



1871 Swain County Centennial Year 1971

The Smoky Mountain Times

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Dale Huddleston

New Times Editor

Dale Huddleston, a retired Marine Major was named this week as editor of The Smoky Mountain Times. He replaces George Owens who was editor for the past three years.

The announcement was made this week by Jack Owens, publisher of the newspaper.

"We are very fortunate and pleased to have this well rounded, community minded man at the head of the Times," Owens said. "I am satisfied that Dale will produce a newspaper that the people of Swain County will be proud of."

A native of Pickett County, Tennessee, Huddleston has lived in Swain County for over two years and been very active in community affairs.

He is president of the Swain County Heart Association, fund-raising chairman for the Swain County Chapter of the American Red Cross, member of the Swain County Advisory Board Planning Committee, member of the Regional

Advisory Board of Planned Parenthood of Western North Carolina and is currently completing editorship of the Historical booklet for the Centennial Celebration.

Huddleston enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1936 and was with the initial waves of Marines that landed on Guadalcanal in 1942. As a result he was wounded and spent a year in a hospital.

He entered the Marine Corps guided Missiles program in 1948 and received a commission to 2nd Lieutenant during the Korean war.

The last nine years of his service career he spent as project officer for REDEYE, a man-portable, shoulder-launched, infra-red guided anti-aircraft missile for protection of the infantry troops against low-flying airplanes. He prepared the first Marine Corps operation manual for this project.

Huddleston received many citations and commendations for service in research, engineering, development and testing of USMC missiles.

He is married to the former Maxine Walls of the Almond Section of Swain County. They are both members of the First Baptist Church and reside at Bryson City.

Queen's Contest Rules Explained

The Queen's Contest is underway! The Rogers Co. director, Mr. Eymann, explained the details of the contest to an enthusiastic group of ladies last Thursday night in the Methodist Fellowship Hall. Anyone between the ages of 16 and 96 and a resident of Swain County or works in Swain County, is eligible to become the Centennial Queen. Each contestant will sell coupons to the centennial pageant, "The Mountain Man" in order to obtain points in the contest. The coupons that the Queen's contestants are selling will cost \$1.25. Actual trade value of these coupons will be \$1.50. Therefore by purchasing a coupon from your favorite couponer's contestant, your savings will amount to 25

cents per ticket. This coupon can be exchanged for 1 adult or 2 children's tickets at Centennial Headquarters beginning May 24. The price of an adult ticket at the gate will be \$1.50. Each candidate will receive 1,000 votes for each coupon sold. The queen's contestant securing the greatest number of votes will be chosen Swain County Centennial Queen. The next six top princess's with the greatest number of votes will serve as members of the Court of Honor, giving Swain County a total of six princess's and a lovely Centennial Queen. The contest will close on June 3 at 7:00 p.m. Buy your coupon now and help out your favorite queen's contestant. Remember you save yourself money in the process!

County Urged To Sue U.S.

WAYNESVILLE—The North Carolina and Tennessee National Park Commission urged Swain County Monday to go ahead with its plans to bring court action against the federal government to honor a legal commitment to build a road around the southern border of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

At the same time, the two groups agreed that the federal government cannot legally close or phase out U.S. 441 through the park as recently proposed by National Parks Service Director George Hartzog.

Meeting in joint session here, the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission and the N.C. National Park, Parkway and Forests Development Commission voted unanimously to back Swain County's stand. "We wish," the resolution said, "to encourage the Swain County Board of Commissioners to pursue its previous, announced intention to bring court action against the National Park Service to honor the 1943 contract, and that the board proceed immediately."

The 1943 contract, made between the Park Service and Swain County and the State of North Carolina, called for the construction of a park road from Bryson City to Fontana in exchange for 44,000 acres of Swain County land.

Swain County turned over the land for inclusion in the Great Smokies Park, but thus far the federal government has built only five miles of the road.

Six years ago the Park Service proposed a trans-

mountain road from Bryson City to Townsend, Tenn., in lieu of the Bryson City-Fontana Road, and Swain County and North Carolina agreed to this. But the offer was hardly made when the Park Service withdrew it.

In recent months, the Park Service has proposed that a road be built around the park and that U.S. 441, the only road through the park, be closed or phased out.

Swain County has insisted all along that the Park Service take one of three courses:

1. Build the new transmountain road from Monteith Branch to Townsend.
2. Or fulfill the original 1943 agreement by finishing the Bryson City-Fontana Road.
3. Or return the 44,000 acres of land to Swain County.

Recently the Swain County Board of Commissioners voted to bring court action against the federal government if none of these courses was agreed to and asked the state's attorney general to prepare such action.

Former U.S. Sen. Hubert S. Walters of Morristown, Tenn., chairman of the Tennessee Park Commission, said that although his state was not a party to the 1943 agreement, "We are wholly in sympathy with Swain County and North Carolina and support your stand."

"There's been enough talk," Walters said. "There's a legal contract and it should be honored without further talk."

Julian Morton of Knoxville, a member of the Tennessee Commission, said that the Smoky Mountain Conservation Association which played a part in the establishment of the park "backs the Townsend-Bryson City Road and opposes closing or phasing out of U.S. 441."

Walters pointed out that both Tennessee and North Carolina in turning over the highway to the Park Service in 1951 stipulated that it would never be closed to the public.

Northwestern Bank

Lowers Loan Rates

The Northwestern Bank of Bryson City announced today a reduction in their consumer loan rates.

Consumer loans apply to home improvement loans, automobile loans and direct personal loans.

The announcement was made by Bill Henson, vice president of the local bank.

Henson stated that the reduction of rates is due to the easing money market.

Firms Receive Safety Awards

Three Bryson City firms received certificates honoring them for safety achievements made during 1970 at the annual Safety Awards Banquet in Asheville last Friday night. Certificates were awarded to industries which had no lost-time accidents for the period covered.

North Carolina Commissioner of Labor Frank Crane, assisted by other representatives of the Department of Labor, presented the awards. These Bryson City firms were among 156 in Western North Carolina to receive the awards.

Certificates were presented to Fairlane Sportswear Inc., for the third consecutive year, and Consolidated Furniture Industries and Heritage Quilts received first year awards.

WEATHER

Tuesday, May 4, Sunny. Low 24, high 67.
Wednesday, May 5, cloudy with intermittent rain. Low 38, High 71.
Thursday, May 6, scattered showers. Low 49, high 67.
Friday, May 7, sunny. Low 54, high 78.
Saturday, May 8, sunny. Low 52, high 79.
Sunday, May 9, sunny with early morning fog. Low 42, high 76.
Monday, May 10, sunny. Low 40, high 80.

"I don't see how the Park Service can evade these contracts and close the road," Walters said.

The two commissions entered into the record a letter from Sen B. Everett Jordan of North Carolina to Hartzog concerning proposed restrictions on U.S. 441.

Jordan's letter, dated April 29, said the closing of the road or phasing it out "would first of all, appear to repudiate the understanding under which the states of North Carolina and Tennessee provided the right-of-way for the highway at the time of its construction."

"Of equal importance," Jordan added, "is the fact that at least initially, it would further compound the injustice done to the State of North Carolina and to Swain County through the government's failure to satisfy the 1943 contract under which land was provided for establishment of the Great Smoky Park."

Frank Brown of Cullowhee, N.C. Park Commission chairman, pointed out that the original road was built and paid for by the states of North Carolina and Tennessee.

"The federal government," he said, "didn't spend one cent on the original road across the Smokies."

Postal Rates To Increase

Postmaster Harold Dav's said today that increases in most postage rates will take effect May 16 as the new United States Postal Service begins its task of achieving self sufficiency as required by the Postal Reorganization Act.

Mr. Davis noted that general postage rates have not been increased since 1967 when Congress passed what was to become its final legislative act in this respect.

He pointed out that, earlier, requests for rate increases were proposed to Congress in 1969 by both President Johnson and President Nixon. In addition, President Nixon proposed an increase again in 1970, although none of the proposed increases was acted upon by Congress.

Mr. Davis explained that the new increases—authorized on a temporary basis until the newly created Postal Rate Commission can make recommendations to the Governors of the Postal Service on permanent changes—will raise first-class letter rates from 6 to 8 cents an ounce, and

airmail letter rates from 10 to 11 cents an ounce. Post cards will go from 5 to 6 cents each and airmail post cards will go from 8 to 9 cents each.

The increases will be borne more by business than individuals, the postmaster pointed out, since about 75 per cent of the first class and airmail is from commercial mailers.

In addition to increases in first-class rates, second and third class will also go up on May 16. However, the full increases proposed by the Postal Service will not be put into effect on a temporary basis, in second and third class, since the reform legislation contemplates that such increases be phased over 5 years — or ten years for nonprofit organizations — provided Congress appropriates the necessary funds to ease the transition to full rates.

Because of the phasing provision, the increases to become effective May 16 for second and third-class will generally be only one fifth of the total increase which has been proposed by the Postal Service.

No changes are made in the rates for parcel post, which is the principal component of fourth-class class mail. However, initial increases will be made in the "book rate" which is classified as fourth class.

The new temporary rates also make changes in other postage rate categories and special service fees, such as special delivery and registered mail.

The Postal Service advised the public in February that it intended to make the temporary increase if the Postal Rate Commission did not make the recommended decision within 90 days of the request by the Postal Service.

Recently the Rate Commission confirmed that it will not be able to make a decision within the 90 days, and Sunday, May 16, was selected as the date on which the rates would become effective.

When the domestic changes go into effect, there will be conforming increases in letter rates to Canada and Mexico.

Chamber Of Commerce

Seeks New Members

The Swain County Chamber of Commerce is conducting its annual campaign for 1971 members. It is reported that the response has been good. If you have not been contacted or have neglected to get your dues in, it is suggested that this be done soon.

The membership dues are \$25.00. If you desire to be listed in the brochure, there is an additional charge of \$10.00. Be sure and include your message for the brochure listing.

It should be emphasized that the work of the Chamber of Commerce is accomplished through the efforts of a concerned group of volunteers. These individuals, devoid of self-interests, are dedicated to the promotion of our county and town, their industries, businesses, and people. Let's help them help us.

Any questions concerning the Chamber of Commerce should be directed to Mrs. Illa Ferguson, President.



Left to right: Alice Young, Helen Gibson, Betty Carlson, Eudora Gunn, and Mayor Ellen Hyams. These ladies were a part of the group of Bryson

Centennial Attire

City Business and Professional Women in attendance at the district meeting at Lambuth Inn recently. They reportedly attracted more than casual attention with their Centennial attire.



Danny Myers

Danny Myers Tapped For Phi Beta Kappa

Danny Allen Myers of Bryson City, is one of 164 University of North Carolina students tapped for membership in Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's highest scholastic honor, in ceremonies at Chapel Hill on Tuesday, May 4.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Myers of Bryson City.

He has been a student at the University since September 1967 and is now a senior. He is majoring in Chemistry at UNC and plans a career in medicine.

At UNC, he has been active in Alpha Phi Omega, Delta Phi Alpha, Alpha Epsilon Delta, Resident Advisor Program, and has been a Morehead Scholar.

When the domestic changes go into effect, there will be conforming increases in letter rates to Canada and Mexico.

Clean-Up Underway

In conjunction with the Mayor's Proclamation on "Clean-Up, Paint-Up, Fix-Up Week", the Town of Bryson City and County of Swain have initiated an overall Clean-Up Program with "Operation Mainstream" workers. Roadways and ditch lines have been back cleaned from Birdtown and Whittier through Bryson City and West to Almond.

A concentrated trash and brush collection within the City Limits on back streets and vacant lots began Monday of this week. People having debris and brush to be hauled off are asked to call the Town Office and a truck will be sent as quickly as possible.

Broyhill Home To Open May 16

Humphrey Browning and Paul Breedlove, County Chairmen, announce the opening of the Broyhill Home near Waynesville, N.C. on Sunday, May 16, beginning at 3 p.m. The Broyhill Home is the Baptist Childrens Home for Western North Carolina. 24 children will be moving into the two cottages that are completed as soon as school is out. As soon as funds are available two additional cottages will be built and Mr. Browning has stated that we already have a waiting list of WNC children who will more than fill all four cottages.

Should anyone wish to share in this ministry to homeless children please contact Mr. Browning or Mr. Breedlove and they will be happy to receive your contribution. "I assure you that all money given will be used in the construction of these cottages at the Broyhill Home." Mr. Browning said. He further stated that there are a number of other ways in which one may contribute such as: furnishings, equipment, garden supplies, clothing, etc. If you would like additional information on these Mr. Browning or Mr. Breedlove will be happy to furnish you with details.

The Swain County chairmen invites all those people who have already contributed and all interested friends to drive out to Waynesville next Sunday, May 16 to the open house. To get to the Home, turn off the Expressway at Jones Cove Road exit and go to its end and you will be at Broyhill Homes.

Swain Farmers Get Help With Planting

Swain tomato farmers hope that spring is here. The arrival today of 28,500 tomato plants from Alabama started some of our farmers off on another crop of trellised tomatoes.

Setting plants in the past has been a job for lots of people, but with the use of the tractor drawn plant setter this part of tomato production is much easier. Farmers Irvin

Clark and Maynard Brown use this machine and like the results they get. They say that plants seem to live better, plus getting the job done much faster.

These imported plants are a start, many others are grown locally. This high income crop offers tremendous income potential to people who are interested in intensive farming.



Planting Help

The above machine is being used by Irvin Clark and Maynard Brown of Deep Creek to plant tomatoes over an approximate three-acre area. The

men in the rear of the machine, James Clark and Robbie Conley, feed the plants to the machine which waters them and plants them.