

WILKES GENERAL HOSPITAL STAFF INVOLVED IN HOSPITAL FIRE SAFETY TRAINING COURSE

During the period February 9-17, two hundred, eighty-three employees of Wilkes General Hospital attended a 4-hour Hospital Fire Safety Training course to better acquaint themselves with procedures to follow in the event of fire in the hospital.

The highlights of the course were: Chemistry of Fire, Fire Prevention, Hazardous Materials Found in Hospitals, Do's and Don'ts of Hospital Fire Safety, Evacuation in the Event of Fire, and Fire Drills. The last two segments of the course, Evacuation and Fire Drills, were to ensure that the participants had mastered the material that had been covered and would understand their role in an actual emergency.

The course was taught by Captain Tony Setzer, of the Lenoir Fire Department, and was well-received by those attending. Many favorable comments were received concerning the manner in which Captain Setzer handled the class and comments such as, "The class was so interesting, I didn't realize I had been there four hours." "Mr. Setzer fielded our questions as one would expect an experienced fireman to do." "The material was well-organized and presented in a manner that was beneficial, even to those of us with some experience in this field." "Mr. Setzer was in charge of the class at all times," were not at all uncommon.

Arrangements for the course were made by Mrs. Margaret McMahan, In-service Education Director for Wilkes General Hospital, and were authorized by Mr. Hugh Stetler, Jr., Administrator for the hospital. Wilkes Community College is indebted to these two members of the hospital staff for their foresight in providing this training for the hospital employees and, also, to Captain Setzer for the commendable way in which he presented the program.

It has been our privilege to be of service to Wilkes General Hospital, and we look forward to working with them in the future.



WCC SYMPHONY TO PERFORM

Wilkes Community College Symphony Orchestra will be performing at Wilkes Central High School Gymnasium on March 29. Dr. Robert Mayer will be conducting the symphony in a program which includes the following selections:

- Roman Carnival Overture Berlioz
- Concerto for Piano Schumann
- Hans Heidemann, soloist
- Symphony No. 5 Beethoven
- American Patrol Meecham

Dr. Mayer proudly announced that the 70 piece orchestra is the largest orchestra Wilkes Community College has had in the past three years.

We urge strong support from the student body and faculty.

Student admission to the symphony is \$1.00, and tickets are available at the college Book Store.

PLEASE COME!

WOMEN VET REBATE DEADLINE NEARS

Women veterans who attended school under the GI Bill between June 1, 1966 and October 24, 1972, are reminded that they have only six more months to apply for retroactive benefits. Application deadline is July 1, 1976.

Eligible for up to \$1,000 in retroactive payments are women who were married while attending school under the GI Bill but only received the single GI Bill allowance.

Women must produce evidence to show that they were married while in training to be eligible for retroactive allowances. The amount to be paid in a lump sum is about \$30 per month for each month a woman veteran was in training under the GI Bill while she had a husband.

Officials say women who attended school under the World War II or Korean Conflict GI Bill programs are not eligible for retroactive dependency allowances.

Inexpensive Studio, Workshop, Instructional rental space with 80% sales outlet adjoining Old Salem tourist area - North Carolina League of Creative Arts & Crafts - 115 Brookstown Ave., P.O. Box 10507, Winston Salem, N.C. 27108

SPECIFIC DATA HELPS VA KEEP UP WITH THE JONES

If your last name is Johnson and you plan to check with the Veterans Administration about possible benefits, you had better be specific.

The agency says it has about 203,000 veterans named Johnson on its rolls and advises veterans seeking information on benefits to include name, rank and military serial number with each request.

Officials say there are about 305,000 Smiths and 150,000 Williams in VA files.

Imagine, if your name is Thomas Brown and you were to ask the VA about eligibility for GI Bill education benefits, but neglected to provide the agency with your serial number (or Social Security number for current vets), the VA would be faced with identifying you from among 2,700 Thomas Browns in VA files.

Providing first names and middle initials helps, of course, but it often isn't enough. The agency says 35% of the veterans in its files have the following given names: John, Robert, William, James, Charles, Joseph, Richard, George, Edward, or Thomas. If your name happens to be Charles Edward Thomas, for instance, the computer might really be confused since there are nearly 75,000 Thomases in its memory banks.

GI BILL ROLL TOPS 1.8 MILLION

GI Bill enrollment hit the 1.8 million mark in November, up 18% over a year ago, according to Veterans Administration officials.

VA officials believe the November figure may prove to be the peak enrollment for the current GI Bill which has been in operation since June 1, 1966. Eligibility will expire May 31 for an estimated 3.7 million veterans whose VA educational benefits are based on service between January 31, 1965, and May 31, 1966. Their 10-year use period expires May 31, 1976.

Veterans and servicemen with more than 180 continuous days of other than dishonorable active duty are eligible for VA educational assistance. Eligible veterans are entitled to 1½ months or the equivalent in part time training for each month of active duty after January 31, 1955, up to 36 months.

The drama class is playing around too much.

In food sciences the class is full.

History teaches the same old stuff.

The art classes draw many students.

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED

Mr. and Mrs. Laurence G. Wilson of Olin announce the engagement of their daughter, Treva Ann, to Mr. Ronald Clyde Wilkins of Wilkesboro. The wedding is set for noon, March 21, at Mount Vernon Baptist Church in Olin. No formal announcements are being sent, but all friends and relatives are invited.

PREPARING FOR A PRESIDENT

by Eileen Lowe

He zoomed through the house like a whirling dervish, prancing, dancing, and chanting. The President of the United States was to visit Wilkes County and lo-and-behold the school my son attended, West Wilkes High, was to be honored by having the activities take place on its grounds.

My son's chanting took the form of pride mingled with fear, "We're going - to - play - for - the - President - don't - forget - the - lead - in." As the time for the President's arrival drew closer, the loud, clear tones of "Hail to the Chief" issued forth from my son's trumpet, filling every corner of the house.

Each day he came home from school, my son's arms were heavy-laden with books, papers, boxes, and accumulated treasures (junk). "Everyone's locker has to be emptied and left open. It reduces the chance of bombs being put in them," he explained. Band uniforms, music, and instruments were brought home; the band room, which is new, was being turned into the Presidential suite.

My house, already overflowing with the everyday lives of five people, truly took on the appearance of being left in the wake of a hurricane. While I stood in wonder, my son told me a little about the extraordinary goings-on in preparation for this historic event.

Secret service men had gone through the school with a fine tooth comb, looking for problem areas, and tiny microphones had been strategically placed throughout the building. The children were in a frenzy of sweeping, cleaning, and tidying up the inside and outside of the school. Band members were having extended practice sessions in preparation for the honor of greeting President as he stepped from the Presidential helicopter, Marine 1.

When the great day arrived at last, the excitement built up in my son to the point where he almost wore the numbers off the clock just looking at it. Finally, it was time. With great care, he put on his uniform, smoothed down his hair,

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