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Kings Mountain HERALD

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75¢

Worker found dead

Tuesday at local plant

The investigation into the death of a man killed while working at his job Tuesday at Hi-Tex Inc. in Kings Mountain Industrial Park was underway by the NC Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration at the Herald's press time Tuesday.

Kings Mountain Police were called at 1:59 a.m. to assist Emergency Medical Services who found the man dead at a tenter frame, a machine used to dry upholstery and fabric.

Hi-Tech called in the state OSHA to help investigate the workplace death.

Chip King, Hi-Tex vice president, declined to give the employee's name but told The Herald that the man's family is in his and the company's prayers.

Hi-Tex, Inc., located in the Gaston County portion of Kings Mountain off Highway 161, does printing and embossing on plastics and fabric.

Armed robbery at Wendy's

Police seek help identifying suspect

Kings Mountain Police need the public's help in identifying a man who they say robbed Wendy's Monday morning.

The incident was reported at 12:44 a.m. at Wendy's restaurant, 113 York Road, according to Det. Sgt. Lisa Proctor.

Detectives say a man robbed the store at gunpoint and forced one of the employees to

See WENDY'S, 8A

Boyles reflects on job change

DAVE BLANTON

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Dr. Bruce Boyles took the Cleveland County Schools superintendent job in 2006 after working nearly 30 years in the Mooresville School System, in Iredell County, including roles as teacher, band director, assistant superintendent and superintendent.



Dr. Bruce Boyles

Boyles retired from Cleveland County's top education job June 30.

He'll take a position at Gardner-Webb University in August as a full-time instructor in the Boiling Springs' college school of education.

The Herald caught up with Boyles between the two jobs to ask him his thoughts on the job he's left and the one he'll begin soon, and what he's been up to this summer so far.

How do you think schools in Cleveland County are positioned for success in the future?

We've done a lot of work in recent years on

See BOYLES, 7A



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Beach Blast is Saturday!

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The water, the sand, the sun, the music and the fun – that's life along the Grand Strand. And, this Saturday it will also be the life in downtown Kings Mountain.

For the 15th year, Kings Mountain will feel more like Ocean Drive as the city celebrates Beach Blast and brings the beach experience to Patriots Park.

Beach Blast will begin Saturday at 10 a.m. and Carolina shag fans can dance

See BEACH BLAST, 7A

Get ready for the Teenie Weenie Bikini contest!



Rayann Campbell took 1st place in the 2013 girls 0-3 division of the Teenie Weenie Bikini contest.

Kids, get your bikini ready. The children's Teenie Weenie bikini contest, always a crowd-pleaser at the annual Beach Blast, promises to be a big treat this Saturday.

Children newborn to age 6 will be competing for the grand prize but all participants in the event, free to babies up to toddlers in one category and ages four to 6 in the other category, will be recognized.

Parents and grandparents can register the youngsters at the information booth near the entrance of Patriots Park from 10 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. Saturday morning.

The parade of children begins at noon with Teen Miss Cleveland County Erica Carpenter and Miss Shelby Outstanding Teen Rachel Mower introducing each child in front of the Gazebo stage area.

First place winner in each category will receive a \$25 gift card to Toys R Us.

You can find more information on Beach Blast on page 3B of this edition.



These children enjoyed cooling off at the splash pad during the 2013 Beach Blast.

KMH File Photos

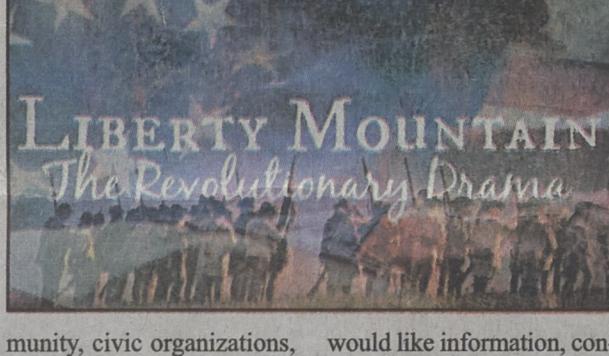
Learn more about 'Liberty Mountain'

Liberty Mountain, a new play and revolutionary drama about the Battle of Kings Mountain by playwright Bob Inman, will be presented by the Kings Mountain Little Theatre this October.

Want to be a part of Kings Mountain history? The Kings Mountain Little Theatre and Battle Drama committee invites you to an informational meeting about "Liberty Mountain," the upcoming production slated this fall.

Both Bob Inman and the director Caleb Sigmon will be at the Joy Performance Center at 7 p.m. on Monday, July 21, to answer questions about the production.

Members of the Battle Drama committee will update those attending about plans for the world premiere in October and the first summer productions slated for opening on June 26, 2015. The meeting will be of particular interest to the com-



munity, civic organizations, area businesses and local community leaders. If you are unable to attend and

would like information, contact Jim Champion at jim-champion@carolina.rr.com or 704-692-2897.

Auditions begin July 28

Kings Mountain Little Theatre is conducting auditions for 40 plus roles for men, women and children in the upcoming world premiere of Bob Inman's new play about the Battle of Kings Mountain.

No experience on stage is required and there are many speaking parts and moments

for people who enjoy dancing and stage combat.

The auditions will be held Monday, July 28, and Tuesday, July 29 and will begin promptly at 7 p.m. at Joy Theatre. Wear comfortable clothes you can move in and, Jim Champion of the Little Theatre says, "most importantly come out and have fun."

Casino critic says development would bring unfairness, inequality

DAVE BLANTON

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When the Kings Mountain Awareness Group, a vocal opponent of a proposed Catawba Indian gaming resort, meets Thursday it will play host to the leader of a national group that works to stop development of government-sponsored casinos.

Les Bernal, the executive director of Stop Predatory Gambling, an advocacy group based in Washington, D.C., and Massachusetts, said that what's going on in Kings Mountain is part of a larger story in the United States. "Las Vegas is coming to Main Street," he said a few days ahead of his trip to Kings Mountain. "Government

sponsored casinos have created unfairness and inequality."

He cites the explosion of regional casinos — there are currently more than 300 casinos in America — as evidence that the big money behind casino operators has allowed gaming interests to move over what is best for ordinary citizens.

"This is a wealth transfer from the have-nots to the haves," said Bernal, who has led Stop Predatory Gambling for seven years. "The casino operators have almost unlimited money to push their agenda."



Bernal

Bernal said the Kings Mountain Awareness Group — which meets Thursday at 6:30 at Family Worship Center on Shelby Rd. — reached out to him to help it get that message across to people in this area. The stated hope of the anti-casino group is to educate residents about the destruction that regional casinos can bring. Bernal believes that an outpouring of visible opposition to the project can stop it in its tracks. He also refutes the conventional wisdom that locals don't have the power to stop a proposed casino.

"One of the easiest ways to take away people's power is to convince them they

See AWARENESS GROUP, 7A

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