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Schools to consider tobacco policy

Improvements to stadiums being considered

Kings Mountain's John Gamble Stadium and Lancaster Fields are scheduled to undergo some improvements over the next several years, according to Superintendent of Schools Dr. Bob McRae.

McRae said the playing field at John Gamble Stadium will be re-crowned and a new sprinkler system added after this season, and

within the next three years new lighting systems should be installed at the football and baseball fields.

"Over the years the field has sort of leveled off," McRae said. "It doesn't drain all that well and we need to go in and raise the crown on that field."

McRae said he hopes the school

system will have the funds to improve the lighting systems at the fields within three years - "give or take a year."

"We have a guy coming in soon to do a proposal on both of those fields," he said. "We don't think the cost is going to be quite as bad as we originally thought, but it takes a

See Stadium, 8-A

The Kings Mountain Board of Education will hear first reading of an amended policy on the use of tobacco on school grounds and will take a look at bids for the Central School renovation project at Monday night's meeting at the Kings Mountain High School library.

The meeting officially begins at 7 p.m., however there will be a reception for new employees at 6:30. Supt. Bob McRae is recom-

mending that the Board approve a new policy on the possession and use of tobacco in school facilities. Previously, smoking has been banned in school facilities but students have been allowed to have tobacco products on their person and there have been numerous reported incidents of students smoking in bathrooms.

McRae said the policy will still allow the use of tobacco by teachers in designated areas but not in

the presence of students.

McRae said the new policy will also target use of tobacco by students and coaches on athletic fields.

"This policy will apply to all school proper events in which pates," McRae apply if a student that would be But we're trying

See Smo

Voters can meet candidates

The Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce will host an after-hours get-together on Thursday, Sept. 30 for the public to meet candidates for City Council and School Board seats.

The informal meeting will be held from 5:30-7 p.m. in the lobby of the City Hall.

Members of the public will have the opportunity to meet candidates one-on-one and discuss the issues in the upcoming elections. Questions and answers will be on an individual basis and no forum-type questions will be allowed.

Light refreshments will be served.

Ruby Alexander, past president, is serving as chairperson of the After-Hours committee. Other members of the committee are Chamber President Wade Tyner, Tim Miller of Bridges Hardware, and Chamber Executive Secretary Lucille Williams.

Registration deadlines set

The deadline to register for two upcoming elections are, September 13 for the city election which will be held on October 5, and October 11 for the school board election which will be November 2.

According to the Cleveland County Board of Elections, librarians have been trained, and registration is available at Mauney Memorial Library on S. Piedmont Ave.

Citizens may also register at the Board of Elections office located at 211 E. Warren St. in Shelby. People who have moved since the last election must register at the Shelby office to record their change of address.

FUN AT THE FAIR



Haley Lail, 4, and Mom, Lisa enjoy a turn on the merry-go-round Tuesday night at the Bethware Fair. Haley appears to have spotted a friend on the midway. The fair runs through Saturday night.

Bethware Fair a family tradition

That glow in the night sky out towards the Bethware community is one of the longest running community fairs in the state. The Bethware Fair is in full swing this week.

The Bethware fair, in its 46th year, opened Monday night on the grounds of the Bethware School to the rave reviews of almost 8,000 people.

Raeferd White, President of the sponsoring Bethware Progressive Club has been pleased with the turnout. "Everything has been just great so far," he said. "We got off to a good start Monday night and everybody seemed to really enjoy it."

The fair continues each night through Saturday, opening at 6:00 p.m. and closing at 11:00 p.m., except for Saturday night when closing time is 11:30.

There are 18 to 20 rides, half for the little ones.

The rides are supplied, for the third year in a row, by McDaniel Brothers of Pennsylvania. The exhibition hall is crammed with displays from approximately 2000 exhibitors, most from Cleveland County, but a few from Gaston.

There are arts and crafts from the young people, antiques, quilts, antique clothing, produce and canned goods. You can even marvel at a 175 pound pumpkin. Blue and red ribbons will be awarded to first and second place winners in the exhibit judging.

No admission is charged at the Bethware fair. The White Plains Shrine Club is collecting a two dollar parking fee, which will go to the Shrine Hospital in Greenville, S.C.

See Bethware, 5-A

KM Big Sweep to target Moss Lake

North Carolina's beaches, lakes and rivers are about to be assaulted by hordes of people armed with litter bags, shovels and anything else that can be used to clean up trash.

It's all part of the First Citizens Bank Big Sweep campaign, and the big day is Saturday, September 18.

Eric Dixon, Assistant Vice-President of the local First Citizens branch is coordinating the Kings Mountain effort. Most First Citizens employees in Kings Mountain will participate, and the bank has been urging employees and their relatives, friends and customers to help out.

"We can use all the help we can get," said Dixon. "Our involvement will be at Moss Lake. Anyone who would like to join in should just show up at 8:00 a.m. for assignments."

North Carolina is one of 33 states taking part in the annual waterway cleanup, which is coordinated by the Center for Marine Conservation in Washington, D.C.

Big Sweep volunteers count the litter they collect, and that data is

used to identify nationally, cigarette litter list. Last year, a tons of trash bagged was 775,438 partial cigarettes.

The Big Sweep program in North Carolina got underway seven years ago at the state's beaches and expanded to inland waterways two years later.

Sixty-one participants gathered over two tons of assorted items such as tires, paper, plastics and other junk from the shores of Cleveland County's waters in 1992.

The Cleveland County effort will encompass five zones: Grover, Moss Lake, Boiling Springs, Polkville and Fallston.

The Kings Mountain group will work in the Moss Lake zone. "We'll start at 9:00 a.m. and we should be through no later than 1:00 p.m.," said Dixon.

Anyone interested in volunteering should call Sam Lockridge in Shelby at 484-5130, or just show up Saturday morning.

Water level to be lowered

The water level at Moss Lake will be lowered beginning after Labor Day, according to City Engineer, Tom Howard.

"We're going to take it down to about five feet to do some repair work, said Howard.

There's work that needs to be done on the spillway and a depression in the bottom of the lake that must be repaired. The actual work will be completed in a week's time, according to Howard, but it will take several weeks to get the lake adjusted down to five feet.

Another project now underway is the extension of the gas line down Oak Grove Rd. Howard says

the gas department has entered into a contract with Appling Pipeline, and about 1000 feet of new line has already been installed.

The new line will go from Scism Road east for approximately 19,000 ft.

"This is an important project for the city," said Howard, "as the new line will mean a significant increase to the utility base.

The upgrading of the city's electrical system is an ongoing project. All the old poles and cross-arms are being removed, and upon completion, the electrical system will have increased efficiency and capability.

United Fund drive to begin

The 1993-1994 United Fund will hold its kickoff luncheon on Friday, September 10, at the Kings Mountain Holiday Inn. Many of the agencies will have representatives at the luncheon, along with United Fund volunteers.

Maude Norris, president of this year's United Fund, will present a welcoming speech.

Leaders of two of the funded agencies will speak. They are Melanie McDaniel of the Youth Assistance Program, and Rev. Robert Haynes of the Ministerial

Association Helping Hand Fund and Chaplain Service.

The Youth Assistance Program is the latest agency to be added to the United Fund list.

Jay Rhodes, Sr. Vice-President at Carolina State Bank, is the Campaign Chairman this year, and Maude Norris is serving as President.

The United Fund has set its goal at \$121,500, and, according to Rhodes, they will reach that figure and probably better it.

See Fund, 2-A

Harris on children's commission

Senator Ollie Harris, of Kings Mountain, has been appointed to the Commission on Children with Special Needs by N.C. Senate President Pro Tem Marc Basnight.

The Commission studies the services provided by other states and evaluates and monitors North Carolina's programs and services for children with special needs. "We must do all we can to provide all our children with the tools they need to reach their full potential," says Basnight. "I know that with Ollie's experience and commitment he will prove to be a valuable asset to this commission."

Senator Harris says he is honored to serve. The protection and nurturing of our children is one of our primary obligations. I am honored to be able to contribute to the efforts to enhance the lives of all North Carolina's children," he said.

Senator Harris represents the 37th district. He is currently serving his tenth term in the senate. Harris is chairman of the Pensions and Retirement Committee and the Vice-Chairman of the Appropriations subcommittee on Human Resources and the Children and Human Resources Committee. He also serves on several other committees.

KINGS MOUNTAIN PEOPLE

Mary McGill remembers life on the farm

By Jim Heffner
of the Herald staff

Mary Boyce McGill, at age 73, is writing a book about her "Life on the Farm."

Miss McGill, who now lives in the Juniper Apartments on the corner of Juniper and W. Gold St., is ten years removed from the farm where she was born, and only lately has started to jot down little snippets and remembrances from those days.

Her book is packed with stories about corn shuckings, making molasses and chopping cotton. There are word pictures of how it was growing up in rural Cleveland County during the '20's and '30's.

"For dessert, Mama would make a big batch of tea cakes, apple custard and ginger bread," she writes. The description brings smells of a cozy farm kitchen during harvest time, and is guaranteed to twang the taste buds of anybody who grew up on a farm.

Mary was one of five girls born to Boyce and Mary Sue Weir McGill on a farm about five miles outside of Kings Mountain toward Cherryville.



MARY MCGILL

Two of her sisters, Willie Ione McGill and Ruth McGill Hallman, taught for many years in the local school system, Miss McGill lives alone, she never married, and spends a great deal of her time at church activities.

"A year or two ago," she says, "I got to thinking about those good days on the farm, and I started jot-

ting down what I could remember, just to record the history more or less."

Questioned as to why she never got married, Mary's eyes twinkle. "Well, I kept company with a couple of fellows when I moved to town but they both died. I'm looking, though."

The handwritten pages are riveting, and presented in a simple style that is easy to read.

She describes farm life in an era when neighbors helped neighbors, and relatives visited for Sunday dinner.

"Cotton was our main crop," she said. "My sisters helped Daddy work the cotton field, Mama didn't like that much. I came along a little late to help out in the fields. We raised most of our own food. We had a big vegetable garden and we slaughtered four hogs a year. I didn't like that very much. It was too messy. We smoked some of the meat with oak chips. Daddy had a special way of smoking ham. He'd hang them in the smokehouse for a while then take them out and mix peppers, molasses and flour, then we'd all pitch in and smear the

mixture on the hams. Next we'd put them in bags and hang them back in the smokehouse until we needed them.

"Christmas time we'd all gather around the piano and sing. We were a musical family. Two of my sisters played piano, and Mama played a little. Daddy sang Bass and tenor, Mother sang alto and I was a soprano. My father liked to sing. He was always a member of the church choir. I've been told I have a good singing voice. I might have become a professional singer, but I didn't know how to go about getting started. I like to sing, though. I sang a solo in church just last Sunday.

"We all pitched in during the holiday season. Even though I was the youngest, I helped with the cooking, washing and especially the eating. I was always a big eater, and I have a sweet tooth. I remember Mama used to make chicken pie in a huge dish pan."

Mary knows her family was one of the first in Kings Mountain, she remembers her grandfather, Thomas James McGill who fought

See McGill, 2-A