



David Hancock

KM Recreation Director

Crowds On Hand For Track Opening

This past weekend the Parks and Recreation Department was involved in a couple of exciting community-wide events which, for the most part, had good participation. We had our ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new walking track adjacent to the Community Center on Saturday afternoon at 4:30 with 100 or so participating.

The crowd heard Mayor Kyle Smith give the welcome and opening remarks as well as thanking Champion Contracting for their outstanding work on the project. The mayor also acknowledged the benefit of the new track to our community as it has already proven to be an excellent place for all segments of our population to exercise, socialize or simply sit and watch.

Following the Mayor's comments, Council member Norma Bridges, Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation commission, provided information on the plans for the track. The Commission is interested in making this a truly passive area with landscaping, night lighting, benches, picnic areas and a tot playground. She also indicated that the Parks and Recreation Commission has started soliciting material and manpower donations to construct a restroom at the track. Mrs. Bridges also encouraged citizens to contact the Parks and Recreation Staff or Recreation Commission members for suggestions as to other additions to the track area.

Following the presentation, Recreation commission members, the mayor and City Council members joined the citizens at the ceremony in officially opening the new facility. All those at the ribbon cutting had brought scissors, so everyone was able to participate in the cutting and begin a tradition of community involvement and participation at the track.

At 6 p.m. the Kings Mountain All-Stars demonstrated their raw talents in an exhibition game with the King and His Court 4-man fast pitch softball team. The Kings Mountain team composed of Mayor Kyle Smith, Police Chief Warren Goforth, Mike Smith, Tony Leigh, Ray Robinson, Wayne Bridges, Scott Ellis, Scott Buchanan, Scott Hull, Jimmy Dellinger and yours truly put on a good show for the local fans. Those of you who missed the game missed a fun-filled exhibition by one of the premier touring softball teams in the country and a great opportunity to see some of your friends get totally embarrassed.

Looking ahead to July, the Parks and Recreation Department is making final plans for the annual July 4th Celebration at Deal Street Park. This year's festivities will deviate somewhat from previous years in several ways. First, the Parks and Recreation staff is planning a totally family type program in which parents and their kids will participate together in a variety of games and contests. The Deal Street pool will provide activities on a "Beach Party Theme," and Mrs. Evelyn Bridges is working on some great gospel groups for the late afternoon. The highlight of the July 4th week will be the arrival of the Flaming Shows Carnival which will be located at the park from July 4-7 with rides, games and good fun for the entire family. Local church, youth, civic and other non-profit organizations will be allowed to set-up booths during the carnival as fund raisers for their organizations. Contact the Parks and Recreation Department for details.

In closing, I would like to again acknowledge the excellent participation we had this past weekend at both the ribbon-cutting and the softball exhibition. It was great to see such representation from all segments of our population at both events. Special thanks also goes to Chet Backner and Rick Fortner for volunteering their umpire services and to Jackie Barnette and Bob Myers for providing security at the ball game. We appreciate your support and, as always, welcome your comments.

Damages High In Mill Fires

Damages were high in two industry fires which occurred last Wednesday night and Thursday morning.

According to Fire Chief Frank Burns, a fire Wednesday night at Parkdale Mills, 500 Railroad Avenue, destroyed 156 bales of cotton and caused extensive damage to the structure. Firemen fought the fire four hours. The fire and smoke damaged cotton was valued at \$46,800.

Burns said the fire may have started due to a spark from the metal bands that hold the bales together.

Kings Mountain Fire Department received another call

at 7:48 Thursday morning to Anvil Knitwear, 304 Linwood Road, and extinguished a fire in a large fabric dryer. Burns said it took firemen about an hour and a half to extinguish the blaze. Damages were estimated at \$3,000.

No one was injured.

Hearing Loss To Be Discussed

To help people learn more about hearing loss, certified audiologist Sandra Ratliff will present "Hearing Changes Associated With Aging" at Gaston Memorial Hospital Mall Walkers meeting Thursday, June 28,

Summer Reading Program Kicked Off At The Library

Eka-a-ro-sir, eka-a-ro-ma. Samalekum. Good morning, sir; good morning, ma'am. Over 250 children practiced these greetings in Yoruba and Swahili as Moses Nueman led the kick off program for the 1990 Summer Reading Club at Mauney Memorial Library.

Dressed in a loose white robe and a white hat, which is the traditional costume in Nigeria, Nueman talked about the old Africa and the new Africa. "We live in houses like you do," he said. We have cities; we have electricity and modern conveniences, but not everyone. Some people live in the villages, and do not have the conveniences."

In talking about clothing, Nueman said, "When we go to work, we wear the same kind of clothes you do." Nevertheless, traditional dress is still worn on occasion and in some parts of Africa. Nueman brought some examples of traditional costumes and teen vol-

unteers modeled them for the group. Some of the garments were plain, and some were decorated with fine embroidery. The King's costume was the most beautiful and elaborate of all, and was embroidered with silver threads. The French West African dress was made up of a skirt with a ruffle on the bottom, a loose top, and a sash which could be used for many things, such as carrying a baby. Nueman pointed out that all of the clothing was loose, because it is hot in Africa and loose garments are cooler.

Nueman discussed the kind of food people eat in Africa. "Food is the same all over the world," he said. "What makes the difference is the way we cook it." When some of the children expressed a dislike for black eyed peas, Nueman said, "Let me cook it for you. You will like it then."

Nueman emphasized that the

people in Africa are like people in America and like people all over the world. "People are the same, no matter where they live," he said. Although modern in many respects, there is a strong element of

the traditional and African culture is an exhilarating blend of the old and the new. Many customs and rituals have been handed down from generation to generation their

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READER KICKOFF AT LIBRARY-Ben Sanders, right, models a costume from Nigeria as Moses Nueman lectures at the recent Library Reading Club kickoff at Mauney Memorial Library.

Black Named Employee Of Quarter

Lisa Black has been named Employee of the Quarter for Cornwell Drug Stores Inc. Lisa, who is employed in the Kings Mountain store, will receive corporate-wide recognition as well as a gift certificate.

Lisa has been employed with Cornwell drugs for three years and is currently front manager of the Kings Mountain store. Lisa was voted on by her co-workers who based their voting on personality, compatibility, team work, product knowledge, positive attitude, and customer service.



BLACK

Lisa lives in Kings Mountain with her husband, Michael, and their five-year-old son, Buddy. She is a member of Grace Baptist Church in Gastonia.

Dough Boy Is Over The Hills



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