



Kings Mountain Herald

KINGS MOUNTAIN NC 28086-3414
100 S PIEDMONT AVE
307 11-11-98
MAUNEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY
310W
13P
125
SORT**CARR-RT
527

Vol. 110 No. 35

Thursday, August 27, 1998

Kings Mountain, NC • Since 1889 • 50¢

Two KM men face murder charges

Two Kings Mountain men allegedly beat another man to death outside the man's apartment on Baker Street Friday night, police said apparently in retaliation for what the suspects say the victim did just minutes before police arrived.

The suspects, Michael Scott Pasour, 26, of 327 N. Battleground Ave., and Kenneth Webster Wood, 31, of 7009 Richmond Dr., were taken into custody at 532 Baker Street and charged with first degree murder and first degree burglary. Their first court appearance was Monday morning.

Police Chief Richard Reynolds said police received a call at 8:11 p.m. that a fight was in progress at 532 Baker Street. Upon their arrival, officers found McDaniel lying on the ground near his apartment. Cleveland County EMS arrived shortly after the officers and pronounced McDaniel dead at the scene.

According to Reynolds, McDaniel's front door had been kicked open and the two suspects forced their way into his apartment. "The actual assault occurred outside the apartment," said Reynolds.

Suspects alleged that the victim had attempted to pick up the six-year-old son of Pasour's girlfriend. The allegations, according to Reynolds, were that a white male driving a car described as a gray four door Chrysler with a partial license plate number reportedly pulled up beside the boy and attempted to talk him into getting into the vehicle. Both suspects told police they saw McDaniel talking to the child. Sometime later, according to Reynolds, the two suspects located the car they believed to be involved in the incident with the child and confronted McDaniel at his residence.

Reynolds said an autopsy is underway to determine the cause of death.

Mayor's naming of street upsets some neighbors

by ELIZABETH STEWART
of The Herald Staff

The formerly unnamed street that runs beside of Kenneth Bush and Mrs. B. R. Sanders' homes to the city's public work's building off McGinnis Street is now Cooper Street named by Mayor Scott Neisler for a family who donated some of the land for the Public Works building.

Kenneth Bush, of 1007 North Piedmont Ave., and Mrs. B. R. Sanders, of 104 McGinnis Street, told city council Tuesday night they didn't appreciate the city posting a green Cooper Street sign about a month ago and not asking the neighbor's opinions.

Supt. of Public Works Jackie Barnette said his work order came from the mayor.

The mayor apologized to Bush and to Mrs. Sanders and to coun-

cil "if I overstepped my bounds." Neisler said the short side street off McGinnis Street leads to the public works building on North Piedmont Avenue has been unnamed for many years.

Sanders also objected to the city using the public works parking lot beside his house for other than employee parking. He said Council rezoned the parking lot property to General Business May 28, 1991 and restricted it to employee parking only.

"I've been looking out my window and seeing overgrown grass, drug seized cars, generators, old antennas, and batteries and it's getting to be just like a dumping ground," he said.

After his complaints on Monday to Police Chief Richard Reynolds police cleared the lot of old vehicles and employees of public works moved the other

items Tuesday.

Bush, who is disabled with severe eye problems, has difficulty mowing the grass.

"I try to keep my property up and I expect the city to do the same," he said. "Taxpayers paid for this fence, the gate isn't locked and the city doesn't use it for employee parking," he said.

A third neighbor of the city's Public Works building, Edith Brown, of 1009 North Piedmont Avenue, asked Council to restore her electricity so that she could move back into her mother's home and make repairs.

"I've tried to comply with the codes but now they tell me I illegally occupied my dwelling," said Brown who charged that the city had "put me out on the street."

"I offer you my sympathy for a lack of human compassion," she said.



Kenneth Bush doesn't like Cooper Street

Family on the mend



Anita and Carleeta Jimmerson, standing, welcome Brandon, in wheelchair, home from hospital

While mother in hospital father, children hit by car

by ELIZABETH STEWART
of The Herald Staff

"We're all praising God that He takes care of us," says Anita Jimmerson, 41, who said prayer and the compassion of her church family have sustained her during several trying days.

Jimmerson was in Mercy Hospital Thursday when she was told that her husband, Robert, and their two children, Brandon, 10, and Carleeta, 13, had been hurt Wednesday night in an accident in Kings Mountain.

Since last Thursday, except for screenings at Duke Hospital, Anita has remained with her children at Cleveland Regional Medical Center where Brandon underwent leg surgery and Carleeta was recuperating from bruises. The family went home Tuesday afternoon to their Floyd Street home in Kings Mountain but Mr. Jimmerson, who underwent hip surgery, still remains a patient at Carolinas Medical Center.

"Brandon will be in a wheelchair for awhile and has nightmares about the accident and Carleeta suffered some facial injuries, both will be out of school for a while and we are trying to get a homebound teacher so they won't get so behind in their lessons," said Mrs. Jimmerson. Brandon is a fifth grader at East School and Carleeta is an eighth grader at the Middle School. Mr. Jimmerson is an employee of Spectrum.

Mrs. Jimmerson has been battling Chroms disease since 1980. Facing a possible liver transplant, she was at Duke Medical Center this week for another opinion and more screenings. She returns to Carolinas Medical Center September 8 for hernia repair.

"I had been on the transplant list at Carolinas Medical but more tests have been run and we're feeling that the disease is in remission and we're concentrating on getting my hernia repaired," she said.

"Everyone tells me I'm strong but when my children are hurting I'm hurting even more because they are my life," she said.

"And we don't know how we would have been able to get through these days without the support of our relatives and encouragement of members of Mount Zion Baptist Church and our pastor, Rev. Clinton Feemster," said Mrs. Jimmerson.

"They were just mighty lucky and God was with them," said Joyce Canady, Anita's sister. Jimmerson said when she got the news of the accident that she went immediately to the chapel at Mercy Hospital to pray.

"I just started hollering Jesus and held up my hands and I felt like He was grabbing and holding me," said Jimmerson.

See Family, 5A

Council votes down wastewater increase

by ELIZABETH STEWART
of The Herald Staff

By vote of 4-3 City Council Tuesday night voted not to pass on increased sewer costs to residents from a July 1 rate increase by the city of Gastonia for wastewater treatment.

Also by 4-3 vote Council authorized a water and sewer study which could be back to council for action in 90 days.

Councilwoman Norma Bridges' motion to pass on five percent (of a 6.89 percent sewer increase from Gastonia) to inside city residents and a seven percent increase to outside city and industrial users was supported by Councilmen Rick Murphrey and Phil Hager. Voting against were Councilmen Bob Hayes, Jerry Mullinax, Clavon Kelly and Gene White.

White's earlier motion to table action and hire a consultant to update a study and then implement recommendations failed for lack of a second. Hager then offered a substitute motion that only authorized the study.

"We don't know if we can take any action on the consultant's recommendations until we get them," said Hager.

Effective July 1, the city of Gastonia raised its rate to Kings Mountain for sewer treatment at its Crowders Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant and the \$13,833 additional monthly cost was not included in the 1997-98 budget.

Jane Martin, who has waged a one-woman campaign against any increase, spoke during the citizen portion of Tuesday night's meeting and drew applause from a large crowd in attendance.

What would an increase, if it had been approved, mean to the average residential customer?

City Manager Jimmy Maney said if City Council passed along the entire rate hike, the average citizen's bill would go

up about 18 cents a month at a rate of an extra 6 cents per 1,000 gallons.

The current rate paid by in-town residential customers is \$1.24 per 1,000 gallons, he said. He said this rate is a lot cheaper than other surrounding communities.

Customers outside the city limits now pay \$1.80 per 1,000 gallons. If a family used 12,000 gallons the bill would be 72 cents more on the month, Maney said.

Mrs. Martin said any rate increase is unwelcome and by the applause she received at Tuesday night's meeting it was apparent that the visitors to council meeting agreed.

"A few dollars a year can make a difference to people on fixed incomes," she said. She suggested that the city recoup some of the money by raising rates for municipal and industrial customers rather than residential citizens and freeze department head salaries for the next five years. "Even if the city is falling apart there would be raises," said Martin who called for increases only for police and sanitation workers.

Maney said industries would be hardest hit by increases because industries use more water.

Mayor Scott Neisler said the city would be "holding our own" by passing on the increase Tuesday night.

"If you vote to upgrade the two-year-old study be prepared to implement the realistic terms of the study," said White.

Maney said the study would revisit billing and revenues in water and sewer and tie it to a rate to cover capital needs. He said the last utility study, which included all city utilities, cost \$10,000 to \$15,000. Maney said he did not support the recommended increases proposed by consultants in the most recent

See Council, 5A

DEATHS

- Howard Boheler
Blacksburg, SC
- Roger McDaniel
Kings Mountain
- Clora Sheffield
Kings Mountain
- Pete Putnam
Kings Mountain
- Jack Harmon
Kings Mountain

2A

INSIDE

- Birthdays 5B
- Church News 4B
- Classified 7-9B
- Lifestyles 2-3B
- Obituaries 2A
- Opinion 4A
- Police 3A
- Schools 6B
- Sports 6-7A

First Carolina Federal

Kings Mountain
300 W. Mountain St.
739-4781

Gastonia
529 S. New Hope Rd.
865-1111

Shelby
1238 E. Dixon Blvd.
484-0222

MEMBER FDIC