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6A

President's ultimatum to Hussein brings mixed reactions in KM

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
Staff Writer

On Monday evening, President Bush gave Saddam Hussein and his sons 48 hours to leave Iraq and avoid war. Otherwise, the United States would strike, alone if necessary.

On Tuesday, several citizens of Kings Mountain reacted to the President's speech and his steps toward war.

Joe Hedden, a World War II veteran who was part of many famous battles, including Okinawa and Iwo Jima, said that he agrees with the actions the United States is taking.

"I think we're just as right as we can be," said Hedden. "I have seen a lot of war, and I know that there's only one answer to what we have in the Middle East. I'm afraid we're going to have to do

the same thing with Korea."

He said Saddam Hussein is a very scary person who must be removed from power.

"You've got to stop people like that," he said.

Cleveland County Democratic Party Chair and Kings Mountain citizen Betsy Wells disagreed with the actions the President now plans to take against Iraq. She said she missed the President's speech because she was at play practice at the high school. She is the drama director at Kings Mountain High School.

Wells expressed concern as the aunt of one of the soldiers near the border of Iraq.

"I totally support the troops, but I just think it's wrong," she said.

She said the government should wait to launch an attack since Iraq was finally beginning to comply

"I'm afraid we're going to have to do the same thing with Korea."

Joe Hedden
World War II veteran

with the weapons inspectors. The United States should not undermine its relationship with the United Nations.

"I think we should wait since they [Iraq] were complying with the inspectors. We should wait and see what the UN says," she said.

She also said that people should

remember that Saddam Hussein is not Osama Bin Laden. Last year, Bush told the American people that Osama Bin Laden was the enemy. Now, he has switched lanes. She said she worried about the world's reaction to the war.

"I just think it's going to hurt our image in the world," she said.

The President should also think of the soldiers who are overseas, she said. She acknowledged that he does not have any relatives in the Middle East and expressed concern for her nephew's safety.

Howard Avnet, a recent addition to the Kings Mountain community, worked for the department of taxation and finance in New York City for many years. He said that 42 members of that department, the offices of which were located in the World Trade Center, were killed on September 11. He, personally, was

not there since he had already retired.

He said that the crime was heinous, but at the same time, the thought of going to war makes him feel very badly.

"The world is a crazy place unfortunately," he said. "I'd prefer not to see war, but at the same time, I'm not sure what we should do."

He said he supports the President's actions, although he said he may be being brave because he knows that he will not be called on to fight in the war.

"I hope God is guiding our leader's actions, and His will will be done," he said.

Rev. Dale Swofford, of Grace United Methodist Church, expressed his concern about the situation in the world.

See Reactions, 3A

Gateway project discussed

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, five Kings Mountain officials joined many others in a teleconference to discuss developing trails and Gateway communities near parks. The teleconference took place in Cowpens and lasted about two hours.

Five Kings Mountain officials attended the event, including Steve Killian, director of planning and economic development; Ellis Noell, special events and public relations director; Tripp Hord; and two members of the planning board.

Ed McMahon, vice president of the conservation fund, led the talk. McMahon is one of the foremost authorities on Gateway community and trail planning. Killian said that McMahon was scheduled to come to Kings Mountain at one time but that an automobile accident kept him from visiting.

The teleconference was simply another educational opportunity for those involved in the Gateway project, said Killian. Previously, planners have attended a session in Charlotte given by the Catawba River Basin group.

See Gateway, 3A



GARY STEWART / HERALD
Charlie Padgett takes advantage of a break in the weather Tuesday to put cedar shingles on the Barber Cabin, which is being reconstructed behind the Kings Mountain History Museum. The cabin was constructed sometime between 1790 and 1810.

Landmarks Committee approves renovations plan for old SR depot

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
Staff Writer

The Historic Landmark Commission met on Friday to approve a "Certificate of Appropriateness" for the exterior improvements of the depot. The commission unanimously approved the paint color and roofing materials that the Southern Arts Society has chosen to use on the building.

In order for the Southern Arts Society to get a building permit, they had to bring their choices for the exterior of the building before the Historic Landmark Commission since the depot is in the historic district. Everyone who lives in the historic district has to go through the commission before they can make any changes to the exterior of their home or business.

The Southern Arts Society has chosen six different shades of maroon and green for the depot, which they recently leased from the City of Kings Mountain.

The colors represent a transition between the Victorian and Arts and Crafts periods in American history, said Mary Neisler, chair of the Historic Landmarks Commission.

Pat Childers, fundraising chair for the Southern Arts Society, said the colors could lean toward either period, although she said the neighborhood is Victorian. The colors fit in with the Victorian period. The commission also approved the replacement of the gutters on the depot since they will be painted appropriate colors.

"We trust the Southern Arts Society with everything they want to do," said Neisler. "We hope everyone in our historic district will do this [bring proposed changes to the exterior of their building before the Historic Landmarks Commission]."

The interior changes on a building do not concern the Historic Landmarks Commission, said Neisler.

KINGS MOUNTAIN PEOPLE

City Finance Director Lori Hall balances job, family and college



LORI HALL

BY ABIGAIL WOLFORD
Staff Writer

Lori Hall has balanced working for the City of Kings Mountain, raising her three sons, and attending college for almost ten years. She is currently the finance director for the city.

Hall was born in Kings Mountain and attended Kings Mountain schools. She said she decided to stay in the area because she likes the small town atmosphere and good people she has met here. She said she also has a lot of family in the area. She currently lives in Bessemer City with her husband, Shane, and their three children.

Hall began working for the city in September, 1993, as a member of the billing department. In November, 1996, she became the interim finance director and then became the permanent finance director in June, 1997.

Hall said she has always been academic-minded. She graduated ninth in her class from Kings Mountain High School, then briefly attended Gardner-Webb University on a

See Hall, 3A

Ethel Childers notes 96th year, looking forward to many more



ETHEL CHILDERS

By ELIZABETH STEWART
Special to The Herald

Ethel Farris Childers, 96, celebrated her birthday Sunday with her four children, 10 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, two great-great grandchildren and one great-great-great grandchild.

Not many families can boast of a sixth generation but Ashtyn McKayla Martin's arrival five months ago to Dee and Scott Martin brought this happy distinction to the family.

The oldest member of Dixon Presbyterian Church, Ethel enjoyed reminiscing with friends and family about growing up in the Dixon community at the drop-in party at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Mildred and John Caldwell.

"We had a really good time," said Childers, whose birthday was March 18.

Homebound for several years, Ethel likes company and keeps up with the news of church and community activities

See Childers, 3A



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