

## Calendar Of The Week's EVENTS

**THURSDAY, JULY 28**  
8:30 p. m.—Square dance (benefit Franklin Athletic Association) at Slagle Memorial building.  
**FRIDAY**  
7:30 p. m.—Softball League games at Franklin Athletic field.  
**SATURDAY**  
7:30—Teen Age club at Hotel Hearn.  
8 p. m.—Square dance (American Legion benefit) at Memorial building.  
**MONDAY**  
10 a. m.—Board of county commissioners at courthouse.  
10 a. m.—County board of education at courthouse.  
10:30 a. m.—Baptist Pastors' conference at First Baptist church.  
7 p. m.—Franklin Troop No. 1, Boy Scouts, at Memorial building.  
7:30 p. m.—Franklin board of aldermen at town office.  
7:30 p. m.—Softball league games at athletic field.  
**TUESDAY**  
7:30 p. m.—Junaluskee Lodge No. 145, A. F. and A. M., at Masonic hall.  
8 p. m.—Co-Ed club at Memorial building.  
**WEDNESDAY**  
7 p. m.—Franklin Rotary club at Memorial building.  
8 p. m.—Signal Tel. and Tel. (army reserve) Operations Company No. 3547 at Agricultural building.

## 60 Children Are Taking Red Cross Swim Instruction

With approximately 60 children enrolled for the Red Cross beginners' swimming class, which got under way at Arrowood Glade Monday, it was necessary to break the class up into two sections, it was learned yesterday from Mrs. Alice Rimmer, Red Cross executive secretary. One section is taught Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons, and the other Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday afternoons. Miss Ann Lyle is instructor, and Miss Ruth (Baye) Angel is assistant.

## Do You Remember . . . ?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

### 50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

There will be a private examination held in the courthouse on the 27th inst. for the benefit of all the teachers who have not yet obtained certificates to teach in our public schools this fall. Each applicant will be charged a fee of one dollar.—J. R. Pendergrass, Co. Supt.

Dr. J. H. Fouts was driving in his buggy with an umbrella over him a few days ago when the lightning paid its respects to the umbrella and the Dr's arm. Not much injury resulted, but the Dr. folded his umbrella and quietly took the rain.

Mr. C. C. Daniels, of Wilson, N. C., came in Saturday to see his family.

### 25 YEARS AGO

Lower Tesenta News: There was music at Mr. Henry Cabe's last Friday night. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Mark Ledbetter, Messrs. General and Herschel Rhodes, Messrs. Glen Moss, Vinson Ledbetter, Dewey Rhodes, Willie Keener, James Rhodes, and Robert Ledbetter, Misses Hester Ammons, Jessie Moss, and Grace Ledbetter. Mr. Cabe and Miss Grace Ledbetter made the music.

### 10 YEARS AGO

The annual flower show, which is sponsored by the Franklin Garden Club, will be held July 29 in the McCoy store room on Main street.

Officers elected for the Macon County post of the American Legion for the ensuing year are: C. Tom Bryson, commander; W. R. Waldrop, vice-commander; A. R. Higdon, adjutant; Harley Dunbar, chaplain; and John E. McPherson, sergeant-at-arms.

## Here's Story Of One Veteran's Farm Success--And His Future

The story of Clarence Vanhook, young Macon County farm veteran of the Hickory Knoll section, is the story of a young man's future here in progressive farming, aided by the farm training program. It also is the story of a veteran who decided to stay at home instead of being drawn to the city by the lure of quick money, who was willing to mix school-book advice with experience, and to plant a new kind of seed on land that most people thought was too poor to grow anything. Clarence Vanhook was discharged from the armed forces in 1945.

He had served three years in the army air force. He came home wondering what he would do—thought perhaps he would see home folks and friends and then "light out" somewhere to find a job. However, he did have 30 acres of farm land with no buildings on it—but it was pretty hard to make a living on 10 acres of land, and that was about all that he thought was suitable for farming. The rest was mountain land, too steep to farm.

Here was a farm boy who by heritage and training was inclined toward the farm. He had always done it, he knew the work, and he liked it. But his farm was run down from lying idle while he was in service and it would take time and capital to build it up. He was willing to work, if only he had the money necessary to make the needed improvements.

Through reading the papers and talking to other veterans, he learned of the farm training program for veterans. Under it he could receive \$97.50 per month to build his farm, but he would have to go to school at night. He thought about it. A lot of young men were making good money in Detroit, Cleveland, and other northern cities. But he was married, wanted a

home, and he liked to live in Macon County where he was born and reared. Still, he doubted if "a little fellow would have a chance at this G. I. business. Those government things were for the big shots." Some of the boys, however, insisted that this program was really meant to help folk like him.

He decided to try the farm training program. That was three years ago. His assets totaled 30 acres of land and \$1,600 he had saved while in service.

Clarence Vanhook now has a nice seven-room house and a well planned farm, and he doesn't owe any money. More than that, he has a firm toehold and a future in Macon County.

His house is a frame dwelling with asbestos siding. While economy and thrift were the key-words in which modern conveniences have not been overlooked. Mrs. Vanhook has electricity and water in the home, with an electric refrigerator in the kitchen. Besides the kitchen, there is a living room and two bedrooms. In the concrete basement there is a shower, plus an enclosed preserve closet. This house was built at a cost of \$3,000, and Mr. Vanhook had enough lumber left to build his barn.

A trip over young Vanhook's farm shows what the combination of a willing worker, with some capital to help, who is willing to study and try new improvements in farming can accomplish.

Two acres of the land that this young man, born and raised in Macon County, thought was too steep to farm have been converted into pasture.

In February, 1948, Mr. Vanhook took those two acres of land, that was covered with scalds and across which he had skidded the logs necessary to produce the lumber for three dwellings, and "bull-tongued it

with a mule." Six months before, he had spread two tons of lime to the acre over it. In April he applied 1,000 pounds of phosphate and 200 pounds, of 6-8-6 fertilizer. The fertilizer was to "give it a little extra hooch".

He then sowed the land with 15 pounds of orchard grass and two pounds of ladino clover. He kept stock off the land until the grass and clover were well established and for the rest of that summer he grazed only two head of stock there. This year, since April, he has been grazing six head of stock, and the clover has completely covered every scald, and stands from four to six inches high.

The veteran has made three acres more of level land into a hog pasture, using the same seed mixture as for the slope land. On these three acres he has grazed four shoats and two brood sows, plus cutting two stacks of hay.

To supplement his pasture, he has two acres in lespedeza, one acre of oats, and one acre of corn.

For a cash income, he has two-tenths of an acre in tobacco.

He gets most of his food from a three-quarter acre garden.

This veteran was assisted by the farm training program and by being able to purchase his seed and fertilizer through AAA. For example, the seed and fertilizer for his upland pasture cost him less than half the \$30.40 that these supplies would have cost had he purchased them retail.

What about this young man's future? Let him speak for himself.

"If they will get me a road in here that I can get over in all weather, I'll have a Grade A dairy barn before I'm off the (veterans farm training) program. Then I'll ask no help from anybody."

And, adjudging from what he has done in the past, he won't need any.

## CHECK REVEALS GUEST BUSINESS HERE 'SPOTTY'

Non - Transient Hotels,  
However, Report  
They Are Full

The tourist business in Franklin is "spotty", neither excellent nor poor, a check made by the chamber of commerce yesterday revealed.

In most cases, the survey showed, those establishments which cater to visitors who come for stays ranging from several days to several weeks are doing well, while those that cater to transients are not.

Trimont inn, Kelly's inn, and the Franklin lodge, which fall into the first general group, reported they are full, with many reservations for the remainder of the summer. Some hotels which do not serve meals, however, have few guests.

Reports from the auto courts were "spotty" also. One reported it was half full, and some of the others were less than half full.

Some cabin camps were filled and booked for the rest of the season, while others are either empty or only partially filled.

While no exact figure was available, rough estimates placed the total number of tourists now in and near Franklin at between 200 and 300.

## Square Dance Tonight Ball Field Benefit

A benefit square dance, to raise funds for the Franklin Athletic association, will be held at the Slagle Memorial building tonight (Thursday) at 8:30 o'clock.

The money raised will go to the fund sought to add 1,200 stadium seats to the approximately 600 built about a year ago. A minimum of \$2,000, it is estimated, is needed for the purpose.

Several local musicians have volunteered to provide string band music for the dancing without charge, and the services of some of the most experienced callers in the county have been obtained, it was said.

R. R. (Bob) Gaines, chairman of the athletic association committee sponsoring the event, pointed out that a secondary purpose of the dance is to provide entertainment for visitors here. He suggested persons who never have seen square dancing will be interested in attending to watch the event, and emphasized that visitors also are invited to participate.

The Macon County Baptist Pastors' conference will be held at the First Baptist church here Monday morning at 10:30 o'clock. The Rev. W. N. Cook will be the speaker, and the Rev. W. C. Pipes will conduct the devotional. The Rev. C. E. Parker is moderator of the group, the Rev. Edgar Willix, secretary, and the Rev. Arvil Swafford, program chairman.

## School Bus Routes To Get First 'Mud Road' State Money

### Macon Needs Discussed At Road Meet

Macon County road needs bobbed up repeatedly in the discussion at Tuesday's highway district meeting of officials and citizens in Bryson City, and Commissioner L. Dale Thrash showed that he was familiar with some of them.

He himself, for example, raised the question of improvement of the highway between Franklin and Dillsboro, and at another point in the discussion suggested that a road for Nantahala township is about the "hottest" need of Macon County.

As a long-range proposition, the Franklin-Dillsboro road should be relocated, especially that section crossing Co-wee mountain, he said. He added, however, that that would cost \$1,000,000, and is out of the question now.

State highway betterment funds, however, may be available, and he indicated that he would favor widening the curves, perhaps widening the whole 16-foot road to 18 feet, and possibly resurfacing the highway. He did not commit himself, however, as to when this could be done. The need for improvements on this highway was brought out by Frank B. Duncan and R. S. Jones, representing the Franklin chamber of commerce.

When Johnny Burnett, of Sealy, suggested the need for a road between Sealy and Otto, so that Flats township residents would not have to go around by Highlands, Mr. Thrash indicated that need—since there is an outlet road—is much less urgent than the need in Nantahala township.

The latter township's case was presented by Clint May and Weimer Cochran.

Also brought before the commissioner was the need of a road into the Mountain Grove section, so that a school bus can get into that community. In case of highway emergency in this county, Mr. Thrash asked Macon county citizens to get in touch with George Byrd or R. L. Porter.

Macon County persons who attended the meeting included Chairman W. E. (Gene) Baldwin and W. W. Edwards, of the board of county commissioners; H. W. Cabe, mayor of Franklin; Court Clerk J. Clinton Brookshire; Registrar of Deeds Lake V. Shope; President Frank B. Duncan, H. L. Bryant, and R. S. Jones, of the Franklin chamber of commerce; Joe Setser, highway district maintenance supervisor; W. N. Sloan, Fred Fox, Weaver Fox, John Taylor, J. A. (Jim) Raby, C. A. Cabe, Wiley Brown, Harley Ramsey, Jim Ramsey, Carr Bryson, Harley Stewart, J. D. Burnett, T. M. (Tom) Rickman, Grady Bradley, Weaver Cochran, Furman Welch, Clint May, Weimer Cochran, Joe Webb, Ed Parrish, Harley Thomas, C. A. Shields, Fred Corbin, Tom McDowell, Miss Stella McCoy, Conley Wiggins, Capt. E. A. Niblack, and Weimar Jones.

The commission will seek to make sure a road is properly drained before putting rock on it, and that a road is in proper shape before it is blacktopped.

The commission will do preparatory road work with its own forces, and let the rocking and blacktopping jobs to contractor. For its share of the work, the commission will pay \$5,000,000 worth of road equipment—\$645,000 for this division. In this division there are 161,000 miles of mud roads, and the most that can be hoped for is to improve one mile out of six this summer and fall.

Only secondary roads may share in the \$200,000,000. Roads with numbers are not eligible. Unless a property owner is seriously damaged by construction of a road, the commission will pay no damages—and then only if approved by unanimous vote of the 10 commissioners. Those communities where the highway commission gets the greatest cooperation are likely to be the first to get roads.

Headed by Bob Houston, Macon County farmer, and Bruce Palmer, native of Clay county who formerly was employed as a feed salesman, the mill not only will manufacture a variety of livestock feeds, but is prepared to do custom work, the owners pointed out.

The plant, which at present employs five people, is said to be the only feed mill west of Asheville, and is expected to provide a market for grain for this and adjoining counties.

### Thrash Tells Meeting State Will Listen To Local Boards

School bus routes will get first attention in the spending of North Carolina's \$200,000,000 bond issue for the improvement of "mud roads", and boards of county commissioners and county school officials will have a major voice in determining on what roads each county's pro rata share of the money is to be spent, according to L. Dale Thrash, of Asheville, state highway commissioner for this (the tenth) division.

Mr. Thrash outlined the general policies of the commission at a highway district meeting in Bryson City Tuesday. Approximately 350 citizens from the six southwestern counties making up this district attended the conference, held in the Bryson City school auditorium. Following are some of the more important points brought out in the discussion:

Roads that are most traveled and on which the most people live—and those are apt to be school bus routes—warrant the most money. Those roads that have never been rockered.

Which of these roads are most important will be "left largely with the people of the counties"—that is, with the people's elected local officials, members of the boards of county commissioners and county boards of education, who know the local situation best. In this connection, Mr. Thrash urged school boards to work with road authorities so that road plans can be mapped in conformity with plans for changes in school bus routes that are sure to result from consolidations made possible by the schoolhouse building program. The final decision on each road, however, will be made by the state highway commission.

There isn't going to be enough money to put every road in the state in first class condition; "a lot of people are going to be disappointed when all this \$200,000,000 has been spent".

Due to that fact, the commission is considering building some blacktop roads only 12 feet wide—too narrow to pass on. By so doing, a longer stretch of road can be blacktopped for the same money.

It will be at least another month before the first of the road bond money is available. Meanwhile, some highway commission trucks are standing idle for lack of money to operate with.

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## The Weather

	High	Low	Prec.
Wednesday	81	59	.01
Thursday	84	63	.14
Friday	87	59	.00
Saturday	88	59	.08
Sunday	88	58	.00
Monday	88	55	.00
Tuesday	90	57	.00
Wednesday	.....	57	.00

## Will Erect New Athletic Field Fence Next Week

Erection of a new, all-metal fence around the athletic field at the Franklin school will get under way Monday, it was learned yesterday.

R. R. (Bob) Gaines, chairman of a group of business men who have backed the project, has been advised by the Cyclone Fence company, Charlotte, from whom the fence was purchased, that the materials have been shipped, and that representatives of the company will be here next week to start putting it up.

The fence, which cost about \$2,700, will be six feet high, of heavy woven wire, with three strands of barb wire above it. It will be attached to metal posts, to be sunk in 30 inches of concrete.

The fence was financed by advertising, to be placed on the south (left field) end, facing the field.

## Jeff Patton

### Funeral Services Held Tuesday

Funeral services for Jeff Patton, 45, who died at his home about four miles west of Franklin at 2 o'clock Monday morning, were held at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon at the Patton Chapel Methodist church, with the Rev. William L. Sorrells and the Rev. Clint Sawyer officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Elmer Roten, David Carpenter, Bill Pressley, Lee Ray Stanley, Homer Coggins, and James Stanley were pallbearers.

A brick mason and carpenter, Mr. Patton had spent his entire life in Macon County. He was a member of Mount Hope Baptist church.

Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Stella Passmore; a son, Eugene Patton, who made his home with his parents; a brother, Claude, of Franklin; a sister, Mrs. Paul Ledford, of Franklin; and a half-brother, Tom Patton, of Franklin, Route 4. Funeral arrangements were directed by Potts funeral home.

## Silers' 98th

### Annual Reunion Is Set For Thursday

The annual Siler family reunion will be held Thursday of next week with Mr. and Mrs. Allen Siler, at their home on West Main street.

This year's meeting will be the 98th without a break.

The reunion, usually attended by 150 to 200 persons, draws relatives back to Franklin from a wide area. Even at last year's meeting, held during the 1948 polio epidemic, persons were present from eight states and the District of Columbia.

Carl S. Slagle is president and James M. Gray, of Washington, D. C., is secretary of the reunion.

### Attend WNCAC Meet

Frank B. Duncan, R. S. Jones, E. W. Renshaw, Miss Lassie Kelly, John M. Archer, Jr., Ted Reber, and W. T. Latham, of Buck Creek Ranch, attended the meeting of Western North Carolina Associated Communities in Murphy Monday.

## This N. C. Region Given In N. Y. Newspaper

Franklin, Highlands, and this region received publicity of a value it would be hard to estimate when The New York Herald Tribune published a 700-word article about the area in its issue of Sunday, July 3.

The feature story, issued by the State News Bureau, appeared on the newspaper's travel page, under a two-column heading, "Waterfalls and Flowers Adorn North Carolina's Sapphire Area".

After a description of the beauties of the Sapphire country, it referred to Bridal Veil and Dry Falls, Whiteside, Devil's Courthouse, High Hampton, Highlands, Cashiers, Franklin, Highlands' Museum and Biological Laboratory.

Tonight's scheduled meeting of the local Moose lodge has been canceled, in order to make the Slagle Memorial building available for the Franklin Athletic association's benefit square dance.

## SOME INTERESTING FACTS CONCERNING

### Early History Of Smithbridge Township

#### SECOND PRIZE WINNER IN HISTORICAL CONTEST

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following paper won the second prize in the Macon County Historical Society's contest for articles on Macon County history. A prefatory note explains that "this story is built around the statements given by word of mouth to us by interested citizens. We owe a vote of thanks to Mrs. Matt Liner, Mrs. Ada Hyatt, Mrs. Arle Moseley, Mr. Bill Ledford, and Mr. Jim Cabe.")

By FIFTH GRADE  
Otto School  
(Mrs. Joyce Cagle, Teacher)

The present village of Otto was not given a name until 1882. However, in 1835 forty people inhabited the valley. Mr. William Cabe was the first white man to settle here. He found Indians living in the swampy meadows, which is now the Mosely property.

The wilderness of the territory can be imagined from the stories of the large rattlesnakes, which were numerous.

The next settler, John Howard, came to Horse Shoe Bend, south of the present site of Otto. By 1840, eighty-five people had settled in this region.

Wm. Allen, Tate Howard, J. S. Moore and a Mr. Penland helped to build the first Asbury Church, and the first service was said to have been held by a Rev. Asbury, accounting for its name. Charles Dryman was the first man to be buried in the Asbury Church cemetery ninety-seven years ago.

Zachariah Cabe was the first man to settle on Middle Creek, over one hundred years ago. He also found the section inhabited by Indians.

Several years before moving to Otto, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Bradley, grandparents of Mrs. Mat Liner, were encamped, for

protection, at a stockade near Hayesville. This was during the period of time marked by the uprising of the Cherokees. The Indians were camped so close to the stockade they could be seen and heard clearly. Covering themselves with war paint, they were engaged in their war dance, preparing for battle, when the army arrived to deliver the whites and capture the Indians.

During this period of conflict, the frightened Indians in the Smithbridge section hid in the cane brakes at Horse Shoe Bend on the present Jim Cabe property. The army of white soldiers advanced upon them during a rainy season. The Indians, being well hidden, had the advantage at the beginning of battle, dealing numerous fatal blows. Several white men were killed and their fellow

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