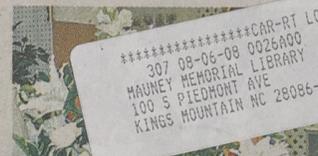


You can win big bucks in The Herald's football contest 9A



KM's Shonda Cole SEC Player of the Week 2B
2nd time in 3 weeks



...ist to grover in November 3A

The Herald

KINGS MOUNTAIN

Thursday, October 5, 2006 Vol. 118 No. 40 Since 1889 50 Cents



Sports...
Mountaineers lose to East Gaston, Hope
Christian falls to Asheville School

HOMEFRONT

'Darling' Dillard's of Andy Griffith Show to perform at Gateway

The Dillard's, known by many as the quiet, yet musical Darling Boys from the Andy Griffith Show, will be pickin' and a grinnin' at this year's Gateway Festival in downtown Kings Mountain on Saturday, October 14. The festival will run from 10 am-5 pm with a free shuttle, traveling to and from downtown, the Kings Mountain Arts Depot and the Kings Mountain Historical Museum Commons (behind the museum). An old historic log house will be open for viewing at the Museum Commons during the festival.

Other musicians and bands will also be performing, including the contemporary Celtic band, The Merrows. Arts and crafts vendors along with Revolutionary War re-enactors, and storytellers will enhance the ambience of the Gateway Festival. The food, entertainment and friendly atmosphere will complete it.

For more information contact Ellis Noell, Director of Special Events at 704-730-2103 or e-mail ellisn@cityofkm.com.

Shriners barbecue Saturday on E. Gold to benefit children

The White Plains Shrine Club will host its annual barbecue Saturday, Oct. 7 beginning at 10 a.m. at the corner of York Road and Gold St.

Pork and chicken is available. Proceeds go to Shrine Hospitals.

Tickets are available from any member of the White Plains Shrine Club or at City Auto & Truck Parts.

RADAR WATCH

Kings Mountain Police will be running radar October 8-14 at the following locations:

Sunday, Oct. 8 - Gold St.
Monday, Oct. 9 - Ridge St.
Tuesday, Oct. 10 - NC 161.
Wednesday, Oct. 11 - NC 216.
Thursday, Oct. 12 - Margrace Rd.

Friday, Oct. 13 - Northwoods Dr.

Saturday, Oct. 14 - Linwood Rd.

*Police also run radar every day on I-85 and U.S. Bypass 74.

DEATHS

Clyde Horton
Robert Merritt
Edward Detter, 67 Page 3A

INDEX

Classified 5B Deaths 3A
Lifestyles 5A Opinion 4A
Sports 1B

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Office location: 824-1 East King St.

505th to be welcomed home Sunday at KMHS celebration

EMILY WEAVER

eweaver@kingsmountainherald.com

The public is invited to celebrate the 505th's return from Iraq on Sunday, October 8, in John Gamble Stadium at Kings Mountain High School at 3 p.m. A convoy escorting soldiers is speculated to roll through town on Friday, October 6, and while the exact time and date is still unofficial, citizens are encouraged to keep their eyes and ears peeled.

A lot of flag-waving and speech-making will fill the celebration, which is free and open to the public. NC National

Guard SFC Gregory Thompson said that he is heading up the event for his "comrades in arms."

"They deserve a hero's welcome and I hope that everyone will come out and give them a hero's welcome," he said. Everyone in the community is encouraged to attend and welcome home these brave men and women who sacrificed a year of their life for their country and their city. Sgt. Donald Olan Martin, of Kings Mountain, sacrificed more than a year. He was deployed to Iraq with the 505th Company C in 2004. Scheduled to return in 2005, he changed his mind and

opted to stay once he heard that some of his buddies in Company B Engineering Battalion were being deployed to Iraq. Being gone for two years, his wife and family are more than anxious for his return. He flew into Fort Bragg last week and is expected home before the ceremony on Sunday.

"Some of the soldiers in Bravo Company (Company B) are already home," Thompson said. Those that aren't, will be coming in on motor coaches from Fort Bragg soon, he added. The soldiers started flying in to Fort Bragg in different stages last week. They had to

stay there for a few days to complete their demobilization process. Thompson said that the entire Bravo Company will be coming in to celebrate in Kings Mountain on Sunday, with the exception of four soldiers, who have to stay behind and take care of the equipment. The entire company includes soldiers from Kings Mountain, Grover, Shelby, Forest City, Gastonia and other near-by towns.

Mayor Rick Murphrey will be speaking at the Sunday celebration, but Special Events Director Ellis Noell said that the function will be the National See Guard, 2A

NEAT TRIM



Ralph Champion, groundskeeper, cuts grass Tuesday afternoon at Mountain Rest Cemetery in Kings Mountain.

JOSEPH BRYMER / HERALD

226th anniversary celebration Saturday at KM Military Park

Kings Mountain, a 60-foot ridge rising in the gentle farmlands of South Carolina, looms especially large Saturday as hundreds of people converge at the Kings Mountain landmark for the 226th anniversary of the Revolutionary War Battle of Kings Mountain.

Speeches, reenactments and a wreath-laying ceremony at the U. S. Monument will be part of the weekend activities.

Kings Mountain National Park Superintendent Erin Broadbent said that longtime former legislator Jim Broyhill of Lenoir will make the keynote address at 3 p.m. at the Park amphitheater. The wreath-laying ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. and wreaths will be presented by Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of the Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution and Children of the American Revolution from across the southeast.

On Saturday, October 7 and Sunday, October 8, the Guilford Militia and the park's volunteer group, the Back Country Militia, will recreate the activities of an 18th century military encampment as part of the anniversary commemoration. The encamp-

ment will feature military drills along with musket and rifle firing. The group will perform other camp activities such as cooking, bullet and button molding and candle making.

As with today's National Guard and other military reserve units, civilian males were mustered several times a year to be trained as a military unit. These musters were necessary because the militia lacked discipline and needed a standard drill before joining the Continental forces as they did in such battles as Cowpens and Guilford Courthouse. However, in most cases, these rugged individuals were at their best when skirmishing on their own, as was the case at the Battle of Kings Mountain where a group of patriot militia defeated a better trained loyalist force under Major Patrick Ferguson. There are no admission fees to any of the events. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

Broyhill served in the U. S. House of Representatives for 23 1/2 years from 1963 to July 1986. On July 1, 1976, Governor Martin appointed him to the U. S. Senate to fill a vacancy caused by the death of the late Senator John East.



Sidney Dixon looks over WWII memory book

POINT OF DEATH

Sidney Dixon shot down plane four-tenths of a second before it hit ship

ELIZABETH STEWART
Herald Correspondent

The memories of his six year stint in the Navy are still vivid after more than 60 years for World War II veteran Sidney Roy Dixon.

The Kings Mountain sailor volunteered at age 20 in July 1942 and served six years until July 1948. Originally he planned a career in the military but his last 17 months service duty on Guam changed his mind.

"If Hell is any worse than Guam, you sure don't want to go," Dixon

said. He spent four War years in the Pacific in nine of 13 major engagements as a gunner's mate aboard the warship U.S.S. Montpelier. Beginning at Guadalcanal in the British Solomon Islands, he took part in the bombardments in the Mariana islands, Saipan, Tinian, Guam and Okinawa.

"Point of Death" is how Dixon (S.R. to his Navy buddies) described a 1944 attack of The Montpelier in the Philippines. A Japanese plane traveling 400 m.p.h. was headed at his gun station loaded with dynamite about 200-400

feet away from the ship. Captain of the gun crew, Dixon fired four-tenths of a second before the plane hit the ship blowing up the plane which scattered a wing and wheel of the enemy plane and remains of the body of the pilot on the USA cruiser. Dixon was on board when the U.S.S. Montpelier was commissioned Sept. 3, 1942 and at the ship's retirement in late 1946.

Dixon wishes atomic and nuclear bomb research had ended with World War II. He said he realized when he stood at Hiroshima 35 days See Dixon, 2A