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KINGS MOUNTAIN

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United Fund Seeks \$121,500

Kings Mountain United Fund kicked off the 1990 campaign Monday for a record \$121,500.00. Ruby M. Alexander, fund chairman, said four new grants approved will benefit Kings Mountain Literacy Council, Youth Assistance Program, James Home and Kings Mountain Kidney Association.

"You have made an impressive stride in giving to the United Way during the past five years. In

1985, the United Way goal was \$80,500. The 1990 goal is more than 50% increase," she said. Last year Kings Mountain area citizens surpassed the goal of \$115,000. United Fund President Bob McRae told the 75 volunteers attending the kick-off luncheon at Holiday Inn that "now it's time to roll up our sleeves again and work for United Way."

Two of the agencies receiving

funds-Pioneer Girl Scout Council and Cleveland County Abuse Prevention Council-presented programs. The film, "You Are the Heroes" followed their presentations. Sylvia Holmes, formerly of Kings Mountain, said she started her career in Girl Scouts 20 years ago when the family lived in this community and her children were involved in Scouts. Pioneer Girl Scout Council serves four counties

for all ages of girls and offers both traditional and contemporary programs. Scouts continue to camp and learn the traditional Scouting programs but they also go on trips around the world and this fall will participate in the first comprehensive study by Harvard University of children's beliefs and moral values to build a profile of America's children that will assist policymakers in developing effective responses to the critical issues facing

young people today. The Harvard University Study will release its findings next year. Mrs Holmes said that sensitive issues such as "say no to drugs" and teenage suicide are just a few of the topics of programs offered to Scouts and recommends highly "Teen Scene", a program being developed with the Gaston Health Department, which identifies problem areas in youth. Piedmont Girl Scouts own two camp sites, a 600-acre camp in

Rutherford County and a 30-acre site at Crowder's Mountain. Pam Leonhardt, Shelter Manager of Abuse Prevention Council, says the program essentially offers "an ear to listen to battered women, a support group and a court advocacy program. For two summers the program has also offered a five week's summer program for children. The Shelter pro-

See Fund, 11-A

KM Businesses That Sold Beer To Minors Fined

Seven Kings Mountain businesses that sell beer and wine were fined Friday and one drug store lost its permit for five days for ABC violations following a hearing before the N. C. Alcoholic Beverage Commission in Raleigh.

The suspended suspensions will allow stores to continue sales. In each case, a store employee was charged with selling an alcoholic beverage to someone less than 21 years of age on either April 17 and April 19.

Sgt. Billy Benton of the Kings Mountain Police Department said the owners of the businesses and attorneys for the state reached compromise agreements on each case and the commission approved the agreements.

Last year, police cited underage beer sales at 23 of 28 businesses. This spring eight of 23 were cited for

See Fines, 12-A



KM UNITED FUND KICKOFF-A campaign drive for \$121,500 was kicked off by United Fund volunteers Monday. From left, Dr. Bob McRae, United Fund president, Pam Leonhardt, Shelter Manager of Abuse Prevention Council, campaign chairman Ruby M. Alexander, and Pioneer Girl Scout official Sylvia Holmes discuss plans for the fund-raising effort which benefits 20 agencies this year.

Fishing In South Carolina

George Ruppe Drowns Tuesday

George Thomas Ruppe, 59, prominent Kings Mountain businessman, drowned Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. on a fishing trip on Lake Wateree in eastern Fairfield County near Winnsboro, S. C.

Ruppe and William Roper Jr., a former Kings Mountain chief of police, were thrown from their boat by the wake of a larger boat that sped by, according to Fairfield County Coroner Joe Silvia.

Silvia said Ruppe and Roper were fishing in front of the Fairfield Boat Club, a private club on Lake Wateree, fairly close to the bank. They cranked the motor and headed south down the river at a trolling speed in Roper's small aluminum jon boat when an extra large bass fishing boat passed between two boats, a distance



RUPPE

See Ruppe, 12-A

KM Schools May Lose 3 Teachers

Kings Mountain schools stand to lose 3.5 state teaching positions if the current enrollment trend continues throughout the school year.

Supt. Bob McRae told the board of education at its regular monthly meeting Monday night at Kings Mountain High School that the enrollment on the 10th day of school was down 95 from the same period last year.

The total district enrollment on the 10th day of school was 3,786. Bethware Elementary is the only school to show a substantial increase in students. It is up 30 students to an all-time high of 466.

The biggest declines are at East Elementary, which is down 42 students to 217, and at Kings Mountain junior and senior highs, where 109 students dropped out last year.

Kings Mountain Schools recently began concentrated efforts to decrease the dropout rate and McRae said that if they're successful in that endeavor it could bring help the enrollment figures level off.

McRae said the system has faced possible teacher losses in the past but has always been able to renew contracts. He said he hopes that because of normal resignations and retirements that the system will not have to lose any teachers.

In another matter Monday night, the board received results of last

year's writing, competency and CAT tests.

Asst. Supt. Larry Allen said Kings Mountain students scored favorably with students nationwide but were below the state and region average in many categories.

In the writing test, Allen said third graders should score 3.7 and in KM they scored 3.9. That means students scoring a 3.9 should be in the ninth month of their third grade year. KM sixth graders scored 7.5 compared to the normal 6.7 and eighth graders scored 8.8 compared to the nationwide average of 8.7.

"We feel that compared to the nation, we're a little above where we ought to be," said Allen. "But this year we didn't score favorably with the region and state. We're not totally satisfied with scoring at grade level."

Allen said Kings Mountain Schools is forming a task force to work on improving test scores.

In the competency tests, Allen said KM sophomores taking the test for the first time did well but were also below the region and state averages. Two hundred and fifty-one KM sophomores passed the reading portion of the test, 253 the math, 253 the writing objectives and 252 the writing essays. A student must pass all four cate-

See Schools, 11-A



CHIEF WARREN GOFORTH

KM Gears For Drug Fight

Churches are launching a war on drugs following an appeal by President Bush to curb drug abuse through community awareness programs.

The first program in what Rev. Kenneth George hopes will begin a series of services will be held Sunday morning at 11 a.m. at East Gold Street Wesleyan Church where Kings Mountain Chief of Police Warren Goforth will fill the pulpit. The public is invited.

Rev. George said that other ministers of the community are being asked to join the effort by scheduling programs by law enforcement personnel at church worship services.

"Kings Mountain has a serious cocaine drug problem but the real problem here is alcohol," said Chief Goforth who will use arrest statistics to show how alcohol is the indirect cause of many of the crimes po-

lice investigate everyday. Chief Goforth says law officers need help in the fight.

"It has to be done with a concerned effort by the criminal justice system, the community, the church and the workplace. Until society rises up and says enough is enough, drug abuse will continue."

Sunday's service is a follow-up on the request of President Bush for local people to become involved and push for new anti-drug efforts locally.

Chief Goforth said that VCRs have been the target of drug users who have ripped off 20-25 homes during the past several months. "They take a VCR because it's hard to trace and then they sell or swap for cocaine or alcohol," he said.

See Drugs, 11-A

County 911 Service Begins October 1

October 1 is the cut-on date for the new, county-wide 911 emergency system.

Lee Clary, communications director for Cleveland County, said that all residents are preparing for the system by putting house numbers on their houses as soon as the county assigns each residence-no matter how remote-a number.

Clary said the house numbering project, a slow and tedious one, is expected to speed up. Most address changes in this area will be on the rural routes. Bethlehem and El Bethel community residents have already been notified by the postoffice of their correct house numbers.

Once you receive your correct address the address must be promi-

nently displayed. You can change your address on your driver's license free of charge by visiting the Shelby or Gastonia Highway Patrol offices.

Clary was in town Monday to congratulate Eagle Scout Lindsay Suber of Troop 92 who led the project of numbering 36 senior adult residences at Ridge Street, City Street and Railroad Avenue. The apartment numbers were painted in white paint on a black background on the curb in front of each apartment block because in some cases it is difficult for emergency crews to find addresses.

Suber, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Suber, got endorsement of his project from City Council and Aging Director Monty Thornburg notified

senior citizens of the service being offered.

Most house numbers in the public housing complex were not visible from the road. Lindsay, assisted by other Scouts working on service badges, painted the black background on the first leg of the project and the white numerals on the final visit to each home. As a part of his project, Lindsay organized a team of helpers consisting of adult leaders and fellow Boy Scouts as assistants. He received the support of area businesses in the form of supplies needed for the project: paint, brushes and stencils from Bridges Hardware; spray paint from Car Quest; posterboard from Cornwell Drug; a tin template from Childers Heating & Cooling;

and weatherstripping for the template and advice on the logistics of the project from Glee Bridges.

As the final phase of the project, Lindsay showed the finished product to representatives of the various emergency rescue groups involved in 911: Fire Chief Frank Burns, Police Chief Warren Goforth, and Lee Clary.

The system links the county communication center with Shelby and Kings Mountain Police Departments.

"We can switch calls between us. All of it is overlapping," says Clary. When someone dials 911 dispatchers at Kings Mountain Police Department, Shelby Police

See 911, 11-A

Franklin L. Ware, 73, Dies

Funeral services for Franklin L. Ware Jr., 73, of 815 West Mountain Street, were conducted at 4 p. m. Monday at Boyce Memorial ARP Church by Rev. Harold S. Mace and Dr. W. Harris Blair.

Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Mr. Ware died Friday evening at Kings Mountain Hospital.

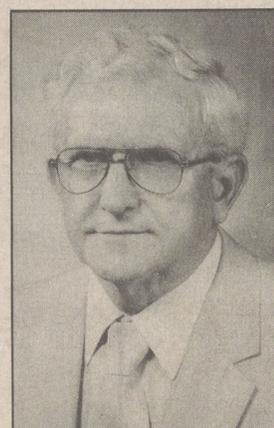
A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of the late F. Luther Ware Sr. and Mary Emma Brown Ware.

He was a retired manager of the Shelby N. C. Employment Security Commission Office and an Elder and former Sunday School teacher at Boyce Memorial ARP Church.

He also was a graduate of Erskine College in Due West, S.C., a former high school teacher and coach, and a U. S Army veteran of World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Eddys Latham Ware of the home; two sons, Melvin Ware of Blacksburg, S.C. and Edwin Ware of Gastonia; one daughter, Marcia Brinkley of Nazareth, Pa., a brother, W. Brown Ware Sr. of Kings Mountain; a sister, Elizabeth Lesslie of Fort Mill, S.C. and five grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the building fund of Boyce Memorial ARP Church.



FRANKLIN L. WARE JR.

INSIDE AT A GLANCE



Mounties Win!
Page 1-B

- Classifieds.....9-B
- Community News.....2-C
- Editorials.....4-A
- Engagements.....7-A
- Food.....4-C
- Lifestyles.....1-C
- Obituaries.....3-A
- Religion.....6-B
- Sports.....1-B



FOOTBALL WINNER: Tim Seay (19 winners, 1 tie)
This Week's Contest On Page 5-B