

THE NEWS RECORD

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It Was A Hot Week For Firemen

By JIM STORY

Marshall volunteer firemen got more action than they had bargained for last week.

The action started on Tuesday of last week when the firemen got everything ready on the island for the donkey ballgame that night which the firemen sponsored. Many of the firemen participated in the game riding the donkeys which was no easy chore. Although most of the firemen are young and in good physical shape, they discovered that riding the donkeys and falling off the stubborn animals made their muscles sore and their bodies ache. After getting the island

cleaned up following the donkey ballgame, they were more than glad to call it a day and go to bed.

About 1:15 a.m. however, they were awakened by the siren to go to Big Pine. The sore and tired firemen took off and when they arrived at the site they found a vacant log cabin ablaze. The cabin was completely destroyed but fortunately it had no furniture or contents inside.

Wednesday morning the firemen had to report on the island to get ready for the rodeo shows which they also sponsored.

Needless to say, they worked all day seeing that everything was in shape for

the afternoon show and also the night show at 7.

Despite heavy rains, plenty of thunder and lightning and mud, the island was crowded for both shows.

Not only the firemen were soaked from the rain but so were the spectators.

The rodeo finally ended after 11 p.m., and it must have been exciting because hundreds of people remained throughout the wet night to see the entire act.

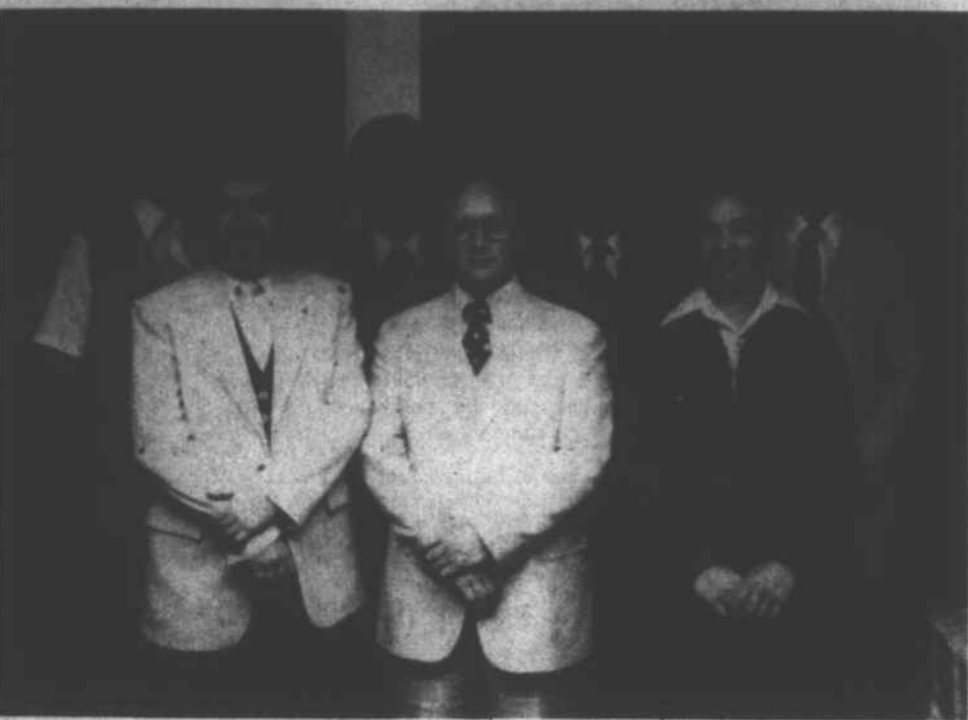
Again the firemen went home close to midnight hoping to catch up on their sleep missed the night before.

At 2:30 a.m. however, the sound of the siren again called

for the firemen to go to Hays Run community which they gallantly responded. This time it was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Stinson. The firemen learned that the Stinsons were on vacation but it was too late to save the home and all its contents. The firemen concentrated their attention to a Propane gas tank and used more than 5,000 gallons of water and numerous refilling trips of the trucks to keep the tank cooled down so it would not explode. It was 7 a.m. before the firemen, doubly tired and exhausted, left the scene and returned to their homes for a long-awaited breakfast and a rest before returning to their

jobs Thursday morning. Marshall Fire Chief Jackie Davis highly praised the firemen and others who for 48 hours worked on the island and at the two fires. He also commended the public for its help and assistance in making the donkey ballgame and the rodeo the most successful ever held here.

The weather prevented the fireworks display scheduled for the Fourth of July night but the display was shown last Saturday night and was enjoyed by many people. This display was also sponsored by the Marshall volunteer firemen - a group of dedicated men.



MARSHALL LIONS CLUB officers were installed Friday night at the Inn on the Plaza by Lion Jerry Plemmons, District 31-A official and former president of the club. Twenty-six Lions and Lionesses attended. Officers installed are shown above, left to right, first row: Jerry Plemmons, secretary-treasurer; Roy Reeves,

director; Lonnie Plemmons, director; back row: David Caldwell, president; Ricky Thomason, first vice president; John Corbett, director; and Walter Ramsey, Lion tamer. Ed List, tail twister, and Tom Wallin, second vice president, were unable to attend. (Photo by Jim Story)

Paving, Drainage, Sidewalks

Marshall Main Street Contracts Awarded

Another step toward proposed improvements in Marshall were advanced last week when Mayor Lawrence Ponder and Aldermen James Penland, Jackie Davis and Buford Marlor awarded contracts to three Asheville firms.

The sidewalk improvement project was awarded to Buncombe Construction Co.

The Tenneco Construction was awarded the contract for the street drainage project.

Warren Brothers Paving Co. was awarded the contract for the paving of Main Street.

The mayor declined to release details of the project, including contract costs, this week. He said they might be available next week if plans are finalized.



CLIFFORD BATES, Mars Hill VFW post commander, is shown wearing the new All State Commander's Cap with diamond pin and banner he received at the recent VFW State Convention held in Winston-Salem in behalf of the Mars Hill VFW Post 5483 which

won All-State honors for its growth and achievements during the past year. The post had the greatest gain in membership in the state of North Carolina with a 297 percent increase. The post has 105 members in just one year of its founding.

Ramsey To Help Study Tar Heel Transportation

Governor Jim Hunt has appointed Rep. Liston Ramsey (D - Madison) to a 32-member blue-ribbon study commission on transportation needs and financing in North Carolina.

Ramsey is chairman of the House Rules and Operations

Committee. He is a former member of the Marshall Board of Aldermen.

Retired Supreme Court Justice Dan Moore will serve as chairman of the commission.

Announcing the appointment of Moore and the other members, the governor said, "this commission will make a comprehensive evaluation of our transportation needs in the years to come, including the question of how North Carolina should finance highway improvements in the future, and make recommendations for the 1981 General Assembly

"The members represent a broad cross-section of our people and their interest. They have a deep understanding of how our daily lives are affected by transportation issues," Governor Hunt said. "We have made tremendous progress the last 2 1/2 years building an East-West highway system and moving ahead in other areas of transportation, including air, rail and public transit," he said. "The \$300 million bond issue approved by the voters in 1977 has enabled us to make great progress."

But he added, "the growth of our economy confronts us now with a difficult dilemma: meeting our future needs with dwindling revenues. So I am asking this commission to go out and listen to the people and conduct an exhaustive study of the issues we face, from improving secondary roads to building major four-lane highways.



ED KRAUSE, of Mars Hill, recently installed as president of the Mars Hill Lions Club, attended the 62nd International Lions Convention in Montreal, Quebec.

Mars Hill Lions Install New Officers

New officers of the Mars Hill Lions Club have been installed.

They are Ed Krause, president; Ron Eller, first vice president; John Gussard, second vice president; Phillip Briggs, third vice president; Ronnie Wallin, secretary; Fred Diercks, assistant secretary; Ralph Hogan, chaplain.

Other officers are Bobby Hernandez, treasurer; Clyde Yelton, assistant treasurer; Ralph Chandler, lion tamer; Dyatt Smathers, tail twister; and R.J. Edwards, Hughie Ray, E.H. Edsall and Alan Briggs have been elected to the board of directors.

Max Gibbs, past president, installed the officers on June 19, at Beam's Restaurant in Spruce Pine.

Ponders Secure State ABC Permit

Zeno Ponder and his brother, Grover C. Ponder, have obtained a state ABC permit to sell beer and wine at a package store on the Buncombe-Madison County line and are open for business. Zeno Ponder said that the package store, located just inside the Buncombe County line at the top of Ivy Hill Road where Ivy Hill meets Jupiter Road, has been open for business for 10 days.

He said the state ABC board issued a permit for the store on June 8, following a hearing May 30 by an ABC board of ficer in Asheville.

Ponder said the name of the store had been changed from Last Chance Package Store to the Madison County Bluegrass Convenience Store, the new name in association with bluegrass festivals Ponder plans on his 500-acre farm.

Ponder had hoped to have the package store open for business in time for his first bluegrass festival which was held the weekend of June 1-3, but the brothers were unable to obtain an ABC permit in time.

Ponder said he plans to have four more bluegrass festivals on his farm this year.

Grayson Scholarship Set For Superior Students

10 Awards To Be Given This Year At Mars Hill College

The first direct student benefits from a \$1.1 million gift to Mars Hill College last September by Dr. J. Wesley Grayson of Laguna Hills, Calif., have been announced by Dr. Richard Hoffman, vice president for academic affairs at the college.

Ten \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded for the 1979-80 academic session out of the funds which Dr. Grayson gave to endow a scholarship program which bears his name.

It is anticipated that these 10 will be renewed for the 1980-81 school year and that an additional 10 scholarships will be awarded to incoming freshmen, that these 20 will be

renewed for the 1981-82 session and 10 new scholarships awarded until a total of 40 such scholarships are being awarded each year.

Amounting to \$4,000 over a four year undergraduate career, the scholarships will be among the most prestigious offered by the college, covering almost half of the regular tuition charge. They will enable Mars Hill to recruit prospective students with superior academic skills and leadership abilities. Applicants must have a record of

exceptional academic achievement; must have demonstrated leadership potential through school, church, or community activities; and must intend to be full-time students residing on campus.

"Such students," explains Dr. Hoffman, "are essential to the vitality of a liberal arts college. They provide stimulation and challenge which are needed in order to have a dynamic community of learning."

Grayson Scholars will be in-

involved in a special academic component, including seminars and field experiences, designed to enhance their leadership abilities and to enrich their lives.

Prior to his retirement, Dr. Grayson, who is 62, enjoyed a distinguished career in education, financial management and government service. He was associate professor of economics and finance for a total of eight years at the University of Kansas and Ohio State. He founded and

managed for five years the Ohio office of a New York Stock Exchange firm, and for 15 years he was an economic and financial analyst for private corporations and governmental agencies. In the latter field, just before retirement, he was a tax economist for the IRS in Washington.

He made his fortune through investments and is a recognized authority in investment management. His gift to the college, valued at \$1,100,000, was in the form of blue-chip stocks and top-rated bonds.

Fire Destroys Stinson Home On Hays Run

A fire of undetermined cause destroyed the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Stinson on Hays Run early last Thursday morning. The blaze was discovered by the Stinsons' next door neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Edwards, who were awakened by the sound of the house burning. The Marshall Volunteer Fire Department received the alarm at 2:35 a.m. and responded with three trucks

and 15 men. Upon arrival, firemen found the fire well advanced, but were able to virtually extinguish it before running out of water. At that point, the fire again gained headway and was able to destroy what remained before firemen could return with sufficient water. There was little to be done by the firemen then except to prevent spread to a nearby storage shed and the Edwards residence.

The Stinsons, vacationing in Tennessee since Friday of the previous week, knew nothing of the fire until contacted later Thursday. Although the house and contents, located off N.C. 213 near Madison Seminary Baptist Church, were partially insured, all was lost.

Firemen and witnesses at the scene think the fire was possibly caused by lightning and originated in a rear bedroom.