

City, County gave incentives to QualTech

Cleveland County and the City of Kings Mountain jointly collaborated to provide QualTech Industries, Inc. financial incentives grants that have served as a catalyst for their expansion which, when completed, will be an investment for the company of \$1.5 million.

Joe Latchaw, the owner and President of the company, said that the construction is complete and electric and HVAC should be kicked off in the next week or two. He said the building should be completely finished in the next few months and the expansion will create five new jobs with average wages

expected to be at \$45,000 or more annually.

QualTech and officials with the Cleveland County Economic Development Partnership announced the expansion plans this week in a news release.

The plant is located on 16 acres along I-85 in Kings Mountain. The company operates in a 7,000 square foot building with the latest turning and milling capabilities with lathes that include live tooling and sub-spindle capabilities, horizontal mulch-axis machining centers and a mulch-functional vertical turning mill.

Kristin Reese, Executive

Director of CCEDP, said the county values the fact that QualTech Industries is a family-owned business, run by a father and son with over 40 years of experience in the machine shop business.

"We chose to expand our facilities here once again because we value the local workforce and have appreciated the support from local government and organizations. We also feel that our location along I-85 here in Kings Mountain is centrally located amongst many key industries we plan to target that will allow us to continue to grow," said Latchaw.

ANTI-GAMING: advocate speaks out

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Catawba casino from coming to town. Following Monday's presentation at the restaurant, she also talked with a women's group of Kings Mountain's First Baptist Church Tuesday morning and spoke before the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners Tuesday evening.

Last year, the local anti-casino group played host to Stop Predatory Gambling's president, Les Bernal, who spoke at local church to more than 100 people and urged them to write to the Bureau of Indian Affairs and local, state and federal officials to let their voices be heard.

The local advocacy group has also brought in other speakers and anti-gaming advocates from Raleigh and Charlotte to speak on the issue in the last two years.

The county board and all but two members of the Kings Mountain City Council have publicly voiced their support of the proposed casino, although the decision to allow the casino to be built is still pending with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, an agency within the federal government. A petition to place a parcel of land near Dixon School Rd.'s intersection with I-85 in trust – a complicated process that involves numerous agencies working together to overcome both regulatory and environmental

hurdles – has been pending since September 2013.

Besides her personal story, Litchfield's message also centered on economics. Groups like the Stop Predatory Gambling believe that regional casinos are hurtful in the long term to the communities they do business in.

It's a message that has been echoed by members of the Kings Mountain Awareness Group, which is led by husband and wife Adam and Cynthia Forcade. They have publicly advocated to put pressure on local, state and federal officials to stop the casino because its business model is one that only succeeds when its "vulnerable, low-income customers" lose. Members of the group have been outspoken at county board and city council meetings for more than 18 months, around the time when the proposed project became public and was beginning to gain steam.

Proponents of the casino have argued that the gaming resort would be a boon for jobs and tourism. The city of Kings Mountain also stands to gain a very large customer should a casino move into town. It would likely sell the resort complex water, sewer services, natural gas and electricity.

At Monday's meeting following Litchfield's presentation, city council member Tommy Hawkins introduced

himself to the crowd and supported the sentiments put forth by the guest speaker and the Forcades. Hawkins, an early supporter of the casino, said he came to a change of heart last year after visiting gambling communities – including Las Vegas – and not liking what he saw. He also praised the Forcades for their tireless campaign to raise awareness about the potential negative impacts.

In his comments to the crowd, he endorsed mayoral candidate Scott Neisler, who was seated at a table with Hawkins' during the event.

After a few comments to those assembled at the restaurant, Neisler, for his part, said he remained undecided about his position on the proposed casino.

"At this point I'm just listening to what people have to say," said Neisler, who served two terms as mayor in the 1990s after sitting on city council for two terms. "I'm doing my research and I'm learning a lot – they certainly make a compelling argument. Really, what I'd like to bring to this and like to see happen is that all voices are heard and respected in this debate."

City Council member Keith Miller, the council's other opponent of the casino, was not present due to a conflict, however his wife, Julie, was in attendance, sitting with Hawkins, his wife, Kay, and Neisler.

REAL TO REEL

From Page 1

over the world, and the screenings represent some of the best independent film-making being done today.

But for folks interested in a local angle, one may stand out because it was filmed entirely in Shelby and the surrounding vicinity. "Worldly Possessions" is a short film (17 minutes) that tracks the story of a man who believes his world is occupied and threatened by demons. When an actual murder brings him back to his hometown, he has some new and confounding issues to confront.

Written by Shelby screenwriter and composer Brad Hord and directed by Robert Finion of Rock Hill, S.C., "Worldly Possessions" was filmed in 2014 using the LeGrand Center, Rose Hill, the Webley House, P&M Warehouse (which was also used in the 2011 hit "The Hunger Games") and many downtown Shelby spots as shooting locations. It shows Friday, the evening's final screening. The film festival's organizers have given the flick an R rating.

The short's themes hit on the main character's "delusions" and "mental illness in general," Hord said. "Worldly Possessions" has been selected to be shown at about a dozen film festivals in North America.

The film wounded up being shot in Shelby mainly due to Hord knowing the city so well.

"Brad being the writer, he had Shelby in mind when he wrote it," Finion said. "He has a lot of contacts in Shelby."

"Worldly Possessions" isn't Hord and Finion's first collaboration on a project that saw them filming in Shelby. The two made "Mosaic 33" last year; it reached audiences through a number of film festivals too, but didn't show at Real to Reel.

Now the two are working on a feature film they're calling "Strays." That movie is about the relationship between two young best friends, a boy and girl. The boy feels emotionally invisible to his



"Worldly Possessions" is a dark tale written by Shelby resident Brad Hord and directed by Robert Finion of Rock Hill. The short joins animation projects, features and documentaries from all over the world. A complete schedule is listed in the article.

family, while the girl lives in an abusive and neglectful home.

Finion recently wrapped up making an independent feature film titled "Athena." Shot in Charlotte, he describes it a mixture of horror, science fiction and drama coming together in a unique way.

Their "Worldly Possessions" is one of the eight films featured in town this week by North Carolina moviemakers, according to the Cleveland County Arts Council, which presents the festival annually.

2015 REAL TO REEL FILM FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Wednesday, 7 p.m. – until

"Oh Crappy Day"; PG; 17 minutes; short

"Thundercluck: Chicken of Thor"; PG; 3 minutes; animation

"That Bites!"; PG; 44 minutes; documentary

"T.P."; PG; 10 minutes animation

Intermission

"Omo Child: The River and the Bush"; PG-13; 1 hour 29 minutes; documentary

"Take Care"; PG-13; 18 minutes; short

"Runaway"; PG-13; 27 minutes; short

Thursday, 7 p.m. – until

"Hop Scotch and the Funk Dumpling"; PG-13; 15 minutes; short

"First Language: The Race to Save Cherokee"; PG; 56 minutes; documentary

"I Am Sam!"; PG-13; 15 minutes; short

Intermission

"Blue"; PG; 24 minutes; short

"Popcorn Sutton: A Hell of a Life"; R; 1 hour 26 minutes; documentary

Friday, 7 p.m. – until

"LunchSaq"; PG; 7 minutes; short

"Birthday"; PG; 11 minutes; short

"You See Me"; R; 1 hour 11 minutes; documentary

Intermission

"Eight Zero Eight"; PG; 5 minutes; documentary

"Awaken"; R; 1 hour 26 minutes; feature

"Worldly Possessions"; R; 18 minutes; short

Saturday Matinee 1 p.m.

"Truth Bubbles"; PG; 4 minutes; short

"Oz Land"; PG-13; 1 hour 55 minutes; feature

Intermission

"Unmappable"; PG-13; 22 minutes; documentary

"The 13th Step"; PG-13; 1 hour 19 minutes; documentary

Saturday, 7 p.m. – until

"The Present"; G; 4 minutes; animation

"Bird"; PG; 10 minutes; short

"Resilient"; PG; 35 minutes; documentary

"A Spring has Passed by"; PG; 6 minutes; short

Intermission

"OLD?"; PG; 51 minutes; documentary

"Tick Tock"; PG; 9 minutes; animation

"Herb Key"; Nurturing American Heritage; PG; 30 minutes; documentary

For the complete and detailed schedule and more information about each film, visit www.ccartsCouncil.org/realtooreel/real2015.html



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Real Estate

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Want To Buy

CASH ON THE SPOT! Will buy tools, riding lawn mowers or building full of merchandise, pictures or anything of value. Will also buy musical instruments. Call: 704-300-0827 or 704-300-7676. (07/22/15)

Yard Sales

YARD SALE -- Saturday, July 25, 2015, from 7 a.m. until noon, at 1100 Jennifer Ln., Cherryville. Dining table, 4 chairs; spoke wheel covers; lots of other items!

Help Wanted

FULLTIME BANK TELLER POSITION NEEDED. Time split between Kings Mountain and Shelby Branch. Must have min. one year previous teller experience. Apply online at www.alliancebanknc.com. (7/15 & 22)

Classified Deadline Friday 12 NOON

DEADLINES

THE KINGS MOUNTAIN HERALD
 700 E. Gold St. • P.O. Box 769
 Kings Mountain, NC 28086
 (704)739-7496 • Fax (704) 739-0611
 Hours: Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

POLICIES

- Submission of news items and social notes are recommended to be done a week in advance. Submission of items is not a guarantee that they will run in the newspaper.
- Letters to the Editor must be signed and include address and phone number. Thank you letters are required to be placed as paid personal notes.
- Weddings & Engagements will be published with one photo for \$30 each. Obituaries begin at \$25.

DEADLINES...

ADVERTISING

Display Ads - 12 p.m. - Friday
 Classified - 12 p.m. Friday

NEWS ITEMS & SOCIAL NOTES

3 p.m. Friday

LETTERS to the EDITOR

3 p.m. Friday

OBITUARIES

9 a.m. Tuesday

LEGALS

CITY OF KINGS MOUNTAIN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY JULY 28, 2015 – 6:00 PM CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS CITY HALL

CASE NO. Z-1-6-15 Jeffrey Hirsch (Gordon Greene – property owner) is requesting to rezone a portion of property located approximately at Broadview Road from Residential R-6 to General Business (G-B). The properties may also be identified as parcel 72909.

CASE NO. CUR-1-5-15 Michael Vance is re-requesting to rezone property located at 1042 Margrace Road from Residential R-10 to Conditional Use R-20 (CUR-20). The property is also known as Parcel 11330.

CASE NO. CUR-2-5-15 Jemyra Weaver is requesting to rezone property located at 1044 Margrace Road from Residential R-10 to Conditional Use R-20 (CUR-20). The property is also known as Parcel 11331.

CASE NO. CUR-3-5-15 Curtis McCree is requesting to rezone property located at 1046 Margrace Road from Residential R-10 to Conditional Use R-20 (CUR-20). The property is also known as Parcel 11332.

A copy of the applications may be obtained at the Planning Department or you may call 704-734-4595 for additional information.

You are welcome to attend the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, July 28, 2015 at 6:00 pm to express your opinion on the above cases.

KMH3683 (7/15/15 & 7/22/15)

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