# 72 and back in school

to school at age 72.

I'm making progress."

The Kings Mountain woman where she had worked for 40 about a year's time. years for Sunshine Biscuit

kept contact with Cleveland people not to stop learning. County by returning to visit with family members here and to make it without my high

Marvita Spann is going back go to work and raise a family.

"I was always determined to "I've made good progress in get my high school diploma and my reading and writing," she Cleveland Community College said. "Math is a hard subject but is helping me reach my goal." she said.

Spann attends an on-campus moved back to Kings Mountain class with instructor Nancy six months ago from New York Hopper. She hopes to finish in

Spann wants to encourage younger people to stay in school Through the years she had and obtain a diploma and older

"I was lucky that I was able in Grover. She completed sixth school education but now it's grade in Grover but stopped to necessary for a good job," she

"I was blessed to be able to work without one.'

Though she knows it won't be easy, Spann will keep working to get her credits passed off. Once she has her diploma, she'll be better able to help others, she says. Spann gives high credit to her instructor for the encouragement she takes to class.

"She's wonderful," said Spann. "She bends herself over backward to help everyone in

"I guess I am an example that it's never too late to go back to



**MARVITA SPANN** 



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### Visiting artist sings at KMHS

"The sandpiper stands beside me now

"The ocean spray, it creeps

into my soul "This song's for the one who taught me how

"To believe in horizons yet untold."

So sang Cleveland County Visiting Artist Bruce Piephoff to Kings Mountain High School students Thursday morning.

The songwriter, troubadour and poet's songs told of ordinary folk: farmers, factory workers, single mothers and hobos. They have a Southern feeling but the themes are universal: love, betrayal, loss, loneliness and joy.

Piephoff (pronounced peaoff) told the students he hoped they would all stay in school and graduate, singing for them an original song that told of the rocky road a person on the

street faces. Piephoff's career began as a student at UNC-Chapel Hill. He played and sang in little bars, cafes and restaurants where folk, blues and poetry were performed. Since then he has performed at the Kennedy Center of the Performing Arts in the nation's capitol, the Bitter End in New York City and the Blue Bird Cafe in Nashville, among

He wanted to make up his 15 own stories so he started writing his own material in college and left school after two years to travel around and learn the folksinger's trade. He later returned to get his degree in English and a master's in creative writing from UNC-Greensboro where he studied with the renowned poet, Fred

A Visiting Artist for six years working through the communi-ty colleges, he has recorded six albums of original songs and poems on the Flyin' Cloud la-

This fall, the English Department has sponsored many other events for students, including an evening with the Boston Chamber repertoire theatre, a trip to the opera in Charlotte, a trip to Lenoir Rhyne College to see "The Glass Menagerie" and four evening poetry seminars. The poetry seminars were funded with a mini grant from the Kings Mountain Educational Foundation.

#### LETTER TO SANTA

Dear Santa,

Merry Christmas! How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? I'm Elizabeth Logan. For Christmas this year I want a Sega Gamegear and Sonic Spinball, the game "Face of the Crystals," My Pretty Topsy tail leather string in the colors of gold, red, yellow, blue and green, and about 250 Indian beads, please.

Merry Christmas Elizabeth Logan

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To the Editor:

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