

KM fire chief gives tips to senior citizens

Home fires that cause injuries and deaths can be prevented, Kings Mountain Fire Chief Frank Burns told members attending the Kings Mountain AARP Chapter meeting at the Senior Center recently.

Smoking, heating, cooking and electrical fires are the leading causes of injury and death among older people and such fires can often be avoided by following safety tips.

Burns outlined the safety tips that can help eliminate some of the fires that strike older adults.

SMART

SMART SMOKING HAZARDS

Don't smoke in bed, never smoke anywhere unless you are wide awake.

Never leave smoking materials unattended.

Use large, deep ashtrays. Carefully check under and behind all furniture, especially upholstered furniture, for discarded or smoldering smoking materials after you have finished smoking.

Try not to mix medication or alcohol and smoking.

Extinguish all smoking materials when finished with them and empty ashtrays only when smoking materials have had time to cool completely.

SMART COOKING BEHAVIORS

Keep all combustible materials such as towels, curtains, paper, plastics and loose-fitting clothing away from the stove or range.

Never leave food cooking unattended, use a timer.

If a pan ignites, slide a lid on it and turn off the burner.

Keep pot handles turned inward from the edge of the stove and the burners.

Use lightweight pots and pans. Keep potholders and lids nearby. Make sure the lighting over the stove is good.

Keep the cooking area well ventilated.

Never use a stove to heat your home.

Brown completes computer course

Marine Pfc. Wilbur J. Brown, son of Linda M. Farris of Route 3, Kings Mountain, recently completed the Microcomputer Repair Course.

During the course, which was held at Marine Corps Communications Electronic School, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., students learned to operate, maintain and repair desk-top computers and associated equipment.

The 1991 graduate of Crisp County High School, Cordele, Ga., joined the Marine Corps in November 1994.

Army group plans 12-day Italy tour

The 5th Army Association, Veterans of the Italian Campaign, WW II, plans a 12-day tour of Italy, departing in early May from New York.

The group will visit Rome, Florence, Venice, Padua, Siena, Anzio, Nettuno, and American military cemeteries.

5th Army veterans and others interested may contact the association for details. The address is 5th Army Association, 465 Shore Rd. 7-P, Long Beach, NY 11561 (phone 516/432-3022 or 800/314-4499).

Carolina Country on audiocassette

Carolina Country, the official monthly publication of North Carolina's electric cooperatives, is now available on audiocassette through the North Carolina Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

The library serves North Carolina citizens who are blind, visually impaired or who have physical disabilities that prohibit them from holding or reading printed publications.

To receive Carolina Country through this service, call 1-800-662-7726 and request an application.

State income tax help is available

Randolph D. Teague, local revenue manager for the North Carolina Department of Revenue, said personnel to assist in filing state income tax returns will be available Tuesday and Thursday of each week through April 15 at the NC Department of Revenue office at 117-A West Marion Street, Shelby.

Assistance will be available between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Taxpayers should take the pre-addressed forms which were mailed from Raleigh. Since taxable income from the federal income tax return is the starting point for preparing North Carolina income tax returns, that form must be completed first and taken along.

Store needed items in such a way that you never have to reach over the stove top.

Clean grease from all surfaces. Wear clothing with short or close-fitting sleeves while cooking.

Close the oven door and turn off the oven in case of an oven fire.

SMART HEATING BEHAVIORS

Have your heating systems and equipment checked professionally once a year.

Keep 3 feet, 1 meter, of space around all heating equipment.

Understand how to operate your equipment properly.

Keep portable heaters at least 3 feet, 1 meter, from things that burn, including you.

Do not dry clothes on a heater. Never store the fuel for a heater in the home. Keep combustible liquids outside or in a detached shed.

Do not stand near heating equipment while wearing loose-fitting clothes.

Clean the chimney regularly, and use a fireplace screen.

Never leave a fire unattended.

SMART ELECTRICAL BEHAVIORS

Make periodic safety checks of all your electrical equipment.

Check all electrical cords for fraying, holes, damage, safe placement and overloading.

Make sure all outlets and switches are cool to the touch.

Never use any equipment with exposed wires.

Use light bulbs of the proper size and wattage.

Unplug unused appliances.

Use only tested and listed electrical appliances. Use the proper plug adapters when indicated.

Do not use any electrical appliances near water.

Make sure there is plenty of air space around your television.

SMART GENERAL BEHAVIORS

Install smoke detectors outside bedrooms and on each level of your home, test them weekly and change the batteries annually or when the detector chirps, signaling a dying battery.

Make periodic fire safety checks of your home.

Keep a telephone whistle and your glasses near your bed.

Keep emergency telephone numbers nearby.

Make sure you can unlock all your doors ad windows.

If you are disabled and would find it difficult to escape from a fire, notify your local fire department.

IN CASE OF FIRE

Have an exit plan, with two ways out and a meeting place outside the home.

Practice your escape plan twice a year.

Don't use the elevator, know where your stairways are.

Test your door before opening it. If it is hot to the touch, keep it closed and use your second way out.

Crawl low under smoke.

If your clothing catches fire, stop, drop and roll or smother the flames with a blanket.

Kings Mountain Police Report

16-year-old KMHS student suspended

A 16-year-old Kings Mountain High School student was suspended for 10 days Thursday after Resource Officer Maurice Jamerson cited him for possession of one-half ounce or less of marijuana, a controlled substance.

Jamerson said that because the youth is attending the CODAP drug prevention program that the suspension was cut to two days.

The incident happened on the first day of school at 9 a.m. after students returned from an extended vacation, including holiday and snow days.

The citation reported noted that the student's appearance in Cleveland County District Court at Shelby is mandatory.

ARRESTS

James Kane Floyd, 24, 802 Princeton Dr., no operator license. Order for arrest from Gaston County. \$500 bond.

Thomas Michael Feaster, 36, 4008 Woodlawn St., Sharon, SC, DWI, \$300 bond, secured.

Michael Dean Dudley, 37, 136 Long St., Rutherfordton, obtaining possession (a prescription) by misrepresentation, a felony, \$2000 bond, secured.

Brayon Keith Rhodes, 20, 202 Parrish Dr., worthless checks. Criminal summons.

CITATIONS

Tomarcie Alston Clark, 24, 3517 Belfast Dr., Gastonia, unsafe movement.

Christopher Dewayne Williams, 24, 2011 Redwood Circle, expired registration.

Earl Felix Guy, 55, 3000 S. York Rd., Lot 10, Gastonia, speeding.

Tamera Ervin Price, 31, 218 Wright Rd., driving without a license.

Natavian Jebezz Gill, 22, 512 N. Waterson St., tinted windows.

Curtis Lee Burgess, 31, Route 3 Box 294, failing to reduce speed.

Dustie Bell Gladden, 27, 800 Gantt St., parking in a handicapped zone.

Drayon Holland, 43, 437 Hillway Dr., running a stop light.

Troy Scott Henderson, 27, 3031 Salem Dr., Gastonia, driving after license was revoked.

William Houston Bolivar, 44, 102 Butternut Dr., speeding in a school zone.

Carlos Noe Ysasi, 26, 8300-138 Paces Oaks, Charlotte, speeding.

Chastity Diane Hale, 20, 109 Brantley Dr., tinted windows.

Delta Ann Causby, 21, Yarbro Rd., speeding.

Kenneth Dean Childers, 33, 2397 Sunset Dr., Gastonia, speeding.

INCIDENTS

Brice Carmen Rhodes, 712-A Landing St., reported theft of two bicycles.

Winn-Dixie, Kings Mountain Plaza, reported that a customer concealed a white Miser spotlight bulb in his pocket and left the store without paying for it.

Patty Lane Hollins, Grover, reported theft of medicine from her 1991 Chevrolet truck parked at Kings Mountain Plaza.

Charles David Cody, Country Pine Dr., Gastonia, said that his 1983 Jeep SW was damaged \$250 when it became wedged between the rail and wall at the York Road carwash.

Beatrice Farr, 70 Pine Manor, reported theft of a VCR.

Ptl. Linda H. Belk reported that a dog climbed over a fence and attacked a pet pig at 308 Fulton Street.

Ela-Mea Groves, 206 Park Dr., reported a first degree burglary at her home. She said that a subject entered her home at night and took a Life-Line phone unit.

The Pantry, 301 Phifer Rd., reported that a customer pumped \$16.01 in gasoline and drove from the pumps without paying for it.

Nancy Howell Laughridge, 15 Georgetown Apt., reported theft of an

automobile tag. The number: ERR-1843.

Aundra Lazar Byers, 1819 Alpine Dr., reported theft of bicycles.

Diane Elizabeth Parker, 403 Hillside Dr., reported that a suspect took her keys from her purse and her four-wheel drive truck. Ptl. H.W. Carpenter is investigating.

Childers Heating & Cooling, 309 N. Canler St., reported theft of a cordless drill and assortment of tools and accessories valued at \$600. The items were taken from a truck at 505 Broad Street.

Kevin Scott Melton, 107-A N. Piedmont Ave., reported theft of a cellular phone from his vehicle.

Amy Noel Deaver, 904 Sharon Dr., reported that someone let the air out of two tires on her 1988 Nissan.

Michelle Angeleta Turner, 92 Pine Manor, reported theft of her \$293 AFDC check from her mailbox.

Annette Black Nealy, 77 Pine Manor, reported that a window screen was broken out during an attempted break-in.

Jacob Moschler, 310 W. Mountain St., reported theft of goggles, ski clothes, a Jam Box, Sony Diskman, a Harley Davidson black leather bag, shaving kit, handmade knife and as-

sorted clothing and toiletries from his room at a local hotel.

Patricia Lynn Boone, 317 Chestnut St., reported theft of her pocketbook containing credit cards, a checkbook and driver's license.

The Pantry, Phifer Road, reported that a driver pumped \$18.90 in gasoline and left the pumps without paying for it.

Brenton Wilson, 302 Ebenezer Rd., reported that the front left corner and right rear of his bumper was damaged by an unknown driver at the Harris-Teeter parking lot.

Phyllis Farmer Stanton, 224 Hickory Grove Rd., reported felonious larceny theft of her purse containing currency, food stamps, a blue ice ring, a butterfly bracelet and a book of Central Carolina bank checks. The incident occurred on Second Street.

WRECKS
JANUARY 15

Ptl. H. W. Carpenter cited a 16-year-old student with failure to yield the right of way after an accident at North Sims and West King Streets.

Carpenter said a 1991 Ford operated by the student pulled into the path of a 1982 Chevrolet truck operated by Alfred Ash, 211 Dilling St. Damages were estimated at \$2800.

Ptl. H. W. Carpenter said that a parked 1994 Toyota owned by David Ralph Corn, 521 Katherine Ave., was struck by a hit and run driver in the parking lot of Winn-Dixie. The 1994 Toyota was damaged \$400. Ptl. P. A.

Berry cited Curtis Lee Burgess, 31, of Route 3, Bessemer City, with exceeding safe speed after a wreck at Canterbury Road and King Street.

Three people were treated at Cleveland Memorial Hospital.

Berry said that Burgess, operating a 1986 Chevrolet which was damaged \$3,000, was traveling West on King Street and hit the brakes when he realized the driver in front of him was on ice.

Rick Moore, of 500 Downing Drive, also traveling West on King Street and operating a 1991 Ford, told the office he saw the approaching car but could not get out of the way. The Moore car went into a spin and struck a silver Chevrolet pickup truck which left the scene. Both drivers and Cynthia Black Burgess of Bessemer City were transported to the hospital by the Kings Mountain Rescue Squad.

JANUARY 18
Ptl. Debra Garris said that a 1989 Pontiac operated by Angela Tonya Carpenter, 414 Pinnacle Rd., pulled into the path of a 1984 Cadillac operated by Rhonda Griffin Thomas, 1028 Cleveland Ave., Grover, on York Road. Property damages were estimated at \$5,000.

Carpenter told the officer that she was leaving the parking lot of Phillips 66 Station and a large truck had stopped in the northbound lane to let her out. Carpenter pulled into traffic and hit the right side of the Thomas vehicle.

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