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EMILY WEAVER/HERALD

City candidates chat before the forum begins at Cleveland Community College. The forum will be aired on local cable channel 19 until Election Day. Left to right, Bobby Horne, Keith Miller, Curtis Pressley and Brian Cloninger all vying for the at-large seat on city council and Mayor Rick Murphrey.

Candidates speak out at publicized forum

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Candidates running for Kings Mountain city council and the county water board said Monday night they want to connect with the voters who will go to the polls Nov. 8.

Four of the six candidates vying for the at-large seat open on the Kings Mountain city council and one of two candidates for mayor were present at a forum at Cleveland Community College along with three of the six vying for four seats open on the county water board. Only candidates with opposi-

tion on Nov. 8 were invited to participate.

Incumbent Mayor Rick Murphrey, at-large candidates Brian Cloninger, Bobby Horne, Keith Miller and Curtis Pressley fielded questions from moderator Steve Thornburg. Not present were Gilbert (Pee Wee) Hamrick, candidate for mayor, and at-large candidates Jerry Mullinax and Roy (Butch) Pearson. Thomas Lewis Jr., incumbent Bill Cameron and Vallery McCoy, running for a seat on the water board, also fielded questions. Not present were incumbent C.J. (Pete) Pederson, incumbent Dewey Cook and Perry Davis.

The forum was broadcast live by the college TV Station 19 which is broadcasting Candidates Forums 2011 between now and election day. The candidates did not receive a list of questions before the forum and they were selected for responses in random order. Each gave a closing statement.

Questions aimed at the water board focused on a proposal for a reservoir and concerns from some citizens who pay a district property tax, yet are unable to access the water service. Kings Mountain candidates talked about what they perceive as future issues facing Kings Mountain and the mayor

responded to questions about the mayor's role in city government as its leader.

If elected, How do you define the role of mayor? Murphrey said the mayor's role is to be a visionary and a leader, noting that during his 12-year tenure as mayor and 18 years on city council he has used his 40 years experience in sales to sell Kings Mountain and its great quality of life for citizens.

Murphrey responded to, "How will you as mayor advance Kings Mountain's agenda for development and prosperity?"

See CANDIDATES, 7A

Relay 4 Life tops its goal

Kings Mountain's 2011 Relay for Life topped its \$65,000 goal and volunteers and teams will celebrate the victory at a wrap-up party and kickoff for the 2012 campaign Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. at Love's Fish Box in Kings Mountain.

Those planning to attend the event may make reservations by calling the Kings Mountain Fire Department, 704-734-0555 or log onto the American Cancer website.

"We topped the 2010 goal of \$64,000, so now we're shooting for \$75,000 for the 2012 campaign," said Fire Chief Frank Burns who chairs the campaign. Burns said that the Kings Mountain Relay for Life in 2012 will be held May 11 at the Kings Mountain Walking Track.

Relay for Life is a life-changing event that helps communities across the globe celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost and fight back against the disease.

Hardware man 2-time survivor of breast cancer

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Like most men, Howard Elmore never considered the possibility of having breast cancer.

The Kings Mountain hardware man, 58, has survived breast cancer twice in the last 16 years—his first surgery a radical mastectomy of the right breast in October 1995 which required no treatments. Cancer struck again and he completed a tough regimen of 16 weeks of chemotherapy treatments on Feb. 15, 1999 after a malignant tumor was removed from his left breast in May 1998.

Ironically, Elmore's late wife, Linda Freeman Elmore, was also diagnosed with breast cancer in 1995 and died in October 1998 at age 44.

"I was taking a shower and felt something but I thought I bumped myself and didn't worry too much about it," said Elmore, who acknowledged that some men (and women) are notorious foot-draggers when it comes to scheduling doctor visits.

Elmore said he wasted no time calling his oncologist with the second occurrence

See MEN, 7A



ELMORE

Round 2 of controversial rezoning



As The Herald went to press Tuesday night the Kings Mountain Planning and Zoning Board was discussing developer Mike Brown's request to rezone his Raven Drive property to Light Industrial for a mixed-use campground. Tuesday night's public hearing was the third in what has developed into a hot-button issue. Brown had asked his supporters to come to Tuesday night's meeting to oppose a text amendment that he contends will thwart his plans for a campground. City council has the final say at its next meeting and public hearing on Oct. 25. (Photo by KYRA TURNER/HERALD)

Sheriff's office expands to city hall

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LIB STEWART photo

Mayor Rick Murphrey, left, and Chief of Police Melvin Proctor welcome Cleveland County Sheriff Alan Norman, seated, to Kings Mountain to schedule a satellite sheriff's office beginning Oct. 20 at City Hall and continue third Thursdays each month from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

A satellite sheriff's office opens at Kings Mountain City Hall Thursday, Oct. 20.

Sheriff Alan Norman, who invites the public to visit every third Thursday of the month from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., is keeping his campaign promise to be accessible to the citizens.

"Law enforcement is only as good as the information we get and the sheriff's office is the public's office," says Norman, who encourages the public from Kings Mountain and adjoining communities to drop by, give input, and discuss concerns.

During his recent campaign for office, Norman

See SHERIFF, 7A



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