



THE NEWS RECORD

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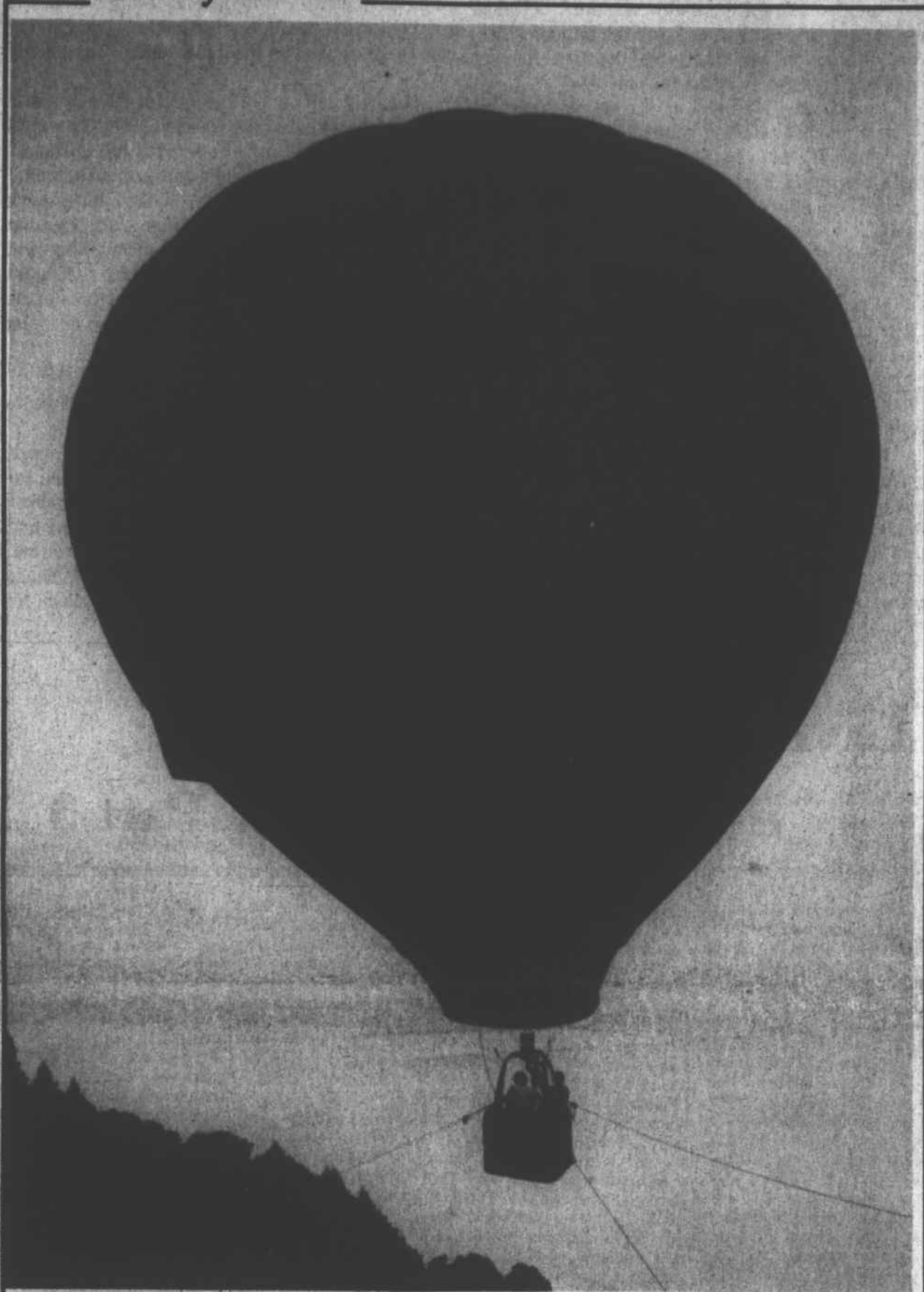
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Riverfest '82



"MR. BILL" AND THE WLOS BALLOON soared above the crowds at Saturday's Riverfest celebration. (Photo by Robin Reevie)

Elderly Will Receive Firewood

By BOB KOENIG

Madison County senior citizens will be receiving other individuals in an attempt to update their free firewood this fall, thanks to the combined efforts of the Madison County Housing Authority, meeting at the Marshall Community Center Monday night.

The wood will be made available by the Madison County Housing Authority from land which is being cleared for the construction of a new 40-unit low-income housing development in Mars Hill. Construction of the new housing is expected to begin within the next two months. The development is scheduled to be open within a year.

Before construction on the 11-acre site can begin, nine acres of timber must be cleared. That's where the Opportunity Corp. and Mars Hill College come into the picture.

Work began Saturday to clear the site. Some two dozen Mars Hill students, armed with axes and chain saws, began cutting the timber down, lead by Mars Hill professor Dr. Don Anderson. The students will clear the site as part of the college's community service program.

Once the wood is cut into usable pieces, the Madison-Buncombe Opportunity Corp. will begin distributing it to needy individuals. The Opportunity Corp. will distribute the wood in pickup truckloads. Madison County senior citizens will be given first priority on the list of those receiving firewood, followed by single parent households.

According to Opportunity Corp. director Dorothy Addington, the corporation has a list of individuals who will receive the firewood. Opportunity Corp. will be receiving applications from



PREPARING TO clear the site of the new housing development are Authority employees; Dorothy Addington, director of the Madison-Buncombe Opportunity Corporation; Mr. Parker's sons, Brett and Dylan; and Dr. Don Anderson

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Town Aldermen Meet

Dr. Duck To Mars Hill Board

The Mars Hill Board of Aldermen has named Dr. W. Otis Duck to fill the seat left vacant by the recent resignation of Carl Eller. Dr. Duck is presently serving as the Madison County medical examiner. He has been a Mars Hill resident for the past 36 years.

Eller resigned his seat on the board effective Aug. 2 due to retirement. He had been a member of the board of alderman since 1965, formerly serving Mars Hill as its mayor. He was the town treasurer at the time of his resignation.

Referring to Eller, Mars Hill mayor Bill Powell said, "In the 17 years Carl Eller served Mars Hill, much was accomplished in the way of improvements beneficial to the citizens of Mars Hill. Mr. Eller worked faithfully and with diligence along with the other board members to promote progress within the town."

The board also discussed rebuilding the spillway at the water supply dam near Wolf Laurel. Earlier, the Army Corps of Engineers inspected the site and recommended

that the town have the spillway inspected by an engineering consultant.

Engineers from the Spartanburg, S.C. firm of McGuire-Beebe will be inspecting the spillway and will submit recommendations to the board.

According to Darrell Boone, funding to make improvements to the spillway have not yet been obtained.

The board of alderman has scheduled its next regular monthly meeting for Oct. 4 at 7:30 p.m.



Hot Springs Board Approves Loan Pact

The Hot Springs Board of Aldermen met Saturday and approved a loan agreement that will finance construction of a waste water treatment plant for the new 40-unit, low-income housing development to be opened shortly.

Under the terms of the agreement, the Hot Springs Housing Authority will loan the town \$26,404, the cost of constructing the sand filter treatment facility. The funds will be made available to the

Housing Authority by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Although the Hot Springs Housing Authority pays no taxes to the town, it does make payments each year based on rental income. Under terms of the agreement, the authority will not have to make the annual payments until the \$26,404, plus interest, is repaid by the town.

Payments made by the Housing Authority to the town

have been based on a formula where rental income minus the cost of utilities is charged at a rate of ten percent. The payments were made to the town in lieu of taxes.

The agreement give the town up to 40 years to repay the loan. Town officials expressed optimism that the loan could be repaid before the year 2022 deadline.

The waste treatment plant will be constructed by White's Backhoe Service. Construc-

tion is expected to take about a month.

Construction of the plant is the last remaining step toward opening the new low-income housing units. The new development will add 40 units to the Hot Springs Housing Authority, which currently operates 30 units in the town.

The new homes will have 16 units reserved for elderly persons and 24 units for low-income families.

Marshall

Vandals Damage Recreation Center

The Marshall Board of Aldermen heard a report from town recreation director Betty Wild at its monthly meeting Monday night.

Wild reported that the Marshall Recreation Building was broken into last week by vandals. She said the vandals entered the building through a window and broke windows and light bulbs throughout the building. The exact extent of the damages has not been determined.

The Madison County Sheriff's department has been notified, and fingerprints of the scene will be taken.

Wild also reported to the alderman that both the swimming pool and the softball field operated by the recreation department lost money

this summer. Wild said that much of the money lost by the swimming pool operation could be attributed to poor weather in July. She suggested that the board consider closing the pool after the opening of school in August and raising admission prices for both adults and children.

Wild told the board, "We've got to quit giving our services away. We baby sat last summer for eight cents an hour."

The final report on the pool's operation showed a net loss of \$3,468.29. Operation of the softball field on Blannahasset Island showed a loss of \$1,027.54.

The recreation director reported that word on a grant from the Smith and Reynolds Foundation should be received

sometime next week. Marshall had applied to the foundation for a grant to be used by the town recreation department.

The board approved leasing the recreation building to Mary Ann Osby one night a week. Osby plans to teach aerobic dance classes for eight weeks starting next Monday evening. Wild said that the rental fee from the dance classes should pay for the damages caused by vandals.

The recreation director suggested that the board rehire the lifeguards who served at the pool this summer and authorize repairs to the building's roof and floors.

Mayor Lawrence Ponder reported that bids on the new

sewer project should be taken within the next three weeks. Alderman John Dodson also reported to the board that residents are over \$4,500 in arrears on water bills. He said that with the forthcoming raise in electric rates the town will not be able to afford to pump water and urged all those who owe bills to pay promptly.

The board expressed its appreciation to Buddy Buckner, Fay Reed, Helen Rudisill and Ruth Gregory for their work on last weekend's successful Riverfest celebration.

The board's next regular meeting is scheduled for Oct. 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Superior Court To Try Pair

District Court held criminal session last week in the Madison County Court House. Judge Robert J. Lacey presided over the session.

The court considered a probable cause hearing on charges of first degree rape against Isaac Welch, 31, of Mars Hill. Welch is charged with the Sept. 2 rape of a 19-year old student at Mars Hill College.

Welch was arrested by Madison County deputies and had been held in the Madison County jail in lieu of \$75,000 bond prior to his hearing on Friday.

In ninety minutes of testimony, the victim told the court that Welch had offered to drive her home from his residence the morning of the incident. She told the court that instead of returning her directly to her dormitory on the Mars Hill campus, he drove her to a secluded spot

known as Hill No. 2 where he covered her face with a rag, knocked her unconscious and raped her.

The victim, a sophomore at the college, told the court that she had known Welch for two years. She said she went to the Welch residence after receiving a call at 1 a.m. from Welch. The victim testified that Welch asked her to come to his home to speak with her brother who was visiting at the Welch home in Mars Hill.

The victim presented the only testimony heard at the probable cause hearing. The court found probable cause for the charges and sent the case on to the Superior Court for trial. The next Superior Court session is scheduled for Oct. 18.

At the urging of defense attorney Robert Riddle, bail for Welch was reduced to \$20,000. Welch remained in the Madison County Jail on Mon-

day. The court also found probable cause in the case of William J. Brittle, Sr. Brittle is charged with statutory sexual offense. The Superior Court will hear the case when it convenes Oct. 18.

In other actions, the court found Randy Honeycutt guilty of breaking, entering and larceny and sentenced him to a six months active sentence in the Madison County Jail.

Charges of larceny, assault and breaking and entering were dropped against Morris Gline Shelton. The defendant pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of damage to personal property. He received a six month sentence, deferred for two years, and was ordered to pay the cost of damages.

Vince Edwards Ingie, charged with contributing to

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