

BRIEFS

Blood drive set at Patrick Center

Kings Mountain Rotary Club will sponsor a blood drive Thursday, June 19 from 1:30-6 p.m. at the H. Lawrence Patrick Senior Center on East King Street.

Blood is urgently needed because the Carolinas Blood Services Region of the American Red Cross is at less than a two-day supply for types O and B blood, said Sandi Bolick of the Cleveland County Chapter.

To donate, one must be at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds and be in general good health.

Members appointed to Advisory Board

The Board of Directors of First National Bank recently appointed four new members to three-year terms and one to a one-year term on the Bank's Advisory Board.

Appointed to three-year terms were Robin W. Hendrick, manager of Hendricks of Shelby; retired attorney and CPA D. Leon Leonhardt; T.J. Solomon II, attorney; and Dennis B. Stitzel, president of Stitzel Development Corporation.

Dr. Linda Greer, Dean of Continuing Education at Gaston College, was appointed for one year to complete an unexpired term.

The 15-member Advisory Board meets quarterly.

Alzheimer's group to meet on June 17

The Alzheimer's Support Group will meet June 17 from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Life Enrichment Center, 1270 Fallston Road, Shelby.

The meeting is open to anyone who has a member of their family suffering from Alzheimer's or a related dementia. A sitter service for Alzheimer's patients is available at no charge.

For more information call Linda at 484-0405.

Rudolph's survival in wild not surprising to Brown

By ALAN HODGE
Special to The Herald

The recent capture of accused bomber Eric Rudolph in the North Carolina mountains has many folks scratching their heads at how he could have survived five years in the wilderness. To primitive living expert Benny Brown of Belmont, the answer is simple.

"Rudolph had a lot of help," he says.

With roots and a second home near Deep Creek in the Great Smoky Mountains, Brown is familiar with how some hill folk feel about the federal government and how that irksome attitude could lead someone to help Rudolph.

"It's been big talk up in the mountains," said Brown. "Some think he's innocent. Others just don't like the federal government."

Reasons Brown gives for the animosity include seizure of ancestral lands for projects such as the "Road to Nowhere" near Bryson City.

"I know families that the Park Service took their lands," Brown says. "They don't like Yankees telling them what to do."

Brown was in Bryson City when Rudolph was captured in Murphy on May 31.

"The news was all you



Benny Brown knows how to survive in wild

heard in restaurants," he said. "Most folks thought he'd never be caught."

According to Brown, the way that the government sent in large resources in the search for Rudolph had some mountain folks amused.

"It was like John Wayne and the cavalry making a show out of the situation," he says.

Even if he had outside help, it's still unanswered exactly how Rudolph lived in the wilderness for so long. Himself an expert in the art of primitive survival in the mountains - when Hurricane Hugo came, Brown said the only thing he missed was cable TV - he offers some suggestions.

"People live in a completely different world up there," he said. "Most guys who hunt the hills have at least one cave set back where they keep emergency supplies in case they get caught out in a storm. Inside a cave, the temperature is about 56 degrees year round. With a blanket and some food, you can stay quite a while in comfort."

For food, Brown says that Rudolph could have done nicely on turkeys, deer, and an occasional bear. To

further drive home the point of making the most of what meat might be available, Brown says that one of his primitive living colleagues, the famed Eustace Conway, even availed himself of road kill - with the fleas on.

"I saw him eat a water moccasin," said Brown.

As far as staying warm, another primitive living technique that Brown says will work nicely is heating stones on a fire, then putting them in a trench and piling on a layer of dirt.

"I saw Eustace sleep naked on the ground like that when it was 25 degrees," Brown says.

An expert in survival, such techniques would have been familiar to Rudolph.

Brown's knowledge of primitive life and his appreciation of how Eric Rudolph could have lived in the wild (with the possibility of a little help from his friends), is the result of a lifetime fascination with the subject.

"I became interested in pioneer life when I was a boy and watched the Davy Crockett movies," he said.

Brown has worked with school groups and the Schiele Museum in showing how our ancestors - and

now a news figure - got along with little in a merciless environment. To that end he makes sure his 'mountain man' outfit of buckskin, accouterments, musket, and coon skin hat are all handmade and as authentic as possible.

"I built my musket from scratch and forged the parts myself," said Brown. "The coon skin I made my hat of came from Wisconsin and was as large as a German Shepherd hide."

As a reference source, Brown swears by the 'Foxfire' series by editor Eliot Wigginton - a set of books that shows in picture and story the ways of primitive and mountain folks.

"I read them constantly," he says.

No matter what the final answers are in the Eric Rudolph case might be, Brown says it was a combination of his survival skills and perhaps the occasional package under a tree.

"Rudolph is feeding the government a line of bull about how he got along," Brown says. "He had on fairly new clothes and tennis shoes. Them boys up there would have been taking care of him."

Looking to make some extra money?



Or looking for some bargains on great items for your home? Then look in the Classified Section. Selling or buying, check out the classifieds for great stuff.

704-739-7496

Help Us Welcome Jill A. Gaines, M.D.



Caring for women of all ages...

Dr. Gaines joins our staff on August 1, 2003.

Please call 704-865-2229

to schedule your appointment today.

Gaston Women's Healthcare, PA

2680 Aberdeen Blvd., Suite A • Gastonia, NC 28054 • 704-865-2229
New Patients Welcome!

Kelvin C. Harris, MD • Eric Feinberg, MD • Deborah Grigg, RNC, MSN, CNM • Lynda Gross, RNC, WHNP
*Board Certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology

CARTER CHEVROLET HAS GONE CRAZY!

ALL VEHICLES DISCOUNTED

At Least \$4,000

And Up To \$8,000!

June 12th to June 17th

2002 Chevy Trailblazer LS 4x4
S#3903, Retail \$25,995
Carter's Price **\$21,995**

2001 Chevy Suburban
S#3363A, Retail \$28,995
Carter's Price **\$24,495**

2003 Chevy Impala
S#3883, Retail \$19,995
Carter's Price **\$15,995**

2003 Chevy Cavalier
S#G3851, Retail \$15,875

2003 Chevy Malibu
S#E3764, Retail \$14,995
Carter's Price **\$10,995**

2000 Olds Silhouette Premier
S#G3564, Retail \$18,995
Carter's Price **\$14,495**

2003 Buick Century
S#A3770, Retail \$17,995
Carter's Price **\$13,995**

2002 Chevy Silverado Ext. Cab
S#3391A, Retail \$24,995
Carter's Price **\$20,995**

2002 Ford Explorer 4x4
S#3818A, Retail \$23,995
Carter's Price **\$19,995**

Call A.J. The Loan Master!

Bad or Slow Credit... All Applications Accepted.

CHEVROLET

WELL BE THERE!

CHEVROLET

704-482-4341 • 888-290-2514

200 W. DIXON BLVD. • HWY. 74 BY-PASS • SHELBY, NC

"Same Convenient Location For Over 35 Years"

Check Out All Our Used Inventory On The Web www.carterchev.com

*All new discounts include all milage rebates in lieu of 0% interest.