### **OBITUARIES**



KENNETH COOK KINGS MOUNTAIN-Kenneth E. Cook, 62, 717 Meadowbrook Road, died May 19, 1999 at home.

A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of the late Bynum P. and Mildred Howell Cook. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Kings Mountain and past President of the Cleveland Vocational Industries. he was also a member of the Serenity Club, and the Kings Mountain lake Commission. He was a retired employee of Hoechst Celanese and a U.S. Air Force veteran.

He is survived by his wife Becky Thornburg of Kings Mountain; son Tracy Lee Cook and wife Ellen Steen Cook of Jefferson, Alabama; daughters Terri Ann Cook of Kings Mountain and Tammy Cook Mann and husband John of Weddington, North Carolina; grandchildren Kenneth Tyler Cook of Jefferson, Alabama and John Elliot Mann of Weddington.

A memorial service was held Friday at 11 am with Dr. John Sloan officiating. Interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Cleveland Vocational Ind., Inc., 404 E. Double Shoals Road, Lawndale, N.C. 28090. Serenity Club, 109 Bethlehem Road, Kings Mountain 28086. Hospice of Cleveland County, 951 Wendover Heights, Shelby

Harris Funeral Home served the family.

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SELMA CRAWFORD KINGS MOUNTAIN - Selma Allen Crawford, 71, 704 West Mountain Street, died May 23,

1999 at her home after an ex-

tended illness. A native of Cleveland County, she was the daughter of the late William AJ and Aurelia Ray Dover Allen, and wife of the late James Calvin Crawford Sr. She was also preceded in death by two sisters, Mary Dean Allen Swansson and Madge Elizabeth Allen.

Mrs. Crawford was cofounder and partner in the family-owned business, Allen's Flower Shop, from 1946 until her retirement in 1989. She was a member of Boyce Memorial A.R.P. Church where she was past treasurer of the building fund, former leader of the Flora Halliday Circle, and she gave much time to decorating the church for special occasions. She was a former member of Open Gate Garden Club.

She is survived by her sons, James Calvin Crawford Jr. and wife Debbie of Kings Mountain, and Steven Crawford and wife Patricia of Dallas; daughters, Rita Cobb and husband Mike and Cindy Phillips and husband Bobby of Kings Mountain; brothers, Hal Allen of Belmont and Gene Allen of Clemmons; sisters, Grace Talbert of Kings Mountain and Evelyn Hill of Winston Salem; grandchildren, Sharon Cobb Carringer and husband Rusty of Kings Mountain, Lori Cobb Taylor and husband Mark of Gastonia, Andrew Phillips and wife Jessica of Kings Mountain, Michael Phillips, Clay Phillips, Christopher Crawford, and Katherine Crawford, all of Kings Mountain; and greatgrandchildren, James Carringer and Sara Carringer.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Doug Petersen at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Boyce Memorial A.R.P. Church. Burial was in Mountain Rest

Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Life Enrichment Center, 1274 Fallston Road, Shelby, NC 28150, or Hospice of Cleveland County, 951 Wendover Heights Road, Shelby, NC 28150.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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In addition to his mother, he is survived by his daughter, Renee Jackson Gilleland of Bessemer City; brother, Carl To Subscribe to the Herald/Times call 739-7496 Norman Jackson of Jackson Mitchell of Kings Mountain; and step-grandfa-

> by the Revs. David Ellis, Michael Bare and Steve Akers at 3 p.m. Thursday at Sisk-Butler Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will be in Bessemer City

Memorials may be made to Jeff Jackson Memorial Fund, c/o Chapel Grove Church of God, 4639 Chapel Grove Church Road, Gastonia, NC

Sisk-Butler Funeral Home

**BURTON BENNETT** GASTONIA - Burton C. Bennett, 78, 1432 Buckingham Avenue, died May 22, 1999 at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

A native of Kings Mountain, he was the son of the late James D. and Minnie Lee Jones Bennett. A graduate of Kings Mountain City Schools, he attended Appalachian State College where he was on the varsity football squad. He was drafted and served in the U.S. Army during World War II, and later came back to Gastonia where he worked as a supervisor for Groves Thread, Cinderella Knitting and retired from the dyehouse of Ithaca Industries.

He was a member of First Baptist Church and was an avid sports fan. He was preceded in death by three brothers and three sisters.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Barnes Bennett; stepdaughter, JoAnn Sandwick of Houston, TX; sisters, Helen B. Johnson of Clinton, SC, and Rhoda B. Wise of Daytona Beach, FL; two step-grandchildren, a number of step greatgrandchildren, and a number of nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was conducted by Dr. Leon Smith at 11 a.m. Monday, May 24 at Gaston Memorial Park.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Gaston County, P.O. Box 3984, Gastonia, NC 28054 or to First Baptist Church, Vision 2000 Fund, 2650 Union Road, Gastonia, NC 28056.

McLean & Son Funeral Home, Gastonia, was in charge of arrangements.

JEFFREY JACKSON **BESSEMER CITY - Jeffrey** Dale Jackson, 43, 402 E. Alabama Avenue, died May 24, 1999 at his home.

A native of Gaston County, he was the son of Margaret Johnson Jackson and the late Carl Norman Jackson Sr. He was a machinist. He attended Bessemer City High School and Garrison Memorial ARP Church.

He was also preceded in death by his sister, Tracie Lynne

Birmingham, AL; sister, Donna ther, Johnnie Henson of Shelby.

The funeral will be conducted Memorial Cemetery.

was in charge of arrangements.



Kings Mountain Middle School principal John Goforth presented trophies and certificates of recognition to students (left to right) Miles Hovis, Virginia Neisler, and Daniel Manomai for top end of grading period scores in reading. during the school's Awards Day.

# Council approves budget

Kings Mountain City Council Tuesday night approved a \$22,843,166 fiscal year 1999-2000 budget which Mayor Scott Neisler calls "as good as any you'll find" for a town this size.

Although it includes no pay raises for employees (employees received raises in February in a new pay plan approved by Council), it does not reflect a property tax increase and includes many new capital improvement projects.

The only hike in the budget is an 8% water/sewer increase which City Manager Jimmy Maney said is necessary to pay the indebtedness on the 1989 water bond. Maney said the city pledged to repay the bonds in utility increases rather than tax increases.

"I feel real good about this budget," said Mayor Neisler. "I don't think you can be upset anytime that your taxes don't go up. Granted the water rates are going up, but they are not even to the 1994 level that was set up to pay the bond back. The cost of water is less than what it actually should be. We try to make it in small increments instead of a big jump in

any one year." The budget includes capital improvements such as a new Senior Center, plans for two new fire departments, completion of the children's wing at the library, further study of a new water line from Moss Lake to town, continued improvements in all departments, and upgrading equipment.

City Manager Jimmy Maney also listed achievements of the past year, all of which have been completed or are near completion. Projects included a new swimming pool, improvement of parks and grounds at Deal Street and Davidson parks, paving of the walking track and new ball field at Deal Street, construction of a \$1.7 million police department that will be

completely paid for when it is occupied in June or July, designs and purchase of property for a new senior center, beginning construction of the new children's wing at the library, improvements at the water plant and sewage treatment plant, expansion of the natural gas system, and upgraded SCA-DA system and electrical and computer systems.

"Although the 1999-2000 proposed budget addresses many capital needs it remains financially sound and conservative," Maney said.

The budget provides for a four-man maintenance crew and a city planner who will assist Planning Director Steve Killian. That part of the budget drew much discussion.

Councilman Gene White questioned the need for all five positions and suggested that the \$140,000 necessary to fund them might be put toward one of the pump stations.

But Maney pointed out that a lot of the facilities in Kings Mountain now were built inhouse, and that it would probably be more cost-effective to have a maintenance crew for repairs rather than contracting out those services.

"We recently spent \$55,000 painting city hall," he said, and he also pointed out that many of the minor repairs around city hall are done by the fire depart-

"The problem with small projects is that you can't get anyone to do them, or you have to wait three months," Maney said.

Mayor Neisler said a City Planner is needed to assist Killian in his ever-increasing duties. Neisler also said after the meeting that Killian could be spending more time assisting Maney with the general operation of the city.

"Kings Mountain will never be an uncomplicated city," Neisler said. "We'll probably see Steve working more with Jimmy in other areas. In essence he may become an assistant city manager. I don't know that he'll have that title but he will have more responsibilities."

Neisler said Killian recently completed, with the help of department heads, a detailed capital improvement program to the year 2005. "It will really make budgeting so much easier on down the road, because you have the projects laid out that you need to work on," he said.

Neisler said he is also excited about the prospects of two new fire stations, and although both probably won't come about in

the next fiscal year he hopes to at least see a new one built on the west side of town.

"We're going to appraise the two city water lakes down south of town," he said. "Hopefully we can sell those and have those monies go toward building one of the fire stations. Our plan is to have one on the east side and one on the west side but that won't happen until funds become available. So we would end up having one on the west side and one at city hall first. I'm very concerned about the railroad track and being able to serve the west side if a train comes by."

In other action Monday, Council:

Appointed Stella Putnam to the Mauney Memorial Library Board replacing Helen Greenfield who resigned.

■ Set a public hearing for June 29 on a request fro E&E Enterprises Inc. to rezone property located North Watterson St. from R-6 to NB.

Approved a request to rezone property owned by Jody Champion on Linwood Road from R-20 to R-10.

■ After a lengthy discussion trying to determine origin of the ditch, approved hiring an engineer to work with a Bridges Drive property owner to stop a drainage problem that resulted when the owner installed a pipe which overflowed into a neigh-

■ Adopted an ordinance establishing voting precincts for residents of the city who reside in Gaston County. According to City Attorney Mickey Corry, residents of Floyd St. and Floyd St. Ext. that are in Gaston County, and Canterbury Trail, will vote in KM #4; and all other KM residents who live in Gaston County will vote in KM #1. The plan will be sent to the Justice Department for final approval.

■ Authorized the mayor to execute a letter of agreement with Research Development to manage a four-month fund-raising effort for the proposed new Senior Center. Research Development is the same company that led the successful fund-raising effort for the new addition to Mauney Library. The cost for their services will be \$10,000 per month.

■ Authorized the mayor to execute an agreement with an appraisal service to determine the value of the Davidson and City water lakes.

Appointed David Faunce to the ABC Board replacing Shirley Austin, who resigned.

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May 19-25

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