

Opinions...

Yours, Ours, Others

Quote of the week

Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it.

~ Thomas Paine

Change can be a good thing

A lot of things have changed since Ron and I came to Kings Mountain in 2008.

First the papers went from tabloid back to broadsheet.

Then we moved from the log building to the offices here on Gold Street.

Then we lost Ron in 2012 and I discovered how easy he made it look to run a company! He had a remarkable talent for solving the problems of a paper and building it up with the help of great staff.

And the hard work of the staff at The Herald, The Eagle and the Banner News has brought us to a new phase in the cycle. Community First Media of Shelby has decided

we will be a great fit into its business plan for the county and community, and we became part of their crew June 27.

You will continue to see the same faces here, and a few new ones as they make themselves better known to us all.

We at The Herald are excited about the opportunities this affords us to better serve our hometown, bringing you news from your community, schools, businesses and government each week.



Wendy Isbell
Publisher

Market Minutes with Margot

Now that summertime is here, there is a lot more to shop for at your Kings Mountain Farmers' Market! More produce vendors are on hand every week, with truckloads of gorgeous food, picked just hours before.

Nothing says summer in the South like a great tomato, and the Cherokee Purple, an "heirloom tomato" is one of Dixie's finest. Legend has it that Cherokee Indians gave the seeds of this distinctive deep purple-red variety to a few Sevierville, Tennessee, residents more than a century ago. It was a well-kept secret up until about 1990 or so, when an envelope of the seeds arrived in North Carolina. Many heirloom varieties were preserved by home gardeners who saved seed from their family gardens from year to year. Other seeds travelled around the world in the pockets or letters of immigrants.

Heirloom varieties are open-pollinated--meaning that unlike hybrids, seeds you collect from one year will produce plants with most of the characteristics of the parent plant. And that's

the secret to their survival. The next time you bite into an heirloom tomato, save a few seeds by drying them on a paper towel in the sun and save them for next season. How much fun it is to find that there is history to explore and repeat, even in the foods we eat!

The Cherokee Purple is wildly popular in Cleveland County and beyond. I think it is fun to know the history of what we are growing here in our community. With a sweet yet complex flavor that can be described as slightly smoky or wine-like, Cherokee Purple tomatoes usually start showing up at farmers' markets in July.

Use them in gazpacho or in a colorful tomato salad with another favorite, pink Brandywine tomatoes. Green zebras, with yellow and green stripes also add some color to the bowl.



Margot Plonk
Foothills
Farmers Market

Find a quick recipe below.

I also saw the first green beans and corn last week. The corn was "peaches and cream" variety, which actually gives you two sweet flavors in one bite. This is one of the first corns to mature each season.

Be sure to arrive at the market early- I missed out on green beans and corn last week because I waited!

Heirloom Tomato Salad Recipe

Ingredients:

- fresh, sweet heirloom tomatoes
- olive oil
- balsamic vinegar
- fresh basil
- sea or kosher salt
- fresh cracked black pepper

Directions:

1. Slice tomatoes and drizzle with olive oil, balsamic vinegar, salt and pepper. Slice or tear fresh basil leaves on top. Add slices of mozzarella Cheese for a real treat! Enjoy!

Be sure to drop by and watch John Roselli demonstrating salad making with Granny Roselli's dressing this Saturday.



A stop sign hides in this bush at the corner of Mountain and Goforth Streets. Motorists who travel this road often may stop because they are familiar with the road. But what about those drivers unfamiliar with the road who don't? An accident waiting to happen?

Photo by LISA ZYBLE

We welcome your comments*!

Send your Letter to the Editor to:

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

*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.

Iraq again, Hell never ends

Iraq - now we know where hell is.

Hell is supposed to be a place of torment reserved for some people after death. Unfortunately, too many have ended up there before they died. Is there no end to the turmoil in Iraq and Afghanistan? We will never see peace and quiet in either of these two countries. Hell never ends.

The religious factions of these countries hate each other. They want to kill each other. These factions are crazy. America is killing

itself and our troops trying to fix crazy religious people. The only thing worse than a crazy person is a religious crazy person because they invoke the name of God or Allah or somebody during every crucifixion or beheading they perform. As they torture, murder and rape they move on in the name of their religion.

Some Americans thought we were finished in Iraq.

When it comes to Iraq or the Middle East there is never a period but always a comma. Crazy-ness does not end but only grows.

The only way to have some civility in Iraq or Afghanistan is to station 30,000 soldiers in five or six bases throughout each country. We can be assured if we do there will never be a time that our soldiers will not be in danger of ambush, bombs or the native soldiers turning on us as has happened numerous times. I think this is a bad idea.



Glenn Mollette
Guest Editorial

Most Americans did not want us to go to Iraq or Afghanistan but we did. Over four thousand troops have died fighting the Iraqi cause. Where did all of that death get us? What do Iraq or America have to show for it?

The same scenario will happen in Afghanistan. Thugs sometimes called the Taliban will band together to steal, kill and retake any part of the country that surrenders to them as played out in Iraq recently.

Do we keep 30,000 troops in Afghanistan to help them police their country and continue to lose our American troops? Physically, emotionally and financially we can't keep thousands of troops in Afghanistan or send thousands back to Iraq.

There is no ending to this boiling pot of the world. Turbulence in the Middle East will never stop. In recent months we could have justified sending troops to Syria as well and then we could be in three countries. How thin can we spread our soldiers, as well as stretch our American dollars?

Hell is a hot place and we will never extinguish the fire.

(Glenn Mollette is an American columnist and author. Contact him at GMollette@aol.com)

Sidewalk Survey

Area residents were asked...

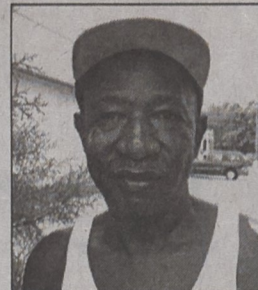
What are your summer travel plans?



Probably to Myrtle Beach. I've already been down there - two weeks ago.
Nicole Banks



I'm going to Virginia - not sure which city yet - but it's for work.
Jerod Hartsell



I just started a job. I'm not gonna lay out of work to travel. I'd go to the beach if I could.
Johnny Meeks



If I had dependable transportation I'd love to go to the coast of North Carolina because I've never been there before.
Shannon Anderson

Kings Mountain Herald

Published every Wednesday
Periodicals postage at Kings Mountain, NC 28086
USPS 931-040 by CF Media
Postmaster, send address changes to: P. O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086
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Mail Subscription Rates Payable in Advance.
All Prices include 6.75% NC State Sales Tax.

	1 Year	6 Months
Gaston & Cleveland County	\$30.00	\$19.50
Other NC Counties	\$35.00	\$22.50
Outside NC	\$50.00	\$39.00



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