

# LADY PATRIOTS: clinch tie, host playoff game Monday



FROM Page 1C

Burns finally got into the scoring column with a buzzer beater to end the first period. Kings Mountain went on to lead 12-7 at half-time and 26-9 going into the

fourth period.

Burns made a run early in the fourth quarter to cut the score to 26-20 but Kings Mountain won going away.

The Patriots did an outstanding job working the ball inside to Tiffani Thompson, who led both teams in scor-

ing with 16 points. Kelsi Farmer and Maikiea Seright scored four points each, Gwen Hopper three, and Virginia Dellinger and Shaniya Portee two each.

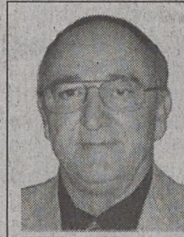
Hopper and Seright played well defensively.



GARY STEWART/HERALD

Kings Mountain Middle's cheerleaders cheer their Lady Patriots on to victory in a big win over Burns Monday.

AT LEFT, Kings Mountain's Taylor Myles keeps the defensive pressure on Burns in Monday's Tri-County game at KMMS.



## Front Porch Music

By Ron Isbell

### Hold 'em under til they bubble

Hold 'em under 'till they bubble. Or just a sprinkle. Dunk 'em in a raging river. Or a quick dip in a heated baptistry. Days old infants or age of consent. King James or New Revised Standard.

Baptist, Methodist, Jewish, Catholic, Lutheran, Anglican, Wesleyan, AME, Nazarene, Quaker.

Our faith is very personal. I don't think anyone will argue with that. But what we do seem to argue with is that we singularly are right in our thinking about our religion and perhaps everyone else is wrong.

One of our reporters was tasked with explaining to us just what Mitt Romney's Mormon faith means to him, and by extension, what it might mean to us if he were to become the next president of the United States. It's a faith I know very little about and wanted to know more. I was left still wanting to know more about Mormonism.

He used some internet references I wish he hadn't. We, as your local newspaper, need to leave the Web for you to figure out individually. If you choose to accept what you find there, that's okay with me, but I don't think we need to advance such information as facts.

His story also raises a question that only those of us my age and older might relate to. In 1960 we elected

a rich New Englander who happened to be Catholic. Many said a Catholic should not lead our nation. He almost lost that election because of his faith. And, in fact, he is still the only Catholic president to lead the US, I believe. In 1960 there were many Americans who knew little about Catholics. Stereotypes abounded about billions in gold and precious gems hidden away and of secret organizations within the church who carried out hidden agendas. They were criticized for educating their children in their own schools.

And how did electing this rich man with a religion most of us didn't understand work out for us? Pretty dog-gone well as I recall. I was 11 and, of course couldn't vote, but I'd put a check by his name today if he were here to run again. There are a lot of parallels between Kennedy and Romney. Many differences, too, though. But to write off a candidate because his religion differs from our Sunday morning routine could be a huge shortchanging of our country's future. I think we need to know more than I do at this point to make religion an issue.

References are still being made to Mormonism's polygamy practices, which are no longer accepted by the church. I just heard the issue raised this weekend on a TV news program. To con-

tinue to dig up this practice in order to condemn the religion is plain wrong. It's just as wrong as if we were to continue to bring up stoning and other barbaric practices of the early forms of Christianity.

Every religion has had its dark hours. Remember heads served on platters? Bloody crusades in the name of God? Today's Middle Eastern holy wars are nothing new to Bible scholars. It's easy to find disreputable references when we look deeply into religion, and these are the roots of the same religions we practice today.

We owe everyone the right to practice their faith the way they want. We do, however, have an obligation to understand how that faith might impact each of us before we go to the polls.

In fact, I care very little about religion. There are too many of them, and they all can't be right in their dogma. But I do care about faith and a man's measure of that faith. The church I was raised in told me that my neighbors would go to hell because they were "sprinkled" and not immersed, a view I just cannot accept. I cannot find traction in a belief that God could write off billions of souls because they were born in a time or in a part of the world that has not heard of Christianity. Tibetan monks not worthy of salvation? It has to be about faith, not religion. And if Mitt Romney has the conviction of his faith to carry him through four years as president of our country, I think I can accept his religion. Even the good Baptist Bill Clinton lost his way but still served us well as president.

## GES receives \$5,000 grant



Left to right are: Wes Howell, Assistant Store Manager; Harry Dixon, Store Manager; Dr. Janet Anthony, Principal of Grover Elementary School; Sherry Crowder, Director of Commercial Sales

GROVER - Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation has awarded a \$5,000 Toolbox for Education grant to Grover Elementary School. This project will provide an inviting area on school grounds, called the Wolf Den, for classes to meet for an outside lunch, reading time, parent project, or class event.

Benches and picnic tables, along with beautifying plants and new grass, will create an atmosphere that will be conducive to outdoor activities yet allow learning, communi-

cation, and fellowship opportunities to improve and be enhanced.

The project is scheduled to be completed by late spring.

Grover Elementary School is one of more than 585 schools or parent organizations to be awarded a Lowe's Toolbox for Education grant for parent-initiated school improvement projects benefiting K-12 public education across the United States during the 2010-2011 school year.

## BRIEFS

### February is Heart Health Month

In recognition the Kings Mountain Hospital is sponsoring a heart awareness event on Wednesday, February 15, in the front lobby from 10:00 a.m. - 2 p.m.

A Sanger Clinic Physician and hospital staff will be available to answer questions, take blood pressures, and distribute educational material.

Fun and information for all. The public is invited.

### Caregivers to meet

Caregivers of persons with dementia are invited to a meeting to hear the advantages of palliative care for the person with dementia and their caregivers.

The program will be held at Life Enrichment Center Adult Day Care in Shelby

Tuesday, Feb. 21, at 5:30 p.m. It is free of charge and open to the public.

For more information, call 704.484.0405.

### Volunteer on Red Cross disaster teams

Learn how you can be-

come a part of the Cleveland County Red Cross disaster team that helps with emergency needs after a disaster by attending a membership meeting Feb. 23 at 6:30 p.m. at the Cleveland County Red Cross Chapter building, 1333 Fallston Road, Shelby. All training of volunteers is provided.

**Hole-in-One Special!**  
4 Plays for the price of 3  
A \$22 weekday savings  
\$28 weekend savings

Large Bucket of Balls  
**ONLY \$3.00**

Memberships starting at  
**\$425**

**Woodbridge Golf Club**  
Pro-Shop 704.482.0353  
1007 New Camp Creek Church Rd., Kings Mountain.

You must mention this ad to receive offers! Hurry! Offers expire 3-9-12

## CORRECTION

In last week's Herald, Emporium storeowner Shirley Bimrose was incorrectly identified as Shirley Brimrose in the story "The Emporium on 161 - now open for business".

## Flowers Grow In The Sun. So Does Skin Cancer.

**Excessive sun exposure is the major cause of skin cancer.**

Skin cancer is the fastest-growing cancer in the United States - one in five Americans will develop some form of it during their lifetime according to the American Cancer Society. But the good news is that skin cancer is the most preventable type of cancer. And there are things you can do now to lower your risks. Learn more at this Free Skin Cancer Screening. Call 980-487-3757 or email us at Rita.Wortman@carolinashhealthcare.org today to schedule an appointment.

## FREE

Skin Cancer Screening  
Saturday, March 3  
8am-Noon

Blumenthal Cancer Center  
Cleveland Hematology  
and Oncology

**By appointment only.**  
**980-487-3757**

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