

ARTS

Drama campers win audience in 'Alice in Wonderland'

EMILY WEAVER

eweaver@kingsmountainherald.com

Twelve youthful players in Kings Mountain Little Theatre's Summer Drama Camp dominated the Joy Theatre stage Friday and Saturday nights winning over the hearts of the audience in their live presentation of "Alice in Wonderland."

Drama Camp co-leader Dan Treharne, known to the kids as "Mr. T" said that he was very proud of them after the show Friday night. He said that he asked the young actors and actresses before the play to raise their hands if they were nervous. One by one, their little hands shot up to the sky.

But nervous or not their presence on stage seemed natural for most. With quick set changes by drama camp counselors and stage hands, the Wonderland was brought to life. However it may not have been as wondrous without the colorful "mad" characters portrayed by Jesse Gregory (Alice), Brandon Howard (Lewis Carroll), Gracie Plonk (White Rabbit), Kyra Howard (Little Alice/Doormouse), Aubrey Hallman (Caterpillar/Cheshire Cat), John Randall (Mad Hatter/Gardener), Jack Pearson (March Hare/Pigeon), Matthew

Brown (King of Hearts), and storytellers Bethany Mansfield and Morgan Flitt.

The mad hatters tea party drew several chuckles from the crowd as a curious Alice (Gregory) grew more puzzled with each word from the silly March Hare (Pearson), Mad Hatter (Randall) and Doormouse (Howard). "Would you like a little more tea?" the Mad Hatter asked.

"Well, I haven't had any yet, so I can't very well take more," Alice replied.

"Ah, you mean you can't very well take less," the March Hare said.

"Yes. You can always take more than nothing," the Mad Hatter added as Alice pondered the thought and the audience giggled.

A young Brown, playing the role of the temperamental King of Hearts (in Kathryn Schultz Miller's adaptation of the play), drew even more laughter from the audience when he shouted "Off with your head!" After the boisterous decree he didn't miss a beat, as he switched his composure to charmingly ask Alice, "do you play croquet?" For the croquet game he picked a few kids from the house to be his "arches." After his turn, he com-



EMILY WEAVER/HERALD

Kings Mountain Little Theatre's Summer Drama Camp put on a great show last weekend with their performance of "Alice in Wonderland." Front row, left-right, Gracie Plonk, Kyra Howard, Matthew Brown, Jack Pearson, John Randall, Bethany Mansfield. Second row, l-r, Chandler Champion, Morgan Flitt, Brandon Howard, Aubrey Hallman, Abigail Mansfield. Back row, l-r, Meghan Etters, Jesse "Soup" Silcott, Nathan Katen, Gabriel Thomas, Caleb Byrd, and Sydney Gregory.

manded the audience to cheer. After Alice's swing, he told them to "boo." They happily complied with both requests. And at the end of the night, the campers were not the only ones with smiles on their faces.

Abigail Mansfield and Chandler Champion were technicians. Camp counselors were Caleb Byrd, Meghan Etters, Sydney Gregory, Nathan Katen, Casey Owensby, Jesse Silcott and Gabriel Thomas. "Alice in

Wonderland" was performed under the direction of Kings Mountain High Drama teachers Dan Treharne and Traci Morrison. It was presented in cooperation with the KMLT and KMHS Theatre Department.

NEWS BRIEFS

Blood drive Friday at ARC Neisler Center

The American Red Cross reports that its blood inventory levels are so low it is unable to sufficiently meet the demand of local hospitals. A blood drive will be held 1:30-6 p.m. Friday, July 18th at the American Red Cross Neisler Center, 210 S. Piedmont Ave., Kings Mountain.

Free Cleveland Mall Chick-fil-A coupons will be given for donations and all donors can enter a drawing for a chance to win one of three \$1,000 gas cards.

While there is a constant need for all blood types, donors with type O positive, O negative, A positive and A negative are strongly encouraged to donate. Type O is the most common blood type and is used extensively by hospitals. Type O donors are considered universal red cell donors because their

blood can be given to almost everyone in emergencies when there is no time to type a patient's blood.

Most people who are age 17 or older and weigh at least 110 pounds are eligible to give blood every 56 days.

Mauney Memorial calls for old books, movies and audio

Mauney Memorial Library needs your old books, movies and audio books. If not entered into the library's collection, donated materials will be sold in Mauney's Book Nook area. The sale of these items will help the library purchase new books, movies and audio books.

Donations can be dropped off during normal business hours. For more information, call 704-739-2371.

CC Arts Council to feature 'Baseball as Art' exhibit July 10

The Cleveland County Arts Council, 111 S. Washington Street in Shelby, is hosting a new exhibit titled "Baseball as Art," which will run until August 28, 2008.

The exhibit will feature over 50 pieces of artwork by local and national artists. For more information, contact the CCAC at 704-484-2787.

Free work available from Cross Connection

Carolina Cross Connection, a youth and adult Christian outreach ministry, is interested in doing summer work in the Kings Mountain area.

The ministry reaches those who need assistance in the community, free of charge. Services include minor home repairs,

wheelchair ramps, painting, yard work, cleaning and other tasks.

Anyone interested may call 704-538-9113.



"My experience at Dr. Hannon's office was awesome! Everyone is extremely cool & fun to talk to. My teeth are indescribable now, thanks to Dr. Hannon!"

~Micah, Grade 9

Hannon•Orthodontics

Ask about Invisalign® for Teens
The Clear Alternative to Braces

704.865.8521

Gastonia & Shelby Offices

Affordable Payments • Insurance

Call TODAY for a FREE Orthodontic Exam
(\$265 Value) 8-1-08 Hablamos Español