

Kings Mountain Herald

VOL. 105 NO. 37

Thursday, September 16, 1993

Kings Mountain, N.C. 28086 • 50¢

Police to enforce rules on Moss Lake

Stricter enforcement of the rules and regulations on the waters of Moss Lake will follow in the wake of two summer drownings.

Kings Mountain Police Chief Warren Goforth, who called off Wednesday the official search for the second missing man feared drowned, said that a change in rules may be "inconvenient but they will save lives."

Goforth every person in a boat riding on the lake must wear a life jacket at all times and he will recommend to City Council and City Manager George Wood that the police department be given the authority to strictly enforce those rules.

Goforth closed Moss Lake three days this week as divers, aided by solar devices, and rescue teams searched for Carl Howell Sr., 48. Howell and his 24-year-old son Carl Jr. were hurled into the lake Saturday morning when their 17-foot Aspri bass boat shifted abruptly to the left. The younger man's efforts to save his father were futile.

Goforth said the two Shelby fishermen fell out of the boat piloted by Howell Sr. after the boat hit a wave. Neither was wearing a life preserver. The cause of the accident is still under investigation.

Goforth said that divers and rescuers will return to the lake Saturday and Sunday to resume the search. Two boats were randomly searching the lake Wednesday morning for the bodies of Howell and Viengkeo Sinnorai, of Kings Mountain, who drowned July 20. Sinnorai fell into Moss Lake when he tried to rescue his 9-year-old daughter after she tumbled from their boat.

"We're not quitting the search," said Goforth. He said that lake officers are on duty daily.

Horrified lake residents, including a family making preparations for an outdoor Saturday wedding, called rescue workers, who pulled the younger

Howell to safety. Shelby boat dealer Ronnie Walker, who had sold Howell Sr. the boat earlier in the year, helped police get the boat stopped.

The younger Howell had recently ended a tour of military duty and was joining his father for their first lake outing since his return.

Saturday's accident was the second fatality at Moss Lake this summer. It was the third accident in eight years.

"The new rules may be inconvenient to people who travel the waters but saving lives is the important thing," said Goforth.

UF off to good beginning

A total of \$25,958.38 or 21 percent of the goal of \$ 121,500 was reported at Friday's kick-off of the 1994 United Fund campaign for 16 charitable causes.

"We are so pleased," said Chairman Jay Rhodes, who is encouraging Kings Mountain citizens to complete the goal by 5 p.m. on November 30.

President Maude Norris recognized divisional chairmen and the various agencies funded by United Fund at the luncheon at Holiday Inn, taking the occasion to thank those who had made early-bird donations and asking those who haven't to do so by the deadline.

Rev. Robert Haynes, pastor of Temple Baptist Church, and Melanie McDaniel, director of the Cleveland County Youth Assistance Program, were speakers. Haynes thanked United Fund for their contributions to the Crisis Ministry, a program of the Helping Hand Fund of Kings Mountain Ministerial Association, and to the Chaplain's Service at Kings Mountain Hospital. Gifts of \$14,500 from United Fund donations help support these programs.

"The Crisis Ministry is all the name implies," said Haynes. He said that many needy families have benefited with fuel, medicine and from the popular Food Bank.

McDaniel said the Youth Assistance Program is an agency funded for the first time by Kings Mountain United Fund. She said the \$1500 will help young people of the community who are in crisis situations and who are matched with caring volunteers.

Prayer at the school



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER - Kings Mountain High School students and adults joined a nation-wide prayer for peace chain around the school flag at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday. Tim Echols led the prayer. Students wore blue and white arm bands of flags and stars. "See You At The Poles" was the theme of the brief service. A prayer service was also held at Kings Mountain Middle School.

Moss Lake improvements approved

Seventeen requests for improvements to theirs and the city's right-of-ways at Moss Lake were approved by the Moss Lake Commission Monday night.

The city is beginning lowering of the lake and has informed property owners that it's now the time to make necessary improvements.

Chairman Joe Smith said that requests were granted, pending approval of the City Council at the September 28 meeting to:

James F. Chitty wants to clear Lot 13. Clearing is to prepare for

possible seawall and a pier to be built. Application for seawall and pier will follow once plans are complete.

Stephen Jones wants to cut trees, shrubs and remove stump for a possible future dock or seawall.

Colon J. Goode wants to install a 2 HP Toro pump with no tank and two inch water line.

Thomas J. Prosser wants to remove vegetation, grade the shoreline and line the shoreline with riprap.

Virginia Sherlin wants to build a 75 feet brick and concrete retaining wall.

Ronald Lee Goble wants to add 50 feet of a cement sea wall.

John Harry want so remove low growing shrubs and weeds.

James M. Ross wants to extend a concrete wall to 50 feet to prevent further erosion and trees from falling in the water.

Michael J. Bolt wants to complete an existing pier and to construct a Keystone seawall.

Schools to study Central price tag

Within the next month, Kings Mountain School Board members must decide whether to commit almost a million dollars to renovating the old Central School facility, build a new Superintendent's office for basically the same amount of money, or delay action on the project.

Bids for the project came in last week at \$901,817 which is about \$400,000 more than the system first anticipated the project costing but "pretty close" to what architect Roger Holland expected, he told the board at Monday night's monthly meeting at Kings Mountain High School.

The board delayed action on the matter hoping contractors can cut their estimates in the next 30 days. Holland and Supt. Bob McRae both doubt that will happen.

McRae said the board could delete some of the items such as new cabinets, new carpet and tile, painting, etc., but that would still leave a cost of \$769,437 which is still more money than the system has on hand for capital outlay.

McRae said the schools have about a half-million dollars on hand that could go into the project. If costs do not increase drastically over the next 12 to 18 months, the system would have enough funds to go ahead with the project then. McRae had hoped that the \$500,000 available during this school year would have allowed the system to go ahead with basic renovations that would "get us into the building." However, he said it would probably be mid-year of the 1994-95 school year before that could happen.

McRae said the school board's options at this point are:

"There's not a real good way to delete a lot of this project."

-Architect Roger Holland

- 1 - To drop plans for the project.
- 2 - Bank the \$500,000 and re-bid the project next year.
- 3 - Go back to the drawing board and choose the absolute requirements that must be done to occupy the building.

Holland said the absolute requirements include most of the items already bid, such as an elevator for accessibility by the handicapped, a sprinkler system, bringing plumbing and electrical systems up to codes, and sub-dividing space for office use.

"There's not a real good way to delete a lot of this project," Holland said. Holland said he would rather see the entire project done at one time because the system would probably create additional expense if it tries to "piece-meal" it together.

McRae said after the meeting that the system could build a new building at basically the same cost as renovating Central, but the board is not considering that option at present. A new superintendent's office would require about 15,000 square feet of space in a one-story structure. Central has 25,000 square feet in a three-story structure. To build a new superintendent's office on the Central grounds, it would either have to be placed at the back corner of the property or the old school would have to be demolished.

See Central, 6-A

Speaking still allowed at Grover meetings

GROVER - The subject of speaking or not speaking at public meetings never came up at Monday night's Council meeting.

At the end of a nearly two-hour meeting and after an executive session, Mayor Ronald Queen gave each of the 40 people present three minutes to express their views. He recommended they get on the agenda for the next meeting but he welcomed them and said "please come back and attend every meeting."

"Grover hasn't changed and I'm here to see that Grover doesn't,"

said the mayor, apparently alluding to no change in the placement on the agenda where citizens could be recognized for questions and concerns. Several citizens took an opportunity to ask about street paving and to commend the mayor for putting more lights on Main Street but most didn't take the public speaking opportunity.

Nine citizens were named to Grover's first Planning and Zoning Board. They include Robert Roper, Max Rollins, Tommy Keeter, Kathy Neely, Fain Hambright, David Chadwick, and Jack

Herndon. Councilman Herndon, who is also active on the county planning board, agreed to serve until after the upcoming election. The members will hold an organizational meeting to elect a chairman and to begin the process of mapping the town.

Both Hambright and Keeter said they looked forward to the appointment and praised Council for starting the ball rolling for orderly planning and zoning.

After a review of several ordinances by City Attorney Mickey Corry, the board approved ordi-

nances regulating the control of stray dogs and also the removal of junk cars, delegating enforcement to the police chief. Corry was asked to draft an ordinance to regulate smoking in public buildings and city vehicles prior to October 14 when a state ordinance will mandate that 20 percent of a public building must be designated for smokers. The board also adopted an ordinance requiring all businesses to apply for and be issued an occupational license each year. The fee schedule is to be adopted

See Grover, 3-A

Watchdog committee has its eye on Grover Town Council

GROVER - A political action watchdog committee is gearing up and circulated its first edition of "Citizens for Good Government" this week, a prelude to what one of the promoters calls one of the hottest elections in the county this fall.

Bud Wilson, Kings Mountain native who moved back to the Grover area from Charlotte, said the group will sponsor a community-wide political forum prior to November 2 and invite participation from all 10 candidates for three seats on Council. In addition, candidates will get questionnaires

from Wilson and Rev. John Evans, co-founders of CGG, which includes a total of 15 members from the community representing a wide variety of occupations.

"On June 1 Grover voters narrowly defeated a petition to approve off-premise beer and wine sales and that campaign sparked grassroots involvement on both sides of the alcohol fence," said Wilson. He said that many of the people who signed up for this fall's town council race were involved in beer and wine campaigns.

Evans said the interest in the upcoming election was evidenced by

the packed crowd at Monday night's Council meeting. Neither Evans or Wilson were on the agenda but Evans said after the meeting that the watchdog committee was formed to warn the voters of Grover against complacency. "With a field of 10 candidates and Grover's future on the line, nothing can be taken for granted," he said.

Programs by CGG Watchdog will include an anti-drug motivational speaker at a town meeting, sponsoring a candidates' forum at town hall prior to the election, the publication of regular issues of the CGG Watchdog to keep voters

abreast of the issues, publishing the candidates stand on those issues and plenty of old-fashioned campaigning.

"God's people desperately need to get involved concerning local, state and national government," said Evans, field representative at Clearview Baptist Church in Grover and a leader in the recent successful "dry" campaign.

Wilson said that no candidates have been endorsed but he didn't rule out that the watchdog committee may endorse and support candi-

See Citizens, 3-A



FUN IN THE SUN - Haley Lail, four-year-old daughter of Lisa and Steve Lail, slides through the sliding tunnel at Deal Street Park on a sunny afternoon.