



GARY STEWART / HERALD

Mearl Valentine, left, and Luke Rikard were among the "hottest" and "coolest" dudes at the Relay for Life Friday and Saturday at the KM Walking Track. Valentine was cooking hamburgers for the Grace United Methodist Church team and Rikard was just having fun with the Frank Phillips Express team. Mearl and Luke and hundreds of others helped the teams raise over \$80,000 for cancer research.

# Harris-Welco to cut 49 jobs by mid-July

By BEN LEDBETTER  
Staff Writer

While Kings Mountain has been benefiting from the recent job announcements, with several companies planning moves to the area, one city employer will be trimming its workforce.

Harris-Welco, a welding supply manufacturer and distributor, will have cut 49 jobs by mid-July, according to company officials.

The two sides affected will be manufacturing and distribution, whose jobs will be consolidated at the plant's Mason, Ohio home.

Harris-Welco General Manager said the employees will be offered severance packages based on years of service.

Layoffs began with announcements in October and May, he said.

"It was just consolidating operations, pretty much," Pandorf said.

The remaining Kings Mountain jobs will be office positions.

One of the companies that has announced its plans to move to Kings Mountain is

Michigan-based Blachford which makes noise reduction materials for trucks and automobiles.

It will occupy the former Wix/Dana Building, 707 Broadview Drive.

The company, which will move its plant from Crossville, Tenn., will be one of the largest electricity users, which may ease the loss of Anvil Knitwear.

Blachford will bring 80 jobs to Kings Mountain and production is expected to start in September.

Cleveland County commissioners gave preliminary approval at its last meeting for 89 new full-time jobs in the county when it approved an industrial incentive grant for \$11,500 for Elastic Fabrics L.L.C., to start production at the former Cleveland Mills building in Lawndale. The company's expected level of investment is expected to be \$3,300,000.

The Lawndale building has been vacant since it closed last year.

The job announcements could also help lower Cleveland County's unemployment rate which is at 12 percent.

The county had the highest jobless rate multiple times during the past year.

## BRIEFS

### Junior golf clinic at Country Club

Kings Mountain Country Club will host a Junior Golf Academy by senior professional Tommy Stines July 16-20.

The clinic will run Tuesday through Friday from 8 a.m.-12 noon, and end on Saturday with a tournament for all participants.

It will be a comprehensive clinic to fine tune and enhance the long game, specifically driving the golf ball. "Course Management" will also be a featured topic.

Guest instructor will be Allen Burton, Director of Instruction for Nike Golf Learning Centers. The fee is \$75 per participant.

For more information, call Jim Paysour at KMCC at 739-5871.

Kevin Moss at 869-8182.

### Volleyball camp set at KM High

The 2002 KMHS volleyball camp will be held June 24-27 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in the school gym.

Rising 7th, 8th and 9th grade students may participate. Campers will be taught techniques and skills in setting, serving, hitting, passing, blocking and digging.

The cost is \$50. For more information call Suzanne Grayson at 482-5284.

### Heroes Month at Eckerd Drug

Eckerd Drug of Kings Mountain has joined with Eckerd's nationwide to designate July as Community Heroes Month.

During the month, the drug store will honor local military personnel, firemen and police (living or deceased) with a special display of photos. The photo must show the person in uniform. The photo must not have been professionally made if it is less than 35 years old.

Photos will be copied in minutes and the original returned to the presenter on the spot. After the display ends, the copied picture in a frame will be given to the customer free of charge.

### Girls basketball camp at KM High

The Future Stars Basketball Camp for Girls will be held July 8-12 from 8 a.m.-12 noon at Kings Mountain High School.

Rising second through eighth graders are invited to participate.

The cost is \$50 and includes a camp T-shirt, certificate, basketball, and trophies for outstanding campers.

For more information, call

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