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Volume 123 • Issue 29 • Wednesday, July 20, 2011

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## P&Z board continues hearing for campground

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Kings Mountain Planning & Zoning Board has continued until Aug. 9 property owner Mike Brown's rezoning request for Hound Campground, a proposed RV Park at 114 Raven Drive - the back portion of the old Park Yarn, Glenn Raven Mill property on S. Battleground Avenue.

See BROWN, 7A

## Pastor found not guilty of sex crime

A local pastor was found not guilty of soliciting crimes against nature in Mecklenburg County District Court last Thursday.

Rev. Clinton Feemster, pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church, took the stand and testified as fellow pastors and friends supported him in the audience.



Clinton Feemster

Feemster was accused of soliciting sex from a Mecklenburg County undercover police officer at the Douglas International airport overlook in February. A police report said Feemster solicited sex from the officer while "numerous other families were present."

The overlook is a popular place for families to gather and watch planes take off and land.

After the arrest, Feemster resigned from Gardner-Webb University School of Divinity where he was a professor and has been on leave from his Kings Mountain pastorate where he has served 20 years.

## 5 KM seats up for grabs

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Five seats are up for grabs in November on Kings Mountain City Council. Candidate filing opens Friday, July 25, at noon and ends Aug. 5 at noon with the Cleveland County Board of Elections, 215 Patton Drive, Shelby.

Four-year terms of Mayor Rick Murphrey, Ward 1 Councilman Howard Shipp, Ward 4 Councilman and mayor pro tem Rodney Gordon, Ward 5 Councilman Rick Moore and At-Large Councilman Houston Corn will expire in November. Councilmen with unexpired terms are Mike Butler, Ward 2, Tommy Hawkins, Ward 3, and Dean Spears, At-Large.

Twelve contenders for five open seats on the Cleveland County Board of Elections tossed their hats in the ring as filing closed for some Nov. 8

See SEATS, 7A



## Water: Is Moss Lake our bank?

*A Modern Day Gold Rush is under way*

*Editor's Note: If, as some people think, water will become the new currency, then Moss Lake is King's Mountain's bank. We now supply water to two other towns and use our water supply to catch the eye of job-spawning industries. The Herald looks at the history, current status and future of our water supply in this four-part series.*

EMILY WEAVER  
 Editor

From the time gold was discovered in the bottom of a pail of water to the time water from an old gold mine saved the city, we should have known its worth. Water has been our lifeline and as time goes by it appears more valuable than gold.

Although Kings Mountain has struggled to

### Quenching Our Thirst for WATER

*A crystal clear stream gave birth to a gold rush in Kings Mountain. Now the water itself is gold and Moss Lake is the gold mine. Over the next four weeks we'll look at this potent resource and how it affects how we work, play and live. This week... A little here, a little there & we got by. Next week... A Bigger Need...A Bigger Lake!*



preserve it over the years, the city seems to be sitting pretty, attracting new customers that will depend on this valuable resource.

Water has been an attracting force for centuries.

The city's first settlers staked claims on nearby creeks. Although the Indians were here first, deeds from 1764-1803, were granted for tracts of land along Beason's Creek (a branch of Buffalo Creek), Potts Creek, Kings Creek

and Crowders Creek.

The creeks, streams and natural springs provided extra sustenance for crops, swimming holes for kids to splash in, fishing holes for those just wantin' a bite and - water for bathing, cooking, cleaning and drinking. Then one day, a local spring offered up something more.

See WATER, 6A

## International Film Festival



photos courtesy of www.BoysofBonneville.com  
 At right, Curt Wallin, a filmmaker in Utah, sets up camera on the salt flats to film his documentary: 'Boys of Bonneville', which will air tonight at the Real to Reel festival.



## Real to Reel starts rolling today at Joy

Filmmaker Curt Wallin of Utah is excited about bringing "Boys of Bonneville" to NASCAR country Wednesday (tonight), he said this week encouraging those who enjoy top-notch documentaries to fill the seats at the Joy Performance Center Wednesday-Saturday for the 12th annual Real to Reel International Film Festival.

Directors from as close as Charlotte and as far away as Minnesota are expected to attend.

The screenings will begin at 7 p.m. tonight (Wednesday) and also on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings with a matinee on Saturday at 1 p.m.

Advance tickets, \$6 per session or Festival passes for \$25, may be purchased at the Cleveland County Arts Cen-

See FILM, 3A

**INSIDE:** Documentary goes behind the bars of Sing Sing; Old fears can ruin a new life - Page 4A

## Beach Blast

## Beach celebration to heat up park

Beach Blast! It's summertime and 12 hours of fun "on the beach" Saturday at Patriot's Park in downtown Kings Mountain.

Registration is open for a number of competitive events at the 12th annual BeachBlast sponsored by the City of Kings Mountain.

The Teenie Weenie Bikini Contest (Ages 6 and under) applications are available at First National Bank on Mountain St. in Kings Mountain. There is no entry fee and gift cards will be given to the winners in four different categories. Applications will also be available on site at the Information Booth, Saturday morning at 10 a.m. or download from the website, www.cityofkm.com

See BEACH BLAST, 7A



Five-year-old Isabella Smith, left, and her sister Anna-Grace Smith, 18 months, in matching swim attire, enjoy a slice of watermelon at last year's Beach Blast. They are the daughters of Brian and Tammy Smith.



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