



Special Graduation Section Inside

Congratulations CLASS OF 2015!

Kings Mountain HERALD

kmherald.com

Volume 127 • Issue 22 • Wednesday, June 3, 2015 75¢

INSIDE...

- Obituaries 2
- Police Log..... 2 & 7
- Lifestyles 6

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Candidate filing opens July 6

Candidate filing for the November 3 election begins July 6, a little over a month from now at the Cleveland County Board of Elections.

Registration also begins on July 6 and ends on July 17 at 12 noon at the Board of Elections, Patton Drive, Shelby.

Kings Mountain voters will help elect a mayor and four councilmen in Kings Mountain, five members of the Cleveland County Board of Education, and three members of the Cleveland County Water Board. Grover voters will also elect a mayor and three members of the board.

Politicking, outwardly quiet, will probably start picking up in the next weeks prior to the filing date.

Elections Supervisor Dana Causby says there is

See CANDIDATE, Page 7A

Orange barriers to be removed

Mayor Rick Murphrey said there's good news. The city finally will be able to remove the orange barriers at the Mountain and Gold Street railroad crossings by the end of August or before.

The Department of Transportation and Norfolk Southern Railroad will be placing message boards downtown announcing the temporary closure of the Mountain Street and Gold Street railroad crossings within seven days prior to the start of this project.

Concrete dividers, with planters, will be installed to restrict the 18 wheel trucks from crossing at these points. This is a safety and beautification issue at no cost to the City. The Police and Fire Departments have reviewed these plans along with the City Manager and staff.

The crossings have two railroad tracks. The contractor will be required to close both crossings during construction in order to keep one of the tracks open at all times for the train to continue operation.



Former US Senator Rick Santorum pays a visit to Kings Mountain and is greeted by supporters at 238 Pizzeria. (Photo by Lib Stewart)

Presidential hopeful makes stop in KM

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The first visit of a 2016 Presidential candidate to Kings Mountain may not be the last.

Ronnie Whetstone, newly appointed chairman of the Cleveland County Republican Party, thinks that because North Carolina is having an early Primary that more candidates will be in the area.

Wayne King, long active in the GOP and a close friend of former Senator Rick Santorum, learned that Santorum, 57, planned a trip to South Carolina after his presidential announcement Wednesday and he quickly got on the phone and invited him to Kings Mountain on Saturday and chose 238 Pizzeria as the spot for him to pitch his message.

Robert Bolin, owner of the new Pizzeria which just opened, welcomed the visit, and the restaurant was packed, standing-room-only for the 7:45 p.m. visit of the

Presidential hopeful.

Bolin put on his apron and started serving the crowd which started arriving early evening and later in the evening (the Senator had not had supper) showed the Pennsylvania visitor how to make pizza.

Mayor Rick Murphrey presented Santorum with a key to the city.

"I'm not running the same campaign I ran in 2012," said the personable Santorum. "I spent too much time debating all about the best person to beat Barack Obama and didn't lay out my own vision for this country," declaring that the issues are what this race is about.

"People are concerned about the threats by ISIS, China, Russia, the economy, national security, and struggling families," said Santorum.

Growing up in a mill town, Santorum said he saw manufacturing become a robust industry but now it's gone and so has employment.

"America needs to go back to work," he said, adding that the break-down of the American family concerns him and leadership is needed in Washington to help an America divided between the haves and the have nots.

Santorum said there is no candidate among the long list of GOP hopefuls with stronger foreign policy credentials. He has been touted as a faithful advocate for Israel and a staunch voice against Iran obtaining a nuclear weapon. During his tenure in the US Senate he was a leader on US Israeli affairs.

He said the Islamic State is expanding and Allah is blessing them. When he loses a round, they gain more recruits. If you elect me we will defeat ISIS," he declared. He said an ISIS online magazine had the President's picture on the front page, the caption reading "who they are in the words of our enemy."

See photo Page 3A

Race day in KM: Triathlon draws healthy crowd

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Elite athletes from across the Carolinas and beyond descended on Kings Mountain Saturday to tackle a triathlon course often described as "tough" and "beautiful."

After a 1-mile swim across Moss Lake, a 30-mile bike ride through four counties and two states and a 6-mile through parts of the west side of town, 39-year-old Trent Kirk emerged as the top racer of the day, which featured nearly cloudless skies and temperatures in the mid-70s.

"Good race today - I See TRIATHLON, Page 7A



A runner begins his race in the Kings Mountain Triathlon Saturday.

Operation Summertime Blues

BUSTED

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Operation Summertime Blues, a 18-month long investigation by the Narcotics Division of the Kings Mountain Police Department that focuses on rounding up drug dealers, was paying off Friday as police busted 25 suspects who face 93 felony charges.

Det. Sgt. Lisa Proctor, who heads the operation, said police have seen an increase in the selling of prescription medications in the area during the past year and that has been a big focus of the investigation. More ar-



rests will be made this week.

At a press conference at KMPD Friday Mayor Rick Murphrey commended Kings Mountain Police for their continuing and "never stop" efforts to keep Kings Mountain safe.

Sgt. Proctor said that when the department uses undercover officers they are focused on the safety of the officers. She said that officers knew that some of the people they approached were known to carry firearms. "What you think is a

See BUSTED, Page 7A

Farmers Market opens this Saturday downtown

It's time! The Foothills Farmers' Market- Kings Mountain is all set for opening day this Saturday. Market hours are 8 a.m. to noon.



CATHEY NOELL

This season, the market will be held along the winding walkway through Patriots Park, near the Gazebo. This is sure to be a nice location, with restrooms and water fountains

easily accessible.

Parking is available on Railroad Avenue and on the grass entering from Gold Street.

Season features, in addition to the freshest food available, will be live music, cooking demonstrations, children's activities, semi-weekly visits from Cleveland County Master Gardeners, and a weekly presence by Kings Mountain's Mauney Memorial Library.

Season opening day will feature a cooking demonstration at 10 a.m. by local See FARMERS MARKET, Page 7A

Relay for Life - fighting for a cure in 2015



Caregivers gather for a ceremonial lap at John Gamble Stadium during Relay for Life Friday evening.

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A new venue. A new vibe. That was the prevailing theme at Kings Mountain's 2015 Relay for Life held at the high school Friday night.

It was also a time for celebration. Celebration of a battle hard fought. Celebration of new research that is helping to fend off cancer and its many forms, a killer of millions every year.

"We have both battled cancer - and we're so pleased to be able to take part in the Survivor Lap," said Susan Beam, who fought and won a battle against breast cancer in 2011. Her husband Stuart, who survived a bout with skin cancer about 10 years ago, now has a new challenge of fighting cancer of the lymph nodes.

"Love has the last word. For the sake of this love

See FIGHTING, Page 11A



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