

Obituaries



R.S. LENNON

Richard S. Lennon Sr., 85, of 401 Neisler Dr., retired Kings Mountain banker, died March 9, 1996 at home.

He was married to Alice McLaurin Lennon and was a native of Rowland, son of the late Carl H. and Maude Cromartie Lennon.

A past president of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club, he was a Mason and a member of First Presbyterian Church and a past member of the board of directors of Kings Mountain Hospital.

He was retired Vice-President of First Union National Bank of Kings Mountain. He was a former member of the board of directors of Kings Mountain Hospital.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are one son, Richard S. Lennon Jr. of La Plata, MD; one daughter, Sara Rose Lennon of Dallas, TX; and three brothers, M. C. Lennon of Anderson, SC, F.C. Lennon of Long Beach, SC and G. B. Lennon of Park Rapids, MN.

The funeral was conducted March 11, 1996 at 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church by Rev. Dick Newsome. Burial was in Rowland City Cemetery at 4:30 p.m. March 11.

Memorials may be made to Kings Mountain Hospital, W. King St., Kings Mountain, 28086 with funds to be applied toward the purchase of a LIFEPAK 9, a defibrillator/monitor for use in the emergency room.

ROBERT A. LINK JR.
CHARLOTTE - Robert A. "Bobby" Link Jr., 74, 3811 Conway Avenue, died March 16, 1996 at Presbyterian Hospital.

A native of Abbeville, SC, he was the son of the late Robert A. and Annie Bailey Link Sr., and husband of the late Betty Hardin Link. He was a chemical salesman for CIBA Geigy Corp., Charlotte, a Mason, and a member of Pritchard Memorial Baptist Church.

He is survived by his sister, Betty Link Bowen of Abbeville, SC.

A graveside service was conducted by the Rev. Stan Heiser Monday at 11 a.m. at Grover Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

GEORGE B. ROYSTER
BLACKSBURG, SC - George B. Royster, 71, 242 Lakeview Drive, died March 15, 1996 at Cleveland Regional Medical Center.

A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of the late John Bunyan and Annie P. Blalock Royster Sr. He was a retired textile worker and a member of First Baptist Church of Grover and Absher Flowers VFW Post in Gastonia. He was a U.S. Army veteran and served in the Korean Conflict.

He is survived by his wife, Eloise Poole Royster; three brothers, Frank Royster and Grier Lee Royster, both of Blacksburg, and John B. "Bill" Royster of Grover; and a sister, Janelle Carmack of Hermiston, Oregon.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. John Bridges Sunday at 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church, Grover. Burial was in Grover Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church Nursery Renovation, P.O. Box 237, Grover, NC 28073.

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Pauline Dotson Ernst acknowledges with grateful appreciation the special care she received during her extended illness and each expression of sympathy of her passing.

A special thanks to Kay Squires and the Home Health team, Rev. Bob Hope, and friends and neighbors.

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GASS

From Page 1-A

sion, broken jaw bone, a crushed larynx, cuts and multiple trauma wounds and a severe bacteria infection. He was out of consciousness for some time. It took from February 6 until February 21 to get the infection under control.

Gass said a vehicle caught the telephone cable Raco Inc. workers had stretched across Giff Hill Road west of the Hyatt Regency St. John hotel. As the cable wrapped around the car's axle, Gass, standing next to a truck, was caught in the galvanized steel wire cable's end. It threw him nearly 40 feet down the road.

"I don't remember what happened to me," said Gass who took a piece of paper after he regained consciousness and asked that question of his mother, father and brother, Kevin who flew to St. John's immediately after they got the call from Gass's employer. Mrs. Gass flew home with Chad to the Charlotte hospital in a medic helicopter with a nurse and doctor in attendance.

It was the longest ride of her life, she said, and she prayed every minute of the four hour airlift to Carolinas Medical Center.

"It was so frightening for all of us but Chad received wonderful attention from the small hospital on the island and they immediately put him on a prayer chain and we can't say enough about the fine people he works with who have been so supportive," JoNell said.

Gass passed a swallowing test on March 13 at Charlotte Institute of Rehabilitation and his doctors told him he could eat soft foods and drink liquids. He faces possibly another operation in six months on his neck and orthodontic work on his teeth.

Jack Bryson, Chad's cousin from Cherokee, witnessed the accident. Bryson, the bucket operator, had dispatched Chad to the truck to get equipment to anchor the cable. Chad, Bryson and one other worker took a ferry to St. John's February 6 and had been working about two hours when the accident happened.

A woman driving a Blaze approached the repair crews where Gass said there was not a flag man. No charges were made against the driver.

Doctors told him this week he could postpone hunting and fishing and camping for a while but Gass says give it a month and he'd be in the mountains at his family's summer home.

He wants to go trout fishing with his brothers, Kevin and Rickie and is anxious to see his sister, Roxanne Lambert of Burlington and other family members who have been so concerned about him. His great-niece, Bridget Barrett, decorated his bedroom before his arrival Friday and a number of friends have called although his mother is trying to limit some of his visits for a while and is trying to rule out fishing trips.

"Sunny days ahead, smile, God loves you" are typical signs which brighten his bedroom.

By all descriptions of the near-tragedy, Chad Gass is a fighter. But he says he has no plans to return to the Virgin Islands.

"Sure we were making good money and we had a beautiful resort hotel to live in but I'm just glad to see Kings Mountain again," said Chad. He said racial unrest on the islands had resulted in several injuries and two murders recently.

Gass said the natives resent jobs going to people from outside the area who need the work.

"But there are some good people there," he said.

When the doctors first talked to us as Chad lay unconscious they told us "this boy has a strong will to live."

"They called him their miracle boy," said Mrs. Gass, echoing what a team of doctors and nurses said who worked for weeks to save his life at Carolinas Medical Center.

Mrs. Gass can't say enough about the fine hospital staff and the equipment at CMC.

"I was so afraid we would lose Chad before we got him back to North Carolina," she said.

With a thumbs up sign to visitors, Chad Gass has high hopes for the future.

CENTER

From Page 1-A

Killian said NCDOT engineers estimate traffic for the assisted living facility to be in a range of an average two to four daily trips per household unit. He said that number is significantly less than 10 trips per day commonly used in this area for single family dwellings.

"However, anyone who has been out there at the school rush hour knows some improvements need to be made to the road," said Killian. He said the City of Kings Mountain Thoroughfare Plan Committee recommends improving the road by widening the pavement width and adding a turning lane which will positively impact school traffic. Killian said direct appeals to the NCDOT Division

Office for such improvements will be made as soon as the city adopts the thoroughfare plan this summer.

Adjustment board member Clavon Kelly said the matter had been researched "about as deeply as we've researched anything" and he called for a vote after about an hour of discussion.

"It's good you neighbors got together and talked it over. The company has shown a willingness to get along with the neighbors. In most cases you've got to give a little and take a little."

Member Lou Ballew said she welcomed the new neighbors to Kings Mountain and said the 66-bed facility would be a real asset to the community.

Phase I of the \$3 million project would include a 48-room, 66-bed facility. Phase II would add two buildings and 66 more beds.

"We wanted better but we feel

it's a compromise we can live with," said Mercier after the meeting. The spokesman for concerned residents in the Southridge neighborhood, he said the neighbors were not against an assisted living center but they were worried that the facility might increase traffic problems in an already congested area, questioning problems with emergency vehicles getting into the neighborhood and about the need for buffers between the living center and their properties.

The Kings Mountain Consortium for Progress Inc. headed by former Mayor John Henry Moss took up the project last year.

"We are pleased," said Moss after the meeting.

The former mayor said that the facility is much needed in the Kings Mountain area and that it would be formally announced along with other plans, the Consortium will unveil for the area at a press conference March 26 at 11 a.m. at City Hall.

KM Business Association elects first slate of officers

The newly organized Kings Mountain Business and Professional Association elected Kathy Neilly of Hope Chest Interiors as president at a meeting Tuesday night at Secret Garden.

Linda Allen of Ashley's will serve as vice-president; Amy Smith of Secret Garden will serve as secretary; and Joe Smith of Foust Textiles will serve as treasurer.

The group adopted a mission statement to bring together business and professional people to promote and support Kings Mountain.

The 22 people present at the meeting included a seven-member delegation from the Shelby Star led by Publisher Keith Walters who were on the program to outline plans for a new publication, "Between Mountain and Lake," to be distributed in the King Mountain area beginning March 31. The magazine will include recreational news, information on places to go and things to do in the Moss Lake area, Gastonia and Charlotte and local stories and photographs on people who live in the Moss Lake and surrounding areas.

Karl Moss, Public Works Superintendent for the City of Kings Mountain, was also on the program and briefed the group on plans for city-wide beautification.

Moss said that the city is working with local garden clubs to beautify the area, including the installation of a clock at the overhead bridge, street signs over the stoplights and the planting of trees.

The next meeting of the group will be April 16 at 7 p.m. at City Hall. The public is invited.

In
Loving
Memory

William "Bill" Sellers
March 20th 1930 • Sept. 27th, 1992

God saw you were getting tired, and a cure was not to be. So He put His arms around you and whispered, "Come with me."

With tearful eyes we watched you suffer and watched you fade away. Although we loved you dearly, we could not make you stay. A golden heart stopped beating, hard-working hands to rest, God broke our hearts to prove to us that he only takes the best!

It's lonely here without you, We miss you more each day, Life doesn't seem the same, since you went away. When days are sad and lonely, And everything goes wrong, we seem to hear you whisper, "Cheer up and carry on," Each time we see your picture, You seem to smile and say, "Don't cry, I'm in God's hands, we'll meet again someday!"

Happy Birthday
Love, Your Children

*Community Easter
Sunrise Service*

**April 7, 1996
Sunday**

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