



Ralph Ramsey Jr., left, is shown receiving a check for more than \$150,000 from Richard Queen in full payment for the old Transylvania County Hospital building on Country Club Rd. A picture of the check and news story are on the front of The Times.

Tar Heel Spotlight

Battle Of Moore's Creek Led To Halifax Resolves

Feb. 27 marks the 199th anniversary of a military action that has been called the "Lexington and Concord of the South." On that date in 1776 Revolutionary forces from North Carolina scored a stunning victory over troops loyal to the British crown at the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, 18 miles above Wilmington.

Gov. Josiah Martin, the last royal executive of North Carolina, had been forced to flee the palace at New Bern late in May, 1775. Seeking refuge in a British warship cruising off the coast, Martin dreamed of crushing the rebellious Revolutionaries. On June 30, 1775, he submitted a plan to his superiors in England to achieve his purpose.

A former British army officer, Martin proposed to raise at least 9,000 Loyalists in North Carolina, of whom a third would be Highlanders from the Cross Creek (Fayetteville) area and another third would be regulars from westward counties like Rowan and Anson. These forces would meet British regulars in the

Wilmington area in February 1776, and commence the conquest of North Carolina and the South.

Largely through the efforts of Brig. Gen. Donald MacLeod and Lt. Col. Donald MacLeod, both of whom Martin had commissioned, huge numbers of loyal Highlanders were recruited. To all Scots who joined the effort, the British government promised 200 acres of land and 20 years of tax exemption.

Concerned by reports of the growing numbers of Loyalist recruits, North Carolina Revolutionary leaders began to mobilize in the fall of 1775. During November and December troops from the colony participated in actions in Virginia and South Carolina.

On Jan. 3, 1776, Josiah Martin received word that the British ministry had approved his plan and that troops under Generals Clinton and Cornwallis were sailing to rendezvous with his Loyalists at Wilmington. A week later Martin issued a proclamation calling for all loyal North Carolinians to suppress the

rebellion in the colony. By mid-February nearly 1,600 Highlanders under Donald Mac Donald had gathered at Cross Creek, and on the 18th they began marching to Wilmington. Col. James Moore, in charge of strategy for Revolutionary troops, set about deploying his forces to block the rendezvous at Wilmington and to take possession of Cross Creek.

Patriots under Colonels Richard Caswell, Alexander Lillington and James Ashe were to join in securing Moore's Creek Bridge, over which the Loyalists would have to pass on their southward march.

On the evening of Feb. 26 about 1,100 patriots arrived at the creek. They ripped up much of the flooring of the wooden bridge and greased the supports with soft soap and tallow.

When the Highlanders (now numbering about 1,400) arrived at sunrise the following day, they launched an immediate attack. Confronted with the difficulty of crossing the slippery bridge and met by a hail of bullets, the Loyalists were confused and disorganized. For three bloody minutes they tried to cross the creek, but eventually their commander, Donald MacLeod, was killed and they retreated rapidly.

The Highlanders had nearly 50 casualties; the Revolutionaries sustained only one killed and one wounded. In addition, the patriots captured almost 2,000 guns, 850 soldiers, and several officers including Gen. Mac Donald. In one swift blow, North Carolina had been saved from conquest.

The victory at Moore's Creek heartened Revolutionaries within the colony and elsewhere. Frequent talk about reconciliation by all but the most ardent patriots had preceded the battle, but after Feb. 27, independence was the word on most Revolutionary lips.

The Fourth Provincial Congress meeting at Halifax in April 1776, issued its Resolves calling on the Continental Congress to declare independence — the first such official action by any state body. Without the triumph at Moore's Creek Bridge, the Halifax Resolves would never have been adopted when they were.

Blue Ridge Revival March 3-10

Revival services will be held at Blue Ridge Baptist Church March 3-10 at 7:30 p.m. each evening. There will also be special singing.

Evangelist Rev. Jim Pruitt from New Port News, Va., will conduct the services.

Rev. Charles H. Pierson, pastor, invites everyone to attend.

Guidance, Counseling Week Is Proclaimed

This is Guidance and Counseling Week in North Carolina by proclamation of Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr.

The Governor made the proclamation at the request of the N.C. Personnel and Guidance Assn.

The contents of the proclamation follow:

PROCLAMATION
by the
GOVERNOR
of the
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr.

Whereas, The education of our children, youth and adults is a top priority and of immeasurable value to the people of this state; and,

Whereas, Guidance and counseling programs in our schools are major contributing factors and fulfill integral roles in the growth and development of our children and youth; and,

Whereas, Guidance and counseling programs for our adult citizens provide for specific needs in employment placement and rehabilitation services; and,

Whereas, The annual North Carolina Personnel and Guidance Association Annual Convention will be held February 27, 28 and March 1, 1975; and,

Whereas, the members of the North Carolina Personnel and Guidance Association seek to share with our children, youth, and adults their wisdom and counsel as well as their love and friendship;

Now, Therefore, I proclaim the Week of February 23-March 1, 1975, as

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING WEEK

in North Carolina, and urge all citizens of this State to participate in this observance with appropriate recognition and appreciation of the outstanding efforts of these who counsel our citizens of all ages.

Help your Heart...
Help your Heart Fund

Two Heart Fund Chairmen Named

Two Heart Fund division chairmen have been announced for Transylvania.

Bob Leonard, of Schenck Job Corps, has accepted the post of Balloon and Tag Days Chairman for the 1975 Heart Fund in Brevard, it was announced by Roby Shore, Heart Fund chairman.

He will be in charge of Job Corps volunteer Heart Fund workers who will sell the bright red balloons at shopping areas in Brevard during March, when the Transylvania Heart Association conducts its annual fund raising campaign.

The corpsmen will sell on Saturday, March 1, 8, 15, 22 at the shopping centers and uptown areas.

Mr. Shore said that proceeds from sales of the Heart Fund balloons will be used to help support Heart Association programs that are intended to detect and prevent cardiovascular disease, which is responsible for 55 per cent of all deaths in North Carolina.

Blanche Batson has been appointed Heart Sunday chairman for Brevard, it was

FARM INCOME

Although there are fewer farmers and fewer farms, North Carolina agriculture is growing and growing. Gross receipts from farm marketings were \$739 million in 1949. In 1973, the latest year for which figures are available, gross receipts were \$2.4 billion.

announced by Mr. Shore.

As Heart Sunday chairman, Mrs. Batson will organize volunteers who will conduct the 1975 door-to-door residential solicitation in Brevard, Mr. Shore said.

Mr. Shore pointed out, that in the past 12 months, 26,380 persons in North Carolina died as a result of cardiovascular disease, and said that contributing to the Heart Fund is the best way that the people of Transylvania County can fight this major health problem.

T. C. Henderson Preschool Day March 6

Preschool day will be held at T.C. Henderson School Thursday, March 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., it has been announced by Principal Bill Cathey.

Parents who have children who will be six years old prior to Oct. 16, 1975, are urged to attend this event. He asks that parents come and bring a copy of the child's birth certificate for the school's record.

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