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INSIDE...
Ash to be inducted into Hall of Fame **1B**



KM Touchdown Club Golf Tourney May 3
5B

Badger celebrates grand opening

Plans to hire more employees

ELIZABETH STEWART
lib.kmherald@gmail.com

Kings Mountain is a good fit for Badger Color Concentrates, Inc., said city and county officials at last Wednesday's grand opening celebration at the plant on S. Battleground Avenue.

said that more jobs are coming.

The plant, which started production in November with 15 employees in the former Indian Motorcycle building, started running one shift in November and plans to add five more employees and run a second shift by the end of this month.

"Our goal in the future is running 24-7, by next year 35-40 em-

ployees and in time 100 employees and we think we'll make it," said Fatta.

Fatta conducted a tour of the 500,000 square foot facility, which included the laboratory and production areas. Lab manager Kevin West and site manager Mike Wernsing assisted, showing how color swatches for an order for a customer are processed. Pigments derived from a formula are made into little color chips and run in plastic

resin. The result is color for such things as plastic lawn chairs, shampoo, conditioner, cosmetic bottles, the development of color in the plastics they



See BADGER, 5A

Photo by ELLIS NOELL

This brilliant blue color concentrate is an example of what goes into production for almost every type of manufacturer in the plastics industry.

Bessemer City awarded \$1.5M

Bessemer City has been awarded \$1,565,000 for a much needed wastewater system

Project. Funding came from the N. C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Water Quality, Infrastructure Finance Section.

These monies are part of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and includes \$782,500 which will be in the form of principal forgiveness (grant), with the remaining being a 0% interest loan.

See BESSEMER CITY, 5A

BBQ grills to fire up Friday

Fifty-four BBQ teams have signed up to compete in this weekend's 17th annual Firehouse Barbecue Cook-off, a state championship event offering \$10,000 in cash prizes and trophies, at Kings Mountain Walking Track.

Kings Mountain firemen have spent weeks preparing for the event and are set to welcome teams from across the Southeast and as far distant as Maryland, Tennessee, and Virginia, plus many from this immediate area and from all over North Carolina and South Carolina.

The money raised during the event supports the Kings Mountain Fire Museum, one of few remaining in the state.

Grills will be fired up Friday at the track - next to the KM Family YMCA on Cleveland Avenue - and chefs will continue to smoke, grill and prepare their meats throughout the night for judging that starts at 12 noon on Saturday, with presentation of

awards at 3 p.m. Some of the teams may be arriving on Thursday to set up around the track.

The event kicks off at 7 p.m. Friday with the popular band "Southern Exposure," the Anything Butt contest, which like the contest name, allows grillers and firemen families to enter mouth-watering goodies besides barbecue. Cash awards will go to the best dessert and best non-dessert. There will also be a Mayor's Choice trophy offered by Mayor Rick Murphrey. Saturday morning will feature inflatables for the kids and rides in a hot air balloon from 9 a.m.-12 noon.

The grand prize-winner in the Kings Mountain Cook-off advances to Lexington and Kannapolis Ole North State Series. Should the Kings Mountain winner take the top prize at those two upcoming events the top prize is \$10,000.

Twenty-six teams from North Carolina

See BBQ, 5A



Rodney Gordon feeds Rick Moore a barbecue bacon burger at the 2012 Firehouse Barbecue Cook-off. Both men are KM city councilmen.
KMH File Photo

CCS underfunded charter schools

A North Carolina superior court judge ruled this week that Cleveland County Schools underfunded three charter schools during the 2009-10 budget year.

Cleveland County Schools was ordered to pay \$57,836 to those schools, about half what they sought in the suit.

Individual amounts allotted in the ruling were: Piedmont Community Charter School, Gastonia, \$4,250; Lincoln Charter School in Lincolnton, \$3,265; and Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy in Rutherford County, \$50,321, all of whom filed a complaint against Cleveland County Schools in 2012.

See CC SCHOOLS, 5A

VFD buys land

Bethlehem Volunteer Fire Department has purchased 13.68 acres of land (three lots) across from the fire department for future use by firemen.

"The parcel of land became available and firemen decided to purchase it as a good investment for our department," said Bob Hullender.

Hullender said a committee has been appointed to discuss long-range goals and also to make plans for the upcoming 50th anniversary of the volunteer department. "We are planning an all-day event on our anniversary to showcase our fire department, the firemen who have served for many years, and the accomplishments in our community," he added.

Jeff Dixon is chairman of the board of directors and John McDaniel is Fire Chief.

Firemen will be firing up their grills Saturday for a big BBQ chicken supper to start at 5 p.m. All proceeds are earmarked for equipment.

For Nolen, Relay for Life is personal

ELIZABETH STEWART
lib.kmherald@gmail.com

Working on a car engine is a piece of cake for Gary Nolen, 61, who never even tinkered with mechanics until he joined his brother at Greg's Auto Machines.

"Greg had tinkered with cars as a teenager and I started helping him out on some engine work 30 years ago and stayed," said Nolen.

Last September Gary battled more than a complicated engine. He was diagnosed with kidney cancer. By his own testimony, "God was in control and He orchestrated everything that happened to me."

Cancer changes a person's perspective. Every day is a new day. Nolen's faith was strong. "I had peace that God was in control and He was," Nolen testifies to his Sunday

School class and others.

Nolen was being treated by a pulmonary specialist for a chronic cough, had undergone a biopsy and CT scan when the kidney cancer was found on a lung scan. "I had no symptoms of kidney cancer, had been bothered with a chronic cough for years, underwent the surgery to remove the non-malignant mass in my throat and two days later a biopsy confirmed the diagnosis of kidney cancer.

Nolen said the kidney specialist told him

See NOLEN, 5A



Gary Nolen

FIRE

KM Auto still open

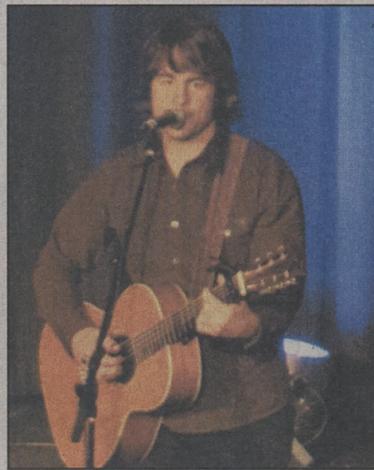
Kings Mountain Auto Supply on West Gold Street remains open for business while repairs from fire damage are being made.

Fire Chief Frank Burns estimated content damages at \$50,000 to the burned sales counter and a wall stacked with tools. He said a police officer on patrol spotted smoke and alerted firefighters to the blaze Wednesday night, April 10, at 7:49 p.m. The store was closed at the time.

Burns said the fire started behind the counter.

Kings Mountain Fire Department was on the scene for 30 minutes. Cleveland County EMS and Kings Mountain Rescue Squad stood by. No injuries were reported.

Music Festival played to a full house



ELIZABETH STEWART
lib.kmherald@gmail.com

"When I make it I'm never going to forget where I came from," said Jimmy Wayne on the stage of the Joy Theatre Saturday night and not far from where he was born in Kings Mountain 40 years ago.

The local boy who made good personifies a man of many talents: songwriter, vocalist, writer, advocate, sought-after speaker.

He returned home - with family and friends in the audience - to headline the Darin and Brooke Aldridge Music Festival sponsored by The Kings Mountain Herald and the Green Banana Project - a fundraiser

Kings Mountain native Jimmy Wayne headlined Saturday Music Fest performances.

Photo by WAYNE CONNER

that was the late Herald Publisher/Owner Ron Isbell's dream before his untimely death to cancer last year.

Several people in the crowd said that Ron Isbell "must be smiling tonight."

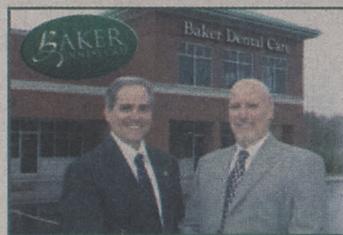
Isbell and his wife, Wendy, founded the Green Banana Project in May 2012 to instill hope in and provide support for disadvantaged and disabled persons in the immediate area. The concert fundraiser benefits the Rotary Club's Back Pack Program and Relay for Life to help fight cancer in Cleveland and Gaston counties.

Summit Place, Ceejay's Landscape, Mountain Street Pharmacy, all of Kings Mountain, and Hounshell Family Dentistry, Shelby Drug Store, Cleveland Compounding all of Shelby, and Dallas Express Pharmacy of Dallas were also sponsors of the

See MUSIC FEST, 3A



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