

The Catoosa County News

RINGGOLD, CATOOSA COUNTY, GEORGIA 30736, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1965

██████████ Is Arrested For Child Molestation

██████████, 65, of Ringgold, a former auxiliary policeman who at times rode around with Catoosa County Sheriff's deputies as an interested citizen was arrested Thursday and charged with three counts of child molestation. ██████████ posted bond Friday at 6 p.m. with a certified check and was released.

The arrest stemmed from a three-day investigation by the Sheriff's Department following three different students at Graysville Elementary School's informing on a man "for touching their private parts" following a school program entitled "Kids on the Block," which was presented to third, fourth, and fifth graders at Graysville Elementary School

on Monday, February 4 by ABC Educational Programs Co. of Chattanooga.

The program is presented through three different sets of puppets, in which the topics of acceptance of physical and mental handicaps, physical abuse of children, and sexual abuse is covered at length by the puppeteers.

"The puppets tell the children it's all right to say no to other children or even adults when it comes to touching their private parts," Superintendent Charles Lindsey stated. "We want the children to know it's okay to tell someone, even if another adult is involved."

"Apparently, three of the children who saw the program recognized the symptoms of

sexual abuse, and reported the crimes to their parents," Mr. Lindsey stated. "Their parents, in turn, notified the sheriff's department, and an investigation was begun.

The victims were ages seven through 10.

Mr. Lindsey noted that the puppet program, "Kids on the Block," is available to other individual schools in the Catoosa County school system, or all of them, in turn.

Harold Groover, chief investigator for the sheriff's department, pointed out several inaccuracies in another press report on the arrest. "██████████ has never been on the payroll of the Catoosa County Sheriff's Department, part-time or

fulltime. He has been an aux-

iliary policeman, helping out at sports events, but has not been associated in any way with the sheriff's department for the past two years."

██████████ is married, and resides just off Wooten Road near Ringgold.

Charged with one count of child molestation against each of the three children, ██████████ is due for court arraignment on March 15.

"I don't know where they got the idea that ██████████ had a porno room in the basement of his house," Investigator Groover stated. "We have not heard of it, seen it, nor has anyone with his family mentioned it."

The alleged molestations took place in Morris Estates, located two miles West of Highway 41 in Ringgold off Wooten Road.