

KINGS MOUNTAIN The Herald

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Craig Short
joins football
coaching staff at
Kings Mountain
High School



10A

KINGS MOUNTAIN David Ozmore Rotary Citizen of the Year

EMILY WEAVER

eweaver@kingsmountainherald.com

David Ozmore, executive director of the KM Family YMCA, was named the first Rotary Club of Kings Mountain Citizen of the Year at the Awards



OZMORE

Banquet last week at the Patrick Senior Center. His family, who was in on the surprise, dragged him to the banquet. But small hints along the way helped cushion his surprise. He said that he came home from work and was told not to change; the family was going out to dinner. "We pulled into the parking lot (of the Senior Center) and I saw a couple of people and said, 'These are Rotary people,' because I used to be in Rotary. We go inside and then I wondered Why am I the only one that has my children here?" he said. "I knew something was up and she (my wife) was just grinning ear to ear."

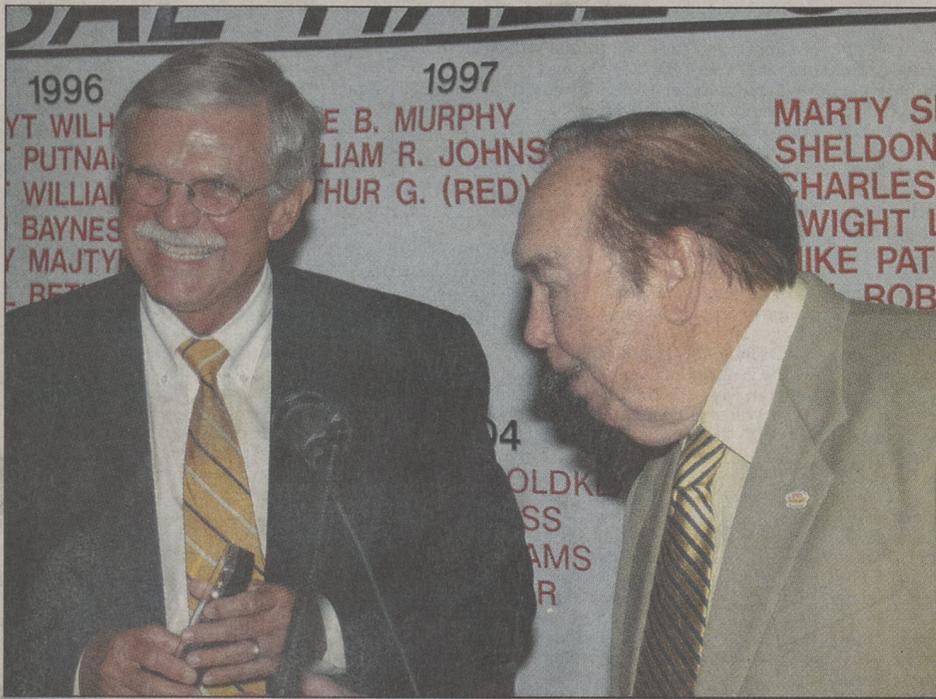
About halfway through the program outgoing President Doug Satterfield made an announcement about the awards they were going to be giving away. "Citizen of the Year was the only non-Rotarian award that he listed so I knew I had to be getting that. By deduction I figured out about halfway through the event what was going on," he said, with a grin.

Ozmore was a Rotary member from 1999-2003 and had to leave the club behind due to other commitments and engagements. The criteria for the award centered on community involvement, a definite fit for him. He teaches Sunday School at First Baptist, does the broadcasting for Kings Mountain High School football games, is the president of the Gateway Trails, and is also active on a few YMCA boards like the AYP (Association of YMCA Professionals in North and South Carolina). "Between those passions, I stay pretty busy," he said.

Ozmore also runs marathons and spends much of his days biking and running to stay in shape and to prepare for his next marathon competition. Thirty-plus mile biking adventures are common expeditions

See Ozmore, 10A

JOHN H. MOSS DAY



Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey, left, shares a laugh with former mayor John H. Moss as he presents Moss with a Key to the City at Thursday's reception honoring Moss at the Kings Mountain History Museum.

GARY STEWART / HERALD

Reception at KM History Museum honors baseball, political legend

GARY STEWART

gstewart@kingsmountainherald.com

John H. Moss, who is stepping down at the end of the year after almost 50 years as President of the South Atlantic League, was honored by his hometown with a reception Thursday night at the Kings Mountain History Museum.

Memorabilia from Moss's career in baseball and his 23-plus year career as mayor of the City of Kings Mountain, is on display at the museum through the end of August.

A huge crowd of friends, neighbors, city and county officials and baseball personalities from the minor leagues attended the event.

During a brief ceremony inside the museum, Kings Mountain History Museum President Evelyn Hamrick and Mayor Rick Murphrey paid tribute to a man who was once crowned "King of Baseball" by the minor leagues and noted by national publications as the "Mayor with the Midas Touch" for his knack of securing almost \$30 million in federal funds for the city during his tenure as mayor.

"He is a very special person," said Mayor Murphrey, who said he often leans on Moss for advice in leading the city forward.

"He has given so much to this community," Murphrey said. "He is a visionary, a man of honor, and has given his life to baseball and service to his community."

Murphrey said Kings Mountain continues to build on the foundation Moss built years ago as mayor. When Murphrey and Council recently began planning for a second reservoir near Moss Lake, he said Moss was the

first person he called on for advice.

"Moss Lake is one of the most important events in the history of Cleveland County," Murphrey noted. "During the drought a few years back it was a blessing."

"John Henry is not only Mr. Baseball, but Mr. Kings Mountain," Murphrey said.

Murphrey presented Moss with a huge plaque designating Thursday as "John H. Moss Day in Kings Mountain," and then presented him with a key to the city, an award both mayors presented to hundreds of people over the years in appreciation of their service to the town.

"I am truly appreciative and will remember this for many years," Moss said.

Standing before a huge banner listing the names of the members of the SAL Hall of Fame was indeed fitting for Moss's remarks, because at the end of his tenure as league president Moss will be working to establish a permanent SAL Hall of Fame.

The league, which is 104 years old, spans 16 cities including 14 in the southeast, and last year set a minor league record for attendance with 3.8 million. Moss said the league is on track to top the 4-million mark in attendance this year.

During his tenure as mayor, the Moss Administration was responsible for securing federal grants that helped build numerous buildings in town, including the Community Center (now the YMCA) and City Hall, and recruited industries such as Eaton Corp., Reliance Electric and others which created 4,587 jobs.

Following the ceremony, Moss and guests moved outside to the Commons Area where they enjoyed food, refreshments and fellowship.

ELECTION 2007

Filing opens Friday for local offices

Murphrey to run for fifth term as Kings Mountain's mayor

Kings Mountain mayor Rick Murphrey will file for his fifth term when filing for local elections begins Friday at noon at the County Elections Board.

Murphrey is a veteran of 14 years on City Council, serving six years as a commissioner and eight as mayor.

If Kings Mountain's resolution to change the city charter to have four-year terms of office passes the U.S. Justice Department, the mayor's post will be a four-year term. Also getting a four-year term will be the person getting the highest number of votes for the two at-large seats and the winners of the wards one, four and five elections.

The second highest vote-getter in the at-large election, and the winners in wards two and three will receive two-year terms. They will run again in two years for four-year terms and after that city elections will be staggered every two years.

Filing for Grover Council, Cleveland County Board of Election, and Cleveland County Sanitary District seats also begins Friday. Filing ends at 12 noon on Friday, July 20.

"I believe in Kings Mountain and care about its future, and will work together with the Council as a team to move Kings Mountain progressively forward, providing good service to the citizens and by keeping taxes and utility rates as some of the lowest in the surrounding area," Murphrey said in making his announcement.

Murphrey pointed to several successes during his past and current administrations, including forming a lease agreement with the History Museum for use of the old Post Office facility and forming a partnership with the YMCA to lease the Community Center and ball fields and "provide a number of different programs from infant care up through the elderly."

He also pointed to the new police department and new senior center as major accomplishments, as well as a community-wide effort in 2001 to build the children's playground at Jake Early Memorial Sports Complex.

Industrial recruitment, he said, has resulted in over \$100 million dollars in investments and over 2,000 jobs since 2004. He is also proud that the city has received a "perfect audit" for the past seven years and that the city is able to provide numerous free special events several times a year to "give back to the community."

Under his watch the city also signed a contract with Siemens that he said will save the city over \$3 million in energy savings over the next 12 years; started two peak shaving plants that save the city \$1 million a year; and recently made the last payment on a buyout of its 30-year wastewater contract with Gastonia which is saving the city \$17 million over the life of the contract.

Some of Murphrey's goals during the next two years are to expand the Patrick Center and add a picnic shelter out front, continue an aggressive industrial recruitment and incentives program, continue to work with Mountaineer Partnership to revitalize downtown Kings Mountain, and continue to go forward with plans to become a gateway community to adjoining state and national parks.

He said infrastructure will continue to be a priority, since it is a valuable tool in recruiting new industry and residents. He will continue efforts to plan for a second water reservoir near Moss Lake as

See Election, 7A

Anthony teaching missionary in Hungary



Emily Anthony has been teaching and ministering to missionary and international children in Hungary over the past year at the International Christian School of Budapest, where she teaches high school math. She is home for the summer but will return to Hungary in August for another year of service.

EMILY WEAVER

eweaver@kingsmountainherald.com

Teaching can be a great adventure. Kings Mountain native Emily Anthony spent her first four years as a teacher at South Caldwell High School, after graduating from Appalachian State University.

But at the end of those four years she began an amazing journey halfway across the globe. Now home for the summer, she has just finished her first year as a math teacher at the International Christian School of Budapest (ICSB). She plans to return to the 1-12 grade school in August for at least one more year.

"When communism fell in eastern Europe lots of missionary organizations wanted to bring their mission headquarters into eastern Europe. People call Hungary the gateway to eastern Europe but it's the most westernized country in the area," she said.

"One of the top three reasons why missionaries leave the field is they don't

have a good education for their kids. A lot of them come back to the United States for that reason," she said. ICSB was founded in hopes of eliminating that reason by creating an American-based curriculum school in the missionaries' backyard. But not only are they giving an American education to missionary children and other international students, they are also bringing the hope of Jesus Christ alive for the youth who might never have been exposed to Him otherwise.

"When I was at Appalachian God really just burned my heart with missions. I went to East Asia with Campus Crusade and the Chinese people just really grabbed my heart," she said. "It was an amazing opportunity to minister there and to be in a place where people had never heard about Jesus Christ before."

She said that she felt like God was calling her to ministry and missions, but at the same time didn't feel like she had

See Anthony, 5A

ELECTION FACTS

Filing period - Noon Friday, July 6 through noon Friday, July 20 at Cleveland County Board of Elections, Shelby.

Voter registration deadline - Friday, October 12.

Absentee voting by mail - Begins Monday, September 17. Last day to request an absentee ballot by mail is one week before election. The last day to return absentee ballot to the Board of Elections is 5 p.m. the day before the election.

One-stop absentee voting (no excuse) - Begins Thursday, October 18, ends at 1 p.m. Saturday, November 3.

General election - Tuesday, November 6, 6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Canvass - Tuesday, November 13.