

Council Approves Software Package For KMPD

Kings Mountain City Council Tuesday night awarded a bid of \$11,385 to Cantus Corporation for computer software which will bring the police department's communication system to 95 percent of full production.

The software will enable the police department and other city emergency personnel to be better prepared in emergencies, Chief Warren Goforth said.

The software package consists of six programs and will allow the dispatcher to locate callers by phone number, name, fire/alarm number and address; will allow the dispatcher to keep a documented account of the times officers are

dispatched, arrival times and times spent at the scene of a call; will provide call tracking allowing the dispatcher to inform officers of past incidents at that location and if there is a potential dangerous situation there; will automatically display caller information from the Emergency 911 system; will automatically display outstanding warrant information; and will automatically display hazardous material information in cases of fires and other emergencies at businesses and industries.

Goforth, Fire Chief Frank Burns and City Manager George Wood pointed out that all industries deal-

ing in hazardous materials are required to notify the fire department of the materials used, where they are stored, how to handle them, etc., and all of that information will be put into the computer.

Burns said the system will be especially useful for firemen who can receive information about the location of such materials from the police dispatcher while en route to the scene.

"This software will allow us to respond much quicker and be better prepared," Goforth noted.

Goforth said four days of training for dispatchers and other personnel who might use the equip-

ment is included in the purchase price.

In other matters Tuesday night, the council:

*Approved selling for one dollar up to 10 used utility poles to Boy Scout Troop 92 to be used to repair and improve the Davidson Scout Camp.

*Approved the bid of \$49,999.33 by CJ Equipment for a four post drive-on lift for the city garage. City Manager George Wood pointed out that the item is in the city budget and is necessary because OSHA no longer allows open pits in garages.

*Accepted a petition from downtown merchants requesting that the large tree and flower bed in the Senior Citizens mini-park on West Mountain Street be removed because tree roots are cracking the concrete and the flower bed is causing water damage to buildings. The council instructed Wood to get cost estimates and report back to the council at the November meeting.

*Approved the purchase of a tract of land on Bridges Drive from Gardner-Webb College for \$4,000. The college will place the money in an endowment and the interest each year will be used for a scholarship for a Kings Mountain student attending Gardner-Webb.

*Appointed Grace Page, Evelyn Hamrick and B.S. Peeler as a committee to consider a new entrance to Mountain Rest Cemetery.

*Approved a resolution releasing state economic development funds to Isothermal Planning and Development Commission.

HABITAT

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more.

Neisler and City Manager George Wood attended a meeting of the Cleveland County Habitat and suggested they build a house in Kings Mountain, and that group welcomed the opportunity. By going through the already-organized Cleveland County chapter, Kings Mountain people did not have to go through the paper work of organizing their own chapter.

The idea of donating one of the city-owned lots on Tracy Street was taken to the City Council Tuesday night and it unanimously approved forwarding the request to the Planning and Zoning Board and setting a public hearing at the December council meeting. The city can legally give Habitat the property for one dollar but the city will not be involved in the building of the house.

"Federal dollars have shrunk so far as grant money is concerned for housing," Neisler said. "This is a way where the city can convey some property we own that could be turned into homes for people and give them a

chance to become home owners."

Neisler said the city wins in several ways. The property will be placed back on the tax books and the city will not only receive taxes but also gain a utility customer.

The family chosen by Habitat to receive the new house will get a low interest loan, get a good house for a small amount of money because volunteers help build it, and another family will get help in building a home in the future because those who receive a Habitat house must donate several hundred hours of labor to helping build other homes.

"The selection of the people that go into the homes will be made by the Board of Directors of Habitat of Cleveland County," Neisler said. "The city can't attach any strings to it. The city will not have anything to do with other than conveying the lot."

Neisler suggested that any families interested in applying for the first house in KM contact City Hall or Julia Jordan at the Kings Mountain Housing Authority.

If all goes well, Neisler hopes construction can begin in January or February and finished within a year. Work is usually done on the weekends.

Neisler is already working to get electric, heat and plumbing labor donated.

"I'm very excited about it," he said.

FISHING

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the bridge being out."

Early Friday morning, a dredge, the Northerly Island, crashed into the Bonner Bridge knocking out a 369-foot section and cutting electrical and telephone lines to the islands. Bonner is the only bridge connecting the Outer Banks with the mainland.

"Water was two to three feet deep and debris was floating everywhere," said Reynolds. "I lost my brakes and power steering. We got through because David knows the roads down there. We got in line to take the ferry to Ocracoke and waited about 12 to 14 hours. Nobody could give us any details.

"David had a portable weather channel radio and we got some news over that from ham operators. There were no phones, no power

and no communications at all.

"When we got to Ocracoke it was a mess. There must have been 500-600 people in that lot. Because of no power the Food Lion was closed and the few convenience stores were running out of bread and other food. They were rationing gas to \$10 per person," said Reynolds.

Four ferries were making runs between Ocracoke and Swan Quarter on the mainland. But one of the ferries was used to haul two gasoline tankers back and forth and no vehicles were allowed on it.

The men were traveling in two vehicles and became separated when traffic was being directed.

"We waited 12 hours to get on a ferry from Ocracoke to Swan Quarters which is a two hour trip. The three ferries hauling cars ran from 6 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and carried about 50 cars each. They charged \$10 per vehicle. We finally got back to Kings Mountain about 2 a.m. Sunday," said Reynolds.

"The people down there, the ones who live there all the time, were real nice about helping you, they were pretty calm. But they weren't prepared for anything like this.

"It was an experience all right, but I'm ready to go back, bridge or no bridge," he said.

Scouting For Food Set In November

Kings Mountain area Boy Scouts will conduct their annual "Scouting For Food" project November 10 and 17.

City councilman Al Moretz, also a Scoutmaster, said Scouts will distribute bags to citizens on November 10 and return to pick them up--hopefully full of food--on November 17.

The food is then taken to the Kings Mountain Crisis Ministry to be given to needy people in the area.

"Last year, Boy Scouts collected five tons of food from the Bethware and Kings Mountain areas," he pointed out. This is one program where 100 percent of the items collected stays right here in Kings Mountain.

Moretz said Boy Scouts have "limited man power" and urges citizens who are not contacted by the Scouts to take some food to the Crisis Ministry at the Community Center and tell the Crisis Ministry employees that it is for the Scouting For Food project.

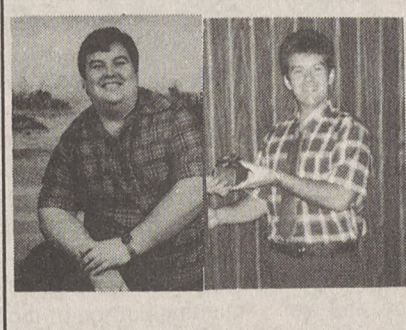
BREAKFAST SATURDAY

The men of East Gold Street Wesleyan Church will sponsor a breakfast and yard sale Saturday from 6-10 a.m. at the church. The public is invited.

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