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TEN PAGES

THANKSGIVING SERVICES SET IN TWO TOWNS

County Will Join Rest Of Nation In Giving Thanks For Blessings

Tomorrow (Thursday) the 16,000-plus citizens of this small mountain county will join the rest of the nation in giving thanks for the many blessings that have come their way in the past year.

For Macon County, this year's observance of Thanksgiving has deep significance for, in broad terms, its blessings have been many and far reaching.

Traditionally, the marking of Thanksgiving here will center around special interdenominational church services, hunting

PAPER OUT EARLY

Since Thanksgiving is a legal post office holiday, The Franklin Press is being issued a day earlier than usual in order that subscribers may receive it prior to the holiday.

Normally, the newspaper is printed Wednesday afternoon and is mailed Thursday.

Local merchants plan to close Thanksgiving, but will remain open all day Wednesday instead of the customary half-day.

trips by the male members of the family, and visits with families and friends.

Franklin and Highlands both plan their annual community-wide Thanksgiving services with all churches participating.

Under a rotation plan, Franklin's service this year will be held at the First Baptist Church. The service will begin at 8 a. m. with the Rev. C. E. Murray, pastor of the Methodist Church, delivering the Thanksgiving message. Dr. A. Rufus Morgan, rector of the St. Agnes Episcopal Church, will preside, and music for the special service will be supervised by Miss Eveline Giedinghagen, Baptist music director. Holland McSwain, of the Presbyterian Church, will lead a responsive reading and worshippers will be welcomed by Verlon Swafford, of the Baptist Church.

The Rev. John Buell, pastor of the Highlands Baptist Church, will preach the Thanksgiving sermon in Highlands at the Presbyterian Church beginning at 9:30 a. m. The Thanksgiving proclamation will be read by the Rev. Robert E. Early, Methodist pastor. The Rev. Robert M. Hart, pastor of the host church, will preside.

This (Wednesday) afternoon school children will forget their educational pursuits temporarily and will be ready to make the most of their extended Thanksgiving holiday. Schools will reopen Monday morning, according to County School Supt. Holland McSwain.

P.M.A. SPORTS A NEW NAME

Agency Title Changed By Secretary Benson, But Functions Same

It isn't P.M.A. (Production and Marketing Administration) anymore; it's A.S.C. (Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation), according to Mrs. Mary B. Justice, secretary of the former P.M.A. (now A.S.C.) office in the Agricultural Building.

The name change came about in the recent reorganization within the Department of Agriculture by the Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson, Mrs. Justice explained.

On the national level the program will be known as C.S.S. (Commodity Stabilization Service) instead of P.M.A.

The new agency will carry on the functions performed by the old P.M.A.

As of Monday, the secretary said a total of 615 Macon farmers had filed requests for federal cost sharing on conservation practices in the 1954 Agricultural Conservation Program. Requests may still be filed, she said.

Cost-sharing practices under the 1954 program include establishment and improvement of permanent pasture, alfalfa and grass legumes, tree setting, and installation of field drain tile.

Highsteppers Show New Outfits



Franklin's High's highstepping majorettes finally received their new uniforms in time for the last football game of the season, but the delay failed to rob the girls of the pleasure of showing off the colorful outfits, which cost \$65 each. That's Miss Joan Thomas doing the split in front of the formation, which is made up of (L to R) Misses Frances Huscusson and Dwain Horsley, kneeling; and Helen Cochran, Marjorie Moody, and Sharon Swanson.

Franklin Lads And Lassies Practicing For Sylva Opener

The lads and lassies of Franklin High currently are thumping the hide off basketballs, preparing for their season opener with Sylva December 8.

As things stand now, the local male and female cagers face a 14-game schedule, seven away and seven home. Coach R. A. (Art) Byrd has four open dates which he hopes to fill between now and the opening clash in Jackson County.

Since the boys' and girls' teams have less than a week of practice under their belts, the coach said it is too early to make any predictions as to how they will stack up in conference play.

However, on the basis of experience, the local lassies are picked as leading contenders for the conference crown, which they wore last year at the end of an impressive season.

Counting last season's mainstays—Jody Lenor, conference high scorer, Audrey Gibson, Anna Setser, and Penes Pruitt—a total of 29 girls reported out last week for practice.

Things are shaping up well for the boys' team, although most of last year's squad bowed out of the loop picture with diplomas in their hands. Pacing practice sessions are James Buchanan, Dolpha Fouts, Bill Harper, and Tommy Cole, all of whom saw plenty of action under fire last season.

Probable starters for the Sylva game will be announced next week, Coach Byrd said.

Other girls out for practice include Melba Moses, Mavis Gibson, Jean Phillips, Jean Sutton, Joan Mincey, Peggy Seay, Helen Cochran, Virginia Dayton, Judy Bradley, Helen Hunter, Patsy Cantrell, Barbara Cunningham, Betty Jean Smith, Betty Henson, Juanita Halre, Shirley Shepherd, Betty Duvall, Carolyn Cochran, Ruth Brown, Margaret Crawford, Sharon Swanson, Hazel Vinson, and Carol Stockton.

Shooting for playing slots on the boys' team are Willard Smith, Loyd Angel, Mitchell Houston, Frank Nolen, Calvin McCull, Larry Potts, Bobby Young, Bill Gosnell, Rance Talent, Clyde Williams, Ray Dehart, Bobby Jack Love, Paul Smith, Bobby Womack, Dick Bradley, Richard Renshaw, James Tallent, and Lawrence Bradley.

Coweeta Has Air For Foreigners During Past Year

A foreign air has been hanging over the Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory during the past 12 months, according to E. A. Johnson, project leader.

During this period, more than 140 foreigners from 22 countries toured the huge outdoor laboratory where the effects of water on land are studied.

Countries represented included Austria, Australia, Belgium, China, Denmark, Formosa, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, India, Italy, Japan, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Peru, Rodesia (Africa), Turkey, Uganda (Africa), Yugoslavia, and Venezuela.

SING IS SLATED

The fifth Sunday sing will be held at the courthouse Sunday, beginning at 10 a. m. Singers from outside the county are expected, and all singers are urged to attend.

Officials Concentrating Here On Survey Of School Needs

Macon school officials are now gearing their activities to the coming distribution of \$50,000,000 for school buildings in the state's 100 counties, according to County School Supt. Holland McSwain.

This county stands to receive a minimum of \$163,000 under provisions of the bond issue passed overwhelmingly by the voters of the state last month. Mr. McSwain said concentration is now on surveying the needs in the school system in order to determine how much more the county will be allotted on the basis of need and effort.

All principals in the 11 schools currently are surveying individual school needs, he said, including school equipment and furniture.

A survey of pre-school age children who will enter school in the next six years also is being conducted, he said.

A.R.C. HEADS ARE REELECTED

Macon Chapter Holds Annual Meet Friday At Kelly's Inn

All officers were reelected for another year at the annual meeting of the Macon chapter of the American Red Cross Friday evening at Kelly's Inn.

The chapter leaders, who were nominated for reelection by a committee composed of Mrs. Velma Conley, the Rev. C. E. Murray, and Lake V. Shope, include: Z. Weaver Shope, of Franklin, chairman; W. R. Potts, of Highlands, vice-chairman; J. C. Jacobs, of Franklin, treasurer; and Mrs. Gladys Kinsland, junior chapter chairman.

Reappointed committee chairmen are Mrs. Mae Shope, home nursing; Miss Lottie Kelly, production; E. J. Whitaker, disaster; W. W. Sloan, first aid; J. Horner Stockton, finance; Mrs. Velma Conley, publicity; Mrs. Charles Ferguson, home service; John Edwards, water safety; and Mrs. Elizabeth McCollum, executive secretary.

Other members of the chapter board include James L. Beale, Frank B. Cook, Stacy Russell, Charles O. Anderson, Lewis Edwards, and the Rev. SEE NO. 1, PAGE 10

WOMAN, SONS ESCAPE DEATH IN HOME FIRE

Taylor Home In Holly Springs Destroyed By Blaze Sunday Morning

A Holly Springs widow and her two sons narrowly escaped death about 2 a. m. Sunday when fire burned their home to the ground.

Just minutes before the frame home collapsed, Mrs. Helen Taylor and her sons, Billy and Eugene, climbed out a window to safety.

The Franklin Volunteer Fire Department rolled out of the city limits to give assistance, but the fire had gained too much headway for anything to be saved.

Mrs. Taylor told neighbors the entire structure was afire when the roaring flames awoke her.

Defective wiring is believed to have caused the blaze. The home was a total loss and the family carried no insurance.

GARDEN CLUB HOLDS MEET

Plans To Sponsor Essay Contest For Students At Highlands School

The Highlands Garden Club met Thursday, November 19, at the home of Mrs. Frank B. Cook.

Mrs. A. T. Carter, president, reported on the District 1 meeting she attended in Franklin. She was most appreciative of the warm hospitality shown by the members of the Franklin Garden Club.

As chairman of the program committee, Mrs. Valentine outlined a series of programs of varied and outstanding interest for the future monthly meetings of the club.

Working with the principal, F. N. Shearouse, the club has offered juniors and seniors of the Highlands High School a first prize of \$10 and a second prize of \$5 for the best essays on the general subject of tree conservation and landscaping with the purpose of arousing interest in the beauty and usefulness of trees and plants. The essays are to include a plan for the improvement of the school grounds. The judges are Mrs. A. T. Carter, Mrs. O. E. Young, and William Slattery.

Dr. Moreland Hedden, chairman of the civic beautification committee, brought up for discussion a number of suggested projects. Action was taken to start work as soon as possible on landscaping of the Hudson Library grounds and also to improve the area around the Kelsey Monument, which marks the start of the Kelsey Trail. There will be some work done on the trail.

The club hopes to solve the problem of how to keep places of beauty intact for all to enjoy. Somehow they must be protected from the extra curricular activities of "litterbugs" who leave behind them a trail of unsightly trash.

Plans for Christmas activities were outlined and committees were appointed to carry them out. At the close of the business meeting tea was served. The next meeting will be December 17 at 2:30 p. m. at the home of Miss Kate Jungerman.

Hitler's Car Being Shown For Benefit Of Band Here

Adolph Hitler's personal armored limousine will be displayed on the Town Square tomorrow (Thursday), Friday and Saturday under the sponsorship of the newly-organized Band Boosters Club.

No admission will be charged, but contributions will be welcomed from those viewing the late Nazi dictator's car, which was captured by the Free French Forces at Bertschegaden in May, 1945.

New License Goes On Sale December 1

With a plea for motorists to "buy early and avoid the rush", Verlon Swafford this week announced that North Carolina's 1954 license plates will go on sale in Franklin December 1 at 9 a. m.

The plates will be sold at the local branch office of the Carolina Motor Club, situated at the rear of the Western Auto Associate Store on Main Street.

When making his announcement Tuesday, Mr. Swafford said a total of 4,540 1953 tags had been sold through the local office since going on sale December 1, 1952.

The new license colors are the reverse of the 1953 hues—that is, yellow background with black numerals.

Pocket cards, which motorists must present when purchasing new tags, are being mailed this week, Mr. Swafford said.

In regard to licensing trucks, he explained that certain changes were made by the 1953 legislature. In general, licenses will be issued on the basis of the driver's declaration as to the empty weight and maximum load of his vehicle.

All truck owners must fill out the blanks on the back of the registration pocket card, he said.

Mr. Swafford and Mrs. Kate Jacobs recently attended a Carolina Motor Club license school in Asheville to familiarize themselves with the new licensing regulations.

11 PANTHERS BOWL BOUND

Miss Gailey Entered In Smoky Bowl Queen Contest Thursday

Eleven Franklin Panthers have been invited to play in the 5th Annual Smoky Mountain Bowl in Bryson City Thanksgiving Day, when the east meets the west for a post-season football classic.

The kickoff will be 2 p. m. Slated to don uniforms for the eastern squad are Bill Dines, Doyle Clark, Wayne Stewart, G. D. Buchanan, Gene Mashburn, Roger Seay, Adolph Conley, Vic Teague, Connie Potts, Junior Dills, and Max Holland.

Local football fans will see that they have plenty of support. More than 100 fans and students are planning to take in the game.

Preceding the game, a colorful parade is scheduled through downtown Bryson City at 11 a. m. with the bands, cheerleaders, and candidates for "Smoky Mountain Bowl Queen" from a number of schools taking part.

Miss Lela Jo Gailey, Franklin's "Homecoming Queen", is entered in the bowl queen contest along with beauties from seven other high schools in the conference.

According to Joe Sherrill, chairman of the bowl game committee of the Bryson City Lions Club, additional bleachers have been added to increase the capacity to 3,000.

Howard Barnwell, of Swain High, and T. J. Dupree, of Cherokee, are coaching the eastern squad. The western coaching staff is composed of "Chuck" McConnell, former Franklin coach, and Hugh Hamilton, Andrews mentor.

RAINS COME, FORESTS OPEN TO HUNTERS

Parched County Gets 3.90 Inches Of Long Awaited Moisture

RAIN: water falling in drops condensed from moisture in the air; (2) the fall of such drops; (3) a fall or shower of anything in, or as if in, drops . . . At long last, a parched Macon County thirstily absorbed 3.90 inches of the above defined rarity Friday, Saturday, and Sunday after panting through nearly three months of moistureless waiting.

The results: All national forest lands, closed week before last because of mounting fire danger, were reopened to hunters and travelers.

Scheduled deer hunts, postponed because of the forest closing order, have been rescheduled.

Most W. N. C. fires were brought well under control or extinguished with the advent of rain.

From a Macon standpoint, the long awaited series of showers were the first of any consequence here since September 29, according to the Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory. And the period prior to that date was just about as dry as that after. The long overdue rains brought sighs of relief from weary forest officials, who have been working around the clock for weeks trying to stamp out stubborn blazes over most of the western section of the state.

And the rain struck a happy note with deer hunters too. With the closing of government lands, scheduled deer hunts were shelved until rains came.

Tuesday the order was issued to reopen the forests and a revised schedule of hunts was announced. It is as follows:

November 26-27 and 30; and December 1-2 and 7-8-9-10. These dates apply to the Pisgah wildlife management area, the Big Creek division of Pisgah, the Cantrell Creek wilderness division, the West Fork area of the Sherwood management area, and the Rich Laurel, Mount Mitchell, Daniel Boone, Standing Indian, Santeetlah, Wayah, and Fires Creek management areas.

When compared with damage in other counties, Macon came through the critical forest fire situation with a light smudge. Several small fires were reported, but these were quickly brought under control by crews of volunteers led by Nantahala and county rangers.

Cullasaja Picks Mailboxes For First Project

About 60 people met at the Cullasaja School Monday night, November 23, for the first meeting of the newly-organized Cullasaja Community Development Organization.

A. S. Woods, president, presided. The Rev. Fred Sorrells gave the devotional.

Various committees were named and plans were made to start work on the signs in the community.

Erecting uniform mailboxes was chosen as the first project.

Much enthusiasm is being shown throughout the community and signs of improvement already are seen here and there. Mr. and Mrs. Sam Bryson are repairing and painting the inside of their house; Charlie Bryson has put a new roof on his house; work is progressing on a new addition to the Sugarfork Baptist Church; and others are cleaning yards and gardens and making plans for a very busy year.

The Weather

The week's temperatures and rainfall, as recorded in Franklin by Manson Sims, U. S. weather observer, and at the Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory:

	COWEETA	
	Temperatures	High Low Rain
Wednesday	68 26	
Thursday	67 38	
Friday	61 47	
Saturday	69 51	2.25
Sunday	63 49	.04
Monday	63 36	1.61