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Temper Tantrum

McHenry faces flack over vote to raise debt 'ceiling'

EMILY WEAVER
Editor

In a well-attended Wednesday night Town Hall meeting in the council chambers of Kings Mountain City Hall, tempers flared. The question of the night was why did conservative Republican Congressman Patrick McHenry vote to raise the debt ceiling?

On Aug. 1, by a vote of 269 to 161, the House agreed to raise the debt limit to \$2.4 trillion in exchange for a promise of no tax increases and a cut of \$21 billion in discretionary spending. Local Republicans Rep. Sue Myrick and McHenry voted for the compromise.

In his defense, McHenry said it could have been worse.

McHenry: we're in a fiscal mess

Page 6A - With the nation's looming debt, the climbing deficit, and threatened ends to Medicare and Social Security, McHenry told the audience, "I think it's important we have a fact-based conversation."

House Speaker John Boehner "was at the table when Obama said he wanted something like \$800 billion in revenue and he said I need \$400 billion more". Boehner walked away. You didn't see them behind closed doors. There were no TV cameras when I

See McHENRY, 6A



EMILY WEAVER/HERALD

Congressman Patrick McHenry talks debt with a crowd at KM City Hall.

Tremors felt in KM

A 5.9 magnitude earthquake that rocked Virginia at 1:53 p.m. Tuesday, sent tremors through Kings Mountain and a majority of the east coast.

Marti Mongiello, innkeeper of The Inn of the Patriots, said that his father felt the tremors in Pennsylvania about 20 seconds before he felt it here.

According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the quake was centered in Louisa, Va., 39 miles northwest of Richmond, at a depth of about 1 km.

Reports indicated that tremors were felt as far north as Canada. The

See TREMORS, 7A

Rockin' out downtown to make a wish

Jammin' for Wishes concert Sept. 3

EMILY WEAVER
Editor

As a junior at Kings Mountain High School, last year, Isaac Pearson raised \$1,500 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and for part of his senior project by throwing a multi-band concert at J. Oliver's Coffee Shop. The event was called Jammin' for Wishes. It was a hit.

This year, he hopes to round out his senior project with an even bigger jam session at Patriots Park and at other places downtown. The goal is to double last year's donations.

On Saturday, Sept. 3, Jammin' for Wishes will feature live music ranging in genres from Gospel, Bluegrass and Jazz to Indie Rock and Rock-n-Roll performed by a total of 10 bands at the Gazebo in Patriots Park from noon to 10 p.m.

With \$50 donations from businesses and friends of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, bands will perform 10 minutes of live music in front of shops downtown throughout the

See CONCERT, 7A

School bells ring Thursday



KYRA TURNER/HERALD

Melinda Canniff, kindergarten teacher, shows two new students their names on their owls. Left to right, Mrs. Canniff, Kaitlan Wilson, 5, Kaitlan's sister Alyee Wilson, 6, and Alexis Michael, 5 (in front).

Kids head back to the classroom

ELIZABETH STEWART
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School bells ring and school buses roll Thursday morning for 15,600 Cleveland County students and a staff of 2,100 plus, including 1,100 teachers, a slight decrease in the teaching staff from last year.

"It's exciting, we're ready to go,"

See SCHOOL, 7A

REZONING

Brown seeks city approval for RV park

ELIZABETH STEWART

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The controversial rezoning of a tract of land on Raven Drive is a major agenda item for the seven member Kings Mountain City Council Tuesday at 6 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall.

"This isn't a subdivision I'm trying to build, it's an RV park," developer Mike Brown told the city planning and zoning board at its Aug. 9 public hearing on his request for a conditional use permit and rezoning from Residential 10 to R-20 a portion of his property at the former Park Yarn Mill/Glen Raven site on South Battleground.

By vote of 7-1 the planning board recommended to city council to deny the rezoning because of "deficiencies in the design and enforceability of the proposal."

If city council says "no" to rezoning, the Brown request can't come back to the planning board for six months.

Reportedly Brown has been lobbying council members to take a look at his proposal for a primitive park. He has consistently stated, during two lengthy planning board hearings, that he is eyeing 25 parking spaces to start with until he finds the park idea works. After his first appearance before the planning board in July, the board listed 13 specific suggestions for a revised site plan. "The board took a hard look at the proposal and voted on four findings of fact," said Planning Director Steve Killian.

Among the major concerns expressed by the board was sanitation. Brown gave no timetable for bathroom facilities. "I have to take baby steps," Brown responded to questions. "I can't spend another half million dollars on this property now."

Speaking for his Macedonia Baptist Church congregation against the rezoning, Pastor Michael Horne called the proposal "almost laughable" because of incompleteness.

See BROWN, 7A

Schools

KM educators, 'best of the best'

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"The Best of the Best" is how Cleveland County Supt. Dr. Bruce Boyles recognized teachers and the three top educators in the county at the district-wide recognition breakfast at Cleveland County Auditorium Friday morning in Shelby.

"This is a dream come true for me," said Jennifer Bumgardner, West Elementary third grade teacher, who said she was humbled to be so recognized after only five years of teaching.

Henry Gilmore, KM Intermediate principal, commended teachers for doing a great job in educating our children as he accepted the award as Outstanding Principal of the Year.

See EDUCATORS, 7A



LIB STEWART/HERALD

Cleveland County Schools Supt. Dr. Bruce Boyles, second from left, congratulates Christy Dawkins, left, teacher assistant of the year, Jennifer Bumgardner, teacher of the year, and Henry Gilmore, principal of the year, as the school district honored top educators Friday.



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