

# Western Carolina's '82 Mountain Heritage Day

**CULLOWHEE** — The tents, hay bales and ham have been ordered. Stages for the fiddlers, pickers and cloggers are being made ready. Spaces for weavers, potters, carvers and quilters have been reserved, and the more than 125 booths along the midway have long since been spoken for.

Western Carolina University's 1982 Mountain Heritage Day, set for Saturday, Sept. 18, is less than two weeks away and the preparations in Cullowhee are at full speed to meet an earlier than usual celebration date.

"We've had to move a little faster this year since we are holding the event the third rather than the last Saturday in September and it is so near the opening of our fall semester," said

Mountain Heritage Day chairman Dr. Doug Davis. "But, this is shaping up to be our best Heritage Day celebration yet."

The free, daylong activities at WCU seek to preserve and nurture the traditions and the skills of the mountain people of WNC and the region. More than 15,000 persons joined in the celebration last year.

Activities are geared for all age groups. There are some serious competitions and many that fall into the "just for fun" category.

One of the more novel activities this year is an "Old Truck Show" for pickups, panels, stakes and station wagons that are 1967 vintage or older.

"This is strictly for fun," says organizer Don Kelley. "We'll give ribbons for the

oldest, rustiest, most original," most miles and least miles, and things of that nature. Dirt, dents and cobwebs are oday. Mostly, we'll just show 'em, talk about 'em, and lean on 'em."

Some of the other "for fun" competitions are a dog show, a cat show, hog-calling contest and games for children.

The horseshoe pitching and tobacco-spitting contests, the food fair for canned and baked goods and the 5-mile run tend to attract a little more serious competition.

The Mountain Heritage Day Chainsaw Championship definitely will be a serious competition with official rules and experienced judges. Classes will be homeowners, intermediate, A, B, C and open. Top prize money will be \$65. There also will be a crosscut contest.

Activities for children have been expanded this year to include old-fashioned swings, haystacks and programs under a large parachute canopy.

The musical portion of the program begins at 10 A.M. on three outdoor stages—at Belk Building and at the east and west entrances to H.F. Robinson Administration Building. The Belk stage features traditional and bluegrass music and smooth and clog dancing. Traditional music will be featured at the Mountain Heritage Center (west) stage and religious music, including a "Christian Harmony" sing, will originate at the east stage of the administration building.

Among the performers will be Harry Cagle and his Country Cousins, the Happy Melody Quartet, the Marc Pruett Band, the Camp Laboratory Cloggers, the WCU Inspirational Choir, Wren Bannerman, the Pisgah View Ranch Cloggers, the Tuckaseegee String Band, the Ridge Runner Cloggers, the Speedwell Quartet, Les Waldrop, Leona Goodson and Kate Rogers and Fred Anderson, Ben Entekin, Michael Hughes and Samuel White, Ross Brown, Gilford Williams and Family, the Shelton Family, Eller Brothers and Ross Brown and Willie and Margie Wykle.

Heritage Center several exhibits and a multi-image production will be open. They include "Into Their Labours," an exhibit of photographs made by Tim Barnwell in Madison County depicting small rural farms and farm families; "Tuckaseegee Gorge: Natural History of a Headwaters Area;" and "Fiber Arts I: The Loom."

Mountain Heritage Day closes with a barbecue dinner (\$3 for adults and \$2 for children under 12) from 4:30 until 6 P.M. and the renewal of a mountain rivalry in football as Western Carolina and Mars Hill College tangle in Witmire Stadium at 7 P.M.

The winner of the annual Mountain Heritage Award, won last year by the Asheville Citizen-Times Publishing Company, is honored at halftime of the game.

# Careful — Look For Big Yellow Buses

Schools have opened and we again see the big yellow bus loaded with a most precious cargo. What is your reaction? Anger? Impatience? It's sad, but for many of our motorists this is the reaction. North Carolina school bus drivers travel over 550,000 miles and transport 750,000 students a day. Let's look at their record. In the 80 - 81 school year there were only 1100 accidents involving school buses. Sadly, two persons were killed. However, when we look at previous years, this is quite an improvement. In the 79 - 80 school year 13 were killed, and in the 78 - 79 school year 11 were killed.

Changes have been made to improve the safety of this precious cargo. One change

in the law says, "Proof that a motor vehicle has passed a stopped school bus is prima facia evidence that the registered owner was the operator." This means that unless the owner can produce the actual driver, the owner will be charged with the violation.

First Sergeant B.G. Price, State Highway Patrol, Elizabeth City, assures the public that his Troopers do follow up reports of violators of the law requiring motorists to stop in these situations. He also states, "When any motorists sees a properly painted and marked school bus, he or she should consider it a large caution sign and be prepared to stop at an instant's notice."


Parents have an im-

portant responsibility in seeing that not only do their children know the safety rules pertaining to school buses, they should also encourage them to consider the courteous aspect. The children should be prompt in meeting and getting on the bus to eliminate any unnecessary delay of traffic. Cooperation and communication can make our travels more pleasant and safer. Think about it.

Many people avoid cutting large sweet gum or black gum trees because the wood is hard to split. However, some veteran firewood cutters will cut the gum logs to the desired length, then wait until the logs freeze during the winter before splitting them.

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## N.C. Infant Mortality - High

Neonatal and infant mortality rates in North Carolina are the fourth highest in the United States. Within the State, they are highest in the Coastal Plains Region. The East Carolina University Neonatal Follow-Up Program, funding for which was recently terminated, was created by the Division of Health Services both to provide early diagnostic services and as a longitudinal study of efforts to improve perinatal care.

The September 1982 issue of the North Carolina Medical Journal features a report on preliminary results of the program, which includes evaluation of physical health, neurological-cognitive development, family functioning, and the incidence of preventing disturbance for high-risk infants discharged from the neonatal intensive care unit. Authors S.C. Eugele, M.D., R.L. Saldavira, M.D., and A.E. Kopelman, M.D., of the Department of Pediatrics at East Carolina University School of Medicine describe the program as one which emphasizes early identification of problems with primary care at the local level and one which has successfully facilitated continuity by close communication with referring physicians and community agencies. Birth weight grouping, time period of care, individual nursery policies, and place of birth are factors which affect the interpretation of survival and outcome data as measured by validated assessment testing (e.g., the Psychosocial Inventory, the Parmelere Newborn Neurological Exam, the Denver Development Screening Test).

The results show great improvement in survival for full term and, more recently, smaller premature infants. Survival rates of 50 percent for infants less than 1,000 grams birth weight and 81 percent for those less than 1,500 grams compare favorably with other reports. The authors conclude that, "Further efforts should be directed toward supporting and improving high-risk social environments... These preliminary results justify the continued support and high-risk social environments... These preliminary results justify the continued support and commitment toward improving pregnancy outcome."

The North Carolina Department of Human Resources terminated funding for the East Carolina University Neonatal Follow-Up Program subsequent to the submission of this report.

Inside the Mountain

A conversationalist will talk whether anyone is listening or not.


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