

LOCAL



SAM BROWN JR. GETS A FLU SHOT FROM CLEVELAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT NURSE BETH MOORE DURING A CLINIC AT THE PATRICK SENIOR CENTER.

Nurse says get flu shots now

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Hundreds received flu and pneumonia shots last week at the Patrick Senior Center.

The Cleveland County Health Department immunized 435 people, according to Carolyn Bell of the senior center. Bell said there were people lined up when she arrived at the center at 7:10 a.m. The shots were all given by 1 p.m.

"I think it (flu) has really scared people," Bell said. "The doctors don't have the shots yet. They've referred here."

Some 25 senior center volunteers worked to publicize, set up and help with the clinic.

The health department received 1,800 more doses of flu vaccine Friday. Those are being given at the health department in Shelby while supplies last.

"People need to come in if they want it," said Gaye Melton, adult health supervisor.

After these shots are gone, no more will be available at the health department, according to Melton. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The shot cost \$20 and is free to Medicaid and Medicare

recipients.

However, from a separate shipment of the vaccine, there also will be immunization clinics in Bowling Springs, Waco, Grover, Lawndale and the senior center in Shelby.

Through state funds, the flu shot is available free to anyone age six months to 18 years old.

The health department first offered the shots to anyone on Oct. 24. That first day 500 doses were given. Prior to that, only members of high risk groups were eligible. There is not suppose to be an immunization shortage this year, Melton said.

News reports of the avian flu have frightened the public, according to Melton. The avian flu has not been identified in the United States. Government officials are working on a pandemic plan, anti-virals are in production and no birds are being imported, Melton said.

"People shouldn't panic," she said.

She recommends that people over 65 also get a pneumonia shot. Proper hygiene, adequate rest and good nutrition also are helpful.

Melton, who has worked as a nurse with the health department for 30 years, will retire Nov. 30.

Geddings' involvement with lottery investigated

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WKMT co-owner Kevin Geddings continues to face difficulty with his lottery involvement.

Geddings, who resigned last week, is now under investigation by state authorities. The Secretary of State's office referred its findings to the Attorney General's office last week.

Attorney General Roy Cooper has directed the State Bureau of Investigation to fully investigate the findings and consult with the Wake County District Attorney, according to Noell Talley, a public information officer with the state Department of Justice.

State-level media outlets have reported that Geddings accepted \$24,000 from Scientific Games, a lottery company.

Two weeks ago GOP

party Chairman Ferrell Blount called on Geddings to resign due to what he labeled a previous business relationship with Alan Middleton, who is now a vice president with Scientific Games - a major lottery vendor.

Geddings said that he disclosed what he calls a long time family friendship with Middleton immediately upon being appointed.

Geddings contended that the Republican leadership has never been in favor of an education lottery.

Geddings and his wife Kris Geddings are in the process of selling WKMT to Danny Fontana. Geddings purchased the station last year from founder Jonas Bridges. Geddings and his wife also own Geddings and Phillips Broadcasting and do public relations work.

Geddings did not respond to requests for comment.

Bloodmobile at Central

Central United Methodist Church, Piedmont Avenue, Kings Mountain, will have a bloodmobile Thursday, Nov. 17 from 1:30 to 6 p.m.

Grover to keep park facility warm and save money too

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GROVER - Town officials hope they've found a solution to keeping park bathrooms open during the winter without incurring high electric bills.

The town had left heaters on last winter but patrons turned thermostats up causing heating costs to skyrocket. This year heaters will be relocated to the kitchen and storage room which share a building with the bathrooms. The heat will be vented into the bathrooms to keep pipes from freezing.

"It won't keep them cozy as toast but will keep the pipes from freezing," Commissioner Bill Willis said.

The council did not decide if it should hire someone to lock and unlock the park

bathrooms daily. Currently Willis and the town's maintenance man share that job. Willis is volunteering. The person who previously did that job left due to health reasons.

Willis asked during Monday night's council meeting for a long term plan for the park. No action was taken.

In other business, Mayor Robert Sides announced that Minette Mill owner Clyde Huffman is cooperating with county officials on removing asbestos from the portion of his mill which burned this summer. The burned portions will be torn down, Sides said.

Grover resident and Realtor Dean Lutz asked the council what the town's future plans are. He said that rezoning for more residential property would

bring tax revenues up. Mayor Robert Sides announced that the water lines are testing "fine." Chlorine levels were too high this summer but heavy use fighting a spate of fires flushed the lines, he said.

KM Warriors win quarter in duckpins

Despite a 6-2 loss to Buckshot Bowlers, the KM Warriors won the first quarter of mixed league bowling with a 40-24 record. Allen Myers led the Warriors with a 131 lie and 333 set and Bonnie Warren rolled a 126-308 for the Bowlers (34-30).

Tommy Barrett rolled a 112 line and Bob Fletcher a 304 set to lead the Lucky Ducks (30-30) to a 62 win over PJ's (24-40).

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