

MORE ABOUT Merritts

Continued From Page One

"Mrs. Goodpasture was coming to Roanoke and was so excited for us that she came by for lunch and brought her scrapbook. By the time she left, I was so busy that I convinced that this was going to be one of our greatest experiences," Mrs. Merritt says.

And Mrs. Merritt's excitement was fulfilled. "We became friends with people from all walks of life, top-notch American people," she says. "And I know that we can go anywhere in the country and be able to pick up a telephone and talk to a friend."

The Merritts chose to drive to Lehigh Acres, a retirement community near Fort Myers, Fla. Each state family was assigned hosts among resident there, and the Roanoker were in the hands of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Farley. "He runs the funeral home, and she even did our laundry," Mrs. Merritt says.

Immediately the family plunged into the program of activities—interviews with judges, discussion forums, entertainment, fun contests, rehearsals for a television program of the grand finale, and meeting and getting to know such show business celebrities as the Cowells, a popular family singing group, songstress Anita Bryant, Florida's goodwill ambassador for orange juice; and TV host, Peter Marshall.

The forums, according to Mrs. Merritt, emphasized contemporary topics relating to the various areas of family unity and were led by such noted persons as Dr. Joyce Brothers.

The pageant theme, "Family Unity for a Better Community," was seemingly illustrated in answers given by the Merritts during interviews with judges. Mrs. Merritt confesses "tears just flowed," when Dave, who has completed his second year at Patrick Henry high school, gave personal impressions on what makes a family tick.

Later Pat, who will be a sophomore this fall at North Carolina State University at Raleigh, revealed the outstanding feature of his family to be the diversity of interest which somehow are all tied up with the others, the mother recalls.

And still in another interview situation, Mrs. Merritt says her husband was asked for reactions if the police telephoned that a son was being held for involvement in drugs.

"Bill answered, without hesitation, that his feelings in such a circumstance would be, 'Our son needs us and we will be at his side,'" Mrs. Merritt says, noting that this feeling has always been understood, "whether there is trouble or joy, it's a feeling of 'You are ours, we are yours and we are together.'"

Merritt, a vice president with Roanoke Iron and Bridge Works, Inc., was named the 1971 Father of the Year in Religious Activities. Mrs. Merritt was Mother of the Year in Education in 1968. The couple moved to Roanoke in 1949 from Deatur, Ga.

And last Friday evening during on-stage questioning of the five family semifinalists, the elder son, Russ, a rising senior at Davidson college who plans to become a Presbyterian minister, selected to answer, "If you could give Nixon advice, what would you choose to say?"

"Russ was tempted to discuss the issue in Vietnam," Mr. Merritt explains, "but he decided that perhaps the economic picture of this country is of more immediate importance."

And Mrs. Merritt laughs, "The President must have listened well; look what he talked about Sunday night," referring to Mr. Nixon's steps to stabilize the nation's economy.

The Merritts did not participate in the interpenetrant talent show, but Betty Merritt cooked in the nutritional event and passed out "Virginia Is For Lovers" buttons sent to her by Gov. Linwood Holton.

Each state finalist had taken items to share with others, and Virginia's contributions included chamber of commerce materials, jars of crab apple jelly provided by Roanoke's Mayor Roy Weber and recipe boxes from the Brambleton Juniors.

The Merritts returned to their Roanoke home with gifts from other states and a chair from Thomasville Furniture Co., as a token of the "most popular family" honor.

During their drive back to Roanoke, the Merritts used the time to absorb "one of the greatest experiences of our lives as a family" and to re-evaluate what their idea of family is all about.

According to Mrs. Merritt, "The basis of a family is a faith in God. Maybe the basic word here is love, the real love within a family that stems from a belief in God. And through our problems, how we face them, and our interests, we become more closely knit."

And on Monday, Mrs. Merritt was in her own home setting down to everyday living again, "spending the afternoon with the washing machine."

It was also the 24th wedding anniversary for Bill and Betty Merritt.

MORE ABOUT Downtown, Inc.

Continued From Page One

and progress displayed to date. Furthermore, we urge you to continue your positive approach, taking necessary action to hasten accomplishment of this vital and worthwhile program. We firmly believe that this effort marks the beginning of a new era which will enable Kings Mountain to renovate our city thereby preserving our historic tradition."

Joe M. Laney, director of Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission commented:

"The Redevelopment Commission appreciates the support of Downtown, Inc. We both strongly feel that the renewal program is the only hope to reverse the decay of the downtown."

"As the Downtown, Inc. statement indicates, the economies of the program are sound. The public funds will generate private investment and that is the key to community development. Considerable interest has been expressed by our local businessmen and we estimate a total investment of over \$1,000,000 in private funds."

"Some property owners feel that the offer price of the Redevelopment Commission is low because the program will result in increased property value and they will lose out. Such confidence in the program is great and we will guarantee that each property owner who is interested will be able to realize the full market value. Thus they will be able to realize future appreciation and as an extra bonus be able to defer tax gains on their original sale."

These specialists must continue to show proof of competency in the field of comprehensive, continuing care of the family by taking another exam and being re-certified every six years. No other specialty requires its diplomates to prove their competence on a continuing basis.

The ABFP is unique among certifying boards because it offered no "grandfather clause" which allows doctors practicing in the specialty when a board is created to become diplomates of that board without examination. To qualify for the examination each doctor completed a 3-year family practice residency, or has been in family practice a minimum of six years and has successfully completed 300 hours of postgraduate medical education.

The list of charter diplomates released by the ABFP, the twentieth specialty board approved by the American Medical Association and the American Board of Specialties, includes successful candidates from the first certification examination given in 1970, as well as those passing this year's examination. Most are members of the American Academy of General Practice, the national association of family physicians headquartered in Kansas City. The AAGP is the organization chiefly responsible for securing specialty status for Family Practice in February, 1969.

Surviving in addition to her parents are three brothers, Sam H. Stallings III of Greensboro and Bob and Greg Stallings of the home; one sister, Miss Pam Stallings of the home; her paternal grandmother, Mrs. Louise S. Dahlin of Yakima, Wash.; and her maternal grandfather, Geo. C. McConnell of Raleigh.

Pallbearers were A. Ray Jones, Melvin Garner, Donald Creech, Harmon Turner, Ted Wells and John Narron.

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ABFP Taps Three Doctors

Continued From Page One

ABFP TAPS—front KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Three doctors from the Kings Mountain, N. C. metropolitan area—Dr. John McGill, Dr. P. G. Padgett and Dr. F. J. Sincos—have been named charter diplomates of the American Board of Family Practice as a result of passing a certification examination administered under the aegis of the American Board of Family Practice.

To achieve diplomate status these doctors, through an intensive two-day written examination, proved their ability in the areas of internal medicine, surgery, obstetrics—gynecology, pediatrics, psychiatry, preventive medicine and other traditional specialties and now are certified in medicine's newest specialty—Family Practice. The 3,285 doctors, nationally, who earned their diplomate distinction, are the vanguard of a new type of highly competent "people doctor" who accepts responsibility for the patient's total health care and serves as the natural point of entry into the complex medical system.

These specialists must continue to show proof of competency in the field of comprehensive, continuing care of the family by taking another exam and being re-certified every six years. No other specialty requires its diplomates to prove their competence on a continuing basis.

The ABFP is unique among certifying boards because it offered no "grandfather clause" which allows doctors practicing in the specialty when a board is created to become diplomates of that board without examination. To qualify for the examination each doctor completed a 3-year family practice residency, or has been in family practice a minimum of six years and has successfully completed 300 hours of postgraduate medical education.

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Car Wash Nets \$1,007

Continued From Page One

Honor grade inmates of the Shelby prison unit scrubbed and polished cars for 36 hours Friday and Saturday and on Monday presented a check for \$1,007 to Mrs. Frances Green, recuperating from a kidney transplant.

Mrs. Green managed a weak smile as they presented her the check on behalf of Shelby's All-American City Jaycees.

The group is composed entirely of honor-grade inmates and Corrections Officer Bill Grayson serves as the organization's program director.

Accompanying him to Charlotte Memorial hospital were Gene Moore of Rutherfordton and Marshall Liles and Charles Smith, both of Charlotte.

"We read about Mrs. Green in the paper, and it said she'd have about \$20,000 to \$30,000 in hospital expenses," said Grayson. "The men decided to help her out and they came up with the idea of a car wash."

The charge per customer was a minimum of \$2 per car — but the first of more than 400 customers, Rep. Robert Falls of Shelby, looked over \$25.

"People were just great," Grayson said. "Lots of them didn't time to get their cars washed, but they came by and gave us money anyhow."

The All-American City Jaycees, with 27 members, is one of about 25 chapters sponsored by the state's Jaycees in N. C. Prison units. It was established three months ago, and all honor-grade prisoners are eligible for membership.

"\$1,007 will hardly make a dent in Mrs. Green's expenses," Charles Smith said, "but we hope our effort will encourage other groups to help her."

Funeral services for Anderson Smarr, 81, of the Love Valley Community on route two, will be conducted Thursday afternoon at 4 p.m. from J. W. Gill and Son Funeral Home.

Rev. Howard Shipp will officiate at the final rites, and interment will be in the Long Branch church cemetery.

He was a member of St. John's Holiness church of Bessemer City. Surviving are four sons, Walter Smarr of Bronx, New York, E. C. Smarr of Brooklyn, New York, Thomas and Chester Smarr of Philadelphia, Pa.; two daughters, Mrs. Claire Williams of Kings Mountain and Miss Sara Smarr of New York, New York; and 23 grandchildren.

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Letter To The Editor

THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE

What was the real reason behind the Civil Rights Act? The Civil Rights Act was intended in the beginning to get the Negro vote. With the expectation of getting a cheaper labor force by using the Negro as pawns to bring the white labor force into submission. By using a small percentage of the American citizens as a head start. Which as you will note backfired. The Negro was promised

Heaven on a platter, through the high officials of our land, giving them all the police protection in the world. Taking the basic rights of untold millions. The Negro has many years taken their school books home and began to study. If two and two makes four then why not expect more? The White has taken all for granted. So therefore if and when the Negro has a complaint to make to the Department of Justice, it in return will try to move Heaven and Hell to hear the complaint. With that of the White it's completely ignored. We stupid Americans of the white. When will we ever awaken?

And yet, in a great sense of the word, our white overlords are using the two races to bring disunity between the two races for their own selfish means and purpose. Secondly: The purpose for expected trip of our President, and the motives behind it is generally known of his trip to China. Since we have been so free in giving away our secrets in the realm of industry complex, the knowledge and know-how and giving other nations the hard-earned dollars of the taxpayers' money building equipment for such operations which in turn effects our own interest and also effects the world trade market in regards to America.

1. Russia is no longer an undeveloped country. 2. France—3. Germany—4. Japan, which is a thorn in our side—England—So it really only leaves us China and the African nations to do our world market with. We have lost many of those whom have been Allies with the United States through and by such actions of the know-how and free-wheeling and dealing with the high stakes of American knowledge and know-how and with American lives.

In closing reading between the lines, why the Negro is sitting where the whites once sat. A double cross. P. S. I have nothing against the Negro nor his race. But the facts are facts. Both sections of our nation and races have been double crossed. Think about it?

Respectfully, EVERETTE H. PEARSON.

Kidney Fund Gifts \$3621

The Frances Green Kidney Fund reached \$3,621.31 this week, boosted by a check from Mrs. Green from the Shelby Prison Unit All-American Jaycees for \$1,007 and a check from Kings Mountain Knit Fabric employees for \$155.

The family Tuesday withdrew \$1100 from the Kings Mountain fund at First Union National Bank to pay a doctor's bill in that amount.

Medical expenses of the Aug. 4 transplant are mounting, said family spokesman, who said they had not yet received a statement of full costs which are expected to be between \$20,000 and \$30,000.

Bell Rites Are Conducted

Funeral services for Jake Garvis Bell, 55, of the Beaver Dam community near Shelby, were held Monday morning at 11 o'clock from Beaver Dam Baptist church, interment following in the church cemetery.

Mr. Bell died at 1:40 p. m. Saturday in the Cleveland Memorial hospital.

A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of the late T. R. and Amanda Ledford Bell. He was a member of Oak Grove Baptist church and was employed by the maintenance department of the Cleveland County School System.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Dale Kendrick of Kings Mountain; two sons, Dennis Bell and Douglas Bell of Shelby; two brothers, Mark Bell of Cherryville, and Doris Bell of Shelby; five sisters, Mrs. Marvin Randall, Mrs. Wiley Blanton and Mrs. Oscar Lovelace, all of Kings Mountain, and Mrs. Fred Parker and Mrs. T. M. Watterson, both of Kings Mountain; and three grandchildren.

Senator Rauch Is Honored

CHARLOTTE.—State Senator Marshall A. Rauch of Gastonia was among five distinguished North Carolinians honored here last week at the annual meeting of the National Grand Chapter, O. E. S. and the National Imperial Court, Daughter of Isis.

Rauch, a Gaston County businessman and third-term 29th district legislator, was presented an engraved plaque citing him for "outstanding services and achievements to his country and his constituents."

The presentation was made during an awards banquet at Charlotte's White House Inn. Other awards recipients were Charlotte Mayor John M. Belk; his wife, District Judge Claudia W. Belk; District Court Judge Clifton E. Johnson and Mrs. Bessie Davis, a past Grand Chapter, O. E. S. grand matron.

Dr. Lionel H. Newsom, president of Johnson C. Smith University, was the principal speaker.

AUSLEY TOPIC

"Happiness Is Friendship" will be the sermon topic of Dr. Paul Ausley at Sunday morning worship services at 11 o'clock at First Presbyterian church.

DIXON SPEAKER

William Alexander, Bible teacher in the Kings Mountain schools, will fill the pulpit at the Sunday morning worship hour at 9:30 at Dixon Presbyterian church. Rev. Robert Wilson, pastor, and his family are vacationing in Montreat.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the many friends and neighbors for their kind expressions of sympathy at the death of our loved one.

The Family of George Hull 8:26

WINS PROMOTION

Jerry P. Manning, son of Eulala Doby of Sims St., Kings Mountain, has been promoted to Army Spec. 4 while serving with the army at Camp Casey, Korea. Spec. Manning is a platoon clerk.

ROTARY CLUB

Tom Deen of V. P. Dunhill Personnel will speak on "Employment—Labor Market" at Thursday's meeting of the Rotary club at 12:15 at the County club.

More than one million job training opportunities are expected to be offered to disadvantaged and unemployed persons through the Labor Department's Manpower Administration during fiscal 1972. This is an increase of more than 10 per cent over fiscal 1971.

Areas of substantial unemployment are eligible for special assistance under the Emergency Employment Act of 1971 for the purpose of providing public service jobs for unemployed or underemployed persons residing in such areas. Areas of substantial unemployment, according to the Act, are areas of sufficient size and scope to sustain a public service employment program and which has a rate of unemployment equal to or in excess of 6 per cent for three consecutive months.

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