

**Briefs**

**Church leader's rally at Central Methodist**

The church leader's rally for the upcoming Jay Strack Impact Crusade in Kings Mountain will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 20 at Central United Methodist Church, 113 S. Piedmont Avenue.

Rev. Mike Routh of Houston, Texas, will speak to church leaders and volunteers and coordinate the evening activities. Special training classes will be provided for congregational, men's, women's and youth leaders of local churches to prepare congregations for participation in the crusade, which is scheduled for August 24-28 at John Gamble Stadium. Items to be discussed include counseling and follow-up, finance, personal evangelism, music, prayer, ushers and publicity.

Currently, 22 are churches are involved in the crusade but chairman Ronnie Hawkins said others are invited to participate. The crusade is being sponsored by the Kings Mountain Ministerial Association.

For more information, call the crusade office, at 730-0120.

**East Gold barbecue to benefit Pam Houser**

The men of East Gold Street Wesleyan Church will hold a barbecue on Saturday, March 22 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the church. All proceeds will benefit cancer patient Pam Houser.

Sandwiches will be sold for \$2 and plates for \$5. A pound of barbecue will be sold for \$7. The public is invited.



REV. RICHARD SPENCER

**Rev. Spencer to speak at Oak Grove Baptist**

Rev. Richard Spencer will return to his home church to speak at the 11 a.m. worship service Sunday, March 16 at Oak Grove Baptist Church.

Rev. Spencer was ordained September 14, 1958 at Oak Grove Baptist. He is coming back as part of the year-long 100th anniversary.

Rev. Ron A. Caulder, pastor, invites the public.

**Gaston Day inducts Junior Honor Society**

Eight students at Gaston Day School were inducted into the Junior National Honor Society in a formal ceremony on February 18.

Students are selected for membership by Gaston Day School faculty members on the basis of national and school standards of academic achievement, leadership, character, service and citizenship.

New members are Gabe Cochrane of Lincolnton, Allison Hager of Kings Mountain, Jonathan Helms of Clover, Spencer Killeto of Belmont, Erica Liu of Lake Wylie, Frank Love of Mt. Holly, Sarah Ruth Millman of Rock Hill and Heather Ratchford of Bessemer City.

Gaston Day School is an independent college preparatory school with an enrollment of 370 students in pre-kindergarten through grade 12.

**KM School Board approves calendar**

A two-year school calendar was adopted by the Kings Mountain Board of Education Monday night but not before lengthy discussion by board members on giving an extra holiday on Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving 1997.

Chairman Ronnie Hawkins and B.S. Peeler said the system would be wasting a day of instruction and that parents oppose another holiday because of problems of child care and shortening of the schedule for block scheduling students at the high school. Students would be in class 80 days the first semester and 91 days the second semester. School would open for the 1998 term on Monday, August 11, and the last day of school for students would be Friday, May 22, 1998.

But Shearra Miller, who serves on the calendar committee, said the extra day would be for one year only and that employees want it.

"This is really a compromise situation," said Assistant Supt. for Personnel Ronnie Wilson. He said the calendar gives teachers the option of a work day or annual leave day.

Supt. Dr. Bob McRae said the schedule would impact only the high school schedule. "I don't begrudge anyone a day off, compromise can work but I would hate to do this repeatedly."

Hawkins asked, "Are we about instruction or accepting a compromise calendar?"

"If there's no precedent I can live with it," said Billy Houze. Houze then made the motion to accept the two-year calendar as presented, seconded by Miller, and passed unanimously.

**Man traveling I-85 faces cocaine charge**

Ralph Joseph, 22, of Greensboro, faces felony charges of two counts of trafficking cocaine following a routine traffic stop on I-85 south near Kings Mountain last week.

"This is the largest cocaine bust I have ever heard of in Cleveland County and I have been here all my life," said Lt. Billy Benton of the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department.

Benton said a state trooper stopped Joseph who was not wearing a seat belt. The car was searched, according to Benton, and the officer confiscated 4.5 pounds of cocaine with a street value of \$179,200.

Joseph was jailed in Shelby in lieu of \$500,000 bond.

Benton said the last large drug bust in Cleveland County was 535 grams of cocaine seized from three men in a Shelby motel room last summer.

**KM woman charged in death of husband**

A Kings Mountain woman has been charged with murder in the alleged Sunday shooting of her husband.

Kings Mountain Police and the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department found Mark Keith Picklesimer, 37, dead on the couch of his home at 1357 S. Battleground Avenue Sunday about 6:30 p.m.

Norma Stiles Picklesimer, 37, is in Cleveland County jail.

Herman Cobb, who rents the mobile home where the Picklesimers had lived for the past eight months, said he was shocked. He said the family had been good renters and never gave any trouble.

**Grover teenager dies after fall at mountain**

Jessica Lee Bull, 16, hiked and biked with church friends on mountainous trails most every Sunday.

"Sunday she got a little close to the edge and our faith is what's getting us through right now," said Mark Bull of the death of his daughter.

The Grover teenager tumbled about 70 feet from King's Pinnacle at Crowders Mountain State Park about 5:10 p.m. Her death is the first in three years at the site which attracts visitors from throughout the region.

She died at the scene after an unidentified climber and then rescue workers attempted for more than 90 minutes to revive her, said Greg Christopher of Chapel Grove Volunteer Fire Department.

Some 55 people involved in the rescue operation also included the Gaston Emergency Medical Services, Bessemer City Rescue Squad, Dallas Rescue Squad and state park rangers.

**Goforth Plumbing in old Plonk building**

Goforth Plumbing, a Kings Mountain business citizen for over 40 years, is in a new location.

President Bill Grissom has rented the former Plonk Men's and Shoe Store at 220 S. Railroad Avenue, and moved his operation from York Road.

He said the front part of the large corner building will be used to display and sell plumbing fixtures and supplies.

"We are still settling in but plan to hold a ribbon-cutting and open house in the near future," said Grissom.

Sue Brown is office manager and other employees are Nathan Todd, Rodney Ellis, Thomas Brakefield and Steven Winslow.

Goforth Plumbing was founded by Grissom's father-in-law, Ben T. Goforth.

**'Smoke on Mountain' at Cleveland College**

The Greater Shelby Community Theatre, in conjunction with the Cleveland Community College Student Government Association, will present the bluegrass gospel comedy, Smoke on the Mountain, at the CCC auditorium March 13-15 and 17 at 7:30 p.m., and March 16 at 2 p.m.

Set in 1938 in a small North Carolina Baptist church, Smoke on the Mountain tells the story of a gospel singing family making a comeback to the singing circuit after they have received signs from above, to which they uniquely witness to the parishioners (the audience). This family oriented production is perfectly suited for Sunday School and youth groups.

Admission is \$8 general ad-

mission and \$6 for students and senior citizens. Advance tickets and group rates are available. A dress rehearsal performance on March 12 is free to senior citizens.

The production is being directed by Linda Pangburn-Bogan. Featured performers include Ann Marie Bridges, Jerry Bumbaugh, Kathy Diver, Doris Funk, Dean Jenks, Stan Logan, Gina McWhirter, Jason Reynolds, Martin Reynolds, Pete Sutton, and Helen Turpish.

For reservations or information, call 451-2923.

**BLET class slated at Cleveland College**

Cleveland Community College will begin a Basic Law

Enforcement Training class March 17.

The BLET curriculum certificate program prepares students to take the Basic Training Law Enforcement Officers certification examination mandated by the NC Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission. The program also prepares individuals to take the Justice Officers Basic Training certificate examination mandated by the NC Sheriff's Education and Training Standards Commission.

The class will meet Monday through Thursday evenings from 6-10 p.m. on the campus of CCC. Program director is Shell Byars.

For more information, or to preregister, call 484-4015.

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