

Town To Ask For Well Bids

Authorizes Committee To Negotiate For New Site

Moving to ease Franklin's shortage as soon as possible, the board of aldermen Monday night authorized Town Attorney R. S. Jones to advertise for well digging bids.

The water committee also was empowered to negotiate for a well site.

Alderman J. C. Jacobs, a member of the three-man water committee, told the board that two state geologists and the district health engineer, on a visit here last week, recommended three possible sites for a new well.

One site, according to Mr. Jacobs, is on property owned by E. J. Whitmire in East Franklin, and the other two are on land owned by Elbert Angel. The alderman said the three sites were approved by the geologists and the health engineer.

Providing additional storage tanks was discussed briefly. Action was deferred pending the sinking of a new well.

A delegation of Franklin taxi drivers appeared before the board to ask what privileges they are entitled to receive under the town's privilege tax and recommended that the board enforce one-hour parking on town square and the areas around the county court house. Mayor Robert M. Dillard was authorized to study the parking problem with Highway Patrolman C. M. Byrd and report his findings to the board.

Harve L. Bryant, owner of the offices occupied by the town, indicated that he would like to have the town offices vacated if town officials could find other quarters.

Other matters coming before the board and action taken included paving Phillips street, scraping Dowdie street, and locating and blocking out Wilson street, all turned over to the street committee for study; approved paying expenses of the fire chief and one assistant to the N. C. State Fireman's convention, not to exceed \$120; released John Jamison from an \$800 tax valuation, erroneously charged; authorized the mayor to write the Smoky Mountain stages to inquire about the possibility of a bus station in Franklin; approved a \$25 a month raise for Water Superintendent Herman Childers; ordered the day and night police to alternate shifts monthly, beginning Wednesday; authorized the day policeman to hire someone to repaint the white traffic lines in the downtown district; and authorized the purchase of four garbage cans to be placed on the Main street.

State Safety Official To Test Prospective School Bus Drivers

An official from the N. C. Department of Motor Vehicles, highway safety division, will arrive here August 30 to instruct and test prospective school bus drivers and give certificates to those qualifying. Holland McSwain, county school superintendent, announced this week.

Testing will not apply to Macon County school bus drivers who already hold certificates, the superintendent said.

The official, C. W. Angel, will receive applicants at the bus garage at Franklin High school.

BRYSONS TO MEET
The annual Bryson family reunion will be held Sunday, August 26, at the Cowee Baptist church, Thad D. Bryson, Jr., president, announced this week.

Club Will Stage Benefit Party For Flood Relief

A benefit bridge and canasta party, proceeds of which will be turned over to the Red Cross for the Mid-West flood relief fund, will be staged by the Franklin Junior Woman's club August 17 at 8 p. m. at the Agricultural building, Mrs. Tom Jenkins, president, announced this week.

Tickets will be sold by club members and may also be obtained at Frances' shop and Angel's Drug store.

Two Boy Scouts Will Receive Eagle Rank At Court Tonight

Two Franklin Boy Scouts will receive scouting's highest honor—the Eagle Scout rank—at the Smoky Mountain district court of honor tonight (Thursday) at the Franklin Methodist church.

They are Ben Edwards, son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Edwards, and Herbert McKelvey, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. McKelvey.

Although a Scout is only required to earn 21 merit badges for the Eagle rank, McKelvey, 14, and Edwards, 15, long ago passed the 21-badge mark and are now having a badge contest among themselves.

To date McKelvey is leading his troop-mate with 45 badges. Edwards has 38. Both of the Scouts are outstanding members of the local troop and, according to scout officials, have been almost indispensable in the Cub Scout movement here.

McKelvey joined the troop in April, 1949, and is now a senior patrol leader and deputy senior crew leader of the Explorer post No. 2.

Joining the Scouts in February, 1948, Edwards has worked his way up to the position of junior assistant scout master of the troop and senior crew leader of the explorer post.

The Eagle awards will be made by John D. Alsop, troop committeeman, and badges will be pinned on the Scouts by their mothers.

WANTS FOREST SERVICE ROAD TO BE HIGHWAY

Commissioners Request Action From State Officials

Letters requesting that the Nantahala National Forest service road from U. S. 64 to the Kyle school be made a forest highway were mailed to highway officials this week by the board of county commissioners.

Should the road be approved as a forest highway it would be eligible for federal aid funds for construction and maintenance, it was pointed out.

The road, unpaved for approximately 17 miles, is the only direct road leading to Kyle, Aquone, and Flats, and is heavily traveled by tourists.

A delegation from Nantahala, made up of Welmer Cochran, J. R. Shields, and Warren G. Deyermond, Monday requested the board to take action on the matter. The road is also heavily traveled by residents of the Nantahala community although it is not the only road leading to that community.

Letters were sent to L. Dale Thrash, of Asheville, 10th highway division commissioner, and to E. L. Hooper, district engineer of the bureau of public roads.

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Curtain On Annual Flower Show To Go Up Saturday Afternoon

The curtain will go up on the annual flower show, sponsored by the Franklin Garden club, Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Agricultural building, and the public may view exhibits until 9 o'clock that night.

Committeemen pointed out that the show is a county-wide affair and invited all residents of Macon County to enter exhibits. All entries must be registered at the Agricultural building between 9 and 11 o'clock the day of the show.

Specified arrangements will be judged on the basis of flowers and accessories, they said, and all other entries will be judged by the flower only. Ribbons will be awarded to winners in the various classifications.

Classification will be at the Agricultural building the morning of the show to assist with classifying exhibits.

LEAVE ANSWER TO SYMPHONY UP TO PUBLIC

Committee Outlines Plan For Underwriting As Only Solution

Shall Macon County have the concerts of the N. C. Little Symphony orchestra again this season?

A local Symphony committee has decided to leave the answer to that question to the people of the county, and specifically to leaders in Franklin, Highlands, and the county.

The committee outlined a plan by which the orchestra can be brought here, if people want the concerts, and committee members expressed the view that there is no point in arranging for the concerts unless people do want them.

The Symphony group has come to Franklin each year since 1946, to give a free children's concert in the afternoon, and a concert for adults in the evening. It has been financed in the past by membership campaigns. Memberships, which admit the holders to the evening concert here and to any other concert given in the state, and which in the past have financed the free concerts for children, are \$2 and up.

The difficulty in the past has been that it was necessary to raise enough money, months in advance, to assure the quota—so that Franklin could be on the orchestra's itinerary. And while the money usually has been raised and the concerts have been well attended, in no

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Van Raalters Get \$8,658 As Cost Of Living Bonus

During July employees at the Van Raalte plant here received \$8,658.02 above their weekly wages as a cost of living bonus, according to Norman Blaine, office manager.

A breakdown of the figure shows that each employee received approximately 15 cents more on the hour for the quarter. Similar bonuses have been paid Van Raalters each quarter since 1946, amounts varying with the cost of living and seniority, the manager said.

In effect, Mr. Blaine said, the extra payment means that employees have received a five-cent per hour increase in wages since the first of January, in addition to a 10 cent hourly increase granted in October, 1950.

He also said the company has announced another wage dividend payment for October this year.

Mars Hill President To Address Week-Long Baptist Youth Revival

A week-long youth revival series will begin Sunday evening at 8 o'clock at the First Baptist church with Dr. Hoyt Blackwell, president of Mars Hill college, as guest speaker.

Services will begin each night at 8 o'clock. Dr. Blackwell's theme for the series will be "The Light of the World is Jesus".

Half Dozen Octogenarians At Reunion



Nobody, perhaps, enjoyed last week's 100th Siler "Family Meeting" more than the half dozen alert, spry octogenarians present. The six women pictured above have a combined age of 516 years. Seated, left to right, are Mrs. Hattie R. Moore, 83, of Richmond, Va., Mrs. Harriette Bryson Knight, 88, who thought nothing of driving from her home in Asheville to attend the reunion, and Mrs. George A. Jones, of Franklin, who will be 89 this month. Standing are Mrs. J. S. Sloan, 85, Mrs. Myra Allman, 87, and Mrs. Lee Crawford, 87, all of Franklin.

Two other octogenarians, who frequently attend the reunions but were unable to be present this year, are Mrs. Henry Slagle, of this county, and Mrs. Margaret Siler, of Cleveland, Ohio.

100TH MEETING HELD BY SILERS

Kin Here From 16 States For Reunion; Nearly 300 Attend

Members of the Siler family, some 300 strong, gathered last Thursday at the old home of Jesse R. Siler—"the house-at-the-foot-of-the-hill"—for their 100th reunion.

The "family meeting," as it is called by members of the Siler connection, has been held without a break for 99 years. This year's session was the 100th, by virtue of the fact that, many years ago, the date was changed from New Year's day to the first Thursday in August, and that year two meetings were held.

Present for the centennial meeting were persons from 16 states—ranging from southern California to New York, and from Idaho to Florida—and one from Tokyo, Japan.

The reunion is of descendants of four sons and four daughters of Welmar Siler, and this year's meeting place was the home of one of the four sons, who were among the first settlers of Macon County. Incorporated in the present home—now the home of Mrs. George A. Jones and her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Jones, who played hosts to the gathering—are the walls of an Indian cabin which was on the site when Jesse R. Siler and his wife came to Macon from Buncombe county, 130 years ago.

The morning was spent in renewal of old friendships, discussion of family history and incidents, and remarking on what a long time—almost a century in years, many centuries in change—it has been since that first meeting was held, nine years before the outbreak of the Civil War.

The minutes of all the 100 meetings have been kept, and the records show that that first gathering of four brothers and their families was held at

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O'Mohundro Has Heart Attack, Seriously Ill

A. B. O'Mohundro is seriously ill at Elkin, where he suffered a heart attack last week. Mrs. O'Mohundro, who was called to Elkin by his illness, is still with him. Mr. O'Mohundro, formerly in business in Franklin, is resident State Highway commission engineer at Elkin.



OLDEST AND NEWEST—Above are the oldest and youngest members present at last week's 100th reunion of the Siler family. Mrs. George A. Jones, who will be 89 August 25, is shown holding her great-great-nephew, George Chambless Kinnebrew, four-months old son of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Kinnebrew, of Birmingham, Ala. The meeting was held at Mrs. Jones' home, the old Jesse Siler house, a part of which was standing as an Indian cabin when Mr. Siler first occupied it 130 years ago.

Deyermond Appointed Nantahala Principal

Warren G. Deyermond this week was appointed principal of the Nantahala (District 2) school district, succeeding Frederick H. McClure, resigned.

Mr. Deyermond, appointed by district committeemen and approved by the board of education, was a teacher and coach at Nantahala High last year.

Mr. McClure, of Walnut, was appointed to the post in May succeeding Carl N. Moses, resigned. Holland McSwain, county school superintendent, said Mr. McClure gave no reason for his resignation other than regretting being unable to take over the position.

Cpl. C. W. Webb

Slightly Wounded In The Korean War

Cpl. Charles W. Webb, son of Mr. and Mrs. Allie Webb, of Franklin, was slightly wounded in action in Korea July 27 by an exploding mortar shell, according to information received by his parents.

The 22-year-old soldier, a Franklin High graduate, entered service in October, 1950, and has been in the front lines since landing in Japan in April. Prior to joining the army he was employed at the Van Raalte plant here.

WANTS TO BUY SCHOOL LAND AT HIGHLANDS

Board Sets Opening Date For Macon County Schools

The county board of education Monday gave the Town of Highlands 20 days to raise \$10,000 if the town wishes to purchase the old Highlands school property, after turning down the town's original proposition.

The Highlands board of aldermen offered to buy the property for \$10,000 on terms of \$5,000 down and \$1,000 yearly, with the balance of prepayment.

However, the offer was rejected by the board "because we will need all the money we can scrape together to open and operate the new schools this year."

The board announced that Macon County schools will open September 5 and close May 23, 1952, providing no time is lost because of adverse weather.

Terms outlined by the school board for the purchase of the Highlands property include a cash transaction and a clause providing that the property cannot be repled.

Should the deal go through, the Highlands delegation said the land would be used for a city park.

If Highlands agrees to buy the property final approval of the school board's action will rest with the board of county commissioners. An act of the 1951 legislature leaves final approval of the sale of county property with the commissioners.

Approved during the meeting was the sale of the old Watauga and Union school properties. The Watauga property was sold to the Watauga Baptist church.

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Farm Tour Stops Are Announced By County Agent

Stops to be made on the annual Macon County farm tour, which gets under way promptly at 9 a. m. Wednesday, have been announced by County Agent S. W. Mendenhall, who will conduct the day-long tour.

Good poultry practices will be studied on Harry Pangles' farm in the River Bend community, including a brooder house, range pens, latrine pasture, laying house, and an egg storage unit.

A catch blasting demonstration will be given on Tom Cabel's farm in the Cat Creek community. Approximately 2,000 pounds of dynamite will be shot at one time, Mr. Mendenhall said.

Proof that worn-out sward can be converted to a green farm with alfalfa, ladino clover, and orchard grass will be seen at Wallace Morgan's farm in the Bethel community and Paul Smith's farm in the Riverside community.

Future Farmers of America and 4-H beef calves; and artificially sired dairy calves will be exhibited at the vocational agricultural building.

Between stops the county agent plans to point out things of interest like alfalfa, ladino pasture, corn, and land that has been reclaimed by planting trees.

Dinner will be served at the Iotla Baptist church by members of the Iotla and Burningtown home demonstration clubs.

Everyone is invited to go on the tour and transportation will be provided for those who do not own automobiles, the county agent said.

Last year's tour drew a record-breaking crowd estimated at 450, and some 75 automobiles made up the motorcade.

The Weather

Temperatures and precipitation for the past seven days, and the low temperature yesterday, as recorded at the Coweeta Experiment station.

	High	Low	Pct.
Wednesday	88	65
Thursday	89	58
Friday	86	63
Saturday	87	58
Sunday	80	54
Monday	80	58
Tuesday	90	58	trace
Wednesday	58

Franklin Rainfall
(As recorded by Macon Stiles for TV-1)
Rainfall for the week, Wednesday to Wednesday, none.