

KINGS MOUNTAIN

The Herald

Thursday, October 19, 2006

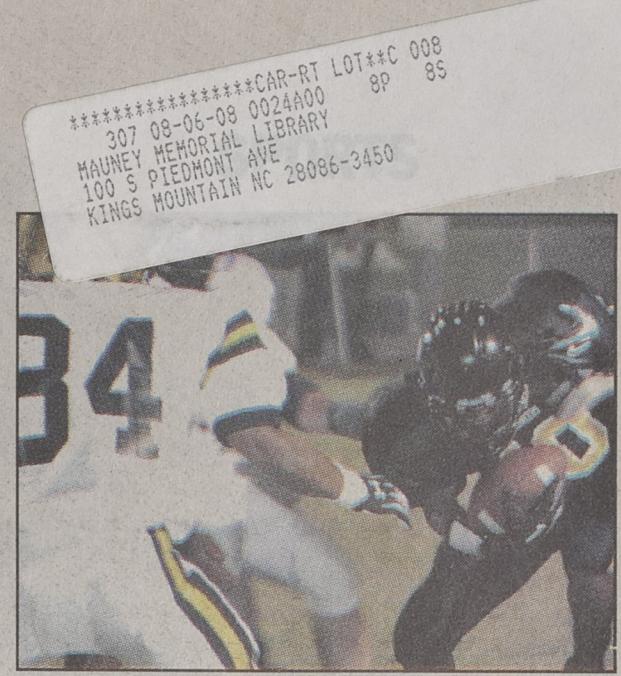
Vol. 118 No. 42

Since 1889

50 Cents

Mounties
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1B



HOMEFRONT

KM Waffle House robbed Tuesday

The Kings Mountain Waffle House, 726 York Road, was robbed at 4:54 a.m. Tuesday and police are seeking the public's assistance in apprehending the suspects.

According to Sgt. C.N. Moore, two white males entered the business with weapons and demanded money from the register. Employees complied and the subjects left on foot. No one was injured.

The same type of robbery occurred in Gaston County at another Waffle House approximately one hour earlier. Suspects met the same description.

One suspect is described as a white male wearing a black coat or dark hoodie shirt, black ski mask, black gloves and dark colored sweat pants, and carrying a black gun.

The other suspect is described as a white male wearing a gray coat, gray gloves and ski mask and gray sweat pants, and carrying a silver or gray handgun.

Anyone with information should call KM Police at 734-0444.

CC Baptist Association to meet at area churches

The Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association will hold its 156th Fall Biannual Meeting Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 23-24. The theme is "Worship the Lord your God, and Serve Him Only" (Matthew 4:10 NCSB).

The Monday evening session will begin at 6:45 p.m. at Oak Grove Baptist Church, Kings Mountain. New pastors and staff persons will be introduced. Miscellaneous team reports will be presented. A time of worship will be led by the Association staff.

The Tuesday meeting will begin at 6:45 p.m. at First Baptist Church, Grover. Diplomas, awards and certificates will be presented to people who have earned credits by attending discipleship classes and reading selected Bible readings. A time of worship will be lead by Rev. Neal Eller, Leader of the Vital Ministry Leadership Community of Congregational Services, of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. Messengers and visitors are encouraged to attend.

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Sheriff, commissioner candidates speak out at Monday forum



**Sheriff
Raymond
Hamrick
responds to
questions at
Monday's
forum at
Cleveland
Community
College.**

**Photo by
Joseph
Brymer**

NC House, Senate candidates speak tonight

EMILY WEAVER
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In order to find out who is in the running for Cleveland County sheriff or commissioners, one only needs to look at the hundreds of signs staked along the roadways. But what the signs do not tell, is the stance, views and beliefs of those running for office. Cleveland Community College held a public candidate forum Monday night in the auditorium, where some of those questions of purpose were answered.

A forum featuring candidates for the State House and Senate and U.S. Congress will be held tonight at 6:30 at CCC.

Cleveland County Sheriff

In the sheriff race, incumbent Raymond Hamrick (D) stood his ground as competitor Don Allen (R) pointed out the "improprieties", as he sees it, of the current department. "For too long, we've had the good ol' boy politics of being able to buy your way in with political favors and contributions to political campaigns," Allen said. "In my administration it will be strictly professional. Promotions, hirings, salaries will be based on professional standards in law enforcement and will not be based on the political participation of my deputies." He said that the current deputies are having to devote too much of their time promoting Hamrick, when they should be focusing on their jobs.

Hamrick said that all of the department's hirings and promotions are based solely on qualifications, not on politics. Given the time allotted, he did not have a chance to rebut against Allen's accusations of him making his deputies campaign for him. One of Hamrick's deputies,

Tommy Carroll, had wonderful things to say about him after the break. He said that he and some of the other guys in the department are not promoting their boss because they have to - they simply do not want to lose the "papa" to their family.

"We need more help. We need more resources and I'm going to continue to ask for more resources to attack the (drug) problem," Hamrick said. Drugs pose a serious threat in any community and he said that they only have seven officers who are spread thin to deal with this problem.

"Drugs are a growing problem in our county and I feel like it's one that has not been adequately addressed," Allen said. He added that folks throughout the county have told him during his campaign that Sheriff Hamrick will not return their phone calls or respond to their complaints. "When you lose the trust and confidence of the people in your community, your drug program will be severely hammered," he said.

In regards to why they are seeking office of sheriff, Hamrick said, "I'm seeking the office of sheriff because this has been my career. At 19 years of age, I started working with the sheriff's office and have worked my way up through the department at every level. My career goal from a young age was to someday be sheriff of Cleveland County." He obtained that goal four years ago. Now he wants to hold onto the title because he said he knows the community he serves, knows what needs to be done, can be the leader and has the experience needed to be sheriff. "We do return telephone calls. Our officers work very hard out here," he said. "I have dedicated my whole life to serving Cleveland County and I want to continue to serve."

See Forum, 8A



JOSEPH BRYMER / HERALD
Republican challenger Don Allen addresses a question about the race for Cleveland County Sheriff in Monday's forum at Cleveland Community College. The forum for the State House and Senate and U.S. Congress is scheduled for tonight.

Mayberry Memories

Dillards steal show at KM's Gateway Festival

The Dillards turned a bustling downtown Kings Mountain into a front porch in Mayberry, on Saturday at the Gateway Festival. With playful rapport, the audience cheered, laughed and conversed with the easy-going Bluegrass musicians.

"Are there any crazy characters in this town?" Rodney Dillard asked the crowd. He explained that they had a wild character in their home town and then the band played a Mayberry favorite "Dooley."

"Some entertainers just say 'look at me' and then some want to actually involve the

audience in what they do and that's what we try to do. So there's no separation between the artist and the audience," Rodney said. "Then it all becomes art - the audience and the music."

"The greatest feeling that I get is feeling the audience. When you know you're doing right, the audience can tell," said Doug Dillard.

"It's synergistic, is what it is.

The combination of the music

and the audience creates a form

of synergy, when you have the

audience connecting with you,"

Rodney said. "The whole secret

is for both of you to be able to feel that moment at the same time."

Rodney and Doug Dillard the two original Dillards, got their break into the Hollywood lime-light playing the talented, yet quiet Darling boys on the Andy Griffith Show in the early 60s.

Doug said that the Andy Griffith Show was the highlight of his career. "It was wonderful

to have the national exposure

that we got and the Andy Griffith people were just wonderful people. It was like a family," he said.

See Dillards, Page 3A



EMILY WEAVER / HERALD
The Dillards played and sang 'Dooley' and other favorites - and reminisced about their days on the Andy Griffith Show - at Saturday's Gateway Festival at the gazebo.