

Church News

Revival Services To Begin

The Salvation Army Church of Sleepy Valley will begin revival services at 7 p.m. Monday. The services will go through Saturday, March 28, and finish up Sunday, March 29. The Rev. Lattie Henderson will be conducting the revival.

Youth To Be Honored

The Calvary Baptist Church, located on Bailey Street in Mars Hill, will honor its graduating seniors with a youth celebration on March 28 at 7 p.m. at the church. Lynn Westafer will be featured in a concert. Everyone is invited to attend.

Gospel Singing Friday

A gospel singing will be held on Friday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Madison High School Little Theater. Guest include the "Principals" and the "Foundations." The Madison County 4-H Teen Leader Council will sponsor the singing.

Electric Co-op Names Committee

The French Broad Electric Membership Corporation Board of Directors named a nominating committee at its meeting on Feb. 24. The committee were to meet Wednesday at 1 p.m. in French Broad EMC's office on N.C. 213 between Marshall and Mars Hill to select persons for four seats on the cooperative's Board of Directors. Directors will be voted on at the annual meeting of the members to be held April 18 at the Moore Auditorium in Mars Hill. Members of the nominating committee are Ruth Gregory, Roy Reeves, Eugene Wills and Owen Tilson of Madison County; Ted Caldwell of Buncombe County; Reece McIntosh, Eddie Faw and Charles Hensley of Yancey County; M.A. Anderson Jr. and Allen Baker of Mitchell County; and, Ursie H. Shelton of Unicoi County, Tenn. Directors whose terms expire this year are Albert Freeman and Joseph Justice of Madison County; I.E. Clevenger of Yancey County; and, Parnell Cooke of Mitchell County.



Ruth Lejeune is hard at work on the antique loom now on display in Mars Hill.

Mars Hill VFD Organized In 1920 s

By LOU ZELLER

This week's column focuses on one of the oldest fire departments in Madison County — the Mars Hill Volunteer Fire Department. Organized around 1921, the department has been answering fires for 65 years. Records dating back to that time are not clear, but according to Assistant Chief Bill Zink, a shed on North Main Street near Capps Funeral Home housed the equipment. This consisted of a hand-drawn hose cart. A bell located near the old Universe Gym called out the firefighters. A street hydrant system provided water to the hoses pulled to the scene of the fire in this matter. Time has erased all but a trace of that early outfit, but today's Mars Hill Volunteer Fire Department answers the call in modern pumper trucks with the same old spirit. The fire hall on Main Street houses a 1961 American LaFrance pumper/tanker, a 1971 Ford pumper/tanker, a 1976 "first out" truck with rescue equipment and portable pump and a 1983 F.M.C. Grigadier on a GMC chassis.



Together this equipment can haul 2,250 gallons of water and pump a total of 3,050 gallons per minute. The department also operates an ambulance which answers all structural fire calls, and has six members qualified as emergency medical technicians. The 23 active members responded to 97 fire alarms in 1986. Chief Eddie Fox is also an emergency medical technician and president of the

Madison County Fireman's Association. The association meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the fire hall. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend. Mars Hill V.F.D. is planning a chicken dinner fundraiser on Sunday. It will be held from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Elementary School cafeteria. Tickets are \$4 for adults, \$2 for children, and can be purchased from a fireman or at the door. The firemen will be selling tickets around town on Tuesday night. Just look for the fire truck coming down the street.

On Feb. 13th, the Madison County Emergency Service Director, Eddie Fox, held a meeting at the courthouse to discuss the county's Disaster Relief and Assistance Plan, or DRAP. The purpose of this plan is to familiarize all emergency services with each other's function. This is to insure an efficient, coordinated and effective response to any large-scale emergency involving many agencies.

Included in the planning are elected officials, state and county service departments, as well as police, ambulance and fire departments. Due to poor attendance the meeting will be rescheduled in the near future. However, Tony Webb of the U.S. Forest Service did present a plan for natural disasters such as a forest fire. In other news, the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department held a very successful bingo game on Feb. 28. Prizes donated by area merchants and citizens helped to earn more than \$700 that evening. Also given away that night was a handmade quilt raffle prize. The quilt, made and donated by Pearl Gentry, was won by S.D. Payne of Weaverville. Ellen Rice sold him the winning ticket, and helped the Ladies Auxiliary to earn \$929 on that event. Many thanks go to all who donated their time and energy to these efforts. Announcement Fire School for all county firefighters will be held on April 10-11 at Madison High School. It will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday night and run all day on Saturday. The topic will be "Rural Water Supply and Tanker Operations."

Antique Loom Now On Display At Rural Museum

By ELIZABETH SQUIRE
Features Writer

An antique loom of the kind used to make rag rugs at Allanstand and in other parts of Madison County is now in working order at the Rural Life Museum at Mars Hill. The warp or stringing of the loom was put in place by Ruth Lejeune, a volunteer, who has also done some weaving on the loom with a weft of cotton sock loops. In the old days, Madison County women would cut up worn out clothes for the weft, said Richard Dillingham, museum director.

The Lee White family of Ingalls in Avery County, donated the loom, which was removed from the loft of their old log homeplace and has not been used in this century until now.

It belonged to Mrs. White's great-grandmother, Lydia Louise Wiseman Keener, born in 1831 and the granddaughter of a William Wiseman who came to America before 1800 as a stowaway.

Mrs. Lejeune has also restrung the antique loom that was already in the museum. She strung the loom with a warp of linen and will weave with a weft of wool to make the traditional linsey woolsey.

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Bill Stedice

General Manager
Editor

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One day I was playing golf with a close friend who was a golf pro. After I had made great effort to hit the ball as far as I could—and it went less distance than I could have thrown it—he shook his head and said, "You surely waste a lot of money."

"What's money got to do with my bad golf shot?" I asked.

"Well," he said, "You spend all that money on golf clubs, then won't let them do their work for you. You're trying to guide the ball. That's the club's job."

I pondered the pro's words. It suddenly occurred to me that what I do with a golf club, I often do with life, especially with God's Word—the Bible.



The Bible is filled with truth and guidance; with great life-principles. Rather than accepting by faith God's Word, I often try to "make the shot" all by myself, rather than allowing His truth to guide the "shots" of my life.

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Scriptures Quoted by The American Bible Society	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Psalms	Isaiah	Hosea	Malachi	Matthew	Acts	Acts
	149:1-9	43:8-13	2:14-23	3:6-18	13:10-17	3:11-26	26:4-18

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