



## Grover students write about love

1-B

## NASCAR star visits Bethware Sc

7-A

# Kings Mountain Herald

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## Board wants 'constructive' ideas

### Petition supports Council's request

A petition signed by 726 people supporting the City Council's "stance on stopping rate increases" was hand delivered by a group of citizens to Mayor Scott Neisler Tuesday night.

Sam Tesenair and Rocky Ford delivered the petition to city officials before the special meeting to discuss proposed budget reductions.

The mayor made no mention of the petition during the meeting and citizens made no comment and did

not ask to be recognized on the agenda.

Tesenair said that all the names on the petition represent registered voters of the City of Kings Mountain.

"We have enough names on this petition to elect a Councilman," said Ford.

A large crowd of people, including industrial leaders of the community, were in the audience.

See Petition, 3-A

Kings Mountain City Council has tabled until Tuesday the \$153,609 spending cuts recommended by City Manager George Wood.

Although the board indicated it approved using mostly one-time savings to plug the hole in the water/sewer fund shortfall, the vote was unanimous to postpone the action until the seven-member board could review "constructively" the proposals.

The motion to table was made by Councilman Rick Murphrey, seconded by Councilman Dean Spears.

The proposed cuts don't reflect

cuts in services, which Wood said he does not recommend.

Wood presented Council a proposed list of ways to cut, which included a change in once a week sanitation service which would bring in \$80,000 and a savings from dropping commercial garbage collection which would amount to \$43,601. Should Council opt for those items, this will be almost the amount needed to close the gap on the budget and retain the savings figured in the fund balances.

However, Wood suggested cuts, which are mostly one time

See Budget, 3-A



A crowd of citizens attended Tuesday's City Council meeting at which the board tabled until next Tuesday proposed budget cuts.

## Guyton: get rid of lakes

City Councilman Jim Guyton suggested Tuesday to City Council that the city do away with both Davidson and City Lakes to save the city repairs which could cost \$150,000.

He made the remarks after City Manager George Wood said the city has been told by state officials, after annual inspection, to fix the Davidson Lake dam and begin work no later than June 18.

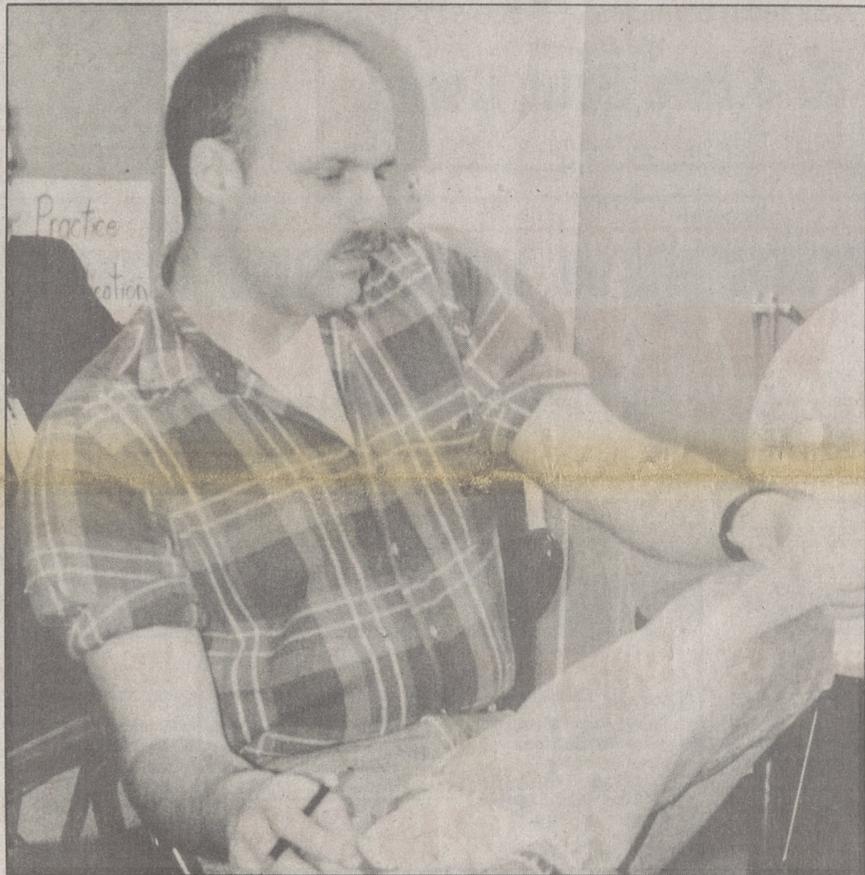
Wood said he will seek an extension from the state after receiving a "notice of deficiencies" and following a dam inspection by the Department of Environment Health and Natural Resources.

Wood said the state is mandating that both dams be repaired and funds must be included in next year's budget.

The Utilities Committee will hear recommendations from W.K. Dickson engineers for doing the repairs at a 5:30 p.m. meeting Monday at City Hall. The design for the project is estimated to cost \$5,000.

The lake dilemma surfaced at Tuesday's City Council meeting during discussion of making spending cuts to balance the water/sewer fund in the current budget.

See Lakes, 3-A



Grover parent Jonas Hansen studies a copy of the state's health care curriculum and objects to controversial portions that deal with sex education during a Parent Center meeting Monday of about 35 people at West School.

## Sex education is under fire

The sex education aspect of the state's revised Healthful Living curriculum for grades K-12 and particularly the curriculum for middle school grades 7-9 drew questions from at least two dozen people, including two ministers and two police officers, Monday at West School Parent Center.

The parents said they were upset they were not notified of the 10 a.m. meeting but Health Coordinator Cindy Borders said that the meeting grew out of Parent Center special programming and that parents will be given a chance to look at the supplementary materials and teacher's books in March once they come from the printers.

Borders said the supplementary materials support the state curriculum which the local system updated with new videos over the past five or six years. She said parent meetings are planned at all grade levels to cover what is in the state curriculum and the controversial areas.

"Today's meeting is a special workshop provided at the request of the Parent Center," she told the parents.

Jean McAbee said that she had difficulty obtaining copies of the 200-plus pages of the state curriculum from the school office until a board member asked for the materials.

"We are not trying to hide anything from you," said Dr. Jane King, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction. "We welcome your concerns and comments."

School officials said that parents who object to the classes on sex education can take their children out of those specific classes. But parents said they when do that, children are looked down upon by their peers and teachers.

Audrey Harris, who instructs "Healthful Living" in Physical Education classes at the middle school, said that only four of 150 kids at the middle school opt out of the class and are assigned alternative assignments. She said that

*"We are not trying to hide anything from you."*

-Jane King

teachers are discreet and that no child is humiliated if parental permission is not given.

Rev. Larry Burns, pastor of Faith Baptist Church, said that the class should concentrate on abstinence from sex and said that rising sexually transmitted diseases occur when a curriculum like Kings Mountain's is in effect.

"We tell kids not to do something and you tell them to be protected."

Burns gave statistics from Colorado which showed the pregnancy rate dropped among teenagers in schools which stressed abstinence only in their sex education curriculum.

School officials agreed the issue is controversial but King said that the system is making tremendous strides.

"When you talk about physical stuff do you talk about the emotional changes a kid encounters?" asked Jonas Hansen of Grover.

Harris said that sixth grade children may be trying to act like adults but the system must teach responsibility and the kids are not ready for it.

"Why is it taught if they aren't ready for the sex subject," asked Hansen.

Other parents said that kids are ready for the sex topics and one parent suggested that teachers should supplement lessons that "scare the daylight out of the kids" with what could happen if they contacted AIDS.

Other parents and ministers voiced religious objections to having their children's teachers mention condoms.

The curriculum requires teachers to present abstinence as the best

See Sex Ed, 5-A

## Grover Council cuts salaries in half

GROVER - The five members of Grover City Council cut their own salaries Monday to show by example that residents need to tighten their belts to meet the budget.

"We're instituting cuts in spending in every department and I make the motion that we cut our pay in half, from \$200 to \$100 a month," said Councilman Tim Rowland.

Councilman Robbie Sides seconded the motion and Council members Noel Spivey, Sandra Ellis and Jack Herndon also favored the cuts.

Mayor Ronald Queen said he appreciated the stance that the board had taken to reduce expenditures.

"We're closing the city office on Wednesday and reducing expenditures in the police and maintenance departments," said Queen. He said that expenses were \$44,000 over the budget this month.

"If we're losing money something is wrong," said Commissioner Herndon. "I notice that both our neighboring cities Shelby and Kings Mountain are having to cut to stay within their budgets, so we are all in trouble."

Rowland said that expenditures had risen, including the addition of landfill fees and capital expenditures that included the new Town Hall addition and the new trash truck.

## Grover garbage fees to increase

GROVER - The 293 households and businesses in town will start paying \$4 a month garbage pickup fees in March.

Town Council Monday adopted the fee schedule. The sanitation "tipping" fee will be added to water bills.

"We think this is fair to businesses and residents," said Mayor Ronald Queen.

Councilman Robbie Sides said the town is spending \$15,000 at the county landfill and costs are going up. "We either do this or raise taxes and no one wants taxes increased."

The board tabled until the March meeting a decision on a proposed plan to cut paid vacation time for four full time employees and add two paid holidays which would correspond with the 12 paid holidays allowed state employees. Commissioner Noel Spivey said he opposed the addition of two paid holidays.

"Five years is a long time to work for a 10-day vacation," said Councilwoman Sandra Ellis, who opposed the plan that would give

See grover, 3-A

## KINGS MOUNTAIN PEOPLE

### Goforth a good 'order taker'

Garrison Goforth, 70, never meets a stranger and perhaps that trait is the reason for his success as a salesman.

A brick salesman for 37 years at Bennett Brick Company, his philosophy has been to sell himself to a customer. "When they ask me if I'm a brick salesman, I just tell them I'm an order taker," says the personable Mr. Goforth who has sold thousands of brick since he was hired by Clyde Bennett at Bennett Brick & Tile in 1957.

Goforth got his first experience as a salesman selling groceries at a small grocery store and service station he operated for several years on Shelby Road. As the oldest of

four children of the late Marvin and Ada Goforth, he worked in the fields, raised and butchered hogs and learned the value of hard work, along with his brothers Tom and Rob Goforth and their sister, Mae Sue McGill.

Because he has endeared himself to his customers, it was natural that Goforth's birthday party on his birthday January 29 include the customers as special guests in his home on Garrison Drive.

"Garrison loves people and he had rather talk than eat," says his wife of 46 years, Rachel McClain Goforth.

"We decided we'd surprise him and so we invited his customers to

come for a party and then had a family party on Sunday," said Mrs. Goforth.

Goforth's bosses now are the sons of his former boss. Tom and Johnny Bennett joined a crowd of people to celebrate Garrison's birthday with pound cake and ice cream.

A native of Kings Mountain, Garrison graduated from Kings Mountain High School. His wife was also a KMHS graduate but she didn't catch Garrison's eye until after she went to Charlotte to nursing school. Rachel dropped out of nursing school after a year to be-

See Goforth, 5-A



GARRISON GOFORTH

## Watson files for County Board

Harold Watson, who filed Wednesday as a candidate for one of two seats up for grabs on the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners, favors district representation and supports a change from a five-member to a seven-member board.

Watson, General Manager and Account Executive with Radio Station WOHS in Shelby, said he is running because he believes it's time to get involved.

"The county is at a stand still," said Watson.

Watson, a newcomer to politics and a Democrat, said he has no ax

to grind and no preconceived agenda.

Watson worked through the ranks from radio announcer to the top of his profession at WOHS for 37 1/2 years. He is president of Shelby Radio Corporation and Watson Broadcasting Inc. When WOHS was sold to KTC Broadcasting in Cherryville, Watson remained as General Manager and Account Executive.

A 1950 graduate of Hickory High School, he earned degrees in English and Business Administration from Lenoir-Rhyne College in 1954. He is married to the former Billie Bolick of Hickory. They have two daughters and one grandson. He is active in Aldersgate United Methodist Church, the Shelby Rotary Club

See Watson, 5-A



WATSON