

The Franklin Press

and
The Highlands Maconian

Staff correspondents of THE PRESS keep the inside pages of this newspaper alive with news about your friends and neighbors. Read the inside pages from top to bottom and you'll know Macon County.



MACON COUNTY got the cover picture on the '59 booklet of the W. N. C. Rural Community Development Contest. It is of Patton Valley taken just below the new Methodist church.

CONGRESSMAN David M. Hall dropped by Thursday for brief talks with friends over the county. He went back to Washington over the week end.

THAT UNUSUAL sun shining Monday in Franklin attracted a lot of people bent on soaking in something other than rain. Black clouds rimmed the bowl of the Franklin valley and it appeared this was the only place being blessed with the sun.

THEY'RE HAVING a lot of fun with Marshall Pettis, owner of Woods Motel on East Palmer. Prelo Dryman calls the big mud hole at the foot of the hill, caused by the culvert construction, the Pettis' swimming pool and their answer to pool construction at the other motels. Marshall says it suits him, adding that admission to his is free.

HAVE YOU noticed the increase in hitchhikers around here? Most of them are young boys and all appear to have seen better days.

ON EVERY corner the question is: "What's happened to the Yankees?" And about the only answer anyone can give is, "They're in the cellar."

BUILDING IS going on everywhere. Ed Coates is adding a large wing to his restaurant on West Palmer. W. C. Burrell also is building, or getting ready to, a filling station, restaurant, and motel on US 23-441 south. A. G. Cagle, a well-known restaurateur, will operate the eating establishment.

LET'S GET with some of those big holes in the pavement. You could bury a large horse in many over town.

MANSON STILES is just waiting for a break in the weather to move into his new Texaco station in "Loganville". You can't pour concrete with six-inches of rain falling.

THE TOWN reports its new "dispatcher" for police and fires, Mrs. Thelma Edwards, is doing a wonderful job. A two-way radio for her use in keeping in touch with the police has been ordered and should arrive soon.

MAYOR W. C. BURRELL took off for a little vacationing down Florida way bright and early Tuesday morning.

MOST FRANKLIN High graduates, who were sure they'd like loafing for a while, are getting bored with doing nothing.

FOR NO-COST reducing, you might try doing 20 m.p.h. over the bumps and grinds of the detour around the culvert construction at the bottom of Town Hill. What a thrill!

TOURISTS ARE more and more on the move. There's a predominance of Ohio cars, too. Some operators of tourist facilities feel, however, that construction on the highway between Dillsboro and Gateway is hurting business here.

ALL THAT "hot" talk about another industry coming here has died down.

IT APPEARS now that the grass is doing much better than anticipated at the Franklin Airport and the main runway will be opened sooner. A group from SEEN NO. 1, PAGE 12

so says "MR. MACONIAN"

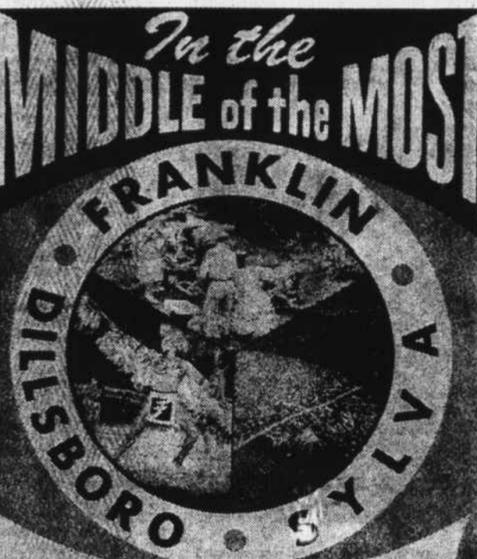
Hi-ya Neighbors:

Recon when it comes to installment buying the folks here aren't much different from folks elsewhere.

A feller said the other day the only reason he didn't have an elephant is because you can't get one on time.

Which brings me around to deciding that there's a lot of folks here who can remember when the cost of high living was a heck of a sight lower than today's high cost of living.

And I thank you.



Year round fun and relaxation IN THE SOUTHERN BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS

PICTURED ABOVE is a reproduction of the new Blue Ridge Parkway folder prepared jointly by Franklin, Dillsboro, and Sylva. Ten thousand of the folders are now being given away on the Parkway. "In The Middle of the Most" is the theme of the folder and points of interest in all three sections are stressed.

THREE-NIGHT AUDITIONS — Franklin Will Be Scene Of Mountain Talent Hunt

A three-day "mountain talent hunt", with possible TV and movie commitments for the best entertainers, will be held here June 18-19-20.

Called by Bob Cox, of St. Petersburg, Fla., the talent scout who put the Smoky Mountain Cloggers of Macon County on the Ed Sullivan show, the three nights of auditions are being held in Franklin because of its central location in the mountains of southwestern North Carolina and north Georgia. This mountain area is described by Mr. Cox



Mr. Cox

as a "veritable treasure of Southern talent that cries out for recognition."

The nightly shows, to which the public is invited, will be held "under the stars" in the high school stadium, or, if the weather is bad, in the nearby gymnasium.

Mr. Cox says he is particularly interested in mountain string bands, square dance teams of both the clogger and smooth types, individual performers, ballad singers, and rock-a-billy outfits.

"I must emphasize, however, Mr. Cox says, "that the acts must reflect authentic mountain music."

The talent scout has in his possession firm commitments for July auditions in Hollywood for mountain music entertainers from this section.

On the basis of their outstanding showing on the Sullivan show, Mr. Cox plans to take the Smoky Mountain Cloggers to the West Coast with him.

In order to round out the auditions in a purely mountain vein, Mr. Cox says he needs at least two more mountain music acts to take with him.

"The problem now is to find these acts and get them to the coast," he says.

Proceeds from the three-night show will be used to help pay the expenses of the entertainers to the coast.

Mr. Cox will be here personally all three nights to supervise the talent auditions. Entertainers interested in auditioning during the three nights are asked to register at once, by mail, with the Franklin Chamber of Commerce.

Survey Of Broken Street Signs Being Made By Police

A survey of broken and illegible street signs in Franklin is now being made by the police department.

The board of aldermen has authorized the purchase of new signs to replace those beyond repair.

Fund Drive Of Chamber Doing Well

Three Collectors Get \$1,800, Rest Unreported

With only three canvassers reporting, the Franklin Chamber of Commerce has \$1,800 on hand in its '59 membership campaign.

Mrs. Lasca E. Horsley, executive secretary, describes this as "an excellent start", adding: "We just hope the remaining seven workers can come up with those kind of results."

Memberships in the chamber this year were doubled, from \$10 to \$20, to finance President J. C. Jacob's "new look" program to stimulate tourist and industrial interest in Macon County.

In the process of being printed now is a picture-and-text booklet on the county's industrial potential. At a cost of about \$600, the booklet is being prepared by Stephens Press in Asheville.

Tourist-wise, the chamber also has shared the cost of printing 10,000 Blue Ridge Parkway folders with Sylva and Dillsboro. These new folders are now being distributed on the parkway. Franklin's cost of this joint project was \$300.

Mrs. Horsley said local merchants and businessmen are cooperating fully with the increase in chamber dues.

"I imagine they, as businessmen, are aware of the increased costs of everything... we haven't had a single refusal so far."

The chamber's '59 budget is \$7,500, the majority of it earmarked for industrial and tourist promotional work.

Sales Nearly Half Of Quota

In just four months, Macon County has nearly reached the half-way mark in its 1959 Savings Bond quota of \$198,900.

With April's sales hitting \$14,724.30, the total for the first four months of the year rose to \$84,861.90, which is 47.7 percent of the quota.

CAN STILL PLAY, TOO — Centenarian Plus 2

Mrs. Sarah Ann Ledford would play an accordion—if she had an accordion.

She's worn out three of the instruments, and lost her last one in a fire.

And Sarah Ann Ledford, who was 102 years young the 22nd of May, allows as how she could "play one a little right now, if I had one."

"She talks about it all the time," says her son, Zemery Crawford Ledford.

A native of Ducktown, Tenn., who came here from Clay County some 60 years ago, she lives with her son on Franklin, Route 2. A century plus two has slowed her gait, but she still shuffles about the house talking about everything from her "young days" to the present.

Radio and television she tolerates, looking and listening only at the insistence of some member of the family.

"She'd rather talk," says Zemery.



Mrs. Ledford . . . Accordion Player



MACON ENTRY

Miss Frances Alexander, a member of the '59 graduating class of Franklin High, has been selected to represent Macon County in the June Dairy Month princess contest set for June 5 in Asheville. The area beauty contest will be held at Westgate Shopping Center.

Heading Monday For Cullowhee

Some 70 high school and elementary students, who are considered advanced students by their teachers, Monday will begin a six-week special education course being offered at Western Carolina College.

A school bus to transport the Macon County students back and forth daily will be driven by Donald Seagle, principal of Cowee Elementary School.

The bus will leave at 8 a.m. from the A&P on Palmer Street in Franklin. It also will make a stop at Lee's Amoro in East Franklin.

School Supt. H. Bueck said the students are about half and half between high school and elementary grades.

For this special summer course, Western Carolina charges a small tuition fee. Classes will be held daily from 9 to noon.

Ridgecrest Dedication

A combined dedication and homecoming event is scheduled Sunday at the New Ridgecrest Baptist Church.

Special singing is planned in the afternoon and quartets and choirs are invited to participate.

NOW AT \$18,027,954 —

County's Tax Value Rises And Will Go Even Higher

Macon County's 1959 tax valuation is \$18,027,954, an increase of \$206,666 over last year.

County Accountant Tom Henson reports the valuation will increase several thousand more because personal property listings are still coming into his office.

Unlisted automobiles also are being discovered in a cross-check with registration cards supplied by the N. C. Department of Motor Vehicles, he said. And, at least a dozen automobile owners who forgot to list their vehicles this year have stepped forward since the tax office announced plans in May 21 issue of THE PRESS for imposing the \$50 penalty for unlisted vehicles. Mr. Henson has reiterated his promise to overlook the penalty if motorists who failed to list vehicles will supply the information to his office immediately.

Town Privilege Taxes Are Due

Privilege taxes are now payable in Franklin and Police Chief Sid Carter has been authorized to begin collecting.

In session Monday night, the board of aldermen adopted a privilege tax schedule. Only one change was made from the schedule used last year. The tax for plumbers and electricians was lowered from \$7.50 to \$3.75.

In other actions, the board approved a project advanced by Aldermen Bill Bryant and Frank L. Henry, Jr., to contact the regional planning commission and request some assistance in planning an improved water system to keep pace with the town's growth; and gave permission to G. A. and R. S. Jones, and A. B. Slagle to tap on the sewer and water lines on the Zeb Conley tract.

Babe Ruth Ball Rained Out, But Tries Again

Saturday's scheduled opening of the Babe Ruth League here was rained out and league officials took another turn at bat this morning at the East Franklin field.

The scores of the double-header, which sent the Cardinals against the Cardinals in the first game and the Redwings vs the Cardinals in the second, were not available at press time.

Gibson Coach

Sponsored by the local V.F.W., the Yardsbirds are coached by J. D. Gibson. Team members include Buddy Burch, Ray Wyatt, Jimmy Williams, Tommy Kiser, John Swan, David Simpson, Robble Gibson, Michael W. Hastings, Eddie Pruitt, Maurice Stockton Wayne Tallent, and L. T. Gibson.

Angel Drug Store sponsors the Redwings. Coached by F. G. Crawford and Tommy Raby. Members are Furman Ledford, Larry Franklin, Ronnie Higdon, George Tallent, Arlin Ewitt, Jimmy Simpson, Gene Young, Johnny Cane, Jim Shope, Thomas Brooks, Rickie Norton, Alvin Healy, Larry Young, Sam Franklin, and Raddy Franklin.

Burrells Sponsor

J. B. Lenoir coaches the Corvettes, who are sponsored by Burrell Motor Company. Members are Herbert Hurst, Wayne Younce, Lane Dalton, Alex Corbin, Eddie Tippet, Duane Hedden, Nick Cruise, Billy Joe Bates, Eugene Carpenter, Jimmy Cane, and Billie Brinkman.

The Cardinals are coached by Zeb McHaffey and are sponsored by local Esso stations. Sonny Burrell, Steve Heafner, Lyman Bryant, Jimmy Taylor, Howard T. Stewart, Bill Plyler, Ronnie Mashburn, Walter C. Taylor, Jr., Joe Hill, George Mallonee, Morris Davis, and Kenneth Reynolds make up the roster.

Man Sought To Organize Minor League

WANTED: Someone to organize a minor league, under the Little League program, in Franklin. Will take about four hours weekly.

The above "want ad" was turned in this week by Robert C. Carpenter, president of the Little League.

He explained that there are many boys with a desire to play organized baseball who failed to make one of the four Little League teams this season. Each team is limited to 15 players.

"A lot of good ballplayers are just standing around wishing they could play," he declared.

One volunteer could organize and run the minor league and put all of these boys on the playing field, he added.

Anyone interested may get in touch with Mr. Carpenter at the Bank of Franklin.

Most Merchants Cooperating With Merchandise Request

Most merchants have cooperated with a request by the town to stop displaying merchandise on the sidewalk, according to acting Town Clerk Ray Swafford.

A few, however, have not honored the request, which was made recently by letter to all merchants, he said this week.

In the event anyone is injured by merchandise on the sidewalk, Mr. Swafford points out that both the merchant and the town would be liable for damages.

They're Heading For 'Farm-Home Week'

"Farm-Home Week" in Raleigh June 9-12 will find Maconians on hand.

Those planning to attend include Mrs. Maggie Corbin, of Franklin and Holly Springs Home Demonstration Clubs, Mrs. W. N. Cook, Franklin club, Mrs. Parker Gregory, Holly Springs club, and Mrs. Florence S. Sherrill, home economics agent.

During the week, the 33rd annual meeting of the State Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs will be held and the local club members plan to take it in before returning home.

Bundy And Langfitt Elected Directors Of Carolinas United

Stephen A. Bundy and the Rev. Donn Langfitt have been elected directors of Carolinas United, the two-state United Fund organization for North and South Carolina.

Mr. and Mrs. Langfitt were in Charlotte Wednesday of last week for a meeting of the organization. Mr. Langfitt headed Franklin's U. F. drive last year. Directors serve three years.

Corbin Given Scholarship

Fred Corbin, a Maconian who instructs physics and chemistry at Mars Hill College, has been awarded a National Science Foundation Scholarship for graduate study this summer.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Corbin, of Route 5, he holds a master's degree from the University of North Carolina. Graduated from Franklin High in '47, Mr. Corbin attended Mars Hill and Wake Forest, receiving his B. S. degree from the latter in 1951. He joined the Mars Hill faculty in 1956, after teaching at East Mecklenburg High School, near Charlotte.

With the scholarship, Mr. Corbin will attend a special institute in physics at the University of Texas in Austin.

Pilots Helping In Air Search

Local pilots are assisting in the C. A. P. search of Asheville-Hendersonville Airport for a Beechcraft T-34 missing since about 2 a. m. Tuesday.

Police Chief Sid Carter flew a mission Tuesday afternoon. Wednesday morning, A. C. Ty-singer, Jim Conley, and Steve McConnell reported to the airport and volunteered their services.

The missing airplane was piloted by T/Sgt. Alfred Boucher, of Albany, Ga. He was en route to Augusta. A companion of the airman in another airplane turned back and landed at Asheville because of the weather. T/Sgt. Boucher chose, however, to continue and hasn't been heard from since.

Meeting Called To Make Macon A Movie Star

A meeting to discuss a proposed documentary film of Macon County has been called for tonight (Thursday) at 8 o'clock at Conley Motor Company.

Backed by the Chamber of Commerce, the proposed film would feature scenic beauty, historical points, and tourist and industrial facilities. It would be shown on television.

Ken Stambaugh, of Demorest, Ga., who will make the film, will be present to explain the program and will show films he has made in other areas. Tourist facilities promoted in the film would finance the film, with the chamber of commerce serving only as underwriter of the project.

The Weather

The week's temperature and rainfall below are recorded in Franklin by Manson Stiles, U. S. weather observer, in Highlands by Tabor N. Hall and W. C. Newton, TVA observers, and at the Coweta Hydrologic Laboratory. Readings are for the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. of the day listed.

FRANKLIN			
	High	Low	Rain
Wed., 27th	77	62	1.04
Thursday	83	61	.04
Friday	80	64	.00
Saturday	72	62	trace
Sunday	77	61	1.38
Monday	80	69	.21
Tuesday	79	64	.66
Wednesday			56 trace
COWETA			
Wed., 27th	68	58	.14
Thursday	76	58	trace
Friday	82	58	trace
Saturday	79	59	.01
Sunday	70	59	2.13
Monday	77	62	.94
Tuesday	80	61	1.35
Wednesday	80	51	.00
HIGHLANDS			
Wed., 27th	62	59	*
Thursday	72	57	*
Friday	72	58	*
Saturday	68	58	*
Sunday	74	58	*
Monday	73	57	*
Tuesday	76	60	*
Wednesday			57

* no record