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Kings Mountain Herald

VOL. 101 NUMBER 37

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1988

KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA

Rain, Cooler Weather Bring Relief

Kings Mountain area citizens got some much-needed relief from the summer's drought over this week as lower temperatures prevailed and Mother Nature dropped two to four inches of rain.

Rains began falling late Saturday afternoon and continued through the night and most of the day Sunday. The high temperature for the week reached only 83 degrees and most of the week the highs were in the low-to-mid 70's, quite a contrast from the record-breaking marks of over 100 a few weeks ago.

The temperature dipped to 53 degrees Tuesday night, causing persons heading outdoors to

wear jackets for the first time in several months.

"This is great weather," said Fred Tate, president of the Bethware Progressive Club which opened its 41st annual Bethware Fair Tuesday night. "This feels like fair weather and the rains stopped just in time for us to have a great crowd."

The fair barely broke even last year as rains pounded the fairgrounds every night of the five-night event. The weatherman is calling for a chance of scattered showers Thursday and Friday but there shouldn't be enough to hurt the fair, which benefits local schools and needy families.

"We didn't have a night last year as pretty as tonight," Tate said. "This is going to be a great fair week."

The weekend rain was the best Cleveland County's had in several months, according to County Agriculture Extension Agent Randy Sweeting. Kings Mountain weatherman Kenneth Kitzmiller measured 1.84 inches with a high of 1.04 inches Saturday, but Sweeting said some rural areas of the county got as much as four inches.

"This was the first widespread rain we've had in a long time," he said. "It was a good, soaking rain that came at a nice, steady

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This Week's Rainfall 1.84"
August Rainfall 5.08"
Year To Date 25.94"



UF Seeks Record \$115,500

Kings Mountain United Fund will kick-off the 1989 appeal for the largest campaign goal ever — \$115,500, at a luncheon for volunteer workers Friday, Sept. 9, at noon at Holiday Inn.

Dr. Robert McRae, Schools Superintendent, is campaign chairman.

The campaign seeks "fair share of one day's pay" from contributors. The Board of Directors of United Fund approved the budget several months ago after closing a highly successful 1988 campaign.

Agencies funded in the 1988 budget include: American Red Cross, \$19,500; Ministerial Association Helping Hand Fund and Chaplain Service, \$13,300; Girl Scouts of the Pioneer Council, \$8,700; Boy Scouts, Piedmont Council, \$8,200; Kings Mountain Rescue Squad, \$7,400; Cleveland County Shelter Home, \$7,200; Kings Mountain Boys Club, \$8,400; Grover Rescue Squad, \$7,200; Cleveland Organization Drug Abuse Prevention, \$6,200; Salvation Army, \$3,600; Cleveland County Mental Health Association, \$1,400; Hospice of Cleveland County, \$4,100; Hospice of Cleveland County, \$4,100; Child Abuse Prevention, \$2,600; Cleveland Vocational Industries, \$7,200; Cleveland County Abuse Prevention Council, \$3,100.

Division chairmen are Susie Howard, advanced correspondence; Marvin Chappell, City of Kings Mountain; Mike Huffman, commercial; Huitt

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DR. McRAE

KM School Board To Study Budget

Enrollment figures are in for the number of students attending Kings Mountain schools this year and officials are smiling about them.

"Our total enrollment to date is 3,881, up about 23 from last year and that's good news because we expected it to be down a little bit," said Dr. Bob McRae, superintendent of the district school system.

School enrollment will be reviewed by the school board at its monthly meeting Monday.

Board members will be asked to approve the 1988-89 budget for the system which last year totaled \$3,247,977. According to Dr. McRae the budget is expected to be higher this year. "It may be closer to \$3.5 million or even higher," he said.

Also on the agenda for the Monday meeting will be a presentation by NCAE representatives who will outline that group's resolutions for the current school year.

A proposal for an optional cancer insurance plan for all school employees will be considered by the board as well as routine student transfer requests and personnel items.

Jane King, director of instruction for the school system, will give a report on the middle school study. The proposal calls for closing Central School and aligning the system into K-5, 6-8 and 9-12 grade schools. Over the next two years, a special committee headed by King will be developing the instructional program for the middle school, grades 6-8.

Also on Monday's agenda is a report by Jean Thrift, director of exceptional children, giving an overview of that program.

Later this month, Sept. 18-20, board members and four administrators of the school system will gather in Boone at the Sheraton for what Dr. McRae describes as an "advance."

"We're going to be looking at the future during these sessions and we think to call them a retreat is looking backward," said Dr. McRae.

A number of general and specific items will be reviewed and discussed by board members during the meetings. Status reports will be presented by Dr. Larry Allen, administration and operations, Jane King, instruction, and by Ronnie Wilson, personnel.

Gene Causby, executive director of the North Carolina School Boards Association, will give a presentation on the responsibilities of being a school board member.

Representatives of the NEO Corp. will tell the board their findings and recommendations resulting from their inspection of asbestos in the school buildings. While this situation has been corrected in the schools planned for long range use, new federal guidelines now require a more intensive search for asbestos.

Dr. McRae said that he expects the report will recommend removal of additional asbestos.

Also at this time, board members will take a look at their work and set some goals for the board of education.

Elementary school attendance zones will come under review by the board and there will be discussion on the need to redistrict some of these.

The board will also consider extending the reporting period for students from six to nine weeks. There have been numerous requests from teachers to return to the nine week schedule which was changed to six weeks in the 1986-87 school year.

Grover Citizens Must Hook Onto New System

Grover residents living within the city limits who are not connected to the town's sewer system will receive a notice this week reminding them that they must connect with the system by October 1.

According to Mayor W.W. McCarter, there are a "few" households within the town limits which have not hooked up with the system to date. "We passed an ordinance in 1984 that everyone in the town limits would have to be a sewer customer," he said.

"I don't think there is anyone who has deliberately not connected yet, they just haven't gotten around to it," said the Mayor. He also noted that the town is responding on a current basis with requests for connections.

The sewer system and its operation will be discussed at the town council meeting Monday night.

Also on the agenda will be a second reading and discussion of a mobile home park ordinance. The ordinance sets forth guidelines for the establishment of parks within the town limits.

The council will meet at the Grover Town Hall Monday at 7 p.m.

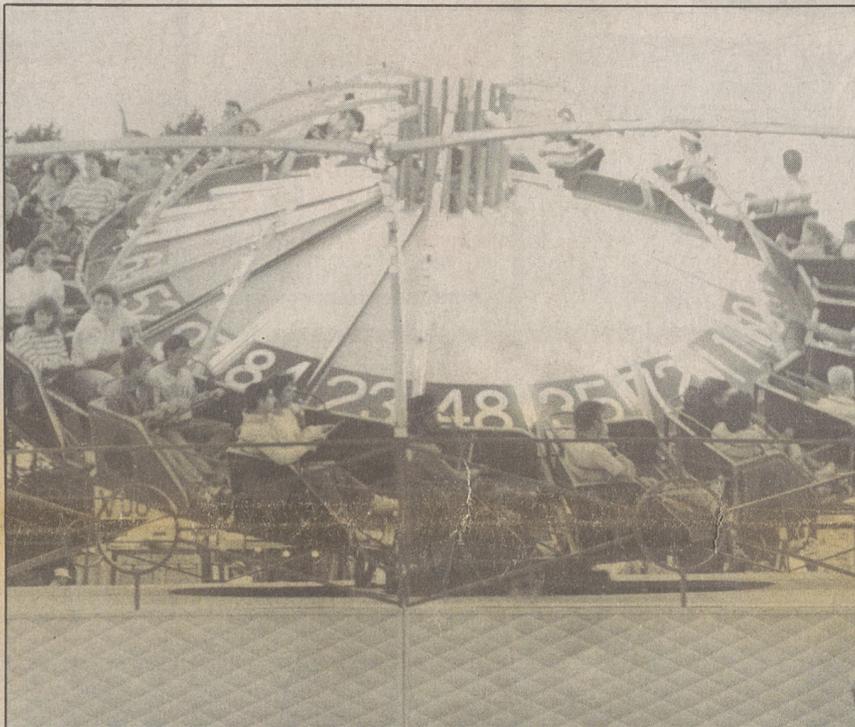


Photo by Gary Stewart

Fair Fun

Kings Mountain area young people have fun on one of the many rides at the Bethware Fair Tuesday night. The fair, a fund-raising event sponsored by the Bethware Progressive Club, continues through midnight Saturday at Bethware School.

Stewart Named Editor Of Herald

Gary Stewart has been named editor of the Kings Mountain Herald, Publisher Gary Greene announced today.

Stewart has served the past several years as managing editor with Lib Stewart serving as news editor.

"We're happy to have Gary in this new position and will count on his experience in all areas of newspaper work as we continue to try to make Greene Newspapers the best weekly papers in North Carolina," Greene said.

Stewart has been in the newspaper business for 24 years and has experience in writing

news, sports, and features, and in photography and layout. He has won North Carolina Press Association awards in sports and feature writing.

He is a 1964 graduate of Kings Mountain High School and began his career in September of that same year as sports editor of the Herald. He served 2 1/2 years on the Herald staff and then joined the sports staff of the Gastonia Gazette.

He returned to Kings Mountain in 1971 as sports editor of the Kings Mountain Mirror, which later purchased the Herald and assumed the Herald's name and publication rights.

In his new capacity, Stewart will oversee the entire news operation of the Herald and will serve as an advisor to other area weekly papers in the Greene Newspaper chain.

Stewart is a native of Kings Mountain and son of Letha Stewart of Kings Mountain and the late George Stewart. He is married to the former Mary Jo Rogers of Taylorsville and has two children. His daughter, Leigh Anne, 14, is a ninth grader at Kings Mountain Junior High and his son, Dee, 12, is a seventh grader at Central School in Kings Mountain. The Stewarts are active in Dixon Presbyterian Church.

KM Council To Receive Meter Bids

Kings Mountain City Council will receive bids for 1,200 replacement water meters at Tuesday night's regular monthly meeting at the Governmental Services Facilities Center. The 7:30 p.m. meeting is open to the public.

Faulty meters in almost every area of town have caused the city to lose utility revenues over the past several years, a recent study revealed.

City Manager George Wood said a study of electrical rates is still being conducted.

Also Monday, the board will discuss repairs at the Moss Lake dam. Contractors were scheduled

to come to Kings Mountain today to put an extension on an intake valve and the city is continuing to lower the lake level so repairs can be made to a leak in the spillway. The city recently lowered the level by three feet and will begin lowering it an additional three feet next Friday. The city has closed its public boating access areas and has notified lake residents that boating, skiing and other lake recreational activities may be dangerous because of the low level of water and the possibility of stumps or other matter just below the water surface.

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DIANE DAVIS STOCKS SHELVES AT FOOD BANK

Food Bank Helps Needy In KM Area

Hundreds of people visit the food bank at the Community Center on a regular basis and in the winter months the number of needy families increase due to heavier fuel costs.

Kings Mountain United Fund has budgeted \$13,300 to the Ministerial Association-sponsored Helping Hand project which provides assistance on a short term, emergency basis to individuals not able to qualify for government supported programs. Medicine, groceries and other forms of assistance to families are given.

In addition, your gift to the United Way also helps the Ministerial Association pay the salary of a chaplain at Kings Mountain Hospital to minister to the needs of hospitalized patients.

Dr. Charles Davenport, president of Kings Mountain Ministerial Association, said the Helping Hand budget for 1989 is \$29,700. Without assistance from United Fund contributions local churches could not meet the continuing rising need of families in this community. During the first six months of last year 221 families and 954 individuals were aided. Expenditures for the first five months of the year were \$9,619.09 and the income was \$12,439.39.

This year the Ministerial Association estimates that \$26,000 will be required to restock the food shelves and that requests from churches will amount to \$7,700, from individuals \$2,000, from organizations \$2,000 and from bell ringing at Christmas and special services, \$3,000 plus contributions from United Fund to keep the program ongoing. The United Fund allocation includes \$350 per quarter or \$1400 annually for chaplaincy service at Kings Mountain Hospital.

"Because of the increase in need and rising costs the Ministerial Association has had to limit their assistance through the Helping Hand Fund to sup-

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