

# The Foothills View

THURSDAY, JAN. 27, 1983

BOILING SPRINGS NC

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## "I'm Convinced We Saved The Guy"

When two college students who are volunteer firemen, Chris Turner and Paul Huggins, drove Turner's pickup truck down Highway 150 early Saturday to look at trees downed by Friday's icestorm, they saw more than greenery: the two spotted a house on fire, and probably saved the occupant's life by waking him and calling for help.

No one was hurt in the 4 a.m. fire at the house of Roger Randolph at the Anthonytown section of Highway 150 South. The fire was put out by Boiling Springs rural department assisted by the city department minutes within after Turner called for firetrucks. Both Turner and Huggins are members of Boiling Springs city fire department.

"I'm convinced we saved the guy's house and life," Turner said afterward. "It was 45 minutes (after Turner and Huggins arrived) before another car came down that road."

After spotting the fire, Turner and Huggins had awakened Randolph, who has no phone. Turner then ran to wake a neighbor and use his phone, while Huggins tried to contain the blaze with two chemical extinguishers in Turner's truck.

"As soon as the trucks arrived, Paul and I jerked hoses off the back" and started fighting the fire, Turner said.

For Turner, an engineering student at University of North Carolina-Charlotte, and Huggins, a Gardner-Webb student, the ride down Hwy. 150 came at the end of a long night and morning for the city fire department. Before the Randolph fire, the department had answered calls to a downed power line on South Main, an overheated generator at Crawley Hospital, and a housefire at Holly Hill Road.

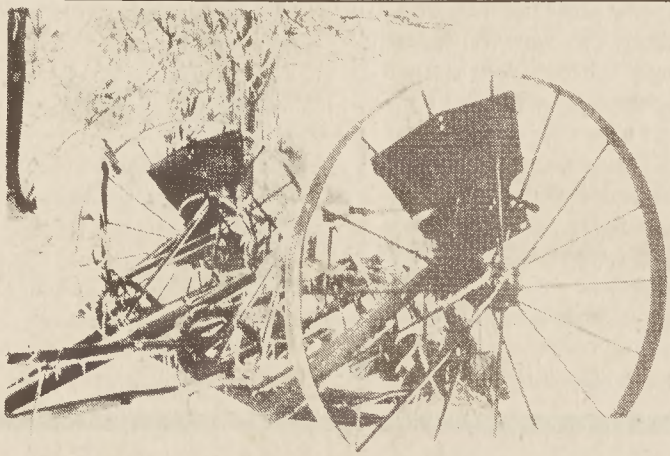
"I had seen all the trees down on 150, and I asked Paul if he wanted to ride with me and see them," Turner said. When the two spotted the flames, they at first thought another power line was downed; as they

drove closer, they saw flames coming out both sides of the chimney at the Randolph house about halfway up the building.

Firechief Randall McSwain of city fire attributed the cause of the blaze to a hole in the chimney. Damage was between \$3000 to \$4000, he said.

Turner is the son of Talmadge and Mary Turner. Huggins is the son of James and Teresa Huggins. Both families live in Boiling Springs.

### In A Word: Brr-r-r-r!



Ice and snow, not hay and flowers, stops this old mower, frozen in temperature as well as time.

## The Weather Is Not For The Birds, Either

The loss of power throughout most of Cleveland County not only created hardship for urban residents, it also endangered a rural industry which in 1981 provided a \$13 million gross income for the county: poultry, produced at the approximately 50 commercial turkey, broiler, and egg farms within Cleveland County.

Most commercial poultry producers depend on electric feeders to provide the birds a constant supply of feed and water. Electric power was out throughout most of Cleveland County last Friday and Saturday, and in

some areas outages persisted throughout Monday.

"I talked to a turkey man at Union Mill who had all kinds of problems," said David Munro, a poultry pathologist at the NC Dept. of Agriculture. "His birds had gone 21 hours without water or feed."

Chickens can withstand cold weather, Munro said, "once they get their feathers," but a cold wind can kill them. "They can stand cold weather, but they can't stand drafts," Munro said.

Munro's turkey farmer did not have a generator, which other turkey, egg, and boiler producers

install to insure power; even generators can fail, however as Mrs. Bill Davis of B&M Farms, a large egg producer near Double Springs Baptist Church, discovered.

"Our power was out about two days," Mrs. Davis said. Her husband turned on the farms' generator at 5 a.m. each day, turning off the power at night. On the third day, Sunday, the generator failed to start.

"But we got our power back on Sunday, so the chickens didn't suffer too much," Mrs. Davis said.

Feeding and providing water by hand to the 100,000 layers at B&M would be possible, Mrs. Davis said, "but it would be a full-time job."

According to Frank Spencer, county agricultural agent, Cleveland County ranked in the top ten in the state during 1981, the last year figures are available, for the production of eggs and turkeys. Most turkey producers are located at the northern end of the county, Spencer said; most egg producers are located to the south near Latimore, he said.

## A Farmer's 100 Years

L.A. "Gus" Bridges, who began his farming career hauling timber by mules to the new textile mills being built at Caroleen about 1896, died Friday at his home in Mooresboro. He was 100.

Mr. Bridges, who retired from farming in 1938, worked his farm with mules all of his career. "He never owned a tractor," said his grandson, Paul Jolley. "We talked about farming about 20 years ago and he said then that the changes in farming had amazed him."

Mrs. Bridges was a native of

Cleveland County. His wife was the late Oral Turner Bridges. Survivors are four daughters, Eva Daves, Eunice Bridges, Corleen Bridges, and Lois Jolley of Mooresboro; one half-brother, Worth Bridges, of Ellenboro; one half-sister, Lassie Jenkins, of Ellenboro; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and eight great-great-grandchildren.

He was a member of Race Path Baptist Church, where services were conducted Sunday, followed by burial at the church cemetery.

## Mrs. Humphries "Goes Home"

Having raised seven children in a home her minister characterized as a "lodging of love," Mary Helen Beason Humphries was buried Tuesday at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church cemetery following her death Sunday at Cleveland Memorial Hospital. She was 68.

A native of Cleveland County, Mrs. Humphries was the daughter of the late Pink and Dicie Waters Brown. In addition to her children, she is survived by her husband, Archie Humphries, one brother and one sister.

"A true home has character," Rev. Ronald McSwain said at her funeral, with "no pretense."

He found those characteristics, he said, at the Humphries home. Mrs. Humphries was also a woman marked by her wit, McSwain said.

Mrs. Humphries was a member of the Senior Adult Sunday School class at Mt. Pleasant, and was a member of the Sunshine Club.

Her children are: five sons, Dan Humphries of Huntersville, Archie Humphries, Jr., Steve Humphries, and Buddy Humphries, all of Mooresboro, and Larry Humphries of Ellenboro; and two daughters, Mrs. Joan Harris and Mrs. Sara Lue Wright, both of Mooresboro.

## Boiling Springs Resident Is Elected Trustee

Harrill Gene Washburn of Oak Avenue, Boiling Springs, has been elected to Gardner-Webb College's Board of Trustees.

Washburn was nominated for the position by the Nominating Committee of the N.C. Baptist State Convention and was elected by the Convention at its annual session.

Members of the board of trustees of the college must be residents of the state of N.C. and members in good standing of a Baptist Church co-operating with the Baptist State Convention of N.C. Establishing policies and projecting long range goals are part of their vital roles.

Washburn is a member of Boiling Springs Baptist Church. He is currently a practicing physician with the Boiling Springs Medical Associates.

He has served as chief of staff at Crawley Memorial Hospital and as an instructor at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine in Winston-Salem.

Washburn received an A.A. degree from Gardner-Webb College, a B.S. degree from Wake Forest University and a M.D. degree from the Bowman Gray School of Medicine.

He is a member of the Lions Club, the Fellowship Christian Athletes, the American Medical Association, the Southern Medical Association, the N.C. Medical Society, the Cleveland County Medical Society and the American Association of Family Physicians.

Married to Billie Falls Washburn, they have four children, Andrea, Charlene, Harrill Gene Jr., and Sherry.

## Bringing Teachers To Apples

The 1983 area winter peach and apple school will be held Monday, January 31. The peach program will be presented from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. with the apple program being presented from 3:15 to 9:30 p.m. The school will be held at the Cleveland County Office Building, 130 South Post

Road, in Shelby. Persons with an interest in commercial peach and apple production in Cleveland and surrounding counties are encouraged to attend. For more information contact Curtis Styles

at the Agricultural Extension Service, 482-4365.

## There's Life Under That Snow And Ice

Not everyone welcomes the occasional snowstorms to the Piedmont, but they do provide the opportunity for a different and interesting view of the landscape.

The goldenrod still holds its seed heads high, reminding us of the yellow plumes there not long ago. Milkweeds droop in all directions, their silky seeds parachuted away months back.

And there are other reminders of the fall flowers at the road edges: the globe-like seed heads of the black-eyed Susan and the dried flowers and seeds of the various kinds of Asters: fuzzy stars or little powder puffs. Around these remnants of wild flowers are tiny tracts in the snow of the birds searching out the seeds while the stems of rushes and grasses arch gracefully in the wind nearby.

Many buds can be seen on the trees. They withstand the cold

aided by substances produced by their cells acting much like the antifreeze in our car radiators.

Buds employ other protective devices, too. Some are covered with layers of scales, others develop a wooly insulation, and still others have a varnish-like protective coat. For many trees, exposure to cold is a necessary step in the buds development, ending its dormancy in readiness for spring.

The greatest concert for trees during snow periods is the possibility for snapping and breaking of branches during ice formation from melting and refreezing, snow compaction and high winds. In most years, fortunately, the snow is not excessive, and healthy, mature trees are well able to cope with the stresses encountered.

The strength of a tree derives from its cellular architecture. The active growing part of the

trunk is a thin sheath just beneath the bark, the cambium layer. As the cells of this layer grow and divide, the outer portions form the bark and other external tissues, while the inner cells form the woody portion.

These closely packed woody cells grow long and enlarge by adding cellulose to their walls providing strength and pliability to the structure. As the cells die, the cell walls remain in the form of hollow, interconnected tubes which can carry water and nutrients from the roots to the leaves.

This outer part of the trunk is appropriately called the sapwood, serving as the tree's plumbing system in transporting sap and fluids throughout.

As the tree matures, the cellular tubes in the center portion of the trunk, the heartwood, become plugged with oily, resinous substances. They no

longer carry fluids but function to support the tree's increasing weight and height.

This natural design is well engineered, enabling the tree to withstand stresses normally encountered. Even a heavy snow is most often an insulating blanket rather than a danger for a healthy tree.

In between the human hazards of coming and going in this season, the winter snow scene can be lovely, as many artists have demonstrated. One can see the graceful silhouettes of the trees against the sky, the spent flowers along the roadside and even a touch of color in the young saplings at the edges of the trails—the green bark of the sweet gums and the red of the sourwoods and red maples.

Have a look now. It'll be very different soon.