

Miss Kitty to reenact slave life

Kings Mountain State Park's Brigade of Friends is hosting a special event featuring "Miss Kitty," a slave reenactor who was an extra in the Mel Gibson movie "The Patriot." Although her appearance in the film did not make it past the cutting room floor, her presence at Historic Brattonsville has been a treat for many.

"She is just great," said Shirley Brutko, one of the park's Brigade of Friends who first saw "Miss Kitty" at the old Bratton plantation in SC and asked her to come to KMS.

The event will be held at the Howser House at the park from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, April 17 and will also include other exhibits and live interpreters.

"Miss Kitty" has joined other reenactors at a park in Historic Brattonsville, where they bring history to life on the old Bratton plantation in York County, showcasing this South Carolina town's role in the Revolutionary War and in slavery.

Kitty Wilson-Evans or "Miss Kitty", as the other employees at the park call her, plays the role of a slave named "Kessie". She has written a book on her character, entitled "Kessie's Tales: The Adventures of an African-American Slave Girl in South Carolina".

According to her website (www.kessiestales.com), Kessie can be found on the old Bratton plantation most any day.

"Here, in one of the brick outbuild-

ings, a retired kindergarten teacher named Kitty Wilson-Evans seems to slip into a second existence as a slave named Kessie. Over the 16 years she has worked at the plantation, both salaried and as a volunteer, Miss Kitty has become so deeply connected to the place that when she feels sad, she sometimes drives here and sits alone in the slave quarters," according to the website.

"For the first few years, Wilson-Evans was the single black face among the white re-enactors who mustered at Brattonsville, a tradition that goes back decades. But she gradually drew the admiration of local African Americans, inspiring a new generation of passionate volunteers."

Moore opposes doctor visit tax

Raleigh - Rep. Tim Moore (R-Cleveland County) has announced his intentions to oppose the proposal to tax hospital and doctor visits being discussed in the state legislature. Further, he intends to continue working on legislation to crack down on Medicaid fraud and abuse.

Rep. Moore said, "The liberal majority continues to look at ways of taking more money from the taxpayers of North Carolina. With all of the concerns at ensuring affordable health care, it is unconscionable that the legislature would even consider such a short-

sighted proposal that will only increase healthcare costs and make medical treatment less available."

Moore continued: "This is part of the continuing plan of the majority, who passed through a budget last session which raised taxes and increased certain spending. I am proud to continue opposing any tax increases and fighting for smaller government and less spending."

Government has to function like families and businesses--when money runs short, you spend less. You don't raise taxes during a recession when

folks are having a hard enough time already paying the bills."

Moore supported legislation during session which would have called for investigation of Medicaid fraud and elimination of medical benefits for illegal aliens. The measures were not adopted into law, however Moore will continue pushing for those reforms.

The General Assembly is in recess until May, however budget committees are presently meeting and Rep. Moore is in Raleigh regularly attending meetings and keeping abreast of budget developments.

News briefs...

New 'Pioneers' invited to explore KMIS

Fourth graders are invited to attend "Proud to be a Pioneer at KMIS" Family night on Tuesday, April 20 from 6-7 p.m.

Students will participate in a scavenger hunt using a treasure map provided by KMIS. The map will lead the students through the building while they search for hidden clues.

Along the way, information about KMIS' academics, PE, music, art, PTO, clubs, and after school programs will be discovered.

This event is designed to be kid-friendly, introducing them to 5th grade teachers, current 5th grade students, administration, and allowing them to become familiar with the building, hoping to extinguish any fears about

attending KMIS next school year.

For more information visit KMIS's website and click on Proud to be a Pioneer.

"The Artist's Way" workshop at SASI

The Southern Arts Society is sponsoring a workshop based on the book "The Artist's Way" by Julia Cameron. It is a journey for all artists and creative people to help them explore their creativity.

The facilitator will be artist and Shelby resident, Susan Doggett. Susan is a fiber artist and founding member of Synergy Studios and Gallery in Shelby.

She completed her BFA at Converse College, and has done additional study at Winthrop University, UNC

Charlotte, Arrowmont, and a number of workshops. Weaving, embroidery and book arts are her current focus. She has exhibited her work throughout the southeast.

Being intrigued by the creative process, Susan has been a facilitator of The Artist's Way since 1998. She believes creativity dwells in everyone, but sometimes it needs a nudge to bring it to awareness.

The Artist's Way is a shared journey to find one's creativity and allow it to grow. The process is valuable to the working artist, writer, musician, but also to anyone who simply wants to live a more creative life.

The class begins Monday, April 19, 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at Southern Arts Society (at the Depot) in Kings Mountain. There is a fee. For more information call 704-739-5585 or 704-739-5723.

POLICE LOG

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speeding.

APRIL 8: Wynn Crawford, 47, 607 Groves St., no current inspection sticker.

APRIL 9: Timothy Tilson, 50, Gastonia, no operator's license.

APRIL 9: Rhonda Miller, 47, 511 Baker St., no inspection sticker, fictitious tag, expired tag, no insurance.

APRIL 9: Sandra Freeman, 46, Shelby, speeding.

APRIL 11: Roshonda Burris, 25, 108 Mt. Olive Church Rd., revoked license.

APRIL 11: Jennifer Helms, 27, Gastonia, fictitious tag.

APRIL 11: Christa Surratt, 37, 1228 Kings Row Dr., Apt. 101, no inspection sticker, expired tag.

INCIDENTS

MARCH 29: A resident of N. Carpenter St. reported cell telephone fraud.

APRIL 8: GLG Cord., Winston-Salem, reported theft of appliances from an apartment on Charles St. valued at \$1200.

APRIL 8: A resident of Ridge St. reported theft of a laptop computer.

APRIL 8: A resident of Baker St. reported theft of a TV set.

APRIL 9: A resident of E. Parker St. reported that paint on her vehicle was scratched and the radio antenna broken. Damages were estimated at \$2100.

APRIL 9: Grace United Methodist Church, 820 Church St., reported that someone pushed over an angel cement statue, a cement park bench and cement

paver doing over \$400 damage.

APRIL 9: Chesterfield Apartment Complex, 46 Chesterfield Court, reported a break-in of the laundry room and theft of a dryer top coin machine.

APRIL 10: Food Lion, 610 E. King St., reported a customer presented a false payroll check to be cashed.

APRIL 10: A resident of Sterling drive reported theft of a push mower.

WRECKS

APRIL 1: Officer F.L. Whittington said that Charlotte Logan, 117 Montcliff Dr., was making a left turn into a parking lot and struck a 2003 Nissan operated by Monty Warnock, 13 Landry St. Damages were estimated at \$1800.

APRIL 3: Ptl. R.E. Putnam said that Laura McDaniel of Bessemer City was backing her 2002 Kia from a parking space at Kings Mountain High School and struck a 2010 Toyota truck operated by Zachary Putnam, 121 Camelot Court. Property damages were estimated at \$2500.

APRIL 3: Officer Mark Butler said that a 2008 Ford operated by John Blalock, Jr. of Bessemer City struck a 2002 Ford operated by Patricia Benton, 275 Benton Rd., on NC 216. Property damages were estimated at \$2500.

APRIL 4: Officer G.L. McKinney said that Larry Eugene Miller, 200 Walker St., operating a 2000 GMC, and Patsy Queen, 1306 Merimont Ave., operating a 2010 Toyota, were backing up at the same time and hit.

The accident happened in the parking lot of CVS Pharmacy. Property damages were estimated at \$1650.

APRIL 6: Officer M.J. Howard said that Tabitha Lamb, 1190 2nd St. was backing from her residence and struck a 2003 Ford operated by Terrane Hooper, Bessemer City. Property damages were estimated at \$1000.

APRIL 6: Ptl. H.W. Carpenter cited Katherine Marie Blanks, Bessemer City, with failure to reduce speed and driving while license revoked after the 1994 VW she was operating struck a 2003 Dodge operated by Faye Fowler of 512 Stoney Point Rd. Fowler was turning into the BoJangles Restaurant on NC 161. Property damages were estimated at \$2000.

APRIL 6: Officer Bryan

McGinnis said that a 1993 BMW operated by Earl Pace, York, SC, rear-ended a 2005 Ford operated by Patrick Witherspoon, 216 Patterson Rd. The accident happened on W. King Street. Minor damages were reported.

APRIL 8: Cpl. B.K. Davis said that vehicles operated by Jerry Lee Sellers of Cherryville and Terricia Wingo of 111 Christy Dr. and hit on the off-ramp of the NC 74 Bypass. Property damages were estimated at \$1150.

APRIL 8: Officer Mark Butler said that a 2005 Acura operated by Stella Neisler Putnam, 413 Phifer Rd, rear-ended a 2006 Ford operated by Amy Carroll of Grover on US 74 Business when the Carroll car slowed for traffic. Property damages were estimated at \$1700.

SAFE

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year because serious issues were handled last year."

Boyles took the occasion to commend the nine member board and the staff for "doing a great job in adjusting class size."

Shearra Miller, board member from Kings Mountain, said after the meeting that the proposed budget represents "good planning by Boyles in a tight year. Since the merger we have talked about these goals and the new budget puts these goals in place."

In Boyles message that introduces the 202-page proposed budget, he said that "The staffing realignments, the across the board budget cuts and the permanent budget reductions were painful but necessary steps (taken last year) to insure our fiscal stability. Unlike many of the school systems surrounding us who failed to adequately assess the severity of the economic crisis, we openly and honestly made the difficult decisions required. As a result our employees are not wondering and worrying about their future."

Boyles told the board he is proposing a conservative budget which members will consider for adoption on April 26. He said the budget does not propose expansion of programs or adding people. There are no additional budget cuts proposed in 2010-2011 budget, he said.

"Our budget philosophy is to remain lean and to wait for true economic growth before adding programs and people back to our budget,"

he added.

Boyles said the federal government's assistance in stimulus funds expires Sept. 30, 2011 but if the national, state and local economies are still depressed in 2011, the system "is fiscally strong to maintain the current operating levels due to the sacrifices we have collectively made."

Finance director David Lee presented the proposed budget for review and the board okayed amendments to the 2009-2010 budget. After adoption in late April, the new school budget goes to county commissioners. Lee said it will probably be late fall before a final budget is approved but he doesn't anticipate any major revisions or cuts by the state.

The budget proposal for 2010-2011 represents an increase—from \$159 million currently to \$161 million. It proposes an increase in the fund balance from \$2.5 million to \$2.8 million.

Cleveland County schools, with 16,000+ students and 2,300+ staff members is the second largest employer in the county.

Driver safety class

AARP Driver Safety classes will be offered at the Patrick Senior Center Wednesday, April 21, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. with a lunch break from 11:30-12:30. The \$12 fee for AARP members and \$14 for non-members included cost of a book. Take proof of your AARP membership to get the discounted cost. Pre-register by calling 704-734-0447 by April 16. Payment can be made on the class day with checks made payable to AARP.

CHOP SHOP

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404 Wilson St., larceny of motor vehicle and possession of a stolen motor vehicle. He was arrested and released on April 8, under a \$10,000 secured bond.

Randy Scott Johnson, 19, 426 Range Rd., larceny of motor vehicle and possession of a stolen motor vehicle. He was arrested and released on April 8, under a \$2,500 secured bond.

Deputies offer safety tips on how to avoid becoming the victim of vehicle theft:

- Vehicle doors should always be locked.
- Do not leave vehicles running while unoccupied.
- Putting high profile accessories on these vehicles invites the interest of potential thieves.
- Owners should record serial numbers for after-market accessories. These accessories should be engraved with some personally relevant, easily identifiable mark, such as a driver's license number. These two steps will allow police to more readily identify property if it is stolen.
- Citizens should also consider services such as "Lo-jack" and other similar GPS-enabled monitoring systems. These services can track vehicles if they are stolen.

Kings Mountain Herald

The Herald is sold at the following locations:

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Carolina Crossroad	Mike's
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Kings Mountain Post Office	Shell Gas Station
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