perience, skills, knowledge, and abilities, the quality of past performance and on the candidate's general suitability to perform the work required. Factors that are not job related shall not be considered, such as political preference, religious, sex and race. The board of commissioners shall have hiring authority on recommenda-

tions made by the department heads."

Section 18 1/2-20 (d) - "An employee will be considered for a salary increase subject to the quality of work performed, the availability of funds, and approval by the board of commissioners."

Section 18 1/2-21 (e) - "A department head's recommendation to promote an

employee shall be reviewed and approved by the board of commissioners."

Mayor John Moss pointed out that Houston's point of order challenging Phillips' action was correct "as far as the Roberts Rule of Order" is concerned. The Roberts Rules are the adopted set of

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Grover To Join New N.C. League Insurance Pool

Grover Town Council Monday night voted unanimously to join a new general liability insurance program being offered by the North Carolina League of Municipalities.

Town Clerk Laura Mellon told the board that the new program should cut the town's current insurance premium of \$4,097 by at least 26 percent.

"The new program pro-

vides the commercial and general liability insurance which towns are having trouble getting," Mrs. Mellon said. "It provides all the coverage Grover needs except for professional liability."

The coverage, which provides up to \$5 million per loss, requires the town to pay five percent of its yearly premium charge (an

estimated \$111) to join. The town must also place funds equal to a year's payment in a reserve fund which will eventually be returned to the town, along with interest.

"Once the insurance pool becomes self-sufficient, the reserve funds will be released," Mrs. Mellon said.

Mrs. Mellon said there is a \$1,000 deductible on each claim, but on collision in-

urance for vehicles the deductible is negotiable.

Mayor Bill McCarter estimated the town of Grover could save up to 50 percent on its insurance rates because towns that participate in the plan will be grouped in three categories. Grover will be classified in the category of cities with populations of 2,500 or less and would be least likely to have large

claims filed against it. "We're going to have some benefits by going with this program," he said.

"It's foolish not to try it," commented Mayor Pro Tem Ronald Queen. "When you start owning your own insurance company, then you're getting somewhere," Commissioner Grady Ross added.

In another matter, the

board was told by McCarter that it's likely the town can let bids on its proposed sewer system in the near future and that bids could possibly be opened by July 15.

McCarter said engineers predict that the state will issue permits on May 1 after which time Grover will submit its final plans to the Farmers Home Administra-

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American Home Week Scheduled April 13-19

"Through homeownership each family can own a piece of America, thereby promoting a stronger economy and greater participation in our democratic form of government," said Larry Hamrick of the Kings Mountain Board of Realtors.

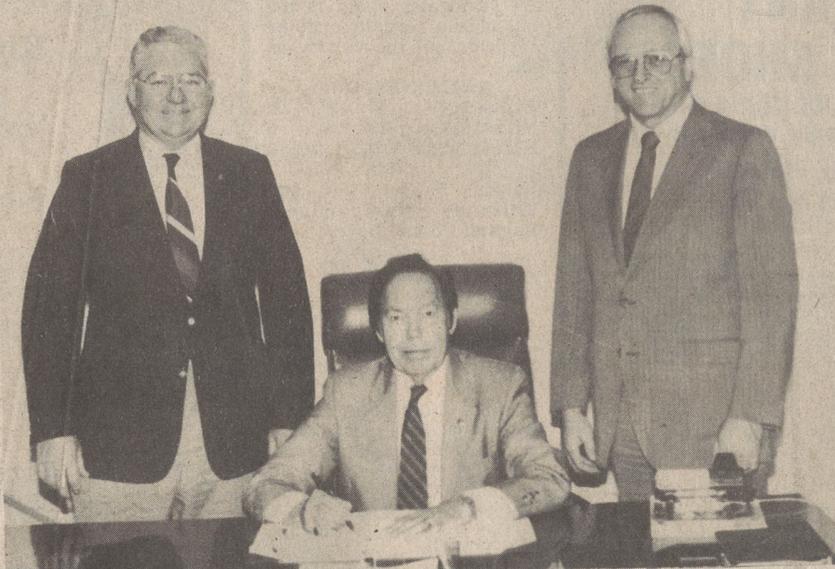
Hamrick is reminding local residents that President Reagan has designated April 13 through April 19 as "American Home Week," a national celebration of homes for people, business and industry. Of American Home Week, the president has said, "Owning a home has long been the essence of the American dream because it represents personal security as well as shelter. By becoming homeowners, people acquire personal incentives to work for a better neighborhood, toward less crime, better education and greater family stability."

Hamrick noted that there are many benefits in owning a home. "Homeowners have greater personal savings, a higher standard of living and rely less on government retirement programs. Homeowners take an active part in their local governments and vote in higher numbers than do renters.

"Nearly 65 percent of all adult Americans own homes," he said. "By contrast, in the United Kingdom, only 49 percent own their homes, with 36 percent owning in West Germany, 45 percent in France and 28 percent in Switzerland."

Both the Kings Mountain Board of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors work to protect the real property rights of individuals, business and industry. "During American Home Week in

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AMERICAN HOME WEEK IN KINGS MOUNTAIN—Mayor John Henry Moss, above, signs an official proclamation that next week is American Home Week in Kings Mountain and is sponsored by the Kings Mountain Board of Realtors. Larry Hamrick, left, president of the KM Board of Realtors, and Tom Gilbert, right, chairman of the External Affairs committee, look on.

House Damaged By Fire

A fire Monday night at the home of Auddie Duncan on Mica Street did extensive damage to the carport area of the house and to a Chevrolet Corvette parked in the carport.

Chief Gene Tignor said firemen were called to Duncan's home at 8:22 p.m. Tignor said Duncan had been draining gas from a motorcycle in his utility room when flames from a gas hot water heater ignited the fire.

Duncan suffered burns on both arms and his hair and was treated and released at Kings Mountain Hospital.

Tignor said the fire did not spread to the major area of the home but there was extensive damage to the carport end of the home and to the car.