

1993

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County Commissioners voted to expand the board to seven seats with five elected from districts.

Popular KM jeweler Frank Rippy, 76, died in Asheville.

APRIL

Former Oakland Raiders star Mickey Marvin spoke at the KM Sports Hall of Fame banquet. Inductees were the late Coman Falls, Freddy Smith, Richard Gold and the 1945 KMHS boys basketball team.

Two Texas men - Ambrosio C. Escamilla and Isidro De Leon Rodriguez, were arrested in KM on felony charges of conspiracy to traffic marijuana and trafficking marijuana.

Hardees celebrated 20 years in KM by opening a new restaurant on King St.

Billy Houze resigned from the School Board. Six people applied to replace hi.

Bob Hayes announced his retirement after 32 years with the KM Police Dept. A week later, he changed his mind.

Eight minor deficiencies at Moss Lake dam were cited by state officials in their annual dam inspection.

Thirty-five property owners attended a KM City Council meeting to protest proposed multi-family apartments in Ashbrook Park.

MAY

The new Firestone plant opened on I-85.

Miss N.C. Heidi Williams visited Bethware School.

KM Schools approved the use of video cameras on buses and the use of hand-held metal detectors to search students suspected of carrying weapons on school grounds.

Connie Allison was appointed to the KM School Board.

The School Board approved an extra penny of supplemental tax to stop sales by students in grades K-8.

Kayla Newton, who was born Jan. 26, was diagnosed with three rare diseases at Carolinas Medical Center.

Pharmacist Carl Wiesener, 74, retired after a quarter of a century of service and over 200,000 prescriptions filled.

Thirty searchers combed the woods off Farris Road for Linda Black, who was reported missing. She was later found dead near Van Dyke Road.

Graduation exercises were held for 250 KMHS seniors.

Cleveland County Commissioners banned smoking in all county public buildings.

JUNE

The KMHS baseball team won its second state championship in five years, defeating Asheboro in a best-of-three series at Lancaster Field.

A 2.5 percent pay hike was included in the city's 1994 budget.

County Commissioners approved raising the county property taxes by six percent on a 3-2 vote. In the same meeting, Commissioners Cecil Dickson and E.T. Van Hoy urged consolidation of the county's three school systems.

Bob Rop was named publisher of the Kings Mountain Herald.

Tommy Barnette retired after 16 years in the furniture business.

The School Board approved a half-million renovation plan for Central School.

Jim Causby, Supt. of Polk County Schools, was guest speaker at the second annual KM Education Summit.

Chief Warren Goforth was urged by a number of citizens to run for County Sheriff, but said he would remain here.

Forty-four charges were filed against juveniles for stealing thousands of dollars in merchandise and vehicles, and damaging cars and trucks and Deal Street Pool.

JULY

Temperatures flared at the KM Zoning Board members when board members and city councilmen differed on zoning matters.

The Plonk Property on Battleground Ave. was rezoned for a convenience store to be built. Mike Heath opened the store in November promising to have the lowest gas prices in town, and the prices immediately dropped to less than 90 cents per gallon.

Jones Intercable announced that its earlier agreement to sell to Alert Cable would not be consummated.

Jay Rhodes was named chairman of the 1994 United Fund campaign.

Members of East Gold St. Wesleyan Church helped distribute Bibles in Russia.

Nineteen families in the

Oakwood subdivision in the Dixon Community threatened to take their case to Superior Court after developer Mike Brown decided to place trailers in the neighborhood.

Mary Accor was named interim principal at Bethware School.

The temperature hit 100 degrees.

Bill Hager was named coordinator of the accelerated learning lab at KMMS which was designed to increase the school's support of at-risk students and lower the dropout rate.

A search began at Moss Lake for 34-year-old Viengkeo Sinnorai, who went under the water and apparently drowned trying to save his daughter from drowning. The child had fallen into the water trying to retrieve a life jacket. The girl was rescued by a passing boat. Sinnorai's body surfaced several months later.

Badcock Home Furnishing Centers opened in the Westgate Plaza.

Harris Teeter and Carolina State Bank were robbed. Paquito R. Brown of Gastonia was charged with the armed robbery of Harris-Teeter.

Ken Hamrick opened the Hungry Bull Steak House on King St.

The new Bridgestone/Firestone plant was dedicated.

The Lisa and James Adkins Family was dealt a double blow. They came home from Ohio for the funeral of Mrs. Adkins father, James Donald Biddix on Wed., July 21. When they awakened the next morning they found that their infant daughter, Alisa Danielle, was not breathing. She was rushed to KM Hospital where she was pronounced dead on arrival.

Former KM and Grover Commissioner Norman King died at the age of 64.

Almost all property owners were smiling when two zoning classifications were approved by KM Council which means only single family dwellings can be built in Ashbrook, Belvedere and Temple Bark subdivisions.

A barge and pump operation was approved for Moss Lake, authorizing Delta Aggregates Inc. to process 100,000 tons of sand annually for the next 10 years for its asphalt plant in Gastonia.

AUGUST

A back yard Bible School at Pine Manor was held for over 100 residents. It was sponsored by People's and Second Baptist churches.

The city plan repairs at Moss Lake and lowered the water five to six feet to do minor repairs along the beach and shoreline.

Sue Davis of KM was named as one of Gov. Hunt's Volunteers of the Year. She volunteers at Western Carolina Center in Morganton.

Asst. Supt. Larry Allen retired from KM District Schools but agreed to work 12 hours a week to look after facilities, transportation and the capital outlay portion of the budget.

Employees of Eaton Corp. shipped eleven thousand pounds of food, cleaning materials and other supplies to flood victims in Iowa.

C.J. Gault was honored as a 50-year Mason.

Grover Board approved regulating the use of land inside the city limits by creating a Planning Board.

Dr. Sam Houston was named head of a 25-member Standards and Accountability Commission aimed at improving education opportunities in N.C. public schools.

Phyllis Ann Chambers, 38, underwent her second liver transplant at Research Center of the University of Virginia in hopes of saving her life. She died several weeks later.

The Cleveland County Red Cross held its first Bone Marrowthon.

David Hancock resigned as City Recreation Director.

KM cop dog Tank helped nab a bank robbery suspect in Bessemer City.

Jake Dixon retired after 36 years with Home Federal Savings Bank.

Popular KM musician Myrle McClure retired after 37 years as organist at Central United Methodist Church and moved to Chambrel Retirement Village in Williamsburg, Va.

SEPTEMBER

City adopted a limited smoking policy in city buildings and banned smoking in vehicles owned by the city.

A memorial service was held for Viengkeo Sinnorai at First Presbyterian Church.

Second Street Extension water, sewer and street projects were awarded for \$237,767.50.

Joe King was elected chairman of the Planning and Zoning Board.

Ollie Harris was appointed to the Commission on Children with Special Needs by N.C. Senate President Pro Tem Marc Basnight.

Stricter enforcement of rules and regulations at Moss Lake was initiated after the second drowning in a two-month period. Carl Howell, 48, of Shelby drowned when he was thrown from his bass boat.

Students at KMHS and KMMS joined a nationwide prayer for peace around the school flag poles.

Seventeen improvements to rights-of-way were granted by the Moss Lake Commission.

A watchdog committee, "Citizens for Good Government," formed in Grover to keep an eye on City Council.

The School Board discussed goals for the coming year at a retreat in Boone.

KM educator Greg Payseur filed a discrimination suit against the KM Board of Education. Payseur contended that Supt. Bob McRae and the Board violated a federal law when they bypassed him for a promotion.

Six KM students were suspended after fights broke out at the end of the school day.

Charles Webber, KM's first personnel director under the city manager form of government, resigned to take a similar position in Monroe.

Ollie Harris was named to the Governor's Smart Start Board of Directors.

KM Hospital trustees voted to affiliate with Carolinas Medical Center to allow the hospital to take advantage of a network of medical staffs from the two Carolinas.

OCTOBER

Rick Murphee and Jerry White won seats in the City Council election. Ralph Grindstaff and Dean Spears own in run-offs in November.

Grover Town Board approved a \$286,900 water project.

County Commissioners voted 3-2 to kill an earlier plan to create a minority commissioner district.

Chief of Police Goforth requested that City Council approve new life jacket requirements at Moss Lake.

The KMHS band and chorus participated in the bicentennial celebration at the University of North Carolina, but plans for them to play at President Clinton's speech fell through.

The School Board endorsed a new KMHS policy to turn over all students involved in fights to local magistrates for prosecution.

The School Board approved asking the County Commissioners to back a \$300,000 loan from the Dept. of Public Instruction's State

Literary Fund so they could go ahead with the Central renovation project. (The commissioners approved backing the loan and the State School Board approved the funds in December).

The School Board approved KM Middle Schools' request to require students pass six subjects in order to be promoted.

Richard Nunez, 26, of Cloninger St. was charged with felony child abuse after his 11 1/2 month daughter was admitted to the hospital. The daughter later died and the charges were changed to murder.

Moss Lake Commission requested a full time police officer to step up enforcement and assure safety at Moss Lake.

Two people were injured in a shootout at Chesterfield Apartments.

Two KMHS students - Michael Novell Smart and David Lee Bell Jr. - were sentenced to 30 days in the county jail for their participation in fights at KMHS on Sept. 23.

Verbatim Optical Corp. announced it would cease operations at its Grover plant on Dec. 31.

Former Senator and District Court Judge Jack White died at the age of 68.

The KM Tech Prep program was judged best in the state.

A three-year-old child visiting in KM died at KM Hospital of apparent respiratory problems. Dr. Frank Sincox said James Donald Folds of Bradenton, Fla. had had previous episodes and previous hospitalizations for respiratory illnesses.

The KM Ministerial Association's forum for School Board candidates drew only three of the seven candidates and about 35 citizens.

NOVEMBER

Plato Goforth, a member of KM High's first football team in 1921, died.

Ronnie Hawkins, Billy Houze and Connie Allison were elected to the School Board.

Tim Rowland, Robbie Sides and Noel Spivey were elected to the Grover Board.

Popular KM beautician Bessie Bumgardner retired.

KM School Board announced that metal detectors would be used at basketball games.

KM Lake Commission approved request from 14 property owners wanting to make improvements while the lake level was down.

A new gas line to serve 40 customers on Oak Grove Road was completed at a cost of \$87,000.

Bruce Clark was named City Recreation Director.

Several local fires were under investigation, including a fire at Hungry Howie's Pizza and a house fire on Cherry St.

An aneurysm was fatal for Dave Gentry, a 16-year-old KMHS student/athlete.

R.V. Degree, a custodian at Bethware School, was suspended for taking a gun to school. He later resigned to keep from being fired.

KM hunter Chip Cash was almost fatally injured in a fall from a deer stand. He was unconscious for several weeks at Carolinas Medical Center but made a remarkable recovery and came home for Christmas.

The Bee Sharps, a local barber-shop quartet which includes Tim Miller, Jerre Snow, Chip McGill and Andy Neisler, sang the

National Anthem at a Charlotte Hornets game.

Jayda Biddix was KMHS Carousel Princess.

DECEMBER

Arson was suspected in a fire that damaged the historic Long Creek Presbyterian Church.

The city increased its natural gas rates by a 4-3 vote. Commissioners Norma Bridges, Elvin Green and Jerry White voted against.

A memorial Christmas tree at Peggy's Restaurant honored deceased customers.

Patrick Yarns announced a \$1.5 million expansion to its plant in KM.

KM Middle School student Will Hendricks was on a national program on school violence with U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno.

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Dear patients & friends, Mon. Jan. 3, 1994

We at Ear Care Hearing Aid Center wish you and yours the very best during the holidays and the up coming New Year! Enjoy the time off and all the good food. God Bless!

Remember that the most precious things in life don't have a price tag on them. For these special things, you don't need to spend your money, but you do need to invest your time. As a husband, father of two daughters and two granddaughters, I can appreciate that time spent with my family is much more important to them than money spent. I have also found that a tendency to get wrapped up in our careers. Worries about business, finances, patience, children, employees... the list is endless. However, all the cares will be there for you after the holidays. So take my advice, take some time off, relax, spend quality and quantity time with your loved ones. You'll be glad you did. We all have much to be thankful for... let's be careful not to take such blessing for granted because they are indeed priceless. Have a blessed New Year.

Carl Hanna

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