Course targets new investors

The Iredell Cooperative Extension Service has a few copies of a basic investing home study course called Investing For Your Future.

Investing For Your Future includes about 150 pages of text, says Sandra Compton, family and consumer sciences extension agent. Eleven "action steps" encourage readers to improve their finances by studying at home.

To purchase a copy, come by the new location of Iredell Cooperative Extension Service, 444 Bristol Drive in Statesville. The cost is $10.

The course begins with units on basic topics such as setting goals, investment principles (such as diversification), and "finding" money to invest. It discusses specific types of investments, including stock, fixed-income securities, and mutual funds. There are units that focus specifically on tax-advantaged investing and investments that can be purchased for $1,000 or less.

The last three units cover investor resources (books, web sites), how to select professional financial advisors, and information about types and warning signs of investment fraud.

For more information about "Investing For Your Future" call Compton at 704-873-0507.

A focus on fitness

The Mooresville Recreation Department offers a host of programs to help you get physical.

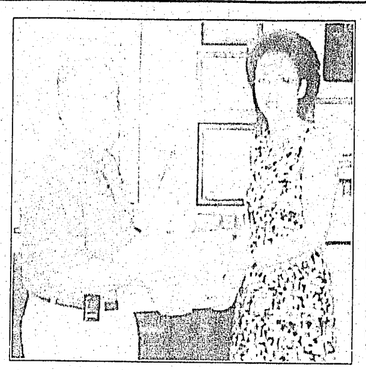
Low impact aerobics is offered Mondays and Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. and Saturdays, 9-10 a.m. Cost is $2, payable at the door.

Rock-N-Roll Walking is offered Monday through Friday, 12-1 p.m. The free program offers the chance to walk to the beat of the best music from the 1950s through the 1990s, or walk Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., without the rock music.

Volleyball is offered Mondays from 6-8 p.m. The program is free and open to everyone.

A new ballroom dance session will begin this month. Beginners will be taught on Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., while an intermediate class will be offered Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m.

A new session of square dancing will also begin next month. The sessions will be held Mondays, 7:30-9:30 p.m. and Thursdays, 7-10 p.m.



More 'Sister's' help

Scottie Deal, right, presents $964.71 in snack-machine revenues from employees at JMS Southeast and Statesville Process Instruments to Gary West of Fifth Street Ministries, operator of My Sister's House. My Sister's House is seeking donations toward its new battered women's shelter in Troutman.

Prayer service for schools asks for 'a healing touch'

By ALLISON HART

Twenty-five young voices belting out Amazing Grace hardly sounded downtrodden. The Statesville Middle School students opened last Thursday night's prayer service for schools with the same strength and soul many want for the Iredell-Statesville Schools.

And it was for those children that more than 60 parents, school employees and members of the community gathered at First Baptist Church to offer their prayers as administrators and school board members continue to search for the root of the system's financial problems.

First Baptist member Susan Foushee first heard of a prayer service for schools when the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System came under fire last spring for their controversial and now-defunct student assignment plan.

Foushee, who has three children in Iredell-Statesville Schools, was impressed. When suspicions of excessive school spending reached public ears this summer, and the prospect of a $3 million budget deficit forced school board members to cut teacher supplements and suspend the superintendent, Foushee and her Statesville Middle School prayer group took action.

"It's a good thing for our community to come together and pray," Foushee said.

School board member Ralph Staley sat among one of the many groups who prayed for the love and support of the school system's children, teachers and administrators.

Across the half-full auditorium, a group of six prayed fervently.

Folks gather at Statesville's First Baptist Church during a prayer service for the Iredell-Statesville Schools.

"Lord, we ask for your healing touch on the school system so that we can move forward and put this behind us," prayed teacher Cheryl Matthews.

"We pray that you help the administrators make the right decisions and help them put things back together," said Steve Moose, parent of a 12th-grader in the Iredell-Statesville Schools.

Not all prayers surrounded the controversy over the school's financial problems.

Many prayed that parents encourage their children to do well in school and that teachers and principals have the strength to balance their overbearing daily tasks with the constant needs of their students.

"No one can point the blame at anyone, because we're all in this together," said Wayne Miller, former personnel director for Iredell-Statesville Schools. "Who needs a prayer? We all need a prayer: students, teachers, administrators and the community."

Applications due for giveway of surplus food

Iredell residents who wish to receive government surplus food at the September distribution and who do not receive food stamps will need to file an application before Thursday.

Applications will be processed 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays at the Department of Social Services, 349 N. Center St., in Statesville.

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A 'Pusher-A-Day'

Iredell sheriff's program rounds up five more dealers

By JONATHAN WEAVER

Arrests made last week in the Iredell County Sheriff's Office Pusher-A-Day program include:

•Jeffrey Todd Turner, 30. Turner was arrested and charged for sale and delivery of cocaine, possession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine, and maintaining a dwelling to sell and deliver cocaine.

•Stevie Edwin Hager, 44. Hager is charged with manufacturing marijuana, possession with intent to manufacture and sell and deliver marijuana, and maintaining a dwelling to sell and deliver marijuana. He was given a $10,000 secured bond.

•Toby Maurice Bell, 24. Bell is charged with sale and delivery of cocaine, possession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine, sale and delivery of cocaine, possession with intent to sell and deliver a counterfeit substance, conspiracy to traffic cocaine, and maintaining a dwelling to sell cocaine. He was given a $30,000 secured bond.

•Jackie Brian Capps, 30, of 131 Brady Lane, Statesville. Capps was charged with posession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine and sale and delivery of cocaine. He was given a $10,000 unsecured bond.

•James Michael Cousineau, 49, of 116 Stephanie Lane, Statesville. Cousineau was charged with possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphenalia. He was given a $600 unsecured bond.

The Pusher-A-Day program is an initiative to get low-level drug dealers off the streets of Iredell County.

Deputies invite anyone with information about drug sales to contact the Iredell County Sheriff's Office narcotics division at (704) 878-5389. Callers should ask to speak to an investigator and give as much detail as possible.

Informants can also call Crimestoppers of Mooresville-South Iredell at 704-663-7066. Callers do not have to reveal their identity or testify in court, and rewards are possible.

Police Blotter

Local law enforcement agencies reported the following recent charges and incidents:

MOORESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

• While searching a car originally stopped for a speeding violation, police found a hand grenade, some type of flammable powder, two handguns, two rifles and various drug paraphernalia.

Christopher Scott Thompson, 34, of 175 Lackey Farm Road, Stony Point, was charged with possession of a weapon of mass destruction, possession with intent to sell and deliver marijuana and possession of a firearm by a convicted failure. He was taken to the Iredell County Jail and placed under a $25,000 secured bond.

According to reports, Thompson's Chevrolet Suburban was stopped on Plaza Drive near McLelland Avenue around 1 a.m. on Sept. 1. During the stop, Officer Michael Allen and Lt. P.A. Burks located alcohol and narcotics in the vehicle. Officer Ryan Powers and K-9 Gypsy searched the truck, with Gypsy alerting on several areas of the truck. Officers discovered contraband in several locations, reports indicate.

During an extensive search of the truck at the Mooresville Police Department, Officer Jason Smith found a hand grenade inside a paper bag, located in an overhead compartment in the back seat area. The handguns, rifles and approximately 65 grams of marijuana were also located, according to reports.

Thompson was charged and taken to the jail and the grenade and the flammable powders were handed over to the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Office Hazardous Materials Team.

Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) will be conducting a federal investigation.

• A Denver man was charged after leading police on a short car chase that ended when his vehicle struck a house on McLelland Avenue near Sherrill Street.

Brenton Michael Reinhardt, 21, was charged with failure to stop for blue light and siren, speeding to elude arrest and possession of a stolen vehicle, taken to the Iredell County Jail and placed under a $16,500 secured bond.

According to reports, Lt. Burks tried to stop a car on McLelland Avenue around 2:54 a.m. on Sept. 2 for a license tag violation. The driver of the car, a 1998 Mitsubishi, attempted to escape from police and, following a short chase, crashed into a house on McLelland Avenue at Sherrill Street.

Police say the tag on the vehicle was stolen and it was later determined that the car, which belongs to Hilbish Ford in Kannapolis, was also stolen.

Reinhardt was then charged and taken into custody.

• Mooresville police filed the following recent charges:

Calvin David Riddle, 47, 139-4 JC Circle, assault on a female; Doris Cossman, 70, 180 Mooreland Road, larceny; Casey Lashae Buckner, 16, 702 N. Main St., filing a false police report; Nancy Jane Hunter, 40, 715 Spruce St., possession of a Schedule II controlled substance, possession of a Schedule VI controlled substance; Matthew Michael Szczepanski, 17, 340 Reed Creek Road, possession of a Schedule VI controlled substance, no operator's license, seat belt violation; Barry Wayne Stewart Sr., 33, 158 McKendree Road, possession with intent to sell and deliver cocaine, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia; Michael Cole Davis, 18, 159 Freemont Loop, Mt. Mourne, possession of marijuana, possession of a Schedule IV controlled substance; Joseph Anthony Soto, 27, 532 Biltmore Ave., unauthorized use of a motor vehicle; Ricky James Berryman, 16, 440 College St., larceny, resisting, obstructing and delaying a law enforcement officer; Keith Lewis, 16, 282 White St., larceny, resisting, obstructing and delaying a law enforcement officer; and Mark Joseph Naperkowski, 21, 116 Pine Cliff Lane, DWI (.10).

Also, Christopher James Haseley, 20, 141 Shoreline Loop, possession of a malt beverage by a person 20 years of age; David Osorio Martinez, 21, 900-703 W. Wilson Ave., resisting, obstructing and delaying a law enforcement officer; Adam Tate Menster, 20, 977 Perth Road, Troutman, possession of marijuana; Michael Leron Turner, 17, 355 W. Moore Ave., possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia; Leigh Huffstetler Kelly, 32, 357 W. Wilson Ave., giving false information to a law enforcement officer, no insurance, driving while license revoked, expired tag, state wanted on a probation violation from Lincoln County; Christopher Nicholas Bailey, 17, 550 E. Statesville Ave., contributing to the delinquency of a minor; Megan Donnell Canha, 16, 762 Pine St., larceny; Morgan Kathleen Arnold, 17, 422 W. Center Ave., larceny; Elexess Kimber Overbey, 16, 1046 Patterson Farm Road, larceny; Richard Greer Isaacs, 22, of Cornelius, DWI (.09); and Charles Hugh Richard Noto, 38, of Salisbury, possession of less than one-half ounce marijuana.

And, Edward John Bruschi, 41, of River Ridge, La., possession of drug paraphernalia; Jason Timothy Dry, 17, of Salisbury, possession of a Schedule IV controlled substance, possession of a Schedule VI controlled substance; Emilio Mancia Giron, 24, 108 Keller Ridge Lane, DWI; Kenneth Ray Crocker Jr., 18, 400, Apt. B-10 W. Park Ave., obtaining property by false pretense; Derek Paul Toups, 20, College Station, Texas, DWI by a provisional licensee; Thomas Wade Seavey, 37, of Wadesboro, fugitive warrant from the State of Maine; Barry Thomas Reger, 19, of Black Mountain, DWI (.18), possession of a fictitious tag, possession of marijuana; Christopher James Miller, 19, of Salisbury, possession of a Schedule VI controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia; Victor Alejandro Martinez-Cairo, 23, 2117 Charlotte Highway, assault and battery (three counts), injury to real property; Jane Leigh Shoe, 39, 316 E. Statesville Ave., sale and delivery of a Schedule IV controlled substance (two counts), possession with intent to sell and deliver a Schedule IV controlled substance; and, Shannon Diane Wright, 31, 830-5 Agape Drive, injury to real property, simple assault, second-degree trespass.

Also, David Brian McAlister, 22, 117 Hager Point Lane, possession of a Schedule II controlled substance; William Gordon Howard, 42, 123-G Maddison Place, DWI (.10), displaying an expired tag; Willie James Hill, 38, of Mooresville, second-degree trespass (two counts); Shawn Merrel Sturgis, 17, 112 Vic Road, second-degree trespass, wearing a mask on public property; Melissa Ann Crow, 23, 478 W. Wilson Ave., simple assault; David Ramirez Alvarado, 38, of Davidson, DWI (.15); Dominc Isaac Reid, 19, of Huntersville, careless and reckless driving, failure to stop for blue light and siren, failure to yield right of way; Aaron William Recht, 21, of Athens, Tenn., possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia; Jason Smith Hughey, 26, of Charlotte, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia; Nita Ann Dowell, 38, of Sparta, possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia; and Ryshon Myleele Leazer, 19, Lot 3 Bell St., being intoxicated and disruptive, driving while license revoked.

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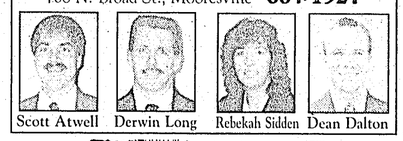
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