

Postal Employees To Be Honored By Special Stamps

Postmaster General E. T. Klassen today announced the design of a unique postal tribute in the form of 10 special postage stamps to honor the nearly 700,000 employees of the U. S. Postal Service.

"These stamps are designed to emphasize to the American people the important duties performed by the men and women who are responsible for moving almost 90 billion pieces of mail a year," Klassen said.

Ten eight-cent commemorative stamps on the same sheet, each depicting a service performed by postal people—from window clerks selling stamps to workers on the workroom floor to letter carriers—will be issued simultaneously at more than 40,000 U. S. Post Offices, stations and branches on April 30.

by postal people as they serve the citizens of the communities where they live."

The stamps, in words and pictures, portray these statistics:

Nearly 27 billion U. S. stamps are sold yearly, enough to stretch around the world more than 16 times.

Mail is picked up from 313,485 collection boxes and from individual mail boxes.

Almost 90 billion letters and packages are handled yearly—almost half the world's total volume of mail. About 300 million are handled on an average delivery day.

Postal employees handle more than 500 million packages yearly, eight million of them for delivery outside the United States.

Postal Service maintenance people are responsible for the operation of nearly 1,500 mail-sorting machines and equipment; 42,254 postal buildings; and a fleet of 227,607 vehicles.

Fifteen percent of the national volume of some 49 billion pieces of first-class mail is received without ZIP Codes and must be sorted manually by postal people.

Specialized letter sorting machines, operated by skilled personnel, can sort more than one million letters during a normal 20-hour operating period.

Postal employees expedite 13 billion pounds of letters, special delivery messages and packages yearly.

Home delivery service was extended last year to an additional 1,320,435 urban and 440,000 rural families, increasing the total served to 53,932,137 urban families and 11,888,780 rural families plus 9 million businesses.

Postal employees cover four million miles each delivery day—roughly eight round trips to the moon.

transferred to the Cottrell press where the adhesive will be applied. There will be 50 stamps to the pane. The selvage of each pane will contain five plate numbers and the words "Postal People include Postmasters and Supervisors, Letter Carriers, Clerks, Mail Handlers, Motor Vehicle Operators, Rural Letter Carriers, Special Delivery Messengers, and Maintenance Employees All Serving YOU."

A special souvenir envelope honoring Postal People with a cachet (a design printed on the lower left corner of the envelope) will be offered free to the public at each local post office on April 30th as long as the supply lasts. The envelope will be large enough to accommodate the set of ten stamps and they may be entered into the mail to receive a local cancellation. There will also be handback service at the window counter of each local post office.

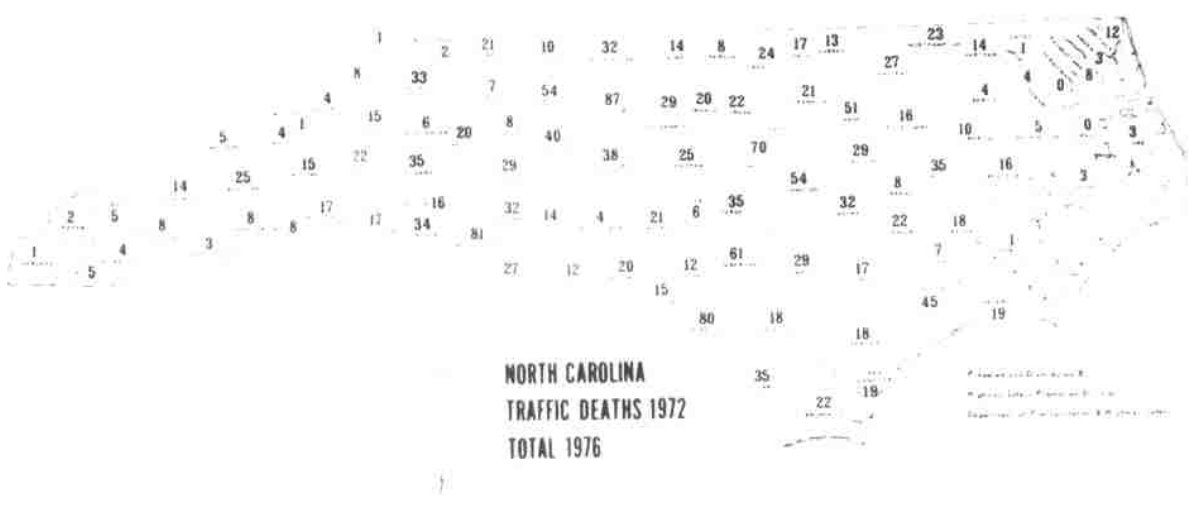
The first day of issuance will occur at each local post office, branch and station.

The Postal Service will also offer the complimentary cacheted envelope, with ten stamps affixed, by mail order to collectors for \$1 (80 cents worth of stamps, plus 20 cents handling charge). Two cancellations will be used for each strip of ten, each cancelling half the strip.

The cancellations will read "United States Postal Service, April 30, First Day of Issue." They will have the U.S.P.S. emblem with the words "People Serving You." Collectors also may submit their own cover bearing the stamp or stamps of their choice for cancellation. This cover should be self-addressed and contain a filler of postcard thickness.

The second service is offered for collectors who place covers in albums, since the complimentary envelope is too large for most albums.

Requests for either type of mail order service should be sent to "Postal People Stamps, Postmaster, Boston, MA 02109," postmarked no later than May 7.



TRAFFIC DEATHS AND INJURIES SET RECORD HIGH...During 1972, North Carolina experienced the highest number of traffic deaths and injuries ever recorded in one year. The Traffic Records Information Center of the Office of Motor Vehicles reports that 1976 people were killed and 65,421 injured. A review of where the traffic deaths occurred reveals that 10 counties had a total of 591 persons

killed. This represents 30 percent of the total for the State. Most of these counties were in the Piedmont area. Drinking drivers were again listed as being involved in over one half the collisions that resulted in death. Over 42,000 drunken drivers were arrested by the North Carolina State Highway Patrol during 1972 setting a record number of arrests for this violation.

Lions Preparing For Annual Broom Sale

The members of the 45 Lions Clubs of District 31-A including Marshall, Mars Hill and Hot Springs, are completing plans for the annual broom sale in Western North Carolina.

The door-to-door sale of products made by the blind serves a dual purpose—it is the largest fund-raising program for many of the Clubs and these sales make possible the employment of over 100 blind people in North Carolina. The Lions will have many items for sale in addition to the brooms. The Industries for the Blind, Inc., of Greensboro, manufactures these items, using blind and visually-handicapped personnel. The Industries for the Blind is a non-profit corporation, organized by civic-minded businessmen who devote much time and effort to this successful business enterprise.

The Lions have found that handicapped people, properly trained and placed in a controlled environment, can meet assembly line production in competition with the sighted. The consistency of performance and regular work attendance often surpasses that of the non-handicapped. This is due to the fact that a blind man, as a rule, is limited in social activity, therefore, he appreciates an opportunity to earn a living by his own efforts, proving to the skeptical that it is not the handicap itself but how one reacts to the handicap that is important.

The Industries for the Blind produces 250 brooms per day and from 300 to 500 mops daily. In addition to these two major items, they produce 60,000 ballpoint pens and from 3,000 to 4,000 clip and

arch boards daily. The total annual payroll is \$450,000. The average hourly wage is \$2.50 which includes fringe benefits.

Most of these products are marketed through the local Lions Clubs. Buncombe County Lions lead the State each year in the number of sales. The sale is coordinated throughout the County, with each Club participating in the cost of publicity. The fifteen Clubs have a definite geographical area to cover.

Harold Peebles, District Governor of 31-A Lions, is encouraging each Lions Club to participate in the annual sale of these products made by the blind.

The public should be mindful of the fact that the Lions are helping over 100 blind people earn a living by putting in an eight-hour day of productive labor. Twenty-five of the blind employed by the Workshop were originally from Western North Carolina.

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Bill Asking \$200 Million Awaits House Panel Action

The chairman of the House Finance Committee said Thursday that bills awaiting action in his committee would slice more than \$200 million a

year out of North Carolina's financial resources if enacted by the General Assembly.

Rep. Liston B. Ramsey of

Marshall said the figure includes only House bills, and does not take into consideration a batch of bills that would cut only a few thousand dollars each from the revenue picture.

Ramsey, a Democrat, said Republican Gov. Jim Holshouser's failure to take a public stand on the major tax issues has slowed action by his committee.

He said he asked Holshouser several weeks ago, in the presence of other legislators, what his position is on repeal of the controversial penny-a-bottle soft drink tax.

"I still don't know his position," Ramsey said. Ramsey said he hopes to bring the soft drink tax bill before the committee for a decision next week.

Ramsey said that as a representative he is not in favor of repeal personally, and favors instead using the revenue for increased benefits in such areas as teacher salaries, mental health, the kindergarten program and the technical institutes.

"But as chairman of the finance committee, I have been unable to find out up to this point the governor's priorities of any of these tax repeal bills," Ramsey said.

Bill To Alter Law On Death Penalty

The North Carolina House voted Thursday to eliminate the death penalty for all crimes but murder.

The bill, which passed 79-29, would provide a mandatory

life sentence for convictions of first degree burglary, arson and rape, and require the person to serve 20 years before becoming eligible for parole.

Death sentences could also be imposed in cases of murder committed during the perpetration of rape, arson, first degree burglary or kidnapping.

Both opponents and supporters of capital punishment spoke in favor of the bill as a workable compromise.

Rep. Herbert Hyde, D-Buncombe, supported the bill, although a bill he sponsored which would have abolished the death penalty was defeated earlier in the session.

"I don't like this bill, but I have wrestled with my conscience and must support it because it appears it's the best thing I can get," Hyde said.

Rep. Lloyd Hise Jr., R-Mitchell, said that "while Mr. Hyde is supporting it even though it's too strong, I support it even though it's not strong enough."

The bill was amended on the floor to add murder committed during a kidnapping to the list of capital crimes.

Hise, the amendment's sponsor, said, "We all know that if there is a kidnapping there is a great likelihood that death will result."

Spring Stocker Cattle Sales Next Mon., Tues.

The Spring Stocker Cattle Sales will be held on April 9 at the Cattlemen's Livestock Yard in Canton and on April 10 at Western Carolina Livestock Market in Asheville. Cattle will be weighed and graded at both markets on April 9 from 7 a. m. to 6 p. m. Sale time will be 8 p. m. at Cattlemen's Livestock Yard on April 9 and 10 a. m. on April 10 at Western Carolina Livestock Market.

Rules and regulations governing the sales will be essentially the same as last year. All steers and heifers must be deboned, steers must be castrated and completely healed, and heifers do not have to be guaranteed open.

Farmers are encouraged to take advantage of large numbers of cattle and a greater number of buyers to provide them more profit in the sale of their spring cattle.

22-State Tour Open To Teachers, Public

An opportunity of a lifetime is waiting for pre-service, inservice teachers and anyone interested in enjoying three weeks of exciting tours in 22 states, beginning June 6 and ending 26.

This educational tour is being sponsored by Mars Hill College, Department of History.

In-service teachers will have their tuition paid and the tour will grant graduate credit, certificate renewal, mini-master credit, social studies credit plus eight hours credit (4 history and 4 geography, it was stated).

50 scholarships are also available, offered jointly by Mars Hill College and North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. All one has to do is get Superintendent R. L. Edwards to approve your request.

Not only can teachers benefit by the tour but anyone interested can take advantage of this opportunity if they will respond immediately since there is a limited number of persons who can go.

The scope of the tour will include 22 states and a portion of Canada incorporated will be guided tours in selected national parks, visits to nationally famous museums, interpretive tours of Indian reservations, oil fields, orange groves, vineyards, mines, rice and wheat fields, plus major natural attractions and such famous cities as San Francisco, Las Vegas and Salt Lake City.

The mode of travel will be on air-conditioned bus plus first class motels.

The costs are most reasonable considering the scope of the tour. Only \$400 for bus, motels, and fees, plus whatever food and tuition costs are incurred.

Enrollment will be on first come, first accepted basis. \$50 down payment enters name on roll.

Contact immediately by telephone, letter, or in person the Tour Directors at the following:

Betty C. and Harley E. Jolley, Box 92, Mars Hill, N. C. 28754 or telephone 689-4189 or 689-1128, Mars Hill.

Landscaping Course Is In Progress Here

For the past several weeks, a housing course has been conducted by agents of the Madison County Agricultural Extension Service. The subject this week will be "Home Site Selection and Landscaping." This session will be conducted by Wiley DeVall, Agricultural Extension Agent. The class will be held this week in the County Courthouse at 7:30 p. m., on Thursday night, April 5. This is a change from the usual meeting place at French Broad Electric.

All persons who are interested in a beautiful place to live are invited to be present for this class. There will be a door prize given by a local nurseryman.

Madison County was well represented at the reception for Gov. James Holshouser, Jr. at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville Saturday night. Among the party faithful from the county at this "Fun Function" that included dancing and music by the Avery County Boys, Horseshoes and refreshments were these citizens: Hon. Frances C. Ramsey, Solicitor and Mrs. Clyde M. Roberts, Judge and Mrs. Bruce Briggs, Mars Hill Mayor and Mrs. William P. Powell, Mr. Wm. C. Silver, Jr., Mr. Joe L. Morgan, Mr. C. N. Willis, Mr. Sherman W. Ramsey, Mr. J. Dedrick Brown, Mr. Jim F. Craine, Mrs. Loy P. "Pat" Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Morgan, Jr., Mr. Chauncey Metcalf, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Ramsey, Mr. Wm. T. McKinney, Jr., Mr. C. William Briggs, Mrs. Joyce H. Ramsey, Mr. Alan Briggs, Miss Marsha Payne, Coach and Mrs. Claude Gibson of MHC, Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Crocco, Dr. Larry N. Stern, Mr. Reuben J. Lisenbee, Mollie A. Brown and son, Gale, and Mr. Roger Swann.

Several Madisonians had a private audience with Gov. Holshouser earlier in the day in the offices of the Buncombe County Commissioners in the courthouse where the governor held his first "People's Day" outside of Raleigh.

The reception for Holshouser replaced the traditional 12th Congressional District Lincoln Day Dinner that had been originally planned.

Ponder Escapes Injury In Car Truck Wreck

Zeno H. Ponder, 52, of Rt. 2 Marshall was treated and released at Memorial Mission Hospital after a car he was driving was struck by a beer truck at 8:40 a.m. Tuesday of last week on Brevard Road (N.C. 280) in the Mills River area.

Ponder was accompanied by Raleigh Fish, 31, of Weaverville at the time of the mishap. Fish was not injured, according to Highway Patrol Trooper C. S. Amos Jr. of Hendersonville, who investigated.

Amos said the truck struck the rear of Ponder's car as it was halted in the face of oncoming traffic waiting to make a left turn into a private driveway. Driving the truck was William Alexander Fox, 27 of Rt. 5 Asheville, charged by Amos with failure to reduce speed to avoid a collision.

Amos estimated the car, the property of Ponder Auto Sales of Marshall, was a total loss of about \$1,500, and that \$300 damage was done to the beer truck.



JUNIOR COATES, installer-repairman for Western Carolina Telephone Company at Weaverville, has completed a course in basic outside plant techniques and procedures. The 10-day class was held at the Continental Telephone System Training Center near Dulles International Airport, Washington, D. C. The basic outside plant course is designed for installer-repairmen, linemen, construction and combinationmen. The course stresses the technical aspects the individual will need to perform his job, such as pole climbing techniques, basic test equipment use, splicing and other related job prerequisites. It also stresses the importance of customer relations, safety, attendance and other points important to the proper performance of his job. Coates has been with the Continental System for three years. He is an Army veteran and married.

Charlotte To Host Teen-Ager Pageant

Sixty-five eager state-wide teen-agers will be competing and all of North Carolina has eyes on the upcoming Miss North Carolina Teen-ager Pageant which is taking place at the White House Inn, Charlotte, April 6, 7, and 8. This pageant is for girls between the ages of 13 and 17 and judging is based on scholastic achievement, leadership, poise-personality, and beauty with NO talent or swimsuit competition.

There will be a winner and four runners-up the winner being sent, expenses paid to the National Finals in Atlanta, September 1, where all states and the District of Columbia will compete for the title of Miss National Teen-ager.

This age group is one that frequently finds itself somewhat left out of things, too old for many activities and still too young for many others. The pageant attempts to give recognition to these girls and to help them grow.

Current Miss North Carolina Teen-ager is Teresa Rivera of Havelock.

Miss National Teen-ager is Sharon McLarty of Amory, Miss. who has been enjoying one of the most wonderful years of her life. She has visited at the White House with President Nixon, met with her Governor, and many other noted persons. She has

entertained hospitalized veterans at several Veterans' Hospitals and at Children's Hospitals. Sharon is looking forward to being a guest at the Miss North Carolina Teen-ager Pageant.

Jack Knight will be featured as Emcee. Reigning state queens from several neighboring states will be special guests at the North Carolina Pageant.

Contestants will be checking into the Host Hotel, The Whitehouse Inn, by 2 p.m. on Friday to begin the three day pageant with rehearsals, meals together, personal interviews with the judges, and making friends that will last forever.

North Carolina is proud of these wonderful girls and will be watching with much interest the Pageant taking place in Charlotte on April 7th.

The theme of the Miss North Carolina Teen-ager Pageant is "What's Right About America?"

Two contestants are from Madison County: Miss Becky Cody, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Cody, of Mars Hill, and Miss Cynthia Niles, daughter of Mrs. and Mrs. Ed Niles, of Marshall.

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BRENDA EDWARDS

DEANA ANDERSON

TWO MADISON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL students were the beneficiaries last week of a rare opportunity for learning first hand about the operation of our state government in Raleigh. Deana Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Anderson of Hot Springs and Brenda Edwards, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Edwards of Mars Hill were appointed by House Speaker Phil Gordon to serve for one week as Pages in the North Carolina General Assembly in Raleigh.