

# Opinions...

## Yours, Ours, Others

Quote of the week...

Our greatest glory is not in never failing,  
but in rising up every time we fail.

Ralph Waldo Emerson



**Glenn Mollette**  
Guest Editorial

### Syria- Tired Yet?

I suspect you are already tired of hearing about Syria.

The future path is blurry – even to our President. Assad will still be in power.

How many has he killed without chemical weapons? Who is using the chemical weapons? It sounds to me like the real problem is the one issuing the orders in Syria.

Americans are now on the verge of committing billions of dollars of money we do not have to impact an area of the world that already hates us. Here at home we have millions who cannot find a job. We have millions more who cannot feed their families with the paycheck they bring home. All the while our roads and bridges need desperate repair. We need new school buildings for our children. We have made our military do more with less but we continue to ask them to do more. We continue to put our aging seniors at risk as we make it harder for us to pay social security and cover our huge medical tab. Needless to say the tax debt for our children and grandchildren grows all the more. Syria means additional taxes, not less taxes.

Many of us can still remember how tired we were of Vietnam. My brother served a year in Vietnam and it was a long year for our family. Fortunately, he came home. An older friend who lived just up the road named Junior was killed in Vietnam. I'll never forget his funeral. The expression on his

father's face said it all when a finely dressed soldier handed him the folded American flag and expressed his appreciation on behalf of America for Junior's service.

Vietnam went on for 12 long years. It was a senseless waste of at least 58,000 American lives and for so long it seemed it would never end. We endured Iraq for eight years and lost almost 4,500 soldiers and yet today the country is in constant chaos. Today we have allowed Afghanistan to surpass Vietnam as our longest war. With all the noise about Syria do not forget we are still in Afghanistan. We will spend 100 billion dollars in Afghanistan this year and risk the lives of more American men and women.

The story we are hearing about Syria keeps changing. We've been hearing about Syria for at least two years. Now we are hearing all the promises made by our President, Secretary of State and others pertaining to our involvement. Over the months the promises will change, as there will be new developments, revelations and new commitments of weapons, food, soldiers and your money.

Brace yourself because history is about to repeat itself and we're already tired.

*(Glenn Mollette is an American columnist and speaker. He is the author of American Issues and nine other books. Find his books at BarnesandNoble.com. Contact him at gmmollette@aol.com like his Facebook page at www.facebook.com/glennmollette)*

### Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Here we go again?

The forces of evil are looking for yet another way to destroy the moral fiber of our community. They said liquor by the drink would bring prosperity to our town. Haven't seen an Applebee's or Red Lobster yet. Have you?

Now the same crowd is pushing for a casino. The politicians say it will be good for the economy. Tell that to the children we feed at our church because their so-called parents spend all their welfare money on 60 inch wide-screen TVs, booze, drugs, and lottery tickets. Might help employment since we will probably have to employ more law enforcement officers and EMTs to handle the accompanying crime and alcohol related incidents that spread around these dens of iniquity.

Do you think the syndicate or the Tribal Council will make house calls to the homes of grieving families after their loved one either commits suicide or is killed by an enforcer when they lose all

their life savings and get so deep in debt that they know they will never be able to climb out of the hole. Surely, they'll have a heart and forgive the loss and even give the loser some food to take home to the kids while they search for a new roof to sleep under. And according to the press, and we know we can always believe the media (sarcasm intended), it was reported recently that many of the 100 plus lawmakers that claim to oppose the casino are doing so because of the huge contributions to their political machines by the opposing Indian tribe. Doesn't anyone stand up for Christian values anymore?

Maybe we ought to take "In God We Trust" off our money because it is obvious as a nation, we don't. Why put another nail in our spiritual coffin? I'd love to close by saying "God bless America" but how can we think about asking or expecting that when we continue to spit in his face?

Rev. James T. Lochridge Jr.  
Kings Mountain

To the Editor:

Two weeks ago I wrote a letter describing how the City of Kings Mountain dug up the grass strip bordering on many houses on E. Parker St.

When my neighbors and I got home in the late afternoon on Aug. 28 we were shocked and very unhappy.

The city then spread grass seed, which I knew as a landscaper would not come up so late in August.

Around this time, an appraiser took a black and white photo (of my property): It looked like a

wasteland, including the broken, mangled sidewalk in front of 305, 307 1/2 and 307 E. Parker St.

Although the city was made aware of the sorry state of the sidewalk, they have yet to start any repairs.

As E. Parker St. leads to the ballpark and the YMCA, it is much travelled. Perhaps they will repair the damage before someone gets hurt.

Jo Volz  
Kings Mountain

To the Editor:

I recommend we re-elect Mike Butler, Tommy Hawkins, and Dean Spears. The main reason is, "it ain't broke so don't fix it". Things are going exceptionally well with city government. I recommend we keep the same leadership team. All three men do their homework before making decisions and all three lean on God for guidance.

Let me site a few specifics. We have had perfect audits for nearly 20 years. Nobody has been stealing or misappropriating and we have been managing our finances in compliance with all the recommended procedures. This is partly due to the fact that we have been able to recruit and retain honest, hard-working, God fearing staff and management that view their service to the city as a ministry as well as a job. This attitude must de-

scend from the top. Mike Butler, Tommy Hawkins and Dean Spears all consider their service to the city as a calling and ministry and they take it very seriously.

We have run under budget many years and have accumulated more than 25% of our budget in savings. That is a 3 month cash flow cushion. Few cities can boast that. We have been replacing our aging infrastructure at a healthy pace and expanding our utility service areas while remaining cost competitive. We have excellent intergovernmental working relationships which helps us land many company relocations. We have many forward looking innovative projects in research and development and are proactive about the future. We have had no headline risks from council members infighting or playing politics. That is

See LTE - MILLER, 7A

To the Editor:

Time's Running Out

We've failed on so many fronts that recovery may be impossible for the U. S. and the major reasons are:

Lack of obedience to God and trust in God, and without Him we have only misery to look forward to.

Too much complacency caused by selfishness and fear of conflict.

Too much power transfer to elected officials.

Too much "feel good" politics including allowing too much dependency.

Too much debt caused by wasteful spending.

Too many laws and too many interpretations of

those laws and failure to enforce laws in many instances.

While it is true that God requires us to love one another, He doesn't tell us to love or accept the sinful ways anyone may choose to take part in. In order words we should love, for example, an alcoholic but we would be amiss if we didn't try to discourage the habit and encourage a life for him with Jesus as Master.

God does want us to help the poor and needy but He doesn't want us to make them more dependent. He wants us to help them help themselves. Granted, there are those that are forced into dependency because of a physical or mental deficiency. God will care for those through us.

See LTE - BURTON, 7A

### 46¢ forum

Letter to the editor...



Do you have questions or concerns about what's happening in your community? Are there good things happening in your neighborhood?

Let us know in a *Letter to the Editor*.

We welcome your comments\*!

Send your Letters to The Editor at:

The Kings Mountain Herald  
P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain NC 28086

or e-mail us at: lib.kmherald@gmail.com

\*Letters to the Editor must be signed and include address and phone number. Letters are limited to 500 words or less and are subject to Editorial review. Thank you letters are required to be placed as paid personal notes.

## Sidewalk Survey

Folks were asked...

The Cleveland County Fair starts tomorrow. Do you plan on going this year?



Yes, we'll go. It's new for us. We just moved here last year (from Charlotte). The pig race will definitely be new to us.

**Raj Kaur**



Oh, yeah. I'm taking my daughter. She likes everything about it. The rides, the games, everything.

**Terry Bridges**



Yeah, my favorite thing has got to be the food.

**Keyshonda Byers**



We usually go. (My family) likes to go because of the food. You run into people you know.

**Steve McKinney**