

Forsyth County Sheriff's Office holds Quarterly Community Forum

Sheriff Kimbrough spends birthday addressing concerns of ICE, HB 370

BY TEVIN STINSON
THE CHRONICLE

While most people celebrate their birthdays with cake and ice cream, Sheriff Bobby Kimbrough spent his 58th birthday addressing questions and concerns from citizens during the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) Quarterly Community Forum on Monday, July 22.

After taking the oath of office last December, Kimbrough promised to keep open lines of communication with the public and to be transparent. And with the newly implemented Quarterly Community Forums, one can argue that Kimbrough has made the Forsyth County Sheriff's

ity, then there's nothing to hide.

"I think when people talk about things, that's where the magic takes place. When people can sit and have dialogue, even though we may have different beliefs, when we can sit and talk, we come to a workable solution," he continued. "Because you have the right to put me to task, you have the right to ask me the questions you asked. People have the right to do that and I expect that and I want that."

As expected, most of the questions during the forum on Monday night were about ICE (Immigration Customs Enforcement) and House Bill (HB) 370, a bill that would force N.C. sheriffs to cooperate with ICE and hold jail inmates



More than two dozen concerned citizens attended the second Quarterly Community Forum hosted by the Forsyth County Sheriff's Department on Monday, July 23.

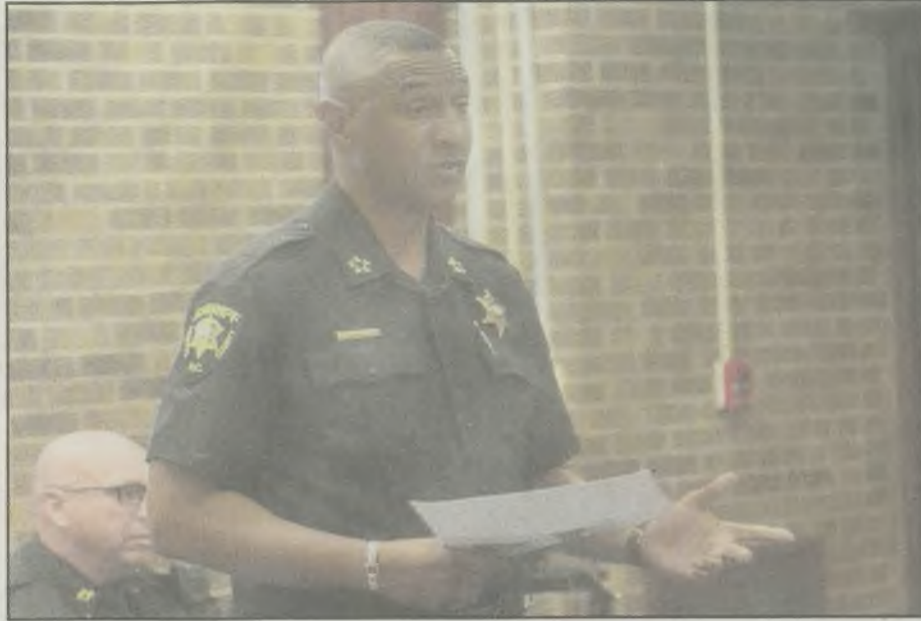


Photo by Tevin Stinson

Sheriff Bobby Kimbrough answers questions about House Bill 370 and the ICE-Forsyth County jail agreement during the Quarterly Community Forum earlier this week.

Office more transparent than ever.

During the quarterly forums, Sheriff Kimbrough opens up by letting high-ranking members of the FCSO introduce themselves. He then lets the public know about new programs and initiatives and future plans before taking questions from the crowd.

Kimbrough said when he first announced the launch of the quarterly forums, several people in "political circles" told him he was crazy. His response was if he's doing the job to the best of his abil-

ity, then there's nothing to hide.

Although the HB 370 has been approved by votes in the N.C. House and Senate, Governor Roy Cooper is expected to veto the bill. Cooper has been on record calling the bill unconstitutional.

One concerned citizen who supports HB 370 said she was upset with Kimbrough's stance on the ICE-Forsyth County jail agreement. Since taking office last year, Kimbrough has not honored

See ICE on A3

Happy Hill

From page A1

"Warm Water," by Charles Edward Williams, a collection of re-narrated visual works based on the event that sparked the Chicago Race Riot of 1919. These works tell the story of five black teens and what reportedly caused the death of Eugene Williams in Lake Michigan on the South Side of Chicago.

On display through January 5 is the exhibit, "Furnished," hanging in the main gallery. A juried exhibition, it features



Warm Water, new works by Charles Edward Williams, also on exhibit at SECCA.

more than 50 works by 15 contemporary artists, from furniture-based sculpture to sculpture that functions as furniture.

SECCA is located at 750 Marguerite Drive and admission is free. For more information, visit www.secca.org.

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The Chronicle (USPS 067-910) was established by Ernest H. Pitt and Ndubisi Egemonye in 1974 and is published every Thursday by Chronicle Media Group, LLC, 1300 E. Fifth St., Winston Salem, N.C. 27101. Periodicals postage paid at Winston-Salem, N.C. Annual subscription price is \$30.72.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
The Chronicle, P.O. Box 1636
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