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Special Events Planned For Bicentennial

The Madison County Bicentennial Commission has planned 11 activities through which county residents can participate in observance of America's 200th birthday. The special events fall in three areas of interest — a look at the heritage of Madison County and her people, festivals, and horizons (or a look ahead). They include a schools fair and festival, an exhibition of mountain crafts, wagon trains

in celebrations at all three of the county's towns, religious festivals in the churches, special events for both youth and senior citizens, and homecoming at Madison High. Many communities have already planned bicentennial activities, but the commission indicated that others still have time to do so. Many communities have been working hard for more than a year on beautification projects, securing community

buildings, organizing youth activities, and overall community development. Authorized by the Madison County Board of Commissioners in December, 1973, the bicentennial commission has been working for two and a half years, meeting monthly to help plan and coordinate bicentennial activities within the county. The commission is composed of representatives from all areas. "Much thought has been

given to projects and activities which will include all age groups, which will take place in numerous communities, and which will make every citizen of Madison County proud of his heritage," the commission said in a statement announcing the schedule of activities planned so far. "If you have not been involved in a bicentennial project, it is not too late. The big celebrations are still

ahead." Dr. Evelyn Underwood of Mars Hill is chairman of the commission. Activities already planned are scheduled over a three-month period. The first will be a schools fair and festival May 7 and 8 at Madison County High School. A Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre performance is scheduled to run from June 22 to August 13. July, the month the nation

celebrates her Independence Day, will see the most activities, all of them so far concentrated in the first 10 days. A mountain craftsmen's fair and exhibition is planned for July 1 with wagon trains arriving July 3, a Saturday, to coincide with celebrations in Hot Springs, Marshall, and Mars Hill. Sunday, July 4, is Independence Day, and churches will be participating

in festivals of faith. The theme suggested for 11 a.m. worship services in individual churches is "Spiritual Growth as Part of Community Growth." At 3:30 p.m. on July 4, a time capsule will be buried on the Mars Hill College campus. A "tour of the heritage trail" is scheduled for July 5 with adult costume parties in local communities July 6. July 7 is to be senior citizens day in Madison communities. July 8 will be youth day in

local communities. A Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre production is scheduled for July 9. Homecoming Day at Madison High will be July 10. Water sports on the French Broad and various homecoming activities are planned for 10 a.m. A picnic lunch will be served at noon, and there will be a little league play-off game at 1 p.m.

Madison Firm Buys Paper

The News-Record, Madison's county newspaper for the past 75 years, has been purchased by a newly-formed corporation headed by Clifton Blake Metcalf, a Mars Hill native with close Madison County ties. The new corporation has been organized as Madison County Publishing Co., Inc. with Metcalf, who is managing editor of the Mountaineer newspaper in Wáynesville, as president. Madison Publishing Co. obtained the News-Record, in a transaction completed Friday, from the South Carolina headquartered corporation which has

operated it for the past six and a half years. James I. Story, whose family name has been identified with the News-Record for decades, will continue as the News-Record's editor, and Mrs. Jean Blankenship will remain as receptionist and bookkeeper. Metcalf is the son of Jake and Roxie Marie Wilde Metcalf, the grandson of Donald F. and Pearl Ray Metcalf of the Beech Glen community and the late Mr. and Mrs. Max Wilde of Marshall and Mars Hill. He has numerous other relatives residing throughout the



KEN EDWARDS stands under the new highway sign installed last week. It was erected after he had written the N.C. Highway Commission suggesting a more noticeable sign for the intersection. Ken had the assistance of other leaders in Mars Hill, like Dr. Fred Bentley and Bill Powell. The state had first put up a very small sign pointing to Mars Hill, that many travelers would overlook. Ken is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Edwards of Mars Hill.

Judge Braswell Files For Re-election

Chief District Judge J. Ray Braswell has filed with the State Board of Elections for reelection as district court judge of the 24th Judicial District. The district consists of Madison, Avery, Mitchell, Watauga and Yancey counties.

Braswell has been chief judge of the district since 1968 when the present court system first came into effect in the five mountain counties. He and J. E. Holsouser Sr. were elected as the district's first judges. Braswell was recognized statewide for his professional competence by his election by the chief judges of the state as chairman of the Conference of Chief District Court Judges in 1975, by his appointment by Chief Justice Susie Sharp as the district court member of the State Judicial Council, and by his appointment by Gov. J. E. Holsouser Jr. as member of the Youth Services Commission, the body charged by law with operating the state's juvenile training schools and programs.

Fish, Rice Attend Meet On Reading

Owen Fish and Dr. Bobby Jean Rice will represent Madison County April 28 at a regional meeting of Citizens United for the Improvement of Reading, scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. in Canton.

Attending will be county task force members, reading specialists, educators and interested citizens. Presentations about local efforts and activities to improve reading will be made by Fish, Rice and other county task force heads.

Entries Sought For Show

The second annual Madison County Cancer Society Talent Show will be held on May 1 in the Madison High School gymnasium beginning at 8 p.m.

There will be four separate divisions of music: country western, bluegrass, old-time traditional and square dance. Trophies will be awarded in all divisions, it was announced.

Greater Ivy Slates Meet, Guest Speaker

The regular fourth Monday night meeting of the Greater Ivy Community Association, Inc., has been changed this month to April 28. The meeting will be held in the California Creek Baptist Church at 7:30 p.m.

Admission will be \$1.75 for adults, \$1.25 for students, and children free. Officials stated this week that many entries were being received and others are urged to enter.

Wells Announces For Representative

Ted R. Wells, insurance executive, announced today he is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the 44th District seat in the N. C. House of Representatives.

Wells made the announcement by saying, "after visiting and talking with people throughout Haywood, Madison, Jackson and Swain counties, I have decided to seek the nomination and election."

The 39-year-old Haywood native said, "in approaching the issues, I want to maintain a high idealism but at the same time, be realistic as to how we can solve our problems."

Continuing, Wells went on the point out: "When the citizens send a man to Raleigh, they expect



him to work vigorously for things that will help them. The average man does not read every bill pending in the legislature, but he knows whether his representative is really working for him. He knows not just by what the legislator does in Raleigh, but by what he does at home. Does he identify with the concerns of the people of his district? "If I'm elected, I will make myself available to help anyone with a problem in my district that needs action. People should not just feel they have a right to seek a legislator's help; they should be confident that he personally wants to know their concerns. "In the 44th District, we have many senior citizens who are living on fixed incomes. Inflation is eroding their buying power. I favor tax reform which would qualify them for property tax exemption. I will also work for tax reform for the lower and middle income wage earners. "When elected, I will work for and promote the further development of our technical schools for the purpose of training highly qualified craftsmen and technicians so that in turn, we can attract higher paying industries and improve themselves now have. "Action needs to be taken now to assure teachers' and other state employees' salaries will reflect the rising cost of living. "Agriculture is as important to a balanced economy as any industry and

Dispute Provokes Double Shooting

The bodies of two brothers, John Cling Anderson, 62, of Route 3, Mars Hill, and Wayne Anderson, 55, of Route 1, Weaverville were found in the home of the elder brother last Friday. Both bodies were riddled with bullets, Sheriff Ponder reported.

The shooting occurred at the home of John Cling Anderson, who lived alone in the former Coast-In Service Station which had been converted into living quarters. Ponder said both of the dead men had .38 cal. pistols, and the holsters were found in

their cars outside the house, which at one time had been a gas station. The sheriff said the brothers had been known to have argued extensively about the estate of their father, who had died some 18 months ago. Evidence points to the

assumption that they killed each other, Ponder said. Wayne Anderson had five bullet wounds in his chest, and John Cling Anderson had two chest wounds, according to the sheriff. He said the shots had been fired at close range. Dr. Otis Duck, Madison County medical examiner, ordered an autopsy performed on both victims.

Deringer Donates Alarm

The Marshall Volunteer Fire Department has received a new fire alarm siren, thanks to Deringer Manufacturing Co.

The siren, donated to the department at an undisclosed price, is mounted 35 feet from the ground behind the Madison County School Bus Garage near the Marshall by-pass. Operating on 240-volt, 3-phase power, the siren generates 5 horsepower at peak load. Through planned tests, the siren has been heard in the downtown area of Marshall, the Walnut Creek area, the Rector Corner vicinity, and the Roberts' Hill community.

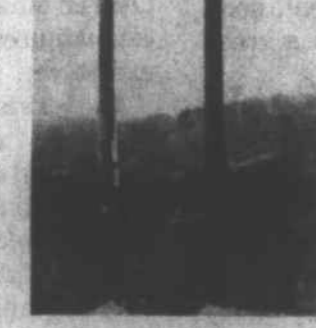
The control for the siren is located in the Madison County Sheriff's Office and is sounded for each fire alarm just as is the siren in town. The automatic control sounds the siren for 10 cycles of 8 seconds on and 4 seconds off. This ratio creates a two-minute alarm period. The fire department has found, however, that 4 cycles of 15 seconds on and 5 seconds off seems to better serve this locale and is in the process of changing the automatic sequence to sound in this manner.

The purpose of the siren is to alert firefighters in the by-pass area who would otherwise be unaware that an alarm existed. This siren has already achieved that purpose at least twice.

Installation of the siren was accomplished during February and March through the efforts of the French Broad Electric Membership Corporation; Westco Telephone Company; Town of Marshall; Millard Tipton, electrician; and firefighters Lonnie Plemmons and Earl Crowe. The department said it is deeply grateful for the time and effort each individual gave toward the installation and successful operation of the siren.

"This project would never have been possible in the least without the beginning motions of fire department Lt. Pat Clemens, manager of the Marshall plant of Deringer Manufacturing Co.," a spokesman said. "His efforts in this and many other areas of community service should be congratulated and applauded. He, like all firefighters, has received far too little praise."

Members of the fire department are immediately available in the event of fire. They ask that all persons who wish to call the fire department on a matter of general business please dial 649-2660. Only in the event of fire, dial 649-3333.



THE NEW SIREN, donated by Deringer Mfg. Co., is mounted 35 feet from the ground behind the county school bus garage near the Marshall by-pass.



DERINGER OFFICIALS and employees following the presentation of the new fire siren to the Town of Marshall. They are, from the left, J. Porter Dull, executive vice president; Ray

Crowe, assistant chief of Marshall Volunteer Fire Dept.; Bud Lamm, president; Jackie Ball, fireman; and L. Pat Clemens, plant manager and lieutenant of Marshall Fire Dept.

Marshall Man Dies Of Burns

A Madison County man apparently burned to death sometime Sunday morning in the Little Laurel section of the county, the Madison County Sheriff's Department reported.

A department spokesman said Willard Gosnell, 40, of Route 3, Marshall, was found at about 8:30 a.m. Sunday in an abandoned car. The spokesman said Gosnell had apparently been sleeping in the car when a fire, which investigators have attributed to a cigarette Gosnell had been smoking earlier, began in the car.

Services were held Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. in the Belva Baptist Church. The Rev. Gordon Ball officiated. Burial was in Shelton Cemetery. Friends of the family were pallbearers.

Surviving are the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gosnell of Marshall; three brothers, Landon J. Gosnell of Canton, Bruce Gosnell of Greenville, Tenn., and Eamon Gosnell of Marshall; and five sisters, Mrs. Frieda Ball of Greenville, Mrs. Mary Gosnell of Marshall, Mrs. Frances Patten of Marshall, and Mrs. Frances Gosnell of Marshall.