

Opinions... ♦♦♦

Yours, Ours, Others

Quote of the week

"It is the working man who is the happy man. It is the idle man who is the miserable man."
 -Benjamin Franklin

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Last week we ran the wrong picture of the couple who won the \$10,000 grand prize at the Kings Mountain Historical Museum fundraiser. The couple that was pictured on the front page - Richard and Janice Anderson - won a nice prize but not the grand prize.



Lib Stewart
Managing Editor

Wendy and Jeff Walega won the

\$10,000 grand prize. Wendy Walega didn't realize she and her husband had won the \$10,000 until her husband kissed her and said, "Babe, we won." She said she was still in shock. Wendy said when it was down to two tickets she was watching her husband and another man (Richard Anderson) and she thought the Andersons had won the top prize. "I saw everyone looking at us and I thought they were feeling sorry for us because we lost."

Jeff Walega has been employed by Emerson Process Management for 37 years.



WENDY AND JEFF WALEGA

A longtime Harley enthusiast, he enjoys beekeeping as a hobby and also helps build sets for Kings Mountain Little Theatre plays which his wife has directed. Wendy is looking forward to directing the KMLT musical, "Have a Nice Day" in March.

The Walegas haven't made any special plans for spending their winnings. Wendy says they will probably end up using some of it for some unexpected home repairs that recently came up.

Goodbye!

Now that's a word I've been using a lot lately. Actually it is probably one of the most used words in the English language, along with hello. For you see, we greet and bid farewell to folks all day long, every day, don't we? Phone calls begin with hello and end with goodbye. Encounters during the course of our days usually begin and end that way. So it is really a rather common experience to say goodbye to someone. And yet, when we are using it before an extended separation, there is often a sense of finality and sadness.

None of us has the promise of the next breath and so there is no guarantee that we will ever see or speak to someone in this life. I remember shaking hands with Eric Wright out at Mountain Rest Cemetery on a Tuesday after we had worked a funeral together. He was his usual jovial, encouraging self. The next Monday, I was back in the same cemetery at his funeral. We never know when goodbye will be a final separation.

Of course, for the Christian, it isn't. In John 14, Jesus was trying to prepare His disciples for His imminent departure. He used these words, "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am there you may be also." He was saying goodbye, but helping His followers to realize that it was just for a season. They would watch Him die, but they would also see Him resurrected to live eternally. And in those words about Himself, He also let them know that they would receive the same treatment. Most would probably experience the death of their earthly body, but because they had put their faith and trust in Him, their spirit would live forever and they could look forward to receiving an eternal body. Now that's a deal if ever I heard of one; swapping and old, worn out body, perhaps even one mangled by an accident or ravaged by disease, for a brand spanking new one that will never grow old or suffer deterioration in any way.

William Shakespeare said, "Parting is such sweet sorrow." How true! We are saddened by the requirements of separation and yet glad that our loved one will no longer be suffering. We are sad that we won't have the privilege and joy

of more regular fellowship with a friend who is moving away, but glad for the new opportunities the next chapter of their lives will provide them.

I've often reflected on the words of Revelation 21:4, "and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." I've wondered why the tears in the first place. Maybe it will be tears of remorse that we didn't do enough to encourage others to trust in Christ so that they too can experience heaven. I confess that I don't know which. Perhaps it could be a little of both.

I do know this though. Every time I say goodbye down here, is just a forerunner of that last goodbye. The one that I know as a Christian will simply proceed a big HELLO on that glad reunion day in heaven. Not because I deserve it or earned it, or was born in the USA, or any other reason, but Savior and Lord. That decision, made as a six year old, has guided my goodbyes and hellos for some 60 years now. I can face the goodbyes in Kings Mountain and the hellos in Aruba because I know that through my faith in Christ, one day I will be able to say "goodbye earth and hello heaven" in eternity. Hope to see you there.

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Letters to the Editor

Thoughts on "Same Sex Marriage"

The Supreme Court ruled that it is a constitutional right for all citizens of the United States to be allowed to marry the person of their choice.

First, it is obvious that the LGBT individuals (as all of us) have no choice in how God made them. Who in their right mind would choose to live the tormented and abused life they live?

The facts are: They are citizens of the United States.

They contribute to our society.

They pay taxes. They fight and die for our freedom and country.

They make wonderful and faithful friends, neighbors and parents.

And think of this - They are being discriminated against because they are loving somebody. We are judging it to be the wrong person. And that is God's call, not ours. It is the wrong interpretation of the Bible.

Jesus did not speak about homosexuality. He did however teach us how

to live with each other. "Love your neighbor as yourself," judge not that you be not judged," be kind to each other," serve each other and take care of each other" to mention a few. And lay aside the old Jewish laws.

So this ruling does not take away our religious freedom in any way. Instead, it gives us as Christians the opportunity to show all of God's children His amazing love, grace and mercy.

MOLLY SAVAGE
Kings Mountain, NC

HERALD LETTER POLICY

The Herald welcomes your letters to the editor for publication in each Wednesday's Kings Mountain Herald. We ask that you follow these guidelines.

Keep the letters brief. Letters in excess of 600 words will not be accepted. Type and do not use space if possible or use legible handwriting and mail to Editor, Kings Mountain Herald, PO Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 and be sure to sign them with your address and telephone number. You can also email letters to lib.kmherald@gmail.com by Fridays at 5 p.m. for publication in the next week's paper or for the editorial page which runs every two weeks. With elections Nov. 3, the editorial page will run Oct. 7 and 21. No letters will be accepted on October 28th which is the week before the Nov. 3 election.

The Herald reserves the right to edit letters for any reason and the right to reject any letters for any reasons.

LOOKING BACK

from the Sept. 21, 1995 edition of the Kings Mountain Herald

After a petition effort by retired city planner Gene White, Kings Mountain citizens voted down the four year term three months ago and council changed the charter to two year terms for city officials. Charlie Carpenter, Democrat precinct leader, had stirred up so me interest with letters to candidates asking their input for four year and two year terms and seeking a return to the four year staggered term for four city offices up for grabs this year.

Natural gas customers

of the city can expect their gas bill to be higher with October bills if city council passes on, as expected, a 3 to 5 percent transportation cost for firm customers. Finance Director Maxine Parsons said after Monday's meeting of the utilities committee that \$33,000 is cost of the product and should be shared by everyone buying gas.

Mrs. Josephine Ellerbe Weir, who died Sept. 15, 1955, was an educator for 47 years and a former librarian whose longtime service to the community was perpetuated in the building and dedication of the Weir Auditorium at Mauney Memorial Library in her honor.

One of the hits of any Friday night KMHS football game is the pre-game and half time performance of the Mountaineer Marching Band. The band includes over 100 students. Drum majors are Christie Hughes and Susan Putnam.

The football contest that appears on a page in the Herald, Bessemer City Record and Cleveland Times is very popular and presents to a lucky winner \$100 in weekly drawings.

Food Lion advertised this week "extra low prices and more" and Winn-Dixie advertised "Lower prices every day."

Kim Davis, Marriage Licenses and Down The Road

If you take a job for the government then you should abide by the rules of the job. If you don't agree with the rules then you should resign.

When the government as in Kim Davis' case makes allowances for her to exercise her religious convictions then that "seems" to be a good thing. After all we are a country of religious opinions across the board and we don't want to violate people's religious convictions. However, If you work for Caesar then you have to follow Caesar's rules. Here is something from



Glenn Mollette
Guest Editorial

the Bible. Mark chapter 12:13 "Then they sent some of the Pharisees and Herodians to Him in order to trap him in a statement. (This is referring to Jesus). They came and said to Him, "Teacher, we know that you are truthful and defer to no one; for you are not partial to any, but teach the way of God in truth. Is it lawful to pay a poll-tax to Caesar, or not? "Shall we pay or shall we not pay?" But he, knowing their hypocrisy said to them, "Why are you testing me? Bring me a denarius to look at. They brought one. He said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this? And they said to him, "Caesar's. And, Jesus said to them, "Render to

Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." And they were amazed at him." (Mark 12: 13 - 17).

I don't think anyone should have to do something if they have moral or religious objections. However, if you are taking money from Caesar aka the government then there are some expectations. Actually, I've never worked a job that did not have expectations, guidelines and requirements, whether I liked them or not.

Personally, I would not officiate a wedding ceremony for a gay couple. This doesn't mean that I am opposed to equal rights. I am for equal rights and the equal rights

See KIM DAVIS, Page 7A

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