



Doors Of County Fair Open Here Today



OWNERS OF sports and foreign cars in Macon County (and there are plenty) are urged to turn out Sunday afternoon for the organization of an area club. Organizational plans are in a story on the inside of this issue.

TALLULAH FALLS Railway—the old Total Failure—was featured in Sunday's Atlanta Journal-Constitution Magazine, with several pictures and a story of a reporter's bouncy ride over the line.

THE DISTRICT Little League tournament, in which Franklin lost out in the first round, was won by Canton 17 to 2 over Sylva.

HOMER COCHRAN ended his 19th year Friday with the town police department. It also was his last day with the force. He was one of two men relieved from duty recently by the town.

FOLKS HAVE got so used to skirting the culvert construction at the foot of the hill many automatically turn on the detour, although the road is now open.

THAT NEW rhodolite mine of Gene Crawford's in Wayah Valley turned up a nice five-carat rough stone for Steve Brown, of Columbus, Ohio. The stone is reported to have been flawless.

IT'S NOT official yet because of the snarl of Raleigh red tape, but the Farmer's Home Administration office in Franklin is closing and will begin operating part-time the 14th of this month.

ADVANCE PEEKS indicate the county fair is going to eclipse all others in all departments. Its growth has been slow, but when quality runs high who can complain?

A LECTURE SERIES is opening this week at the Jay Hambridge Art Foundation at near-by Rabun Gap, Ga. August 12, Robert L. Scranton, of Emory University, will talk on "The Greek Meaning in English Speech" and August 15 on "Living Greek".

THAT LITTLE League championship clash next week may not get the publicity of the World Series, but you can bet your bottom dollar the boys playing will have as much enthusiasm as the big leaguers.

TOO BAD "The Red Stocking Revue" couldn't have played Franklin for a week. The Junior Woman's Club could have cleared a lot of money for shoes for needy children. If you missed the revue you missed an excellent show.

ISN'T IT wonderful to know that the road from Franklin to East Franklin doesn't have a "culvert kink" in it any longer? IS ANYONE going to do something about fixing up the grounds around the Macon County Health Center? A large parking lot is really needed to keep cars off the narrow street.

A TRAILER PARK is what the Kay Montagues have in mind behind their Dixie Grill. That's what all that dirt hauling has been about.

MANSON STILES is pumping gas from his brand new Texaco Station, and Phillips 66 has taken over his old stand.

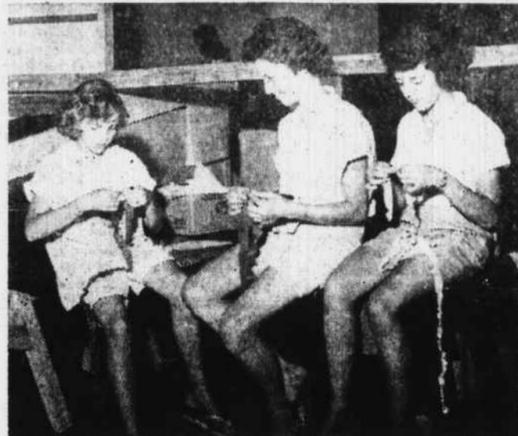
SIGN PAINTER Walter "Coffee" Hall has put up a new sign on his own place of business on US 64. He's had it ready for some time, but has been too busy erecting others to put it up.

WHY DON'T you go to Asheville Friday night for the Mountain Youth Jamboree and root for the Carson Cloggers? A little support by the home folks might help them win.

A LOT OF Maconians are cruising over Asheville way to watch the Tourists play ball. The new Sylva-Balsam highway makes traveling east almost a pleasure.



Ranger J. Fred Bryson (left) and John M. Dayton, service fester of Sylva, are shown working on an institutional exhibit for the fair.



Working on the Higdonville 4-H booth Tuesday afternoon were (L to R) Fatsy Finney, Sarah Jane Berry, and Diane Clay.



Mrs. Ed Bradley (left) and Mrs. Jack Cansler put long hours on preparing Iotia community's exhibit, which features church life. (Staff Photos)

Meal Tonight; 'Show Day' Is Friday

Winners Being Picked; Opening At 1 O'Clock

Judges are hard at work this (Thursday) morning at the Macon County Fair, which officially opens to the public at 1 o'clock. Exhibitors have been placing exhibits and preparing booths since Tuesday. An amusement company has been operating rides on the grounds at Franklin High since Monday night. In short, things are about ready for the three-day event.

Supper Tonight

Highlighting activities tonight will be a beef and pork barbecue supper at the Vocational Agriculture Building near the gymnasium at 6:30. Proceeds from the meal are earmarked for the fair.

Judges busy awarding premiums and ribbons this morning include Paul Gibson, agricultural agent of Jackson County; T. A. Brawley, agricultural agent of Cherokee; Rufus Vick, agricultural agent of Clay; Jack Lyday, agricultural agent of Swain; Morris L. McGough, executive vice-president of the Asheville Agricultural Development Council; Miss Anne Benson Priest, home economics agent of Transylvania; Jack Early, assistant agent in Jackson; Bill Teague, assistant agent in Swain; Mrs. Betty Stiles, assistant agent in Jackson; James Patterson, beef specialist from the N. C. Extension Service in Raleigh; Miss Ethel Garnette, crafts teacher at the Cherokee Indian School; Miss Freda Dean Morgan, assistant agent in Clay; Mrs. Louise Miller, of Highlands; and Siler Slagle, Dr. J. H. Fisher, Mrs. T. J. O'Neil, Miss Jean Hemphill, Mrs. Anne Murray, Mrs. Virginia Hendry, and Mrs. J. Ward Long, of Franklin.

Friday Shows

Tomorrow (Friday) is "Show Day" at the county fair with four shows scheduled: sheep and swine, 12:30 p.m.; dairy cattle, 1 p.m.; beef cattle, 2 p.m.; horse and mule, 3 p.m.

A pet show will be held Saturday at 9 a.m.

Open At 9

Doors to the fair will open at 9 Friday and Saturday mornings. Maconians may view exhibits until 10 p.m. Friday. The fair will close at 3 p.m. Saturday.

Flower Show Winners Were Not Available

The Franklin Garden Club's annual flower show was held yesterday (Wednesday) in the high school cafeteria, using a theme of "Our Mountain jewels". Winners were not available at press time.

ROGERS REUNION

The Rogers family reunion will be held Sunday, August 9, at the home place of Theodore Rogers on Route 5 in the Bethel community. All relatives are invited to come and bring a picnic lunch.

ALL-DAY SINGING

An all-day singing convention of the southern division of Macon County will be held at the Gold Mine Baptist Church Sunday, August 9. The program will begin at 10 a.m. The public is invited to come and bring a picnic lunch.

The Weather

The week's temperatures and rainfall below are recorded in Franklin by Mansor Stiles, U. S. weather observer; in Highlands by Tudor N. Hall and W. C. Newton, T.V.A. observers; and at the Coweta Hydrologic Laboratory. Readings are for the 24-hour period ending at 5 a.m. of the day listed.

Table with columns: High, Low, Rain. Rows for Franklin (Wed. 29th to Wednesday) and Coweta (Wed. 29th to Wednesday).

JACOBS TO PRESIDE - Macon Baptists Opening Annual Session Today

With a theme of "Advancing For Christ", the 56th annual session of the county's largest church group, the Macon Baptist Association, opens today (Thursday).

Two churches, Wells Grove and Holly Springs, are hosts to the two-day meeting, which will be highlighted by reports of local and state nature by Maconians and out-of-town speakers.

Opening Session

Today's session will open at 9:30 a.m. at the Wells Grove church, with the association moderator, J. C. Jacobs, presiding.

Appearing on the program during the morning will be the Rev. Lewis Howard, pastor of the Holly Springs church; the Rev. Melvin Brooks, pastor of the host church Mrs. John Campbell, associational clerk; the Rev. R. R. Standley, pastor of the First church; Fred Corbin, chairman of the committee on committees; the Rev. C. T. Taylor, field worker for the association; the Rev. E. C. Wilkie, area missionary of the Baptist State Convention; Mrs. J. D. Dayton, member of the Cartoogechaye church; the Rev. W. A. Cloer, pastor of the Cartoogechaye and Longview churches; Mrs. Cliff Cook, member of the Wells Grove church; Mrs. Fred Jones, member of the Longview church; and Dr. Douglas M. Branch, executive secretary-treasurer of the Baptist State Convention.

MACON COUNTY'S MOVIE - 'The Majestic Nantahalas' Showing Is Slated Here

The premier of Macon County's new documentary movie, "The Majestic Nantahalas", is set for August 13-14 at the Macon Theatre in Franklin.

Filed for \$500 by Ken Stambaugh, of Demorest, Ga., for the chamber of commerce, the 11-minute color film is to be used to promote Macon County and its many attractions in other sections of the country. It also will be used on television.

Mr. Stambaugh filmed portions of the famed "Eagle Faure" during a performance of "Unto These Hills" at Cherokee just for the Macon County movie.



THEY'LL BE DRESSES FOR DANCING

Friday night at the Mountain Youth Jamboree in Asheville, the Carson Cloggers will have on their best bibs and tuckers, the boys in checked shirts and blue jeans and the girls in skirts with the name of the team silk screened on them. Above, Mrs. Alice Ray, who helped the girls make their skirts, shows one worn by Linda Wallace. (Staff Photo)

PLANT PLAN OKAYED - Aldermen Step Toward Vote For Water Bonds

Preliminary steps were taken Monday night by the Franklin Board of Aldermen toward floating a water bond issue.

Engineers present at the meeting pointed out the unfeasibility of a gravity flow line from the Wayah watershed, as proposed by some, on the grounds that a 12-inch main would cost in the neighborhood of \$325,000, almost as much as a new filtering plant. Anything under 12 inches would not carry enough water to the town, the engineers said.

Aldermen then voted to proceed with plans for constructing a filtering plant and pumping station on Cartoogechaye Creek, near the Franklin Hosiery Company, along the lines proposed in a survey made in 1956 by the Harwood-Beebe Company, a firm of consulting engineers. The estimate at this time for a plant capable of pumping a million gallons of water was \$335,000. An engineer with the company Monday night told the aldermen the job probably could still be done at that amount.

Aldermen authorized the Harwood-Beebe firm to prepare plans and present them to the North Carolina League of Municipalities for approval for a bond issue.

If this approval is received, the town officials can then take the steps necessary to have a bond election to get voter reaction to the proposal.

AT FRANKLIN STADIUM - 'Festival Week' Coming; Entertainers Are Called

Donn K. Langfitt, chairman of the Jaycee-sponsored event. The chairman said the admission, as in years past, will be 25 cents for young and old.

"We like the idea of keeping the price down so everyone can come to the festival," he explained. "This also makes it easy on those who want to come all three nights."

Cash prizes and ribbons will be awarded the winners in all categories.

A new platform for performers will be constructed next week at the stadium and a pine backdrop will be erected to enhance the outdoor setting.

All entertainers interested in competing in this strictly Macon County festival are asked to register in advance with Mr. Langfitt, Bob Bryson, or Dr. J. L. Hill, Jr.

SMART REUNION

The annual Smart family reunion will be held Sunday, August 9, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Smart, near the Wells Grove Baptist Church. Lunch will be served at noon and drinks will be served by the host and hostess. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

'CAN'T HEAR THUNDER' - Judge Is 'Troubled' By Old Courthouse

Macon County's ancient and controversial courthouse "troubles" Judge George B. Patton and he "hopes something won't happen to us before something is done" about it.

That's the way the Superior Court judge and Franklin native put it to the grand jury in his opening charge here Monday morning.

And he warned that a judge is coming some day "who won't understand you" and who will embarrass Macon County by closing the Courthouse.

His Own Way

In his inimitable and folksy way, Judge Patton had much to say about the old structure, which is 79 years old and has been condemned for many years.

A modern and growing county like Macon, saddled with such a courthouse, is all far behind. It's like driving a 1919 Model T... having to push it off to get it started.

As resident judge of the district, "I'm ashamed to invite" people to the courthouse for hearings.

The courtroom is so noisy "you can't hear thunder with the floors squeaking."

Macon County will never get anywhere on building a new courthouse, or repairing the present one, by having a meeting attended by 15 or 20 people who take no action.

Macon is too good a county to just do nothing about the situation. "If you want to let Macon be the laughing stock of the whole state" then don't do anything.

"I understand from the county attorney that the county is planning to do something. I hope something won't happen to us before something is done. The county commissioners are all good, dedicated men who want to "save you money... and I'm in favor of that... are going to do what the people want." If enough people want something done they'll see that it is done.

The fault is "mine and yours... the people", not the county commissioners. "Those we put in office do what the majority of the people want done."

Fire could easily destroy every record in the courthouse. "It would take continuous court for 10 years to clear up the law suits as a result." (Judge Patton at this point called attention to the "smart-alec" who built a fire in the hall of the courthouse last winter.)

Repair or build a new one? The judge said he was not concerned with either, but "no one will ever know (which to do) unless some definite action is taken."

Pointing out that the judge's chair was donated by T. B. Higdon, of Atlanta, and the lawyers' table came "from somewhere... it wasn't bought, I know that", the judge challenged the jurymen to find a "chair that's fit to grace a decent courthouse in North Carolina and I'll eat your hat, brim and all!"

Other Points

Judge Patton also covered a number of other subjects, from people to speeding on Palmer Street and other places.

Citing Macon County's small crime rate, as compared with other sections, he called this a "bouquet for the citizenship of this county."

"The law is no stronger than the will of the people to see that it is carried out fairly and impartially," he declared.

Judge Patton said the character of the people of Western North Carolina is a credit to the entire world. He attributed this strong moral fibre of the people to the churches.

If the rest of the people in the world were like those here, the judge commented that atomic weapons could be turned off.

so says "MR. MACONIAN"

Hi-ya Neighbors: Maybe it's a good thing this day and time to harp on quality instead of bigness. The county fair shows that quality leads to a steady and healthy growth. It looks like Macon County, with quality and patience, someday will have a fair that will be the pattern for other places.

See you at the fair! And I thank you, Mr. Maconian



'YOU MEAN THIS IS FOR ME?'

In early June, THE PRESS ran a short feature story on Mrs. Sarah Ann Ledford, a centenarian plus two. She loves to play an accordion and has worn out three of the instruments. The last one she had was lost in a fire, so the story related, and she was sure she could "play one a little right now, if I had one." Well, Mrs. Ledford has an accordion, thanks to the generosity of Mrs. Jeanette E. Daley, of Phoenix, Ariz., the former Miss Jeanette E. Moses, of this county, who read the story and decided to buy her one. It was delivered to Mrs. Ledford Friday. She opened the package, her fingers running along the keys, and she asked, just as the photographer snapped the above picture, "You mean this is for me?" Sitting with her are her granddaughter, Audrey Ledford, and her great-granddaughter, Diane Anderson. Oh yes, she CAN play it. (Staff Photo)

'Flying Rebels' Trying Again!

Georgia's "Flying Rebels" are going to try again.

They've scheduled another ruby-digging fly-in here for the week end of August 15-16.

Bad weather cancelled one of the flying club planned in July.

Under the direction of the chamber of commerce, plans are again being made to accommodate the Georgians. Transportation will be furnished under the supervision of the Macon Search and Rescue Squad.

The visiting flyers will be special guests of the Jaycees at the Macon County Folk Festival Saturday night.

Ruby digging in Cowee Valley will be the order of the day both Saturday and Sunday for the visitors.