

# THE NEWS - RECORD

MARSHALL, N. C. Thursday, July 13, 1972

NUMBER 26

After 42 Years of Service

## Tilson Retires As Meteorologist

By GEORGE WERNETH  
Register Staff Reporter

William L. Tilson, the chief meteorologist in Mobile, Ala., retired Friday after 42 years with the National Weather Service.

Tilson, who served 33 years with the Weather Service in Mobile, (formerly the U.S. Weather Bureau) will be replaced by Ray D. Barnes, who will be acting agent in charge. Barnes has served as Tilson's top assistant for the past three years.

The 69-year-old Tilson was acclaimed "the hero of Camille" by Dr. Robert Simpson, head of the National Hurricane Center in Miami, for his role in getting the Mississippi coast evacuated before it was hit by Hurricane Camille in August, 1969.

Also, President Nixon lauded the Mobile weatherman for "saving the lives of thousands" due to his warning that the coast needed to be evacuated immediately.

Tilson was also presented with the Gold Medal Award from the U.S. Department of Commerce for his contribution concerning Camille.

Tilson was given the hero's designation after Camille slammed into the Mississippi Coast with winds of near 200 miles per hour Aug. 17, 1969.

Tilson served as liaison between the then U.S. Weather Bureau and the Civil Defense, law enforcement officers and other disaster agencies in directing the evacuation of hundreds of thousands of persons in the path of the hurricane.

"When he rang the warning bell, he had those people out at the crack of dawn," Simpson said. "They wouldn't have done that with just a warning. It was the strong human ties, understanding and trust that these people have in him."

"A Civil Defense worker told me at least 5,000 people owe their lives to him."

Tilson refused to accept the praise "Camille," he said, "will have thousands of heroes who did much, much more than I did."

President Nixon wrote Tilson, "Quick action is particularly difficult at a time of turmoil when people are faced with the heartbreaks of abandoning their homes."

"And it is no easy task to tell people they must leave to seek refuge, yet, I understand you

brought the urgent message to people along the Gulf Coast with a compassion and concern that hastened their departures and resulted in saving the lives of thousands."

"As you have said, there are many heroes born of this tragedy. I just want to express my gratitude to one of them."

Tilson well remembers the hurricane as his biggest job and his biggest scare.

Concerned with the progress of the storm, he spent the night of Aug. 16, 1969, at his office at Bates Field, sleeping on an old cot.

"At about 4:45 a.m. on the 17th, I got a call from the New Orleans office. 'You're it,' they said. Then they told me that the hurricane was going to come up Mobile Bay."

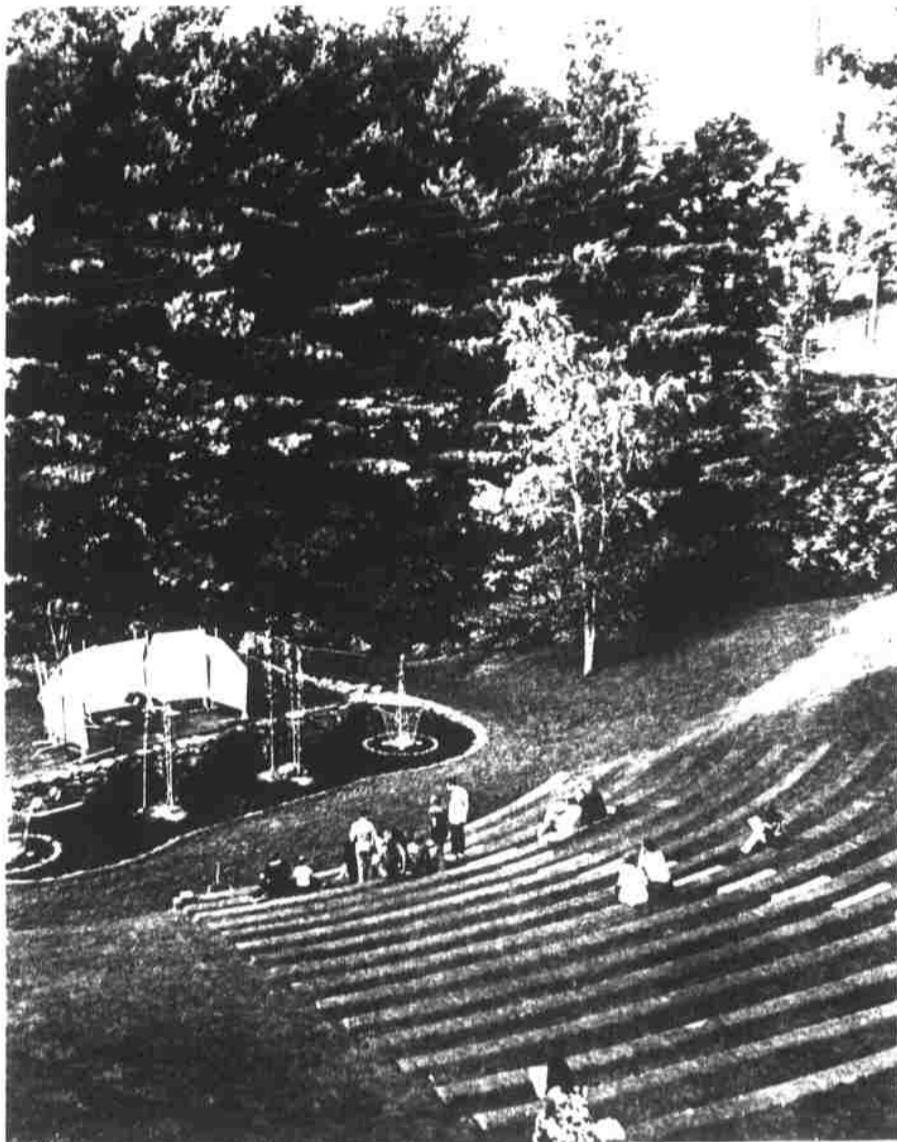
The hurricane warnings were up only as far west as Biloxi, Miss. "I stuck my neck out and called for the evacuation of the entire Mississippi Coast," he said.

The vast storm, one of the most powerful ever to hit the United States, ignored prevailing west to east winds and crushed the Mississippi Coast.

Tilson started to work as a meteorologist during July 1930 at Macon, Ga. He came to Mobile in June of 1936 for the hurricane season, then was sent to the Hurricane Forecast Center which was then located in Jacksonville, Fla. From 1937 to 1947 he was stationed in Mobile and then spent a total of two years in Nashville, Tenn., and Raleigh.

In February, 1949, he returned to Mobile as meteorologist in charge and has been there since then.

Mr. Tilson, formerly of Marshall, is the brother of Fred O. Tilson, of Marshall, and the late Joe Q. Tilson, of Marshall and Hot Springs.



M. H. AMPITHEATRE

THE FOURTH CONCERT BY resident artists of Music in the Mountains will be presented next Thursday night, July 20, in the beautiful amphitheatre at Mars Hill College beginning at eight o'clock. The program will consist of semi-classical selections by Rossini, Strauss and Mozart. At intermission the fountain will be turned on and the audience can walk around and enjoy the beautiful scene provided by the setting of the sun and the mountains. The above picture shows people arriving early for one of the concerts at the Anderson Amphitheatre which is on the Mars Hill college campus.

## "The Doctor in Spite of Himself" Now at Parkway

Parkway Playhouses' third production of the summer, "The Doctor in Spite of Himself," is already far ahead of schedule. After all, it has a three hundred year head start on the other productions of the season. This delightful farce, spoofing doctors and medicine, was written in 1666 by the French comedian, Moliere, the most popular dramatist France has ever given to the world.

Moliere was the absolute master of slapstick and satire, and his jobs at the medical profession in "The Doctor in Spite of Himself" are just as

biting today as they were in 1666 when the playwright's sham doctor discovered "that medicine is the best of all trades... whether you do any good or not, you still get paid."

Arthur Gelbo of the New York Times, upon seeing a recent production of "The Doctor in Spite of Himself," stated that the play is "filled with can't-miss lines. It has induced laughs for centuries, and it remains imperishable." Be sure you're there to see this three hundred year old "contemporary farce."

"The Doctor in Spite of Himself" opens Wednesday, July 12, and plays through Saturday, July 15. Curtain is at 8:30 p.m. Parkway Playhouse is located just off Highway 19E in Burnsville, N.C.

Lois Conway and Betsy Arlene Silverman, R. Lee Although directs the production, and James Parker is designing sets and costumes.

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## At Board of Directors Meeting

# Tomato Growers Agree On New Packing Guides

By ROBERT R. HYATT  
Agricultural Extension Agent  
Buncombe County

At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Trellised Tomato Growers Association, Inc., held at Buck's Restaurant in Asheville, a large delegation of tomato growers, tomato packing house operators, tomato brokers, Agricultural Extension workers, and other interested in the North Carolina trellised tomato industry, met to discuss plans for marketing vine-ripened trellised tomatoes during the 1972 season.

This group represented many people connected with the tomato industry and concerned with the future of the tomato industry in Western North Carolina.

The meeting was sponsored by the North Carolina Trellised Tomato Growers Association, Inc., and presided over by R. E. Cathey, president of the association. Delegations were present from Haywood, Madison, Buncombe, Macon, Cherokee and Yancey counties.

In an effort to improve the price structure and maintain the image of vine-ripened trellised tomatoes grown for the past several years in Western

North Carolina the following resolution was drafted and unanimously approved by all packing house operators present at the meeting.

Be it hereby resolved and agreed upon with the opening of the 1972 tomato marketing season, all packing house operators will:

Make every effort to pack a uniform pack throughout the entire area, and with the cooperation of the State Inspection Service, will not permit green tomatoes to be packed in 20 pound boxes.

That every effort be made to avoid packing any soft tomatoes that have the probability of a short shelf life.

That all tomatoes packed in 20 pound boxes be mature, showing a definite pink color, break indicating a vine-ripened trellised tomato as defined by the North Carolina Trellised Tomato Growers Association, Inc., and demanded by today's tomato trade.

Be it further resolved that the North Carolina Trellised Tomato Growers Association, Inc. work closely with buyers throughout the country in an effort to strengthen and improve the price structure for the traditionally high quality trellised tomatoes produced and marketed in North Carolina.

More specifically, it was agreed at the meeting that the following list of packing houses present at the meeting be of record as supporting this resolution.

Haywood County Cooperative Fruit & Vegetable Association, Waynesville, Pigeon Valley Tomato Company, Canton, Mato Packing Company, Marshall; Spring Creek Tomato

Company, Hot Springs, Shelton, Lenoir Tomato Company, Madison County, Macon County Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association, Inc., Franklin, Lenoir; and Southwestern Tomato Cooperative, Murphy.

For one reason or the other, it was not possible for all tomato packing facilities to be present at this meeting, but it is estimated that the above mentioned companies are responsible for packing an estimated 80 percent of the vine-ripened tomatoes produced in the area. Although a few packing companies were not present at this meeting it is hoped and anticipated that most of the firms will go on record in support of the above

resolution. The consensus of opinion and genuine concern displayed by the participants at this meeting shows great promise in arriving at greater cooperation between those persons responsible in the handling of the vine-ripened trellised tomatoes in North Carolina. It was the general feeling of the group that the elimination of green tomatoes from the 20 pound boxes could do nothing but help the tomato growers and the tomato growing industry in general. It is also hoped by the North Carolina Trellised Tomato Growers Association, Inc. that tomato producers themselves will cooperate in this action and understand that it was taken in their interest.

## G.M. Cutshaw Named FHA Committeeman

James T. Johnson, State Director of Farmers Home Administration, has announced the appointment of George M. Cutshaw of Route 3, Marshall, to the Madison County Farmers Home Administration County Committee for a three year term.

Mr. Cutshaw has been successful in his work with the county farmers for several years and knows and understands the farming practices and problems of the county.

Mr. Cutshaw operates a farm of his own in the community in which he lives and also takes an active part in civic and religious activities in the community. He is married to the former Deckie Franklin and they have four children.

The Committee also advises on other activities connected with the varied programs offered by Farmers Home Administration.

Mr. Cutshaw lives in the Laurel Community of Madison County. He has been connected with the ASCS in working with the county farmers for several years and knows and understands the farming practices and problems of the county.

Mr. Cutshaw operates a farm of his own in the community in which he lives and also takes an active part in civic and religious activities in the community. He is married to the former Deckie Franklin and they have four children.

## Girl Scout Day Camp July 24 - 28

Day Camp for Madison County Girl Scouts is scheduled for July 24-28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. It will be held at the Dan Carter farm in Mars Hill.

Any Girl Scout who has not yet registered may do so by contacting Caroline Stehney, troop leader or she may register the first day of camp.

## Bryce Halls Succeeds Craig L. Rudisill Jr.

It has been announced by First Union National Bank that R. Bryce Hall, vice president and former manager of First Union National Bank in Weaverville, has been promoted to the position of City Executive of First Union. In assuming this position Hall will succeed Craig L. Rudisill, Jr., who was the former president of the Bank of French Broad prior to its merger with First Union National. Rudisill will continue to associate with the Marshall Office as well as continue as a member of the board of that institution.

Hall is a graduate of Leicester High School and earned his B.S. Degree from Western Carolina University in 1957. Since graduating from college, he has

been closely associated with the banking business and joined the Bank of French Broad at Marshall in 1963. He was promoted to Assistant Cashier and Manager of the Weaverville Branch of that bank in 1964. He was promoted to a position of vice president of that bank in 1970 and subsequently named vice president of First Union National Bank when the merger of the Bank of French Broad and First Union was completed.

Mrs. Sandra Landers Tolley of Marshall has been awarded a graduate teaching assistantship in the English department at Western Carolina University at Cullowhee for the 1972-73 academic year.

Mrs. Tolley will also continue work on her master's degree in English literature which she began at WCU this summer. She is a 1971 graduate of Mars Hill College, and was a freshman sponsor on the Marshall High School faculty the past school term. Her husband is Hot Springs High School football coach Charles R. Tolley, and her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Glen Landers of Marshall, Route 4.



R. BRYCE HALL

in November of 1970. Hall has served as vice president of the Asheville Chapter American Institute of Banking and completed courses for a pre-standard certificate in that organization.

He is active in civic and church affairs being a member of the Grace United Methodist Church at Leicester where he serves as chairman of the Finance Committee and previously served 14 years as church-school superintendent.

He is chairman of the Leicester Advisory School Committee, director of the North Carolina Agriculture Foundation, Inc., North Carolina State College at Raleigh, is a 4-H leader of Newfound 4-H Club, is a director of the Buncombe County 4-H Advisory Council, serves as treasurer of Newfound Community Development Club, is a member of the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association and is the incoming vice president of the North Buncombe Optimist Club.

He and his wife, the former Bobbie Jean Penland, and their three children reside in the Newfound Community of Leicester.



C. N. WILLIS

## C. N. Willis Director Of Local Housing

C. N. Willis, director of the Mars Hill Housing Authority, was unanimously named director of the Marshall Housing Authority at a special meeting of the board of commissioners of the local housing authority on July 3. Mr. Willis, experienced in this field, assumed the post on Wednesday of last week. Mr. Willis succeeds Mrs. J. B. Tweed who recently resigned due to health.

Mr. Willis stated that the local office, located adjacent to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Tweed, is open Monday through Friday from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and closed on Saturdays.

Mr. Willis is also continuing as director of the Mars Hill Housing Authority.

## WCU Receives \$10,600 Grant For Equipment

The National Science Foundation has announced award of a \$10,600 grant to Western Carolina University to assist in the purchase of scientific equipment needed to improve undergraduate instruction.

The Western Carolina University grant was one of 372 totaling \$2.9 million made throughout the country to 311 colleges and universities, and two-year colleges.

The funds awarded to WCU are for equipment in the field of earth sciences.

In the 10 years since the NSF undergraduate instructional scientific program was established, 1,152 institutions have received approximately \$59 million through 6,788 grants. Western's application this year was among 730 submitted; about one half of which were approved.

## At Convention

Representative Liston B. Ramsey and Zeno H. Ponder, chairman of the Madison County Democratic Executive Committee, are in Miami, Fla., this week where they are attending the Democratic National Convention.

## Marshall Lion Installation Held At Buck's

Thirty-seven Lions and Lionesses of the Marshall Lions Club, one guest, Miss Julie Katner, of Waynesville, and District 31-A Governor and Mrs. Harold Peebles, of Candler attended installation and Ladies' Night in the Red Carpet Room of Buck's Restaurant on Tunnel Road, Asheville, Tuesday night.

Following the invocation by Lion Charles Huey, Outgoing Lion president Ed Morton, who presided, reviewed the many accomplishments and projects of the local club and expressed his gratitude for the fine cooperation he had received during the past year.

District Governor Peebles then spoke on his experiences at the Lions International Convention in Mexico City and concluded his talk by congratulating the Marshall Club. He then installed the following officers for the ensuing year.

Tom Wallin, president; Norris Gentry, first vice president; J.C. Wallin, second vice president; E.C. Teague, third vice president; Charles Huey, secretary; Joh Fisher treasurer. Also installed were two newly-elected directors, Earle Wise and O.A. Gregory.

All ladies present were presented Lions souvenirs.

The dinner meeting was concluded by the new president, Lion Tom Wallin, who asked for continued support of Lion members.

## Helms Names Weatherly As County Aide

Jesse Helms, Republican nominee for the U.S. Senate, announced today that Keith Weatherly of Newton will serve as his campaign's Field Representative for the Western counties of North Carolina.

Weatherly, a recent graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, will represent the Helms campaign in Madison County and 28 other counties in Western North Carolina. He will work with local volunteers and coordinate their efforts with the state campaign headquarters in Raleigh.



MARS HILL LIONS

PICTURED ABOVE are the recently installed officers of the Mars Hill Lions Club. Left to right: Glen Phillips, Jr., Lion Tamer; Bruce Phillips, past president; Jake Drake, treasurer; Alan Briggs, third vice president; Vernon Ponder, president; Ronnie Wallin, secretary; and Vettec Bates, first vice president. Jimmy Davis, second vice president and O'Neal Shelton, tall twister, are not pictured. The installation was held on the campsite of the Wagon Train on Walnut Creek. Ladies Night was also observed.

## Motion Picture Filmed In County To Be Shown July 21

A motion picture based on Madison County folk legends and partially filmed in Madison County will have its premiere in North Carolina on Friday, July 21. It was announced this week by Barney Rosenzweig, head of Barnard Productions of Hollywood.

The picture is called "Who Fears the Devil?" and is adapted by a book telling the adventures of a wandering mountain minstrel, who encounters strange and sometimes weird happenings in back reaches of the hill country. Exterior scenes were made among some of the wildest and most remote parts of the Laurel region of Madison County.

Several Madison County residents play supporting roles

in the picture, including musicians Obrey Ramsey, Byard Ray and David Shelton, who play, sing and speak lines in the picture.

The stories making up the book were written over the years by Manly Wade Wellman of Chapel Hill, who for more than two decades has repeatedly visited Madison County and studied the region's history and folkways. His new book, "The Kingdom of Madison," dealing in some detail with history and life of the county, will be published this fall by the University of North Carolina Press.

The romantic leads of the picture are Hedge Capers, young folk singer and star on television, and a newcomer to

Hollywood productions, pretty, red-haired Sharon Henssey. The cast includes Hollywood favorites like Susan Strasberg, Will Geer and Harris Yulin.

"Who Fears the Devil?" will have a triple premiere on July 21, in Chapel Hill, Raleigh and Durham. It will shortly be shown in Asheville and other points close to where it was filmed.

"I feel that our film should begin its career in the state where it really happens," said Mr. Rosenzweig in announcing plans for the showing. "I am especially anxious that it please the own home hills, those who helped make it a reality, among some of the most beautiful scenery in America."