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INSIDE

Characters step off the pages of books and go on parade at Grover Elementary, 1B



SPORTS, 1C

Mountaineers find victory on track and field



76 charges filed in drug sting

ELIZABETH STEWART
lib.kmherald@gmail.com

A months-long undercover drug sting by Kings Mountain Police has resulted in 76 criminal charges against 20 people, 17 of them who live in or near Kings Mountain.

Police Chief Melvin Proctor, Det. Sgt. Lisa Proctor, and Mayor Rick Murphrey announced the roundup of suspects during a press conference Thursday morning in the Training Room of the Kings Mountain Police Department.

Det. Sgt. Lisa Capps Proctor said Opera-

tion Sudden Impact would continue - as long as it takes.

Eight people were arrested Thursday morning and by 5:30 p.m. and during the weekend seven more had been arrested and warrants secured for five others. Proctor said her detectives won't stop until all drug offenders are in jail. She vowed to continue fighting the sale of illegal drugs and the illicit sale of prescription medicine.

Police branded the sting, "Operation Sudden Impact," and Chief Proctor explained that "the sudden impact on our community is to tell these people again, We don't want you

here." He added, "My message to drug dealers is to stop your trade, become a productive citizen of Kings Mountain or leave town.

"Otherwise we'll put you in jail!" Sgt. Proctor said the suspects had sources both inside and outside the city. "We do have a lot of drugs that come in from outside the city limits," she said.

Arrested were: Kristen Kennedy, 25, 208 Thornburg Dr., two counts each of possession with intent to manufacture, sell or deliver a Schedule II controlled substance and selling or delivering a Schedule II controlled substance.

Grayling Elliott, 55, two counts each of possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana and selling or delivering marijuana.

William Andrew Reel II, 32, 578 Old 277 Rd., Bessemer City, two counts of trafficking opium or heroin and one count each of possession with intent to manufacture, sell or deliver a Schedule II controlled substance and selling or delivering a Schedule II controlled substance.

Kimberly Fortenberry, 46, 624 Brevard

See DRUG STING, 3A

K9 puts fugitive behind bars

Carroll faces charges in three counties after alleged short life on the lam

EMILY WEAVER
Editor

Thursday, March 1 - After allegedly touting he would not be taken alive, 26-year-old Ricky Lewis Carroll, Jr., on the lam and facing charges in two counties, was retrieved by the jaws of a K9 from his hiding spot underneath a mobile home in Lincoln County.



RICKY CARROLL

Carroll, of 105 First Street in Kings Mountain, was wanted on a number of warrants in Gaston and Cleveland

counties. He was booked in the Cleveland County Detention Center on Thursday and was being held under a \$210,500 secured bond.

Federal marshals reportedly received a tip that the fugitive was staying at a mobile home in the 400 block of Lineberger Road. Officers believe he had been staying there about a month.

After officers arrived at the scene, a Lincoln County K9 reportedly sniffed out the suspect, alerting officers to a hole burrowed out underneath the mobile home.

Lincoln County Sheriff David Carpenter said that the ordeal lasted about 30 minutes and officers at the scene warned Carroll that if he wouldn't come out that the police K9 would be sent under the home after him.

Carpenter said the K9 bit Carroll's left buttock and dragged him from underneath the house. The suspect was unarmed at the time. Lincoln County EMS was called to the scene to treat the suspect for dog bites.

This was a "well handled arrest", Carpenter said.

Three other people in the residence

See FUGITIVE, 5A

This House Is Gonna Rock



photo by BRYAN HALLMAN
Players in the upcoming "School House Rock" act out a scene in the upcoming play at the Joy.

School House Rock opens March 9

Kings Mountain Little Theatre will unveil new plush seats and a beautifully-renovated interior for the opening Friday night at 7:30 p.m. of the "family friendly" show, "School House Rock Live! Jr."

Other show dates at Joy Performance Center are March 9, 10, 16, and 17 at 7:30 p.m. and March 11 and 18 at 3 p.m. All tickets are \$5.

"Come join the fun and sing along as our talented young cast brings to life the Emmy award-winning 1970's Saturday morning cartoon series that taught history, grammar, math, science, and politics through clever, tuneful songs," said Director Wendy Walega. Music director is Teresa Hopper.

See PLAY, 5A

Police: no suspect in Saturday slaying

A grieving Kings Mountain family is in shock at the murder of their father.

Family members told The Herald that Joseph Durant (Danny) Moses, 52, always locked his door but Saturday night he opened his door to a killer who police say is still on the loose.

Captain Derek Johnson said that Kings Mountain Police have some leads in the homicide but no suspects. Anyone with information is asked to call the Kings Mountain Police Department at 704-734-0444.

Two daughters and their families have good memories of a father and grandfather who liked to shoot pool with friends, play his guitar and by all accounts was a good neighbor.

Danny Moses loved bike riding with his wife who died on her motorcycle in an accident while they were enjoying a fun afternoon in 1999. "Mom had her own bike and Dad had a bike and they loved riding motorcycles," a daughter said.

Kings Mountain Police say Moses was found shot to death Saturday, March 3, at 7:39 p.m. at his home at 319 Walnut Street in Kings Mountain.

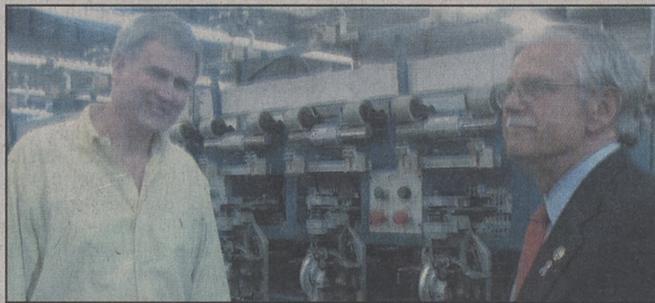
Moses had lived in Kings Mountain nearly all his life. A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of Margie Starnes Moses of Kings Mountain and the late S/Sgt. M. P. US Army

See-POLICE, 3A



DANNY MOSES

Jobs, growth coming to STI



STI President John Kay, left, with Mayor Rick Murphrey in front of new machines at the plant.

ELIZABETH STEWART
lib.kmherald@gmail.com

Specialty Textiles Inc. (STI), is setting its sights on even more growth.

In less than a year the company has spent \$1 million on new, capital equip-

ment being installed, hired new workers and in spite of a sluggish economy running three shifts six to seven days a week.

The employee roll has grown from 175 to 205 employees in the last six

See TEXTILE, 5A

COURT

Charges against Brown dismissed

Charges filed against developer Mike Brown by Cleveland County were dismissed by District Attorney Rick Shaffer in Cleveland County District Court Feb. 28.

Brown was charged with injury to personal property (trees) in a property dispute with the county and Planning Director Bill McCarter. They alleged that Brown cut down a row of trees that belonged to the county along the gravel Gateway Trails that crosses the back of Brown's property on Raven Drive and meanders

See CHARGES, 3A

Remember to spring your clocks forward March 11



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