

Editorial

# Immunize Your Pets

Two rabid skunks have been discovered in Madison County in the past month. The discovery of a second rabid animal last week would indicate that the earlier incident was not an isolated one. It is absolutely imperative that every pet owner in the county take steps to insure that rabid animals do not become a major threat to health. To do otherwise is to invite a most painful form of human tragedy.

If you have not already done so, let us urge you to have all your house pets vaccinated against rabies. Remember, cats can carry rabies, too.

We are fortunate here in Madison County to have two fine veterinarians, Drs. Bud Allen and Larry Frost, available to perform vaccinations. The vaccinations are inexpensive and only take a few minutes. The possible tragedy such vac-

inations prevent makes the investment of money and time well worthwhile.

Madison County doesn't have a dog license fee, but all pet owners are required to have their pets vaccinated. Pet owners have a moral responsibility, both to the animals and to their neighbors, to protect against rabies.

We must also be aware of wild animals and report any suspicious animals immediately. Don't take unnecessary chances near possibly rabid animals, but shoot the animal if possible. Be careful not to shoot suspicious animals in the head. Lab technicians need the animal's skull to test for rabies.

The two incidents of rabid animals do not indicate that an epidemic is imminent, but they should serve as a clear warning that action must be taken now in order to avoid a potentially devastating situation.



# Know Comment

By JOSEPH GODWIN

# Unreconstructed Boyhood Makes Adult Life More Fun

By JOSEPH GODWIN  
Probably none of us should ever completely grow up.

It is one thing, of course, for an adult to be childish; but it is something else altogether different for one to be somewhat childlike.

Some of my close friends who have known me a long time know that I have an unreconstructed streak of boy about that wide running the full length of my personality.

I like that! That streak of boy within me causes me to love flowers and to be excited by their colors and shapes. What is more, I always have time to slow down and smell them. I had much rather use my nose that way than to store it in other people's business.

This boy within does other things to and for me that I would like to tell you about.

I love animals — all kinds of animals — especially young ones. Holding a kitten, puppy, lamb, duckling, or baby chick in my hands is always a new experience with new excitement. It never becomes commonplace pleasure, nor do I intend ever to get too busy to enjoy these latest editions from the hands of Mother Nature.

From the days of the old steam locomotives, puffing their billows of black smoke and seeming to stamp their feet as they started off, I have been completely smitten by trains. I still love them, and I like to get caught at a crossing so that I have to wait for the train to go by.

Why do you ask? Of course, I count the cars as the train rumbles by!

Also, I'm a fool about old airplanes. From the old Ford

Trimotor to the modern jumbo jets, my keen interest in planes has neither wavered nor flickered.

Caught by a blend of childlike excitement and contentment, I have spent waiting time on the observation decks in the airports in New Orleans, Charlotte, Atlanta, and Athens, Greece, thrilled by the thunder of the mighty planes as they took off and landed. I shall never tire of them.

Even when I feel no pain, and when I have no personal reason to be sad, I cry. When somebody else is hurt or mistreated, when he or she is in sorrow or trouble, I cry. The emotional transference from an adult to a child transfers to the boy within me.

This boy within keeps me from taking myself too seriously. You see, I really do believe that the world would keep on operating without me. This perspective also helps me enjoy a healthy irreverence toward other adults whose self-concept and self-worth have been inflated beyond possible comparison with reality. The world will go on without them also.

The boy within fills me with wonder and awe. I know spring is here to stay when I see a bumblebee in front of me, parked in space. There he is — full throttle in neutral, motionless as if suspended in time — and I'm going to watch him as long as he stays with me. Then I'll keep on watching him while he loads down both hind legs in the squash blossoms.

Sitting in the papa chair in my den, I am thrilled no end to see the President of the United States walking on the Great

Wall in China. I hear him speak — clearly; and his voice is still the same.

I have an incurable and insatiable curiosity. What is it? How does it work? I like to see it, feel it, hear it, smell it, taste it, test it. After all, how else can the still growing boy learn?

There is an indelible streak of mischief in me. I won't hurt you nor vandalize your belongings. Not at all! However, I'm not beyond causing you a mite of embarrassment, a bit of confusion, or a trace of temporary inconvenience — all in the name of clean fun. That is just some of the spice of life. When you turn the tables, I do not object.

I delight in simple things: food, clothes, cars. Really, now, has anybody ever improved on pinto beans, cornbread, and iced tea? And my two primary reasons for wearing clothes are to keep warm and to keep from being arrested for indecent exposure. Comfort and cleanliness are my only significant concerns in clothes.

And cars? My old Volkswagen has 185,000 miles on it. What I demand of it now is all I have ever demanded of it — that it get me from where I am to where I had rather be. Very simple.

This boy within me adds spice and color to my whole existence. I hope I never lose him. He may also be my rope to my strongest anchor to reality.

When I really was a boy, my mother read to me, "Permit little children to come to me — and don't stop them; for they are what the Kingdom of God is made of."

day, I will be receiving it because of the wonderful people in Madison County.

Madison County should never be known by any other nickname except, "Beautiful Madison County."

Once again, thank you so very much. I'm proud to be here in Madison County.

Esther Franks  
A new nurse.

# Boosters Club Says Thanks

Dear Editor:  
The Madison High School Boosters Club wishes to thank each and everyone who attended the benefit gospel sing-

ing at Madison H.S. on Sunday.

The \$614.04 collected in donations and proceeds from concessions will be used to pay for uniforms that have been purchased for the athletic programs at the school.

A special thanks goes to radio station WMMH for sponsoring the singing and to everyone who worked and gave freely of their time to make the event a success.

A very special thank you also goes to the Primitive Quartet and the Redeemed Quartet for giving of their time and talents to provide us with an afternoon of excellent gospel singing.

Sincerely,  
Ernest Burnett, president  
Madison High School Boosters Club.

# Heard And Seen

By POP STORY



**IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL WEDDING**  
"Bill" and I enjoyed our first visit to Cherryville Sunday when we attended the wedding of Sherry Minnix to the Rev. Vincent D. Hefner in the First Baptist Church of which the Rev. Mike Minnix, former pastor of the First Baptist Church of Marshall, is now pastor.

Mike performed the ceremony and Chris Minnix, the bride's brother, gave her in marriage. It was an impressive wedding in the beautiful church which has more than 1400 members.

We had the opportunity to speak with Mike, Jayne, Chris and Sherry, who sent their love to their many friends here in the county.

Also attending the wedding were Eola Haynie, Billie Jean Haynie, Kristen Payne and Edna Faye Nash.

## ANOTHER FRIEND PASSES

I have had several close friends pass away in the past year, far too many to comment on in

this column, but I would like to mention the recent passing of S.L. Nix. "Sam" as I called him, was one of the friends "Bill" and I will miss greatly.

"Bill" and Sam would often meet outside the church after services and "shoot the breeze."

Sam was always a likeable, pleasant person, admired by everyone. Our sympathies are extended to Hattie Ella, Tom and the entire Nix family.

## FREE PHOTOGRAPHS OFFERED

A free photograph was offered to donors to the Marshall Volunteer Fire Department last weekend. The project reportedly raised more than \$1,000 for the department.

Fire chief Jackie Davis asked us to thank the many people that made donations.

Proofs will be returned in about two weeks. Anyone wishing to order additional pictures may do so by stopping by the fire house on Main Street.



# NCAE Nixes Endorsement In 2nd Primary

By DANIEL C. HOOVER  
The News and Observer

The N.C. Association of Educators rejected a recommendation from its political action committee in Raleigh Saturday that it endorse H. Edward Knox for governor in the Democratic primary runoff over Attorney General Rufus L. Edmisten and voted not to make any endorsement.

The action came during a closed meeting of the NCAE's 148-member Ratification Council. Neither candidate was present.

Glenn Keever, communications director for the teachers' organization, said that the

two-phase vote came on views that there were few differences between the candidates on education and concern that an endorsement might prove divisive.

Keever said that the vote on the NCAE's Political Action Committee on Education recommendation of Knox was "fairly close."

Edmisten led the 10-man field in Tuesday's Democratic gubernatorial primary. Knox, who came in second, called for a runoff, set for June 5.

Edmisten said that he expected Knox, former mayor of Charlotte, to receive the NCAE endorsement. When told in an interview that the group had decided not to endorse either, he said, "That's great. Apparently, my folks in there got busy."

Knox and his top campaign aides could not be reached for comment.

"I would have liked to have had the endorsement," Edmisten said, "but I'm glad they didn't endorse anyone. I have consistently said education is my top priority. They showed great wisdom."

Since last week's primary, Knox has picked up a number

of endorsements. Initially, he was endorsed by Lt. Gov. Jimmy Green, who finished fifth in the governor's race. Late Friday, Knox won the recommendation of Thomas O. Gilmore, the fourth-place finisher, who had received endorsements from the NCAE and the state AFL-CIO.

Although the teachers' group's ability to deliver its votes is open to dispute, the endorsement could have proved a boon to Knox's campaign through organizational assistance. Some observers have attributed superior organization to Edmisten, who was able to carry 68 counties to Knox's 18 on Tuesday.

Thad Beyle, a political scientist at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, said Saturday that the impact of an endorsement would probably be marginal on the Knox campaign.

"They cannot deliver the teachers' organization as a bloc," he said of the NCAE leadership. "I think that's been obvious."

Gilmore announced his backing of Knox after third-place finisher D.M. Lauch Faircloth endorsed Edmisten. In a statement, Gilmore said that Knox has a clearer concept of the issues facing the state.

"I am now fully convinced that Eddie Knox stands head and shoulders above his runoff opponent," he said.

Gilmore met with Knox to discuss implementing some of his key proposals if Knox wins the runoff and the November election.

They agreed to work for a number of issues, including opening meetings of the Ad-

visory Budget Commission and the Council of State; limiting political contributions and expenditures in state-wide campaigns; and studying changes in the requirements for runoff elections.

Differences between Knox and Edmisten on education were subtle because the pair generally agreed on major points.

Knox and Edmisten have advocated higher teacher salaries and have said that they would initially focus on the pay issue before tackling a reduction in class size. Both also said that they did not feel a state tax increase would be necessary to increase spend-

ing on public education. They have indicated support for an NCAE plan to create a "career ladder" as an instrument to keep teachers in the classroom rather than lose them to administrative jobs or the private sector.

The NCAE's Keever said Saturday's decision "tended to say that the two men are so close on issues that there really is no difference. Education is getting enough attention from both."

He said most council members felt that there was no overriding reason to choose between Edmisten and Knox and to do so "would be terribly divisive."

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