

The Herald

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BEN LEDBETTER / THE HERALD

United States Senator John Edwards answers questions during Monday's news conference at Cleveland Community College.

Edwards promises help with economy

By BEN LEDBETTER
Staff Writer

U.S. Senator John Edwards made his second trip to Cleveland County this year with Tuesday's appearance at Shelby's Cleveland Community College.

During the visit, Edwards announced an economic revitalization plan to provide help

to laid off workers, assist communities impacted by an economic slowdown with new investment sources and foster a new approach to foreign trade.

Edwards' plan would also require new negotiating goals for America's trade agreements concerning textile and apparel companies. Another clause in the senator's plan includes automatic qualification for workers

under the Trade Adjustment Assistance program. Currently, it can take at least 90 days before workers could qualify.

Also part of Edwards' visit was a panel of three county residents that included Shelby Mayor Mike Philbeck, Cleveland Community College official Rosaline Hunt and former Cleveland CaroKnit employee

See Edwards 5A

KM resident wants city to correct drainage problem

By BEN LEDBETTER
Staff Writer

Two drainage problems exist in Kings Mountain, and one has a resident wanting the situation repaired.

Betty Jean Merritt says she has had a problem with a drainage ditch for almost 40 years.

She said a ditch on her property on Ramseur Street carries water from four areas, which she says may harm her home.

City Engineer Al Moretz said the drainage problem is caused by rain and not water from city lines.

"The fact is it's washing my house and my pool away," Merritt said. "I don't know

what I'm going to do about the erosion."

She said the ditch has grown from something she could walk across to an area with the depth of a swimming pool.

The area, which can be accessed from an adjacent property, has trees where roots are exposed.

Furniture and debris was also in the ditch, which she said was put there by previous residents of a neighboring home.

She spoke during the March city council meeting about the matter.

Another drainage problem exists on Hillside Drive, but Kings Mountain officials said they are two different matters.

See Drainage, 5A



BEN LEDBETTER / THE HERALD

Furniture is part of the contents of a drainage ditch on Betty Jean Merritt's Ramseur St. property. Merritt wants the City of Kings Mountain to repair the ditch, which she says has grown to the depth of a swimming pool over the years.

Hall of Fame induction set Tuesday night

By GARY STEWART
Editor of The Herald

The 15th annual Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame dinner and induction ceremony will be held Tuesday, April 23 at Kings Mountain High School.

Dinner will begin at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria. The induction ceremony will begin at 7:15 in B.N. Barnes Auditorium.

Four men will be inducted this year, bringing the total number of inductees to 46 individuals and six teams.

Inductees include former KMHS football players Jerry Adams, Jack Ruth and Calvin Stephens, and the Mountaineers' all-time leading scorer in men's basketball, Butch Blalock.

In addition, three teams and one individual from Kings Mountain High will be recognized for their athletic achievements during the past year. The men's swim and basketball teams will receive Special Achievement Awards for winning the Southwestern Foothills Conference championship. The women's volleyball team will receive a Special Recognition plaque for winning the State

AAA championship, and volleyball star Shonda Cole will receive a Special Recognition Award for being named the North Carolina High School Volleyball Player of the Year.

In addition, four deserving KMHS seniors will receive \$500 scholarships. Two scholarships are given by the City of Kings Mountain, one by the KMHS Booster Club, and one by Carl and Pat Champion in honor of Hall of Fame President Gary Stewart.

Adams was a three-sport standout for the Mountaineers in the late 1950s and early 1960s. He was an All-State line-man in football and went on to play four years at Western Carolina University. He spent over 20 years in coaching on the high school level. His 1978 East Gaston High football team won the Southwestern 3A Conference championship and his 1979 East Gaston baseball team won the Western N.C. championship. He is now principal of Bessemer City Primary School.

Ruth was also a three-sport standout for the Mountaineers and was quarterback of the

See Hall, 5A

Former mayor to receive award at Scout dinner

By GARY STEWART
Editor of The Herald

Former Mayor John Henry Moss and the City of Kings Mountain will be honored at the annual Friends of Scouting dinner Monday, April 22 at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church Christian Ministry Center.

Moss will receive the Rev. Dr. Charles Bell Award for his leadership during 23 years as Mayor of the City, and his contributions to Scouting during that time.

The City will also be recognized for continuing the support of Scouting that Moss began during his administration.

Admission to the dinner and awards ceremony is free.

Anyone wishing to attend may call Ronnie Hawkins at 739-2591 or 739-7078.

The dinner recognizes the 92nd anniversary of Boy Scouting in Kings Mountain.

Moss, who served as mayor from 1965-1988, instituted the Boy Scout Day in Government in 1967. The program has run continuously since then.

One day a year, Boy Scouts are invited to City Hall to see first-hand how government works. Scouts are assigned to city leaders such as the mayor, police chief, fire chief, public works director, etc., and spend the entire day "on the job."

Through the years the City has also supported Boy Scout activities at city-owned Davidson Lake, the site of the Kings Mountain Boy Scout Camp. J.O. and M.L. Plonk

See Moss, 5A



JOHN MOSS

Kings Mountain crusade ends tonight



BEN LEDBETTER / THE HERALD

Evangelist Clyde Dupin speaks to a crowd during opening night of his crusade Sunday at Donald L. Parker Gymnasium on the campus of Kings Mountain High School. The final service of the crusade begins at 7:27 p.m. Thursday.

By BEN LEDBETTER
Staff Writer

With the sound of a trio singing the Clyde Dupin Crusade opened its five day-run in Kings Mountain Sunday at Kings Mountain High School's Donald L. Parker Gymnasium.

The crusade is the second time in 15 years Dr. Dupin has been in Kings Mountain and his sermon on Sunday centered on new beginnings.

One of the stories he told was during a crusade in Russia when his staff was handing out Bibles. Dupin said people clung to them.

"They would take that Bible and hold it to their bosom," he said.

Dupin also tied his topic into another story about a friend's relative who died suddenly with no known illness and said "nobody can predict when they will die."

And while he called the United States a great land, it is not perfect, Dupin said.

Certain elements he categorized as multiculturalism, pluralism and a lottery have worked to harm

society, he said.

Although the nation and its people may not be perfect, he said, tonight could be a new start.

"Ladies and gentlemen tonight can be a new beginning for you," Dupin said after telling a story about a woman who picked up a boy who had been hitchhiking.

The woman took him to a crusade and the boy was later given a home. Later, he went to a Bible college to study for the ministry.

At the conclusion of the service several counselors came forward to talk with people who answered Dupin's invitation.

Attendees of the crusade's first night said the event will help the community.

"I think it will help a lot of people. I really do," Bill Sellers said.

Barbara Bocholis, from High Point, said this was the first time she had heard Dupin preach.

"I feel he's very sincere and very good at saying what he wants to say," she said. "My prayers are with him that somebody can get saved."

See Crusade, 5A



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