

Letters To The Editor

The Readers Write . . .

Our readers have provided the Letters to the Editor column with a wide variety of views this week. We have suspended the rules concerning length in order that Ernest Burnette can explain the full story of the Madison High School Boosters Club.

editor dealing with subjects of interest to our readers. In order to qualify for publication, letters should be no longer than 1,000 words and contain no libelous statements. Third-party letters will not be considered. All letters must be signed and include a telephone number for our verification procedure.

Heard And Seen

By POP STORY



Madison Booster Club Needs Support Of Community

To the editor: A few months ago, a group of Madison County residents formed a Madison High School Booster's Club to help the young people and various programs at Madison High. This group consists of parents, teachers, coaches, merchants, and others who are interested in these young people and the school-sponsored programs they participate in.

As a means of raising money to accomplish the goals of the Club, memberships are being taken; a "Poor Man's Supper" was held; items were sold during games at the school, and a dance was held at Mars Hill Elementary School. We have been very pleased with the results of these events and we appreciate everyone's support.

This will enable us to have a tax-exempt number and we will furnish receipts to anyone making a donation, whether the donation is money, equipment, etc. These receipts can then be used for income tax purposes.

tremendous amount of work left to do. The football program is in desperate need of new uniforms and equipment and this will be the next undertaking by the Club.

MUCH-NEEDED IMPROVEMENT Ever since the new asphalt surface was put on Main Street in Marshall, it is useless to try to keep the windows clean in front of the Story Printing Co. and the French Broad Chevrolet dealership.

In putting down the asphalt, workers left "dips" along the side of the street which results in pools of water accumulating every time it rains.

On top of the uneven street surface, the drain opening which is supposed to alleviate water buildup is about an inch higher than the street and very little surface water ever enters the opening.

When speaking about the face-lift project to improve the downtown area, let's hope the situation which exists along this area will get top priority.

Another vital improvement that is needed is at the entrance of the parking lot adjacent to the ASCS Building where a standing pool of water forms after each rainfall.

A warning to pedestrians walking along the side of Main Street, walk on the other side of the street or risk being splattered.

WAITING FOR THE TRAIN TO BE LATE

Everett Barnett, a regular reader and of late a contributor to this column, says many people have told him they enjoy his squibs. The following is another joke he brought in last weekend:

"Farmer Cornfossle was seeing a movie for the first time. He sat through the feature without displaying much interest, and then the comedy flickered on. Across the screen dashed a bevy of beautiful women. The ladies in the film crossed a railroad track to a swimming hole where they began to disrobe before taking a plunge.

"They had taken off their shoes, stockings and waist skirts when a passing train sped across the screen and blocked the view. When it had passed, the girls were frolicking in the water. Farmer Cornfossle sat through the show again and again.

"After he had seen the comedy four times, an usher tapped him on the shoulder and asked, 'Are you ever going home?' The farmer answered, 'Oh, I reckon noy yet fer awhile. One of these times, that darn freight train's going to be late.'"

Krause Calls O'Brien Editorial "Unfair"

To the editor: Your editorial about Mike O'Brien was extremely unfair. He has been through enough and has been cleared of all charges. It was an unfortunate situation last December but he at least was not looking for trouble and was not hanging

around the college without any valid purpose. He probably shouldn't have said certain things but it is always easy to find fault in a pressure situation. Your criticism should be more restrained and based upon more investigation of a person's character. You would find that the O'Briens are ac-

propriety of Mars Hill College, a school founded on Christian ideals, to sponsor a film festival last month with predominately R rated movies.

If you have the best interest of Mars Hill College in mind, which I assume was the purpose of the editorial, there are other more constructive areas to focus. One such issue is the



Yours truly, Edward B. Krause, Mars Hill, NC

Know Comment

By JOSEPH GODWIN

To the editor: Thank you for the nice article on Town Lift. I think the petition shows that the hopes of the residents and business owners of Marshall for the project are alive and well!

what is a very popular idea. Not only is the enthusiasm high amongst the merchants, but the overall scope of the project will bring many groups within the community together to work for the common good of everyone in town.

A few "thank you's" are in order. First, I wish to thank the people that did the initial work on the project last year. I also wish to thank the town planning board members, the Merchant's Association and everyone else who has worked on the project.

gave their valuable time to the survey: Doug Dodson, Roy Reeves, Marion Wallin, George Penland, Ruth Gregory, Gary Lee Davis, and alderman Sammy Lunsford.

Being the political animal that he is, man seems destined to problems within himself and to confrontation with his fellows. This becomes painfully so every four years.

What we need to know is that our national ills are nation-wide, and they will not be cured by hurting the nation for the benefit of a district or state

generated no trace of guilt whatsoever. Instead, I can conscientiously wish that the people in Washington were as careful with what I send them as I have to be with what I keep!

would have tolerated the violation of that Amendment. Expelling God from our public schools is no rational issue. Our Supreme Court never tried to do it, nor could have done it if it had tried.

To behave with dignity is nothing less than to allow others freely to be themselves. — Sol Chaneles

Candidates Vows Pornography Crackdown

To the editor:

A number of citizens from your community attended "A Conference on Obscenity" at Lenoir Rhyne College in Hickory on April 2 and 3 sponsored by the Unifour Citizens for Decency of Catawba, Alexander, Burke and Caldwell counties. The citizens were informed, as I have emphasized in my campaign for Lt. Governor, that the pornography industry in North Carolina is a plague to our entire society.

agencies from prosecuting pornography violations. It is time the leaders of North Carolina took a stand to eliminate pornography. As Lt. Governor, I would use my legal and former judicial experience to petition the Legislature for repeal of the adversary hearing and strengthening of the anti-pornography statutes.

Contrary to what I usually write, this is a political column; however, it is not partisan, nor can it reasonably be interpreted as such. It is just a little common sense in an election year in which that commodity is in short supply.

Something is really bad wrong when we cannot learn as a nation what we all know as individuals: We cannot forever spend more than we take in.

National defense is no rational issue because all American-in and out of office know that our defense is not optional. The issue is which is better-international confrontation with force of arms and planetary destruction, or international cooperation and the power of peace?

Some people learn slowly-others, never-that freedom of religion is impossible without freedom from religion. Prayer in our public schools is not a religious issue nor a moral issue. It is, however, a nasty political issue fired by atheistic and legalistic bigotry on one side and self-righteous, judgmental bigotry on the other.

In North Carolina to this point, we have seen the most shabby, insipid, and asinine campaign for the United States Senate I have noticed in many years. I regret that, and the situation should be corrected long before November. Yet, that campaign is probably the motivation behind this column.

All of our elected officials in Washington, Senators and Representatives, know this; but very few of them have demonstrated enough statemanship to do anything about it.

The thwarting of communism in our hemisphere is no rational issue, but the manner in which it is done is the issue. Again, the issue is which is better: ?????????? of arms, or minds enlightened by truth and stomachs filled by economic opportunity?

The losers in this tug-of-war are our children who would much prefer to spend their time being human on the path to human maturity than to be premature angels at the behest of those who have not yet attained that status themselves.

All members of the U.S. House want to cut expenditures — in the other fellow's district. Of course, each one is elected by a limited segment of voters in a single district, but he or she is a United States Representative. Therefore, he

The solution is not an either-or difficulty: either cut spending, or increase taxes. Between these two options lies intelligence long buried in bureaucratic bungling: responsible use of the money we pay as taxes.

The separation of church and state is not a rational issue when seen in the context of what our founding fathers intended. That was settled by the First Amendment, and no justice who ever sat on the United States Supreme Court

It is both saddening and sickening to see politicians exercising themselves for the headlines and television cameras when the rewards are much richer and the path far less crowded in the field of statesmanship.



The News Record Serving The People Of Madison County Since 1901 P.O. Box 369 • Marshall, N.C. 28753 Telephone (704)649-2741

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Published Weekly By The Madison County Publishing Company, Inc. USPS 389-440. Second Class Postage Paid at Marshall, N.C. 28753. Subscription Rates in Madison and Blount Counties - 1 Year \$6.00 - Outside Madison and Blount Counties - 1 Year \$9.50. N.C. Residents Add 4% Sales Tax.

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Litterers Are Trash

Dear Editor: My subject for the past ten years has been trash litterers. I am sending along a clipping from a recent letter to the editor of the Asheville paper. The letter-writer has it right when he concludes, "Litterers Are Trash."

thwhile project. We have a lot of good people in Hot Springs that keep their property clean and nice. Thanks to them. I was traveling down in Georgia last week and I saw their signs said, "\$300 to Litter the Highways." I noticed in red letters below, "Or 30 Days." They told me that this approach was helping.

Living And Growing

By CARL MUMPOWER M.S.W. It's painful. It hurts to love something and for one reason or another lose that something. Maybe that something rejects us, or chooses to focus their attention on someone else.

times we get obsessive over the person we've lost. We think and rethink the time we spent with them, trying to find our mistakes and better understand why we lost them.

have them or couldn't function alone, but because we wanted that kind of closeness. We wanted to experience those kinds of intense feelings.

event. Loving another person is much the same. You will, for however short a time, have the opportunity to feel your love, but there's no guarantee of permanence.

There are lots of reactions to losing something we love. Anger is usually one of the first. Sometimes it shows in our desire to hurt that person like they have hurt us. Many

Other times we react by immediately going out and trying to replace the person we love. Seldom with good results. We do all sorts of things to avoid the hurt, never realizing that the hurt we are feeling is in many ways a badge of courage.

We all get hurt to some extent when we love, but hurt is not always a bad thing. Sometimes it teaches us lessons about living. Sometimes it helps us realize that we are feeling beings and not robots.

My point is this, don't write off love because it involves a risk of being hurt. Anything of value has that same risk attached. If you do have your love rejected, don't throw the idea of loving out as a bad one. You've had a brief opportunity to feel and care and explore your humanness in a way that all too few of us do.