

America Works When Americans Work

Our nation is threatened from a great many corners these days. There is the ever-present danger of nuclear destruction, pollution of our waters and overcrowding in our largest cities. We face a federal deficit in excess of \$100 billion which threatens our already stagnant national economy. Our farmlands dwindle each year while aliens, both legal and illegal, pour across our borders.

Without minimizing the dangers all these situations present to our national security, we feel that the number one problem facing America these days is the ever-increasing number of workers unable to find jobs. National unemployment rates are at post-World War II highs today as more workers find themselves without jobs with which to support their families.

Having faced unemployment twice in the past 18 months, we are no stranger to the problems faced by these many million Americans. The problems are many and a number of the evils of unemployment are not clearly understood by those who have never had to search for work.

The lack of money for food, rent and other necessities is only the most apparent problem of the unemployed. As the period of unemployment grows longer, the self-confidence the job-seeker first enjoyed grows dimmer. As weeks turn into months, the first interviews become forgotten among a long list of applications and hope turns to despair.

We are fortunate in this country to have a number of assistance programs which enable the unemployed to escape starvation. Food stamps, a program often maligned as being a haven for chiselers, provide necessary nutrition to millions of truly needy Americans. Unemployment insurance, aid to families with dependant children and welfare assistance also provide a measure of security to the unemployed which previous generations did not enjoy.

Food stamps, unemployment insurance and welfare can provide the unemployed with basic subsistence. They cannot provide things just as vital to a healthy life, hope and a sense of self-worth. We all need to have a sense of our own value as individuals that government assistance cannot provide. Standing in long lines at Employment Security Commission offices cannot instill hope for the future in the hearts of today's unemployed.

It is a common line of thought that those who receive food stamps are all loafers who would rather collect welfare than work. It is a cruel lie. Only a fool would rather be fed from government assistance than work for his daily bread. Most Americans are not made that way.

It is a tendency among us to say, 'What can I do about it? I'm just one person.' In some cases, this is true. There is probably very little the individual American can do to curb inflation, stop the spread of nuclear weaponry or clean our waters and preserve our natural resources. We can, however, put a dent in the terribly high rate of unemployment by finding work for our neighbors.

There is an inherent value in all forms of labor, from bank president to street sweeper. A person out of work will accept a job, no matter how little esteem that job commands. A man with a family who needs work doesn't ask, 'How much does it pay?' or 'What are my benefits?' He asks 'When can I start?'

Take a good look around you, Mr. Businessman. Is there a job in your company that can be filled? If there is, don't wait until things improve to hire someone. Things may never improve if you wait too long. There are many good workers out there looking to help you. All they need is the chance.

Even if you don't have a full-time position to be filled, isn't there some work that could be done by a part-time worker? Doesn't that storeroom need to be swept? There are any number of people who could do the job for you, and do it well.

Work made America great. It was working people who blazed the trails, farmed the fields, built the railroads, the steel mills and our great cities. Work and people to do the work that made America great and they can make America great again. All they need is the chance.

The News Record wants to help. From now through Labor Day, we will open up our classifieds for people seeking work and those who have jobs to offer. If you're currently looking for work, on either a full or permanent part-time basis, we will run a classified listing your qualifications, the type of work you are seeking and your address and telephone number. Employers will also be able to list their available jobs, up to 25 words, without charge.

Larger Type

We received a call this past week from a lady who described herself as "an 88-year-old widowed woman from Mars Hill." She called to tell me that she enjoyed my articles very much. Of course, I was pleased to hear that one of our readers found my editorial column of interest. I was about to ask her what points of the article pleased her most when she informed me that, "I like the big print it's printed in. It's easier for me to read."

It's no matter that she wasn't excited by my razor-sharp wit or crystal clear style. It's good to be appreciated, even if only for the larger type.

Her call made me realize something that probably has never occurred to a great many newspaper editors. Those of us, like myself, who are blessed with 20/20 vision, do not consider those who are less fortunate. Her call has resulted in what I believe will be an improvement in The News Record's style.

The bigger type she referred to is 10 point. It would be impossible for us to print the entire paper in this size print because it takes up too much space that is needed for news items. However, from now on, The News Record will present articles of special interest to senior citizens in this larger typeface.

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mid-summer of next year. One private citizen questioned what effect the bond issue would have on the new elementary school and Madison High School. County commissioner James Ledford responded, saying, "If the referendum fails, the county will be forced to put in a new system to keep the schools open."

Letters

Dear Editor: I very much appreciated your editorial of July 28 and do hope that you can, through conveying information, make a positive contribution to Madison County.

One of the first issues that I believe you should address as soon as possible is the establishment of a "Community Watch" system in our county. This system is ideal for rural areas, yet unfortunately, will meet opposition here. If you could run some articles on the system (there is plenty of literature available) it might raise some community action.

This is simply a suggestion in response to your request for such. Thank you very much for your kind consideration to this request.

Sincerely,
Betty Sue Johnson

Another private citizen, former Marshall mayor Wade Henry, spoke up, saying, "I've lived here longer than I care to mention. I would like to see the young people of this area have better than what we've had to put up with. This is a great opportunity for Marshall and Madison County. If we don't go through with this, our schools will be closed."

Those attending the meeting made plans to get out the vote and to circulate a petition and fact sheet regarding the project to the voters. Polls will be open for voting on the referendum on Aug. 26 from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. at the fire station in Marshall.

Heard And Seen

BY POP STORY

A GOOD PLACE TO EAT

If you're hungry and want a good meal, I highly recommend the C-n-D Restaurant near Mars Hill. Formerly the Steak House, located just above the Madison Manor Nursing Center, it is a family-operated restaurant which features a buffet lunch daily as well as a variety of menu choices. A friendly atmosphere complements the good food and the popularity of the restaurant is evidenced by the large number of customers who eat there regularly.

Much of its popularity is due to the fine waitresses who always are as busy as bees. In addition to owners Daniel and Cynthia McClellan, waitresses include Annette, Becky, and Amy McClellan and Sharon Shook.

WHAT? FIREMEN BURN HOUSE!

We usually think of firemen putting out a fire to save a house. However, that wasn't the case on Friday night when firemen from the Marshall volunteer department, joined by volunteer firemen from the Laurel volunteer department, actually set fire to and burned what is known as the Glenn Landers house between Walnut and Laurel River. Fire Chief Jackie Davis of the MVFD was quick to report that the burning of the vacant dwelling was planned as an "on the job training project." Some 15 local firemen and five Laurel Firemen participated. "We used portable pumps and the dump tank in the exercise," Davis said. He added that in addition of practicing fire-fighting techniques, the firemen also had a lot of fun.

CARNIVAL HERE

Instead of softball being enjoyed on the island this week, both young and old, especially the young, will enjoy the "Summer Carnival" which is being sponsored by the Marshall Volunteer Fire Department.

The main attraction will be a variety of rides from which the "young'uns" will get a thrill. I wouldn't be surprised, however, to see many older citizens join in.

The carnival, which had been in Canton for a week, started arriving last Saturday just before the rains stopped softball play. The rains, however, subsided later and the weatherman predicts a pretty week. Part of the proceeds will be used by local firemen to improve fire-fighting equipment. The carnival lasts through Saturday.

AN ENJOYABLE VISIT

Last Sunday night following church services, "Bill" and I decided to ride around a bit just for the fun of it. We decided to ride around Roberts Hill Road from our road to the top of the hill. Although the trip was less than a mile, we thoroughly enjoyed it. At Joe's and Marie's we turned off on P. Davis Road and stopped at Bob and Venie Davises home for a short visit. It had been years since I'd been up the hollow and was impressed with their neat yard and well-planned landscape. I especially was impressed with their 3-tier mini-garden which contains flowers and vegetables. Grace Connor also joined us and we had a fine visit. It just goes to show that you don't have to travel a long distance to see the impressive yards, homes and gardens of your neighbors.

Living And Growing

BY CARL MUMPOWER

If someone asked you to take a good swallow of rat poison, you'd probably tell them to get lost. Wouldn't you? Who, in his right mind, would take rat poison? That stuff could kill you, right? Well, how about if I told you that you and I swallow a shot of rat poison most days of our lives? Obviously, it's not the kind that comes in bottles, but, with time, it's almost as lethal.

Anger is one of those poisons. Sure, we all feel anger at times and that's pretty normal. Anger was meant to be felt, expressed, and let go of. When we suppress it, hold on to it, or store it for use later, it gradually and subtly consumes us by destroying our positive focus, sense of personhood, and awareness of reality. Anger, quite simply, destroys the container that holds it.

do no more harm.

Finally, there is guilt. That ever so gentle, but malicious, human burden that so many wear like a cloak of honor. We generally cling to guilt for one of three reasons. Perhaps we were brought up to believe that it's an OK thing and don't really know any better. In other cases, we feel guilt because we are, down deep, plotting or considering a repeat of the thing that caused our guilt to begin with. Lastly, we use guilt as a form of self-punishment for having committed an act we are not proud of. Guilt is one of the most wasteful of the human emotions. It gives us a profound sense of responsibility, while robbing us of the strength to do anything about it. It doesn't help us grow in our sense of maturity and responsibility, it tears us down. Sort of like sipping on a can of Drano, isn't it?

So don't for a minute believe that the Federal government puts a label on all the poisons that you should keep an eye out for. If you'll look closely at your lifestyle, I'll bet your getting a dose or two more frequently than you'd like to admit. It takes time, but it can be lethal, not only emotionally, but physically as well. You and I get enough stuff in the air we breathe and the food we eat without adding more by sense of responsibility, while our own hand...

The News Record invites letters to the editor from our readers. In order to provide space for a variety of views, we ask that letters be limited to fewer than 1,000 words. The News Record reserves the right to edit all letters. Your opinions on any subject are welcome, as are suggestions, compliments and complaints.

Letters must be in good taste and contain no libelous statements. They must also be signed and include the writer's address and/or telephone number for verification purposes.

Send your letters to "Editor, The News Record" P.O. Box 369, Marshall, N.C. 28753.



Steve Ferguson

All I Have To Do Is Dream

We all dream, and everyone has a story of a strange dream or nightmare that they have experienced.

Well, I heard some stories lately that I felt were deserving of being put into print. Everyone knows how off-beat some dreams can be, and these below are no different.

The stories you are about to hear are true, almost. The names were changed to protect my column's "PG" rating.

One story I heard was from a person in financial trouble. He was driving down the road in his American Express card when he suddenly shifted into high gear and found himself on open freeway.

He began feeling the wind in his face and the sun reflecting off his sportscard (excuse the pun) when his wallet suddenly blew away into the wind. He glanced down at his speedometer and discovered he was traveling at 17.5 (which just so happened to be the prime interest rate at the time) when suddenly his vehicle died.

He pulled his American Express card off to the side of the road, when suddenly CHIPS came by and arrested him from indecent exposure. End of dream.

Yes, dreams seldom make sense and even less seldom do we understand why we dream such strange things.

Some scientists think that strange dreams are the body's way of relieving tension and emotions. Some think it is a collage of things that happened to you during the day.

Most scientists think a good pan pizza with extra pepperoni will do it. I tend to agree with this elite group.

Horror dreams are a popular type of sleep-time soap opera, and people have been chased by everything from a resort brochure to a '57 convertible.

Some nightmares aren't just simple chase scenes, however. Some are really horrible and frightening. Here is one of the most gruesome I've heard.

You are walking down a dark alley at night in an unknown city. You are daintily

stepping over wines when (horror!) you hear footsteps. You realize it's time to take drastic measures as you realize you're being chased, so you begin daintily leaping over wines, two at a time.

Suddenly, you find yourself face to face with (shudder) a billboard advertising Hawken Smokeless Tobacco. A strange feeling come over your body — it tenses your muscles, your eyes begin to water, acne breaks out over your left shin, and you suddenly realize what's happening — you have this sudden need for a little pinch between your cheek and gum.

You turn around and you're face to face with your pursuer — those cold, dark eyes, evil smile and seamy breath. You instantly recognize your evil pursuer — it's Peter Pan.

You want to scream, but you can't. You try again, but you still can't scream. Finally, out of frustration, you call over a policeman who screams for you.

This wakes you up, and you think about what a dream you

just had. You have that funny feeling that you always have after a bad dream, and you roll over and go back to sleep-better luck next time.

And finally, a strange dream I heard from a girl who just saw "E.T."

It seems she dreamed of babysitting for E.T. when he suddenly got the urge to dip his head in her fish bowl and suck up half the water. However, thanks to quick thinking on her part, she pumped the water out of him (I guess it's a him, I don't know) and an Oscar-bound movie was saved. Thank goodness she didn't see Rocky III instead!

There are unopened doors we may never open. We may never understand the psychological keys that explain dreams. Mental studies and polls have been taken, and more will be taken.

All I can say is, I'm not worried about it until I wake up one morning and find myself pumping water out of a brass.



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ROBERT T. KOENIG, Editor

JEAN BLANKENSHIP, Office Mgr. CHERYL W. KOENIG, Advertising Manager

JAMES I. STORY, Columnist

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