

Heard And Seen

By POP

Glory Ridge, a beautiful 30-acre camping facility with a magnificent view, a few miles from Walnut, was alive last Saturday night when more than 100 boys and girls, men and women from far and near, enjoyed a delicious barbecued pig and chicken picnic supper... the Rev. George Moore, whose dream several years ago became a reality, was host at the delightful gathering... Roger Wood, local postmaster and excellent barbecuer, was chief chef, assisted by Allen Stines... these two guys started "fixing" the supper at 3 a.m. Saturday and were still barbecuing at 7 Saturday night when supper was served... and, of course, Linda, Roger's wife, helped the entire time. In addition to the "local" crowd, a group of campers from Warren, Ohio, also enjoyed the occasion. The religious service on the mountainside following the picnic supper was most impressive... group singing was enjoyed with George Moore leading and Mike Cody and his guitar added much to the ceremony... the Rev. John Singleton delivered a brief message and the "mixture of denominations" had a great time together.

Mrs. Moore (Mozelle), wife of George, also kept the crowd happy with her warm, enthusiastic personality. Many other ladies helped out by furnishing beans, slaw, desserts, etc., as well as serving the large and hungry gathering... much has been added to Glory Ridge in the past few years, thanks to the untiring efforts of George Moore, members of the board of directors, and many volunteer helpers... Glory Ridge is located in one of the most magnificent spots in Western North Carolina... if you haven't visited the 30-acre facility, you should.

Apologies to Ethel Wallin... her name was inadvertently omitted from last week's list of Lionesses who helped serve food during the recent horse show on the Island... did you watch Montage over WLOS-TV Sunday night?... the show featured Marshall with several "key" people interviewed by Bill Stroupe... one person told me he learned a great deal more about Marshall he didn't know although he's been here for years... congratulations to all those who appeared on the show... the passing of Jake Drake has taken another fine person from the Mars Hill area... he had been a devoted treasurer of the Mars Hill Lions Club for many years and was for years one of the outstanding school bus drivers... my sympathy is extended to Mayme and the entire family... horse lovers, don't forget to attend the Mars Hill Lions Club annual horse show in the elementary school grounds this Saturday at 1 and 7 p.m. The Byard Ray Festival will also be held at Thomas Wolfe Auditorium at the Asheville Civic Center this Saturday night from 6 to 11:30.

Fiddle This One Started Hatfield - McCoy Rift

By DORIS BURRELL

A grisly stabbing and three revenge shootings started by a 50 cent debt triggered the famous feud between the

Hatfields and the McCos.

The debt owed was over a fiddle one of the McCos had sold to a Hatfield. Before the guns were silenced 150 people had lost their lives in the Kentucky-West Virginia

battleground.

Howard Watson of Canton believes he has the fiddle which the dispute was over. He has made six trips to the area to verify it. The fiddle came into his possession about

four years ago in a trade-out when he was learning to play the instrument.

Watson, who says he hopes his research doesn't start another Hatfield-McCoy feud, held the fiddle with care this week, recalling that its previous owner had said something about some writing on a slip of paper inside the case.

"I didn't think any more about it for two or three months and then one day, just looking it over, I saw the writing on the inside," Watson said. Curious, he looked more closely and read the words: "Jessy G. Hatfield-Peaks Mill, West Virginia — presented by Governor H.D. Hatfield Feb. 9, 1921."

In his research of county records, and in talks with

interested in selling the fiddle. I had become interested in discovering if this was, indeed, the fiddle which caused the famous feud."

Watson spent a week with the Dutch Hatfields at their invitation and was introduced to many more relatives of the deceased families. He went to libraries, county seats and visited descendants of the Hatfields.

The record shows that bad feelings were created between the Hatfields who lived on one side of the Tug River on the border of West Virginia and the McCos, who lived in Pike County, Ky., on the other side in a dispute over a sow hog and her piglets, but it had been settled and nothing of consequence had occurred although the two families kept their distance.

about. Tension mounted as the day wore on. Ellison Hatfield had been asleep in a meadow and had gotten up and come by the election table. He wore a straw hat which had a brim larger than that usually seen. Several took note of the hat and began to taunt him.

Ellison laughed and replied, "Boys, I just brought you some roughness for your cattle." The remark evoked laughter, but others took offense. Tolbert McCoy stepped out from among the group and returned angrily. He clenched his fist and struck at Hatfield. The brothers joined the fracas, and when it was over moments later, Hatfield had been stabbed 26 times and had been struck by a bullet. He fell to the ground in a pool of blood.

Hatfields standing around gathered as a clan. They picked up the wounded Ellison and carried him to the house of Anderson Ferrell in Warm Hollow. It didn't seem that he could last very long.

The three McCoy brothers were taken into custody by civil officers and were to be taken to Pikesville for trial, but they never reached their destination. The Hatfields gathered in large numbers, appeared before the civil officers and requested that the prisoners remain in the district where the fight had begun. The Hatfields had taken the upper hand. The prisoners were taken to an abandoned schoolhouse, their hands tied, to await the outcome of Ellison — whether he lived or died.

The boys' mother, hearing her three sons were prisoners, hurried to the schoolhouse and begged for their lives. It was rumored that their father was gathering McCos together to attempt a rescue. Tension mounted.

When word came that Ellison Hatfield had died from his wounds, the three brothers were taken from the schoolhouse and down to the river. There they were found, hands still tied, cut to pieces from a fusillade of bullets. The youngest, Randolph, had been struck by a single blast from a rifle which had taken off the top of his head.

The night of Aug. 9, 1882, became an infamous date to the mountain folks living along the Tug River. On that terrible night, a grudge was fostered which left, over a span of time, many dead. Finally, there were not enough menfolk remaining on either side, the Hatfields or McCos, to continue the feud.

Today, the descendants still live in the mountainous country of West Virginia and Kentucky. They're at peace now.

Horse Show Saturday

The Mars Hill Lions Club will host the 10th annual Charity Horse Show on the elementary school grounds this Saturday afternoon and night. The afternoon show begins at 1 and the night show begins at 7.

There will be 41 classes, and the show is sanctioned by the Racking Horse Breeders Association of America.



A 50-CENT DEBT over the fiddle Howard Watson of Canton is holding is believed to have started the famous 1882 feud between the Hatfields and McCos.

*'I always get this
funny feeling when
I hold the fiddle.'*

relatives of the two families, Watson discovered that the fiddle, made in the 1700s of curly maple on the back and sides and spruce on the top, was one of the items distributed to relatives by the governor who was acting as executor for the estate of Capt. Anderson, "Devil Anse" Hatfield who was buried on Jan. 9, 1921.

After reading the words inside the fiddle case, Watson researched books on the Hatfields and McCos.

"I at first thought the relatives of Hatfield might be interested in knowing about the fiddle and its whereabouts," Watson said. "I didn't know all about this famous feud until I got into the research."

Watson made a phone call to the operator in Matewan, W.Va., and asked about the Hatfields. He was told there were more Hatfields there than anyone else.

"The operator put me in touch with a Dutch Hatfield and he at once told me just to ship him the fiddle up there, and he would pay my asking price when he found out about the writing," Watson said. "But I told him I really wasn't

The feud erupted, according to records, on Kentucky's election day in August 1882 when officials were being elected and a school tax was being voted on. The polls were opened early in the hollow near the Jerry Hatfield home. Voting was by word of mouth and all who could wanted to be around to watch the voting.

Forty-seven-year old "Preacher" Anse Hatfield was on hand as one of the election officials. Relatives had arrived early from West Virginia. Already the drinking of white liquor by those standing around was well under way. It soon became evident that some of the men from the two clans were holding grudges. Tolbert McCoy, Randolph's 31-year-old son, picked a quarrel with Elias Hatfield over the small sum of 50 cents still owed by Hatfield for a fiddle he had bought from McCoy. Backing Elias were his younger brother, 19-year-old Phamer, and 15-year-old Randolph Jr. The appearance on the scene by Preacher Anse seemed to calm the quarrel, but as soon as he returned to his official duties it was taken up again, egged on by those standing

ACP Reports Needed

The Madison County ASC Committee has set June 30, which is just a little over two weeks away, as the report date for all ACP practices.

If for reasons beyond the control of the farm operator a practice cannot be completed by this date, the operator should notify the ASCS office and request an extension in time to complete and report.

Any questions regarding ACP practices should be directed to the Madison County ASCS office, Box 487, Marshall. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. except legal holidays.

Place-kicker Efrén Herrera of the Dallas Cowboys was born in Guadalajara, Mexico.

SENIOR CITIZEN'S CORNER

Social Security Grows

The Social Security Act became law on August 14, 1935. President Franklin D. Roosevelt called it "a law which will give some measure of protection to the average citizen and to his family against poverty-stricken old age."

In the beginning, social security benefits were for retired workers only. Over the years, the law has been amended so that now monthly benefits are paid to eligible retired and disabled workers and their families and to dependents of deceased workers who worked long enough in jobs covered by social security.

Social security benefits are based on work and earnings. The first monthly payments went in 1940 to about 222,000 people. The average monthly payment was about \$22 to a retired worker and \$47 to a widowed mother with two children in her care.

Today social security pays benefits to about 31 million people. The average monthly payment is about \$202 to a retired worker and \$472 to a widowed mother with two children in her care.

Under a 1972 amendment, social security benefits are now tied to the cost of living. The Social Security Administration administers Medicare, which started in 1965, and the supplemental security income program, which started in 1974.

Over 23 million people have Medicare, which helps pay the health care bills of people 65 and over. of

disabled people who have been entitled to social security disability benefits for at least 24 consecutive months, and of many people with chronic kidney disease. The supplemental security income program makes monthly payments to over 4 million people with little or no income and limited resources who are 65 or over or blind or disabled.

Homecoming

The annual home coming and decoration service will be held June 18 at North Fork Baptist Church on Big Pine, beginning at 10 a.m.

Lunch will be at noon and there will be singing in the afternoon. All singers and listeners are invited to attend.

The Rev. Frank Plemmons is pastor of the church.

Singing

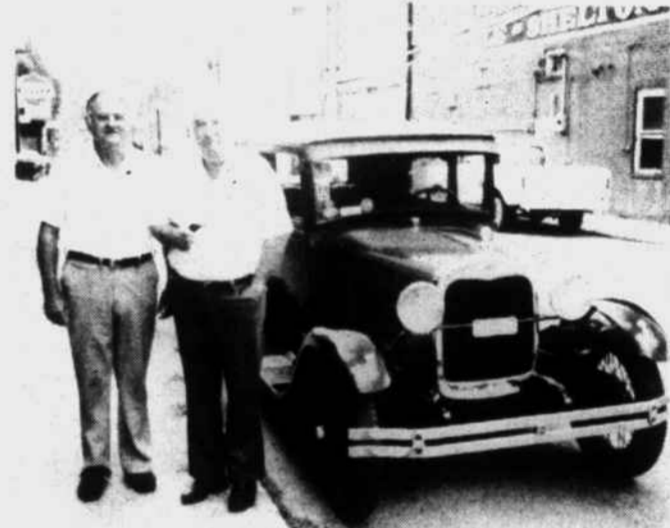
There will be a singing at the Piney Grove Baptist Church this Saturday beginning at 7:30.

Featured singers will be the New Hope Quartet. The public is invited.

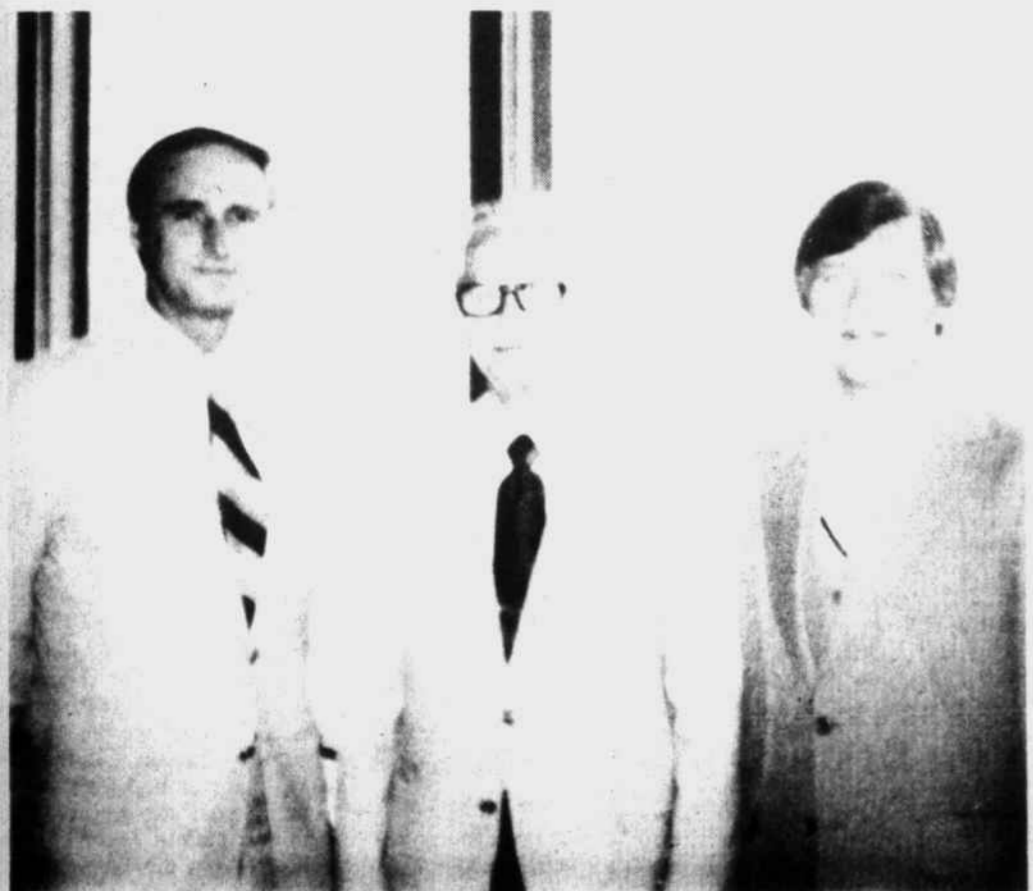
GALLERY ACQUIRES NEW LANDSCAPE

WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Gallery of Art has acquired a landscape by the Dutch artist Jan van Goyen.

The "View of Dordrecht from the Dordtse Kil," signed and dated 1644 is the first Van Goyen painting to enter the Gallery's collection.



NEIL CONNELL, of Miami, Fla., (left) and George Bowman, of Route 6, Marshall, are pictured beside the 1929 Model "A" Ford 2-door sedan in which Mr. and Mrs. Connell made the 900-mile trip. They are spending several days as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bowman and family. (Photo by Jim Story)



DR. FRED B. BENTLEY, president, Mars Hill College; Claude Gibson, athletic director, head football coach; and Carl Benfield, president, Golden "M" Club; have announced the kickoff for the Golden "M" Club Athletic Membership Drive for Mars Hill College. Since 1972 the Golden

"M" Club has contributed \$125,000 to the athletic scholarship program — this year's goal is \$25,000. The drive began on May 27 with a barbecue dinner at which time \$18,000 had been pledged or contributed. Dr. Bentley is anticipating that the drive will exceed \$30,000.

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