

Ingraham...from Page 1A

and he was arrested twice in the 1980s for similar crimes against children, before the institution of any sex crime registries.

The charges Ingraham currently faces date to an occurrence in June 2015, with a young boy he had befriended while working his landscaping business, according to Sgt. Mangifesta.

“Ingraham had a tendency to befriend younger

boys, teenage boys, and Ingraham met the victim and his mother down at Pappy’s Riverside Plaza,” said Sgt. Mangifesta. “They became friends. They probably knew each other for a year and a half. Occasionally, they would go to the same church.”

According to Sgt. Mangifesta, Ingraham had been doing part-time landscaping work at Pappy’s and other places, and he offered to

teach the boy about lawn care as a way of instilling responsibility and helping him earn a little money. So in May of 2015, the boy’s mother began dropping the boy off at Ingraham’s residence to learn landscaping and lawn care from Ingraham.

Shortly thereafter, Ingraham suggested that the boy start spending the night at his residence as a matter of convenience, according to Sgt. Mangifesta.

“At first, the boy was sleeping on the couch,” said

Sgt. Mangifesta. “After that, Ingraham became a little bit more, not forceful at the time, but, hey, you need to come sleep in the bed – there’s too much dog hair on the couch, you’re coughing too much. The victim didn’t really want to do that, but Ingraham strongly suggested, hey, come in here and sleep.”

The cycle continued, with the boy insisting that he sleep on the couch, but Ingraham grew more forceful in his demeanor and the boy became more scared, though nothing sexual occurred until the end of June, according to Sgt. Mangifesta.

“Within a day of June 25, again, the victim was on the couch, and Ingraham walked over, grabbed him by both arms, and more or less pushed him, dragged him into the bedroom, pushed him onto the bed,” said Sgt. Mangifesta. “The boy was always clothed, he didn’t have pajamas, he just wore his clothes. During the night, Ingraham became forceful and started committing some sexual acts on the boy.”

But the boy fought back, hitting Ingraham in the face and running out of the trailer to hide, according to Sgt. Mangifesta.

Fortunately, the boy had his cellphone, so he was able to call his mother to come pick him up, though Ingraham had made threatening remarks to him as he exited the trailer, according to Sgt. Mangifesta.

Four months after his last encounter with Ingraham in June, the boy and his mother saw Ingraham around town, according to Sgt. Mangifesta.

“The boy didn’t tell his mom why or that anything had happened for fear of the threats that Ingraham had made to

him,” said Sgt. Mangifesta. “And it wasn’t until around Nov. 17, the boy and his mother were driving in town. They saw Ingraham in his van, and they saw a young boy in the backseat.

“And that kind of freaked (the boy) out a little bit when he saw a boy that age, because Ingraham has absolutely no family – no wife, no ex-wife, no kids, nothing. I think he’s got a sister or something, and then his parents are still in upstate New York.”

The boy, showing courage by stepping forward to help another potential victim of Ingraham’s, then told his mother what had happened that night she had had to pick him up from Ingraham’s residence, and the mother went straight to the sheriff’s office to file a report, according to Sgt. Mangifesta.

After conducting his investigation and obtaining warrants for Ingraham’s arrest, Sgt. Mangifesta, joined by UCSO Det. Sgt. Andrew Hammond, arrested Ingraham at the Wendy’s Restaurant in Blairsville, where Ingraham, who had another young boy with him at the time, resisted arrest, according to Sgt. Mangifesta.

During his interrogation, Ingraham denied all allegations, asking to take a polygraph test to prove his innocence, at which point Sgt. Hammond and Sgt. Mangifesta, both licensed administrators of Voice Stress Analysis technology, tested Ingraham, according to Sgt. Mangifesta.

Sgt. Mangifesta said Ingraham failed when it came to two questions relevant to the information given by his alleged victim.

“We confronted him with

that, and at that point you could just see a change,” said Sgt. Mangifesta, who called VSA a valuable investigative tool. “He was just very withdrawn. He kept rubbing his head, leaning forward. And these are all kind of indicators of a guilty person. And then finally he admitted, and in his words, he escorted the boy back in the bedroom.

“And I said, you mean like putting your hand under his elbow or something like that, and he said yeah. I said, well, what about the other question, about the sex act? ‘No, no, never did it.’ So we interviewed him probably for another 45 minutes, and at that point, he did make admissions that it could have occurred. He never came right out and said, yes I did – he said, well, it could have occurred.”

And according to Sgt. Mangifesta, the boy who stepped forward did a very brave thing out of concern for another child in the custody of Ingraham.

“We think there are other victims out there,” said Sgt. Mangifesta. “The boy he was with (at Wendy’s) he’s known his whole life. We talked to a relative of the boy, and she said that the boy has spent the night at Ingraham’s house many times. So we’ve got some real concerns there.

“We’re asking for the public’s help, that if they were in a situation where their child or relative had befriended Mr. Ingraham and went to work at his trailer or visited him at the trailer or spent the night there, to please give us a call.”

Anyone with information regarding Ingraham or any other potential victims should contact Sgt. Mangifesta at 706-439-6066, ext. 243.

Antioch...from Page 1A



special days like this one.”

According to Rev. Cline, the main purpose of the Thanksgiving Day ministry at Antioch is to meet both physical and spiritual needs, which fits right in line with their monthly food ministry.

Sharlene Davis founded the Thanksgiving Day ministry along with McCaffity at Antioch, and for her, staying late cooking the night before and going in early the next morning is a simple matter – preparing the Thanksgiving meal is a labor of love.

“It is more of a blessing to me than it is to the people,” said Davis. “The people that you come in and serve, they smile with love in their eyes. They thank you with their heart. I mean, it is a pleasure to do what I’m doing, what we all are doing. This is more help than we’ve had since we’ve been doing it, and it’s just great.”

Helpers this year ranged from retirement age all the way to children of the Union County School System, and Cindy Gilbert, who is not a regular member of the church but has helped her sister, McCaffity, in one way or another since the founding of the Thanksgiving Ministry, greeted people at the door.

“This is a great area for this, because everybody helps everybody,” said Marcus Tuschel, who attended for the meal but is active in several churches around the county and also runs his own small food ministry. “Almost each and every church up here has some type of food ministry.”

The Thanksgiving Day meal opened with a prayer in the Family Life Center, and after all of the church volunteers served those who would attend that day, the church family gathered

for their own private meal and fellowship to celebrate Thanksgiving.

“We all sit down and have our own Thanksgiving together, and then everybody just cleans up,” said Davis.

“And when you go home, you feel refreshed, you don’t feel tired. You feel – I don’t know. God just puts something in your heart that makes you feel so blessed. You just feel good when you go home.”

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