

## OUR VIEW

### Look out for school children

Another school year got underway Monday, and it appears it's going to be a good one.

We all need to make sure we do our part to make it a safe one.

During these early days, especially, children's emotions are going to run the gamut from being anxious to being excited.

Many of them will be waiting on the side of the road in the pre-dawn hours waiting for a school bus, and others who live close to schools will be walking the streets.

We need to all drive with a lot more caution, because children sometimes get pre-occupied with each other and may not be looking out for traffic.

Please, obey the speed limit and be aware of your surroundings. Leave for work a little early so you can drive a whole lot slower than usual. The life you save will be someone's child and grandchild.

### Congratulations, Distinguished Woman

Congratulations are in order to Mary Neisler of Kings Mountain, who last week was named one of Cleveland County's Distinguished Women for 2007.

Surely, Mrs. Neisler has distinguished herself as a leader in the county, and especially in her hometown of Kings Mountain.

Although she is never one to take the credit - she is always quick to point out that any good thing is the result of a lot of people working together - she has long been a leader in projects which protect and maintain Kings Mountain's history and down home feel.

The many historical landmarks and houses around town received their distinction because of the leadership of many people like Mary Neisler. We owe her a big debt of gratitude.

### Tribute to a Kings Mountain icon

The recent dedication of the new Martin Marietta Aggregates office building to the late Don Champion was very fitting.

Don spent all of his adult working life at Martin Marietta and designing the building - although not planned that way - was his final project.

Anyone who ever knew Don Champion knows that his last name was very fitting. He was a champion, a friend to all, and a man who was very proud of his family and his hometown.

Don would have loved that dedication ceremony. We're sure he was looking down on it with pride.

### OPINION PAGE POLICY

The Herald welcomes your letters to the editor for publication in each Thursday's paper. All letters must be signed, and for verification purposes include the address and phone number. Letters should be limited to 500 words.

Mail your letter to Editor, The Herald, P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086; fax to (704) 739-0611; or e-mail to [KMHLetters@kingsmountainherald.com](mailto:KMHLetters@kingsmountainherald.com). Letters sent by fax and e-mail must also include name, mailing address and phone number for verification purposes.

Letters may be edited.

Letters to the editor and columnists who appear on the editorial page do not necessarily represent the views of the Kings Mountain Herald.

### Even the mediocre need representation

The newest sage out of Hollywood appears to be pretty boy Brad Pitt. When Brad and



Jim Heffner  
Guest Column

his Angie, the reigning Hollywood royal couple, aren't running around the world having young-uns or adopting them, Brad seems out of sorts and lost, so to speak.

He now uses his spare time to rebuild New Orleans. It's an admirable goal, but I hope he doesn't find a way to use my money for the job.

I do know that Brad has it all figured out. I saw him on the Today show the other day, and he told Ann Curry, after she had finished slobbering all over him, that Katrina was a man-made disaster, not a natural one.

"It's all about justice and fairness," Brad said.

What that means, of course, is that Katrina was not sent by Mother Nature, but was brought on by George Bush.

I don't know how Bush was able to do that, but there is little doubt he did. Most of the Hollywood wise men and women have said the same thing.

Personally, I liked Brad Pitt better when he made bad movies and kept his mouth shut. He never should have linked up with Angie. She is a true nut case, and I believe she has affected Brad.

Oh well, pretty soon she'll be off on another tangent and he will be left with all their children from 46 nations. Maybe he could blame that on Bush.

Hollywood, or so it seems, has more and more influence on this country.

I truly believe the late night TV comedians think they can decide who becomes our next president. All of them have comments to make every night, and they are usually unfavorable to

Republicans.

They like to make jokes about the Republicans being mediocre. For some reason, most of them seem to forget about Dennis Kucinich, John Edwards, Joseph Biden or Thomas Dodd. Both political parties these days seem to be shot through with mediocrity.

Come to think of it, some of those late night fools themselves are mediocre.

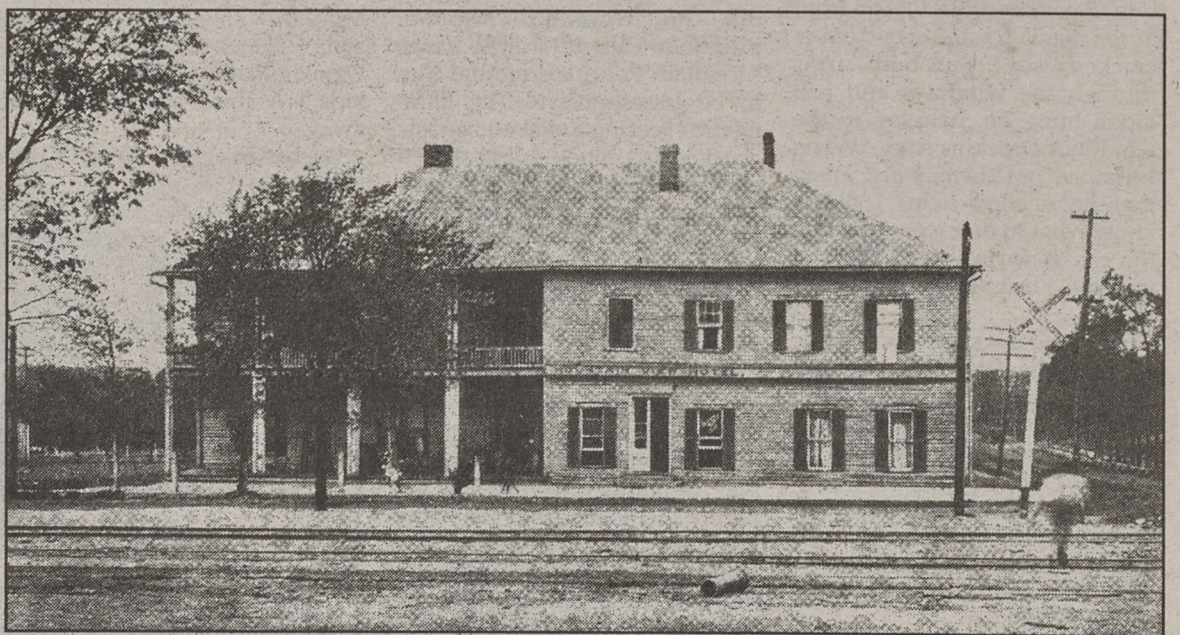
Does anybody remember Sen. Carl Curtis of Kansas?

Accused of being mediocre by the press, Curtis said: "Let's not forget, even the mediocre are entitled to representation in the U.S. Senate."

I think I've come up with a way to put a damper on all that baloney coming out of Tinsel Town. We get the government to declare open season on celebrities and gun them all down. It would be legal and a service to mankind.

Just think of the reduction in worldwide mediocrity.

### LOOKING BACK



This is a post card photo of the old Mountain View Motel, which in the early 1900s stood at the corner of Railroad Avenue and West Mountain Street, where the Joy Performance Center is located today. It was contributed by Pucky Lewis Nantz.

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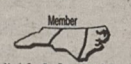
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