

# Kings Mountain Herald

Volume 123 • Issue 38 • Wednesday, September 14, 2011

50¢

\*\*\*\*\*FIRM 28086  
307 03-10-12 0024A00 5P 35  
MAUNEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
100 S PIEDMONT AVE  
KINGS MOUNTAIN NC 28086-3450

**Harris Funeral Home**  
Locally Owned  
& Operated Since 1947

A Family Tradition of Dignity,  
Service & Understanding

108 S. Piedmont Ave.  
Kings Mountain, NC  
739-2591



## Undelivered cartoon maps lead man to prison

EMILY WEAVER  
Editor

A salesman, who allegedly failed to keep his promises to businesses in Kings Mountain and across the state, is now behind bars. Home & Town Design's Charles "Chuck" Cook of Greenville, SC, was sentenced inside a Wake County courtroom on Friday to serve 16-20 months in prison. He was found guilty of obtaining property by false pretenses.

Cook allegedly sold advertisements for a

fold-out cartoon map to businesses in Kings Mountain a few years ago. But the date the maps were to be delivered came and went. A year later, two years later, three years later — still no maps.

Calls of inquiring businesses allegedly reaped responses like the maps are in the mail or will be delivered soon. But the City of Kings Mountain, which purchased an advertisement for \$500, never saw the map that was promised.

Shirley Brutko, director of the Chamber of Commerce office in Kings Mountain, re-

membered talking to Cook.

"He was a very clean-cut, well-spoken, very nice young man," she said.

He seemed trustworthy, she added.

Cook reportedly traveled to several Kings Mountain merchants, promising to put them "on the map". It was unknown as of press time how much money he accepted from KM businesses, which failed to see a return on their investment.

See CARTOON MAPS, 6A

Cartoon maps, also known as pictorial maps, have been around for centuries and depict cities and sometimes even entire continents with illustrations of buildings, people and animals. Often found in visitor information centers and in travel brochures, these maps highlight destinations with caricatures.

## CCS board candidate says others not playing by the rules

ELIZABETH STEWART  
lib.kmherald@gmail.com

Be consistent in how you treat candidates in the schools, Supt. Dr. Bruce Boyles told 24 principals following concerns raised Monday night to the Board of Education by Danny Blanton of Patterson Springs, one of a dozen people running Nov. 8 for five open seats on the school board.

"All I am asking is that everyone be treated alike," said Blanton, who said he was turned away at 21 of 24 schools when he inquired about placing campaign flyers in teacher mailboxes after he was given permission by the superintendent.

Dr. Boyles said he wrote a letter to all local candidates, not just for school board, about the board's policies concerning campaigning in schools. However, some candidates had already been in schools before receiving the letter.

Blanton said he received a letter from the superintendent under date of Aug. 25. He said he called Dr. Boyles and related to him that other candidates had been in the schools and at school functions distributing campaign materials. Dr. Boyles gave him approval for putting flyers in teacher mailboxes but with no contact with staff since policy prohibited political activity during an employee's working hours. "I placed no materials in teacher mailboxes nor at meetings," said Blanton.

"What's right for one should be right for another. I'm addressing the board about fairness. We've got a set of rules and we need to stick by them; if they are changed we need to know about it."

Blanton also told the board that his campaign signs had been pulled up.

"This is not the audience for that discussion," said Board Chairman Tommy Greene, "I take offense at your insinuation that one on this board tampered with your signs."

Blanton reiterated that he was not accusing anyone nor calling any names.

Member George Litton noted that school board policy 2410 sets out policy on use of facilities and 5190 sets policy on employees. "We have to go by those policies," Litton said.

Greene, who is not among the incumbents running for re-election in November, said that in his opinion mailboxes in school work rooms should be secure environments and protected just like the U.S. Post Office. He took issue that anyone may interrupt school system operations by distributing information in work rooms. He added, "I would not allow this at my place of business (Cleveland Community College)."

See BLANTON, 6A



Danny Blanton

## United We Stand



photo by ELLIS NOELL

## More than 500 meet to remember 9/11

ELIZABETH STEWART  
lib.kmherald@gmail.com

Over 500 people gathered at the Kings Mountain National Guard Armory Sunday afternoon to remember the fallen heroes of Sept. 11, 2001 and to honor the living who keep us safe.

"We honor those today who gave so much and there's no better way than to spend time with the family of the 878th Engineers of the NC National Guard who protect us," said Captain Scott Browne, company commander.

See LARGE CROWD, 6A



LIB STEWART/HERALD  
Carson Upton, 7, waves a flag on Patriot's Day.

## Post-9/11 babies know flag as 'face of freedom'

ELIZABETH STEWART  
lib.kmherald@gmail.com

Carson Upton, 7, and her brother, Nash Bachman, 6, have been taught about the flag as the face of freedom since they were born.

Their father, Ken Bachman, serves in the 878th Engineer Company, North Carolina National Guard. The whole family turned out Sunday afternoon for the City of Kings Mountain-sponsored Patriots Day at the National Guard Armory.

Ken and Misty Bachman were among more than 150 soldier families who gathered for the Guard's Family Day, a celebration which co-

incided with the community-wide commemorative service on the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

There were many children in the crowd who waved their small American flags and saluted with their hands over their hearts as they watched their fathers in Guard uniform stand at attention. The parade of uniformed firefighters, police, first responders and law enforcement agencies including the county sheriff's department and highway patrol ushered solemnly in a procession led by piper Jane Gulden.

See FAMILIES, 3A

## Dremiel Byers wrestling for World title

Kings Mountain's Dremiel "Bam" Byers was scheduled to wrestle in the 2011 World Wrestling Championship late Tuesday in Istanbul, Turkey.

Byers, who wrestles for the U.S. Army team in Colorado Springs, CO won the World championship in 2002. He was scheduled to face last year's World bronze medalist Nurmakhan Tinaliyev of Kazakhstan in the first round.

Byers, who won the NCHSAA state championship his senior year at Kings Mountain High, has won three World Championships and numerous U.S. titles, and competed in the 2008 Olympics.

Byers hopes to represent the U.S. again in the 2012 Olympics.



Dremiel Byers

## Wells windfall a nasty scam

A check for \$3,550 in her mailbox was too good to be true for a Kings Mountain woman.

It was a scam, Kings Mountain Police told Peggy Cline Wells.

Mrs. Wells said the check came with an award claim notification but required a check from her for \$2400 for taxes.

"I took the letter about my windfall and the check to the police department and Chief Melvin Proctor called the telephone numbers on the letter and there was no answer," said Mrs. Wells who wants to encourage others who may receive similar letters to share that correspondence with police.

## Schools Enrollment down, but off to good year

School enrollment is down slightly from last year but overall students and staff are off to a good year. This was the report of Supt. Dr. Bruce Boyles to the Cleveland County Board of Education Monday night.

"One of the negatives is dealing with class size and the loss of state funds but during my visit to all the schools in the past two weeks I have seen many good things happening in education," said Boyles.

Boyles added the decline in birth rates since 2002 has impacted the kindergarten enrollment.

"This has been a busy summer," said Boyles, noting that three schools moved. The new Shelby Middle School opened to students this fall and dedication ceremonies will be held Sept. 25 at 2 p.m.

Board members Shearra Miller and Philip Glover reported glowing remarks from teachers and students about new school locations and assignments. "Some of our teachers were fearful of moving - teaching lower grades and going to new locations, now they say they love the opportunity," says Miller.

**kmherald.net**  
Stay informed on the go.  
Please enjoy this free trial offer of kmherald.net your hometown, online source for news.



8 98525 00200 1



**Alliance Bank & Trust**

Building Confidence.  
Building Trust. Building Smiles.  
209 S. Battleground Ave., Kings Mountain • 704.739.5411  
www.alliancebanknc.com • MEMBER FDIC

