

## Remembering Madison County

By EDNA GENTRY ALEXANDER  
My goodness! Where did the Summer get to? Seems like it just slipped right by me while I wasn't looking. Here it is, October already, the trees are fast changing color, and Jack Frost has already paid us a surprise visit.

We here in Madison County are very fortunate - we have a front-row seat to the magnificent show that Mother Nature puts on for us every year at this time. We can look out and see layers and layers of beautiful mountains, covered with trees ablaze with color. Hanging in with smooth, even hillsides that are

fringed with golden rod and slope gently down into the hollows making a fantastic picture that is very pleasing to the eye.

God's handi-work in all it's glorious splendor.

Years ago, when I walked two miles to school at Walnut, this was my favorite time of year, next to Spring. There were so many things to see and delight in, along the way. Morning glories and golden rod and blue "frost flowers" blooming in profusion, and lacy spider webs everywhere, filled with dewdrops that glistened like jewels in the morning sun. Even Brush Creek had a different sound,

like it knew that Summer was over and Fall had come. Walking home in the afternoons was nice, too. Sometimes, we walked around the hill by the Brigmans' and the Hendersons' and up the hollow by Emory Thomas' and the house above him where "nobody lived". Other times, we walked out the highway by the Widow Clark's, and she would come out to her mailbox and talk awhile. I will always remember her. I liked her because she always talked to me person-to-person, and not down to me, as adult-to-child. I didn't always clearly understand what she was talking about, but I did understand

that she must have been very lonely, living there in that big house all alone, and needed someone to talk to.

And it was nice, back then, to lie snug in our beds on chilly nights, when a frosty moon rode high in the sky, and listen to the sound of dogs, barking in the distance. We knew then that the Snelson or Cody boys were out running foxes, or possum hunting.

This time of year, it's such a beautiful time to drive up the winding, river road to Asheville, our next-door neighbor, with the trees so pretty on one side and the river on the other. And sometimes huge gray rocks hanging right over my head. And when I drive by Beaver Lake, I always remember some thing that happened years and years ago. If my memory serves me right, Mrs. E.R. Tweed, Jr., from Marshall, was riding along by the lake in a blinding rain, with her tiny baby and another woman, when the car swerved on the rain-slick road and plunged into the lake. How fortunate for them that a man named George happened to be

walking along that particular stretch of road at that time, and saw the car sinking into the lake! This brave person managed to pull that little baby and the two women to safety.

Some would say that these people were lucky, or that it was a miracle; I would say that it was not God's plan that these three people perish in that lake, and He was looking after them, for it is my firm belief that God has a plan for each of us, and one of my favorite passages in the Bible is Ecclesiastes 3, which begins:

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born and a time to die..."

And that just wasn't their time to die, for which I've always been thankful. For every time I pass that way, a picture flashes into my mind of a car sinking into the water, and a woman holding a little baby above the water that is slowly and inevitably filling up the car. And I can imagine her feelings when deliverance came; erasing the horror and hopelessness.

## Asheville lassie wins national beauty title

Little girls used to dream of becoming Miss America someday, but the women's liberation movement has

robbed beauty contests of some of the appeal they once had.

Apparently criticism from feminists has not turned off 10-year-old Brandi Paige Fula of Asheville, who was recently crowned Little Miss American Dream.

Brandi has competed in numerous pageants throughout the Southeast and has won 13 trophies; however, the Little Miss American Dream Pageant is the first national contest she has won.

Miss Fula not only as the distinction of winning the contest over 41 other girls from across the nation competing in it but also of being the first Little Miss American Dream. This year's pageant at Kingsport, Tenn. was the first ever held.

"They (the people sponsoring the pageant) had to get special permission from Congress to hold it," said Mrs. Richard A. Fula.

Her mother pointed out that Brandi was the only girl from North Carolina who was qualified to compete in the contest.

The contest winner was required to compete in swimsuit, party dress and sportswear competition at the pageant in Kingsport, said Mrs. Fula. She added that

Brandi and the other contestants performed a dance to "Yankee Doodle Dandy."

In addition to holding the title of Little Miss American Dream, Brandi is the reigning Little Miss Dixie Miss for 1978-79. Recently she was Little Miss Hospitality at the Miss Asheville pageant.

Brandi has also been first runner-up in several contests - the Tri-Cities Bathing Beauty - Little Miss Division, the North Carolina Bi-Centennial Princess, the Tennessee Little Miss Summer Fun, Little Miss Bi-Centennial and the 1974 North Carolina State Dixie Miss.

A fifth-grade pupil at West Buncombe Elementary School, she is a student at the Fletcher School of Dance in Asheville.

"I love dancing," Brandi confides. She adds that she enjoyed winning all the titles and competing in the beauty contests.

According to Mrs. Fula, Brandi would like to have a career in modeling.

With the early start and experience she has had in beauty pageants, Brandi should be successful in her endeavors, and who knows? - maybe she will be Miss America someday.



BRANDI PAIGE FULA recently added the winner's trophy from the Little Miss American Dream Pageant to her collection. The 10-year-old Asheville lassie was crowned in the pageant's initial contest at Kingsport, Tenn. (Photo by Robert Green)

- Pre-Washed Jeans
- Imported Tops
- Western Shirts
- Assorted Jewelry
- Denim Jackets
- Leather Accessories

The Mountaineer Boutique

Main Street Mars Hill

# High Yield, No Risk!

## 8.06% = 7.75%

Want high yield without risk? Then put your money in 7.75% Investment Certificates with Asheville Federal Savings.

Your money is safe, insured by an agency of the United States government. Your annual yield is a whopping 8.06%. That's the best of both worlds - safety and high yield!

7.75% Certificate, \$10,000 Minimum, 6-Year Term. Interest Compounded Daily, Effective Annual Yield 8.06%. Federal law requires a substantial interest penalty for early withdrawal.

(Other high yield certificates also available, with varying yields, minimums and terms. Ask about them!)

### Asheville Federal Savings

AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

Black Mountain 665-4112    Mars Hill 753-2690    Asheville 254-7411

MEMBER  
**ESLIC**  
Federal Savings & Loan Insurance Corp.  
Your Savings Insured to \$40,000

## Togetherness Gives Couple Good Footing

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article is republished from the Camarillo, Calif. newspaper. Mr. and Mrs. Fortner, of Camarillo, are the son and daughter-in-law of Mrs. Trixie Fortner Candler, of Marshall.

By ROBIN NEWCOMER BRAUN

operation medication, Mrs. Fortner says the nurses "were too embarrassed to come in. I told them it was okay. We were watching Medical Center."

Joining in the fun, the nurses replied, "We're going to fix you. We're going to change your last name on your forms," Mrs. Fortner relates.

Steel pins have been inserted in the Fortners' toes while calcium is allowed to build up. The healing process will take at least a couple of months.

"It's going to take a lot of time," Mrs. Fortner ruefully admits. Meanwhile, the couple hobbles around on crutches, bringing bemused smiles from observers.



We really get some stares," she says. One woman stopped the pair to ask: "Are you really husband and wife? I've never seen anything like that." The Fortners admit: Neither have they.

## Food Service Supervisor Attends Work Shop

Mrs. Anna Mae Tipton, School Food Service Supervisor of Madison County Schools, attended the North Carolina School Food Service Supervisors' Fall Workshop on September 23-25 at the

Islander Motor Inn at Emerald Isle near Swansboro, N.C.

The theme of the workshop was "Putting the Bite on Accountability." Nineteen members of the State Staff,

including Mr. Ralph Eaton, the State Director of School Food Services in North Carolina, participated in the workshop. Other distinguished speakers were Mr. Jim Cabe, U.S.D.A., Atlanta, Ga., Mr. Bob Werth, Department Head, Culinary Technology, Asheville - Buncombe Technical Institute, Mr. Joy Davis, NCDA, and Dr. Lewis C. Forest, East Carolina University, Greenville, N.C.

Mrs. Tipton is District Director of the North Carolina School Food Service Association. This district includes thirteen counties, Asheville City and Hendersonville City.

## Parade for mentally handicapped

"Santa's Special Christmas Parade" is a current project for the Volunteer Services Department at Western Carolina Center in Morganton. The parade is scheduled to be held on Thursday, Dec. 4, at 5 p.m., on the Western Carolina Center campus.

Members of the department are coordinating the parade in an effort to bring a real live Christmas parade to the mentally handicapped children of Western Carolina Center who have never had an opportunity to attend a community parade. Holiday decorations will light up throughout the campus as "Santa's Parade" encircles the Center.

W. W. Jacobus, National

President of the All American Drum and Bugle Corps and Band Association, and the Director of the famed Cavalier Band of East Rutherford High School in Forest City, will be the parade marshal.

Anyone who is associated with a band, cheerleading squad, baton twirlers, or has a clown act, parade float, etc., is invited to volunteer their talents and join "Santa's Special Christmas Parade" at Western Carolina Center. For further information please contact Mrs. Dessie Fite at Western Carolina Center, Enola Road, Morganton, North Carolina, telephone number (704) 433-2614.



Don't wash potatoes before you store them. Dampness increases the likelihood of decay.

## Get Set for Winter Now

**ASHLEY**

Automatic, Thermostat  
Control, Cabinet  
**WOOD HEATERS**

**Atlanta**

Thermostatic  
Control Without  
Cabinet

**OPEN**  
FIREPLACE  
HEATERS

**Seigler**  
Oil Stoves

**FRANLIN**  
TYPE  
HEATERS

BOWMAN HARDWARE

Main Street Marshall

ANNOUNCEMENT

I hereby announce my candidacy for a member of the Board of Aldermen of Hot Springs, N.C. subject to the will of the voters in the November 4th 1978 municipal election.

Your Support Will Be Appreciated.

GEORGE K. "Red" RAMSEY