

WWII veterans return from Flight of Honor

Rotary: another successful flight to honor our local heroes

The Kings Mountain Rotary Club has again taken some local World War II veterans to Washington, DC, to see their memorial—free of charge. The Tuesday, October 20 trip, sponsored by Rotary District 7680 Flight of Honor, was part of the Honor Flight Network begun in 2006 by Jeff Miller, a businessman from Hendersonville. There were 105 veterans who enjoyed a full day of special treatment.

Four local veterans were part of this flight: Sam Adams, Bill Alexander, Paul Ham, Jr., and G. L. McDaniel. The trip began at Charlotte Douglas Airport on a chartered US Airways jet. Their arrival at Reagan National Airport in Washington, DC, was celebrated with water cannon salutes, flag-waving supporters, a band, a choir and many USO volunteers.

After loading onto four deluxe motor coaches, the group traveled with a police escort to the World War II Memorial. There they were met by former Senators Bob and Elizabeth Dole, Senator Richard Burr, Congressman Patrick McHenry, and Congressman Larry Kissell. The highly polished Marine Corps Silent Drill Team entertained the group with a performance of military precision drills.

After lunch and touring the memorial, the next stop was the Iwo Jima Memorial, followed by a ride past the Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument, and the Air Force Memorial. The final stop was at Arlington National Cemetery where the veterans witnessed the Changing of the Guard Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The buses took the veterans back to the airport for the return flight to Charlotte. Upon arrival, dozens of friends and supporters welcomed them home with shouts of appreciation and thanks.

Kings Mountain Rotary Club President Johnny Harris stated, "This is one of the best projects Rotary has ever done. These veterans deserve our thanks for their sacrifice and service during World War II. If it were not for these heroes, we would not be enjoying the freedoms we have today."



WWII veterans from Kings Mountain stand at their memorial in Washington, DC. Left-right, Sam Adams, Bill Alexander and G.L. McDaniel.



Local WWII veterans wait at the airport ready to take a "Flight of Honor" Left to right, G.L. McDaniel, Sam Adams, Paul Ham Jr., Bill Alexander.

Falls takes petition to DC

During the 2009 Cleveland County Fair, thousands of people signed a petition to their elected officials against the current plans for Health Care Reform with a "government option". Many expressed concerns in the form of a letter and asked for contact information to call their elected officials.

The Cleveland County Republican Party had a copy of the most recent option offered by the Senate Finance Committee on hand, and offered petitioners ways of contacting their senators and congressmen.

Making good on their promise to deliver the petition, Jason Falls, chairman of the Cleveland County GOP, traveled to Washington, DC on October 19th.

"It was a productive day, meeting with the offices of our legislative delegation," Falls said. "It was well worth the trip to keep our commitment to the thousands of Cleveland County and surrounding area residents."

Senator Richard Burr was in North Carolina on Monday visiting with constituents, but Falls had the opportunity to talk with Benton Albritton, Burr's staff assistant. Tracy Zvenyach represented Senator Kay Hagan as her point person on Health Care Reform. Congressman Patrick McHenry met with Falls to receive the petition.

"While visiting our nation's capitol, I was reminded of how important it is for people to take action when they feel passionately about something. No matter which side you're on politically, it's obvious that there is a lot at stake right now in our country. Our actions, or in-actions, will have a lasting impact on future generations," Falls said. "I want to



Cleveland County GOP Chair Jason Falls, right, met with Congressman Patrick McHenry recently, delivering a petition on health care reform signed by local residents.

thank those volunteers that helped with the petition and answering the many questions at the Cleveland County Fair, those that signed the petition, and those that have taken an active role in the discussion."

RESTAURANT RATINGS

Restaurant and lunch-room inspections by the Cleveland County Health Department during the past two weeks included the following:

Kings Mountain High School, Phifer Road, Kings Mountain Middle School, Phifer Road, and Kings Mountain Intermediate School, KM Boulevard, each received a rating of 101 plus two extra points added to the final score when any employee work-

ing at the facility has attended an approved food handling course.

Patrick Senior Center, E. King St., received a rating of 99.

Taco Bell, York Road, 97.0 plus two extra pointed added to the final score when an employee working at the facility has attended an approved food handling course.

Three Points Market & Grill, Goforth Rd., 90.0.

Chad and Chasity Searchfield are pictured here in front of the living area where they are stationed in Iraq with the NC National Guard. They sit next to "The Garden of Love" they created from materials sent to them from home. Loved ones sent the couple supplies so that they could have a little bit of green among the brown sand and rocks. Chad is from Kings Mountain and Chasity is from Bessemer City. They were married at The Wedding Chapel in Gastonia on April 11, 2009. This is the some-



what celebration of their six month wedding anniversary. They

should finish their tour of duty sometime after the first of the year and hope to be able to come home, purchase a house and start a family. We are proud to

show our support for Chad and Chasity and all the other service men and women who are giving their time for our country. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Hours: Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

POLICIES

- Submission of news items and social notes are recommended to be done a week in advance. Submission of items is not a guarantee that they will run in the newspaper.
- Letters to the Editor must be signed and include address and phone number. Thank you letters are required to be placed as paid personal notes.
- Weddings & Engagements will be published with one photo for \$25 each. Obituaries begin at \$25.

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*Letters to the Editor must be signed and include address and phone number. Thank you letters are required to be placed as paid personal notes.

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Phone (704) 739-7496 • Fax (704) 739-0611
Office: 700 East Gold Street • Kings Mountain, NC 28086
E-mail: kathy.kmherald@gmail.com

Ron Isbell - Publisher
ron.kmherald@gmail.com

Emily Weaver - Editor
emily.kmherald@gmail.com

Gary Stewart - Sports Editor

Lib Stewart - Staff Reporter

Rick Hord - Advertising Coordinator

Lisa Zylbe - Composing Manager

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