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KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA

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Lake Will Be Lowered Three More Feet

City's Public Boat Ramps Are Closed

The city closed public boat ramps at Moss Lake Friday and notified lake residents with private access areas that boating would be at their own risk. Engineers recommended that the lake be lowered three more feet to safeguard against a sudden rise in the water level which could jeopardize the dam.

Moss Lake is already down three feet to allow for emergency repairs to the dam's spillway. The lake at six feet below normal will be the lowest ever. The water facility was built on Buffalo Creek over 20 years ago.

In his letter to Moss Lake residents, City

Manager George Wood said the action was necessary because the lake must be lowered an additional three feet in the next two weeks to allow repairs to the dam spillway.

"The lake level will be six feet below normal. Therefore, the ramps will not reach the lake," he said. "The city encourages boaters not to use the lake during this period when the level is low. Tree stumps, sand bars, outcroppings of rocks and other obstacles may be just below the water surface, and could cause injuries to skiers, swimmers and boaters."

By LIB STEWART
News Editor

Crews will begin the lowering of Moss Lake an additional three feet on Friday, Sept. 8 to make necessary emergency repairs to the dam. Awarding of bids for the major repairs to the dam, estimated at between \$75,000 to \$100,000, is on the agenda for the Sept. 13 meeting of city council. Letters went out this week under the signature of City Manager George Wood and Chief of Police Warren Goforth notifying the lake property owners of the action authorized by the city utilities committee on recommendation of city engineers last week.

The lake repairs are likely to take two to three months and the lake level could start returning to

normal in the fall, depending on rain. State officials, after an inspection on July 29, wrote Wood that "present spillway poses a threat to the safety and its failure would likely cause life, highways and the city of King water supply."

More extensive repairs to the dam may have to be done in two or three years which could require a 10 foot drop, instead of a 6 foot drop, in the lake level, engineers have told members of the city utilities committee which has met at length over the past two months to discuss utilities problems. "Since Moss Lake is the source of the city's water supply, this has to be a number one priority right now in city improvements," said Wood.

Woman Walked Off Just Before Crash In West Germany

By LIB STEWART
News Editor

Linda Ann Latta, 22, called her mother in Kings Mountain Sunday night from Ramstein Air Base in West Germany to assure her the family was safe after a military jet crashed over the air show they were watching.



LINDA AND LEE

Mrs. Goldie McDaniel, of 109 N. Sims St., was pleasantly surprised to hear her daughter's voice over the long distance wire. She had not been watching the televised account of the horrible tragedy the family escaped.

"I sure am glad I was watching another channel when the news broke," said Mrs. McDaniel, who last saw her 18-month-old grandson, Richard, when the baby was three months old. Lee Latta, in the

USAF the past three years, is a precision measurement laboratory specialist at the West Germany base.

Sunday was a family outing day for all the military people stationed there and Linda Ann and her husband and son joined the 300,000 visitors packed in the base for the air show. The couple drove their car from their apartment in Neidermore, about 15 minutes from the base.

Linda was talking with some of their friends when suddenly she became sick and told her husband she needed to get out of the crowds and go to their car to watch the remainder of the show. Sitting with service friends at the time, Linda told them she might return in a few minutes. It was a nice day for a holiday and the big crowd was enjoying themselves.

Linda said they got to the car and were sitting in it when suddenly a military jet crashed in a ball of fire in the area they were originally sitting. When she called home Sunday, after being detained three hours in the parking lot with her family, she reported 38 people dead and 500 more injured at the base 60 miles west of Frankfurt. Identification of victims has been a lengthy process because many people were badly burned. The Lattas arrived home about 10:15 p.m. their time and she called her mother at 5:15 p.m. Sunday our time.

"I didn't sleep a wink all night," said Mrs. McDaniel.

Linda said the first thing they did when they arrived back home in their apartment was to get down on their knees and thank God. She also told her mother that her sudden illness passed away as quickly as she sat down in the car and started to

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Walkers Come Through KM

By GARY STEWART
Managing Editor

Forty walkers who are part of hundreds walking from Maine to Atlanta, Ga., to raise money for Habitat For Humanity came through Kings Mountain Tuesday morning to seek donations and raise awareness of sub-standard housing in the United States and abroad.

The walkers say they're well on their way to raising the goal of \$1.2 million in a 1,200-mile walk which began June 27 in Portland, Maine, and will end September 15 in Atlanta. When the walkers left the Herald building on East King Street on an 18-mile walk to Shelby, four of them had covered the entire 935 miles.

The group was to spend the night at Gardner-Webb College and then start out for Tryon, where Habitat's founder, Millard Fuller, will speak at a gathering Thursday night. Fuller walked the first-half of the trip.

Going with the walkers in vehicles is a "traveling work camp" which builds houses along the way. Thus far, 70 new houses have been constructed and 70 renovated, and four homes have

already been built this week.

Habitat For Humanity, founded by former millionaire Fuller in 1976 in Americus, Ga., has built houses in 280 cities in the United States and at 59 sites in 25 developing countries. To date over 2,500 houses have been built. An estimated 2,000 will be built this year. Some people in Shelby are hoping to organize a chapter in Cleveland County.

People from 15 different countries are participating in the walk. Natives of West Germany, Uganda, Zambia, Peru and Bolivia were among the walkers who came through Kings Mountain. They ranged in age from eight to 84.

"What is interesting to me about these people are their differences, but that they all come together in helping brothers and sisters in Christ," said Florian Wanger of West Germany. "We have one who lives in a shack and another who drives a Mercedes."

Habitat For Humanity's most noted volunteer is former President Jimmy Carter. Carter did not participate in the walk but he did lead con-

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Property Owners Oppose Condos Near High School

A request to amend the city zoning laws to build 8-15 condominiums across from Kings Mountain Senior High School was denied by the Planning and Zoning Board Thursday night after 200 property owners opposed.

Bill Childers, of 413 Maner Road, representing the opposing property owners said that the neighborhood is now zoned R-10, and should not be changed to R-6, to allow Patricia Neisler Plonk to build luxury single-story brick condos on 3.1 acres she owns at the West end of Maner Road and Fulton abutting into Phifer Road. Mrs. Plonk estimated the condos would sell for \$60,000 to \$85,000.

Childers said that the building of apartments would mean even greater traffic congestion in the area and said that implementation by KM District Schools of a facilities plan to increase the student body at the Junior High on Phifer Road by 300 more students and the Senior High School on Phifer Road to 300 more students plus traffic at the proposed indoor pool would add to the severe traffic problem. The petition, signed by 200 property owners, said the addition of apartments was not in the best interest of a stable neighborhood.

David Faunce was the only board member abstaining when the vote was called for by Chairman Wilson Griffin.

Mrs. Plonk has not said whether she plans to take her proposal to the city council which has the final vote on the matter, although it has been policy for the council to follow recommendations of the zoning board.

Mrs. Plonk and her son, John Plonk, III, attended the meeting.

In other actions, the board gave approval to final plats of Robert E. Lee SubDivision on U.S. 74 west, Butch Kerns for four one-acre lots on Williams Street and Andy Neisler for Logan Park on Margrace Road pending final approval for agreements between the developers and the city for completion of improvements.

The requests will come before the city council at the Sept. 13 meeting at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Because property owners, Kenneth Davis and Patricia Russell, were not present to present specific proposals, the board tabled their request for zoning from R-20 to general business their property at the intersection of Afton Drive on U.S. 74 West across from Food Lion. Chairman Wilson Griffin said it was the general policy of the board that property owners or their representatives should appear before the board to give specific uses of property when it is being considered for rezoning.

Rev. George Simmons, pastor of East Gold Street Wesleyan Church, withdrew a zoning request. The church, which recently moved into a new sanctuary, had advertised its old property, across from the American Legion building, for sale. Simmons did not elaborate on whether he had a buyer now for the property nor what are future uses of the property.

Heat's Not All Bad

For most people, the summer heat and humidity can mean long, miserable days. But people spending money trying to relieve themselves of the heat can mean money for local businesses.

Business has increased sharply in recent weeks at Pantry on East King Street, said employee Sandra Yow. Sales of soft drinks, beer and ice cream have gone up the most, she said.

The Pantry Store on Phifer Road has experienced the same increase in soft drinks and beer, but has also sold a lot of ice, said employee Lagre Smith. But that's not all customers come in to the air-conditioned store for, he said. "Most people come in here to get out of the heat."

The Phifer Road Pantry has had to "double-up" on the amount of soft drinks they usually keep in stock, Smith said.

Area fast-food restaurants have also experienced an increase in sales of ice cream, milk shakes,

and soft drinks.

"It really picks up when it's hot...especially on Sunday," said Hardees manager Nelson Tucker. Hardees is selling many of their twist cones and shakes, he said. But business has declined in the past week due to vacations ending and the start of school, he said.

Gail Sherwood, first assistant manager at McDonalds, said she's noticed an increase in sales of larger drinks. "The most increase in the things I see has been serving supersize drinks."

People have also been flocking to the TG&Y store on Shelby Road to buy summer related items, said Manager Tom Quiram. He said his store has sold more fans than usual, as well as more garden hoses and water sprinklers.

The TG&Y has also sold a lot of water toys -- toys to go in the swimming pools, Quiram said. "We sold slap out!"



Red Cross Bloodmobile To Visit Here September 1

Kings Mountain Industries will sponsor a bloodmobile visit Thurs., Sept. 1 from 1-6 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Kings Mountain.

The American Red Cross collects blood every day to insure that blood is available for patients who are ill or undergoing surgery, said Marlene Reynolds of Glen Raven Mills, who is helping promote the upcoming visit. "The people in Kings Mountain have always been very supportive of the bloodmobile, and we need to again ask for their support," she said.

The goal is 135 pints.

Persons wishing to donate for the first time must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and have a medical history free from certain diseases such as hepatitis, cancer and heart disease. Any questions can be directed to the Red Cross office in Shelby.

UF Helps Shelter Home

Sixty-three percent of new admissions to the Shelter Home of Cleveland County came from Kings Mountain last year.

Kings Mountain United Fund has budgeted \$7,200 for operating expenses at Shelter Home, one of the 12 agencies that will benefit from an individual's donation to the United Fund which seeks a record \$115,500 for 1989.

Volunteers will kick off the drive at a campaign luncheon Sept. 9 at noon at Holiday Inn. Before the kickoff, those wishing to make pledges in advance are asked to forward their checks to



Kings Mountain United Fund,
PO Box 122, Kings Mountain
28086.

Dr. Bob McRae, Superintendent of Kings Mountain District Schools and campaign chairman, said that Shelter Home of Cleveland County is an emergency, temporary care facility for abused and neglected children. These children are placed by the Department of Social Services for a period not to exceed 90 days in Shelter Home at Shelby. Children between the ages of 0-18 years of any race, creed, or religion can be placed at the Shelter providing there are no more than five children in

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