

Dear Readers,

We all need a break sometimes and this week, I need a break from my usual editorialing. I'm sure many of our readers will appreciate the break, too.

From time to time, I would like to depart from the usual editorial format of this column and address some matters that come up which don't require editorial treatment. Most of this column will be concerned with The News Record, my handling of its operation and ways we might do a better job serving your needs.

Three months ago when I became your editor, I promised that there would be some changes made. I've held true to my promise. Some of the changes have been cosmetic, others have been additions to our sports coverage and other features.

Adding Pop Story's picture to his column wasn't my idea, but it was a fine idea nonetheless. We can thank Clifton Metcalf for that suggestion.

Some changes have seen the return of past features of our paper. "Just A Woman's Observations" is an example of an old feature which has made a return. Dot Shupe and I have quibbled over the title, but it's good to have her back, no matter what she calls her column.

Last week, we added another new feature, "Renewable Energy Facts" by Gary Gumz. I think we can all learn some valuable facts from this feature and I hope we will make this a regular monthly column. I am interested in hearing from you regarding this latest addition to our lineup.

Our sports coverage has met with mixed reviews. We had a number of complaints regarding the football supplement because several players were inadvertently omitted. I have apologized to most of the overlooked athletes and we'll do much better next time around.

In our defense, let me say that we put out the supplement on short notice, and even though it was far from perfect, it was the best such supplement The News Record has had for many years.

The upcoming basketball season presents a problem that I hope someone can help us with. What with boys and girls games at Madison High and men and women's games at Mars Hill College, it will be next to impossible to provide coverage of all these teams without the assistance of a student stringer. If anyone out there is interested in becoming a sports reporter please get in touch with us.

Few of you have taken me up on my offer of a cup of coffee. I expect that will change with the approach of cold weather. The pot is still on and we'll be glad to have you stop in anytime, except Mondays when we're too busy grappling with our deadline to sip coffee and chat.

Many of you have had problems with your delivery by mail. The problem probably lies with our computer, so don't blame your mail man. We're working to get the computer to work right and avoid these problems.

Readers should be aware that our edition of Nov. 3 will be late getting out. We will hold off on our press run until Wednesday morning so that we can bring you the latest election returns. Several times in the past few months, we have been late getting out because of some oversight on my part. On Nov. 3, however, the delay will be an intended one.

As always, I am available to hear your suggestions, complaints and praise. I'll get back to editorializing next week when I urge you all to get out and vote.

Sincerely,

H. J. Hamer
Editor

J.Q. Public
Madison County, N.C.

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DEADLINES
The News Record is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
Any material mailed to the News Record should be signed and a telephone number should be included.
All stories to be published must be received by 12:00 noon Friday.
A picture may be submitted for use with announcements. Please identify photo with name written on the back. Engagement announcements must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the wedding.
Please type or print names and addresses. Wedding questionnaires are available at The News Record Office or may be obtained by writing The News Record, P.O. Box 369, Marshall, N.C. 28753. Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Dear Sir:

In last week's story on Ponders Chapel Baptist Church, you inadvertently omitted the final sentence in which we thanked the many churches, clubs, organizations, friends and neighbors who helped and encouraged us with the building of the new church.

We want all those who helped us to know that we appreciate their many efforts.

John R. Gardin
Hot Springs, N.C.

Everett Barnett

Dear Sir,
For the past 40 years, Americans have been proud of the federal laws that protect children against dangerous work and long hours. But those laws are sharply threatened by regulations proposed by the Reagan administration.

There was a time when millions of our children lived short lives or grew up with

crippled limbs or other illnesses, from working in mills and factories. It's incredible that Ronald Reagan wants to bring those days back.

The Reagan proposal would make extensive changes in the child labor laws that protect 14 and 15 year old children. They would allow children to work in jobs that have been deemed too dangerous for the past 40

years, and they would allow them to work longer hours. This would take jobs from young married couples that need them when they are starting a family. And those jobs are more scarce than they have been in the past 40 years. It's like pouring gasoline on a raging fire.



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Heard And Seen

By POP STORY



THE CANDIDATES' CLASSIC

With the general election drawing near and the various candidates conducting many house-to-house visits seeking support in the November 2 election, it is a serious business with them. In order to "break" the serious side, why not have a lighter side? Someone remarked a few days ago that "politics in Madison County is sorta' a game which occurs every two or four years." Taking a cue from this remark, I thought it might be something different to imagine the two teams (Democrats and Republicans) which will battle each other in a one-game contest to be decided by the voters on November 2.

All in fun, let's make up a roster for both teams composed of candidates on a "baseball team" as follows:

DEMOCRATS: "Dems"

First base: Jim Cody
Second base: Harold Wallin
Shortstop: Phil Ginn
Third base: "Jamie" Clarke
Catcher: E.Y. Ponder
Pitchers: Dedrick Cody, Gerald Young, Ed Gentry, Bobby Ponder, Floyd Wallin.

Outfielders, Ervin Adams, Virginia Anderson, James T. Ledford.

REPUBLICANS: "GOPs"

First base: C.N. Willis
Second base: Frank Massey
Shortstop: Forrest Ball
Third base: Bill Hendon
Catcher: Bill Lisenbee
Pitchers: Don Hall, Ed Krause, Dewey Griffey, Fred Payne, Harry Payne.
Outfielders: Robert Phillips, Gary Sprinkle, Lester Wilde,

Umpires: Jack Landers and Emery Metcalf.

FAITHFUL LIONS

How time flies by. At a recent meeting of the Marshall Lions Club, a list of present members and the years they have been members of the Marshall club was given. It was revealing the longevity of several of the present members who have remained faithful and active throughout the 29 years of the club's existence.

Below is a list of members who have been Lions for over 20 years:

O.A. Gregory (29 years), Walter Ramsey (29 years), James Story (28 years), Roy Reeves (27 years), Kelly Davis (23 years), Wade Huey (23 years), Earle Wise (23 years), John O. Corbett (23 years).

LIKES MARY'S PIES

Dr. R.C. Shelburne, Dermatologist, of Asheville, who has offices in Asheville and Johnson City, Tenn., is one of Mary's Restaurant's most frequent and satisfied customers because he loves Mary's delicious homemade pies.

Almost daily, Dr. Shelburne will visit the popular restaurant on the Marshall bypass on his way to or from his Johnson City office or just come down from Asheville in order to enjoy a slice of his favorite pie.

"I not only enjoy the pies, but I also enjoy the beautiful scenery between Asheville and Johnson City," Dr. Shelburne said.

"He's one of the nicest customers we have," Mary commented.

THOSE ELUSIVE CONTACT LENS

Several contact lens wearers have commented and sympathized with me about my trouble with my lens. (In last week's column).

One wearer said that she, too, had the same problem. I'm sure there are more.

It's amazing (and disgusting) how those tiny little "demons" can get lost regardless of how careful you try to be.



Steve
Ferguson

NOTICE: Ignore This

What stands on the roadside, is invulnerable to beer cans and is ignored by almost everybody?

It's those historical site markers, of course. Those constant reminders that something happened on this spot, even though at 55 mph you usually never get to discover just what the marker was placed there for. If you dare to stop to read these heavy metal chronicles of history, you're likely to get hit by a heavy metal truck.

Usually, in passing, you'll get maybe one or two words on the plaque. It's time you got the whole story. I'm giving you what's really on those bronze historical markers along our roads.

JONES CREEK BALLEGROUND — On this spot in 1867, Bill and Norma Jones, a local married couple, had a battle over exactly how many logs should be placed in the fireplace of their small cabin.

Neighbors gathered from all around to view this ten-hour battle. The Joneses' beat each other around the head and shoulders way up into the mor-

ning hours over the fireplace dispute, but the crowd refused to disperse until the fight was completed. Mrs. Jones finally won, and gave birth to: The expression "keeping up with the Joneses."

POPCORN MEMORIAL THEATRE — The was the first theatre in America to have all the qualities of the movie theatres as we know them today.

This theatre was one of the great pioneers in sticky seats, fifteen minutes of boring previews, and those darling little animals who insist on throwing ice, candy, popcorn and whatever else they can get their grimy little hands on.

Popcorn Memorial Theatre is also credited with such firsts as: the first broken film; drinks double the price of what they should be; and the first hair stuck on the projection camera lens.

Later, at the turn of the century, this was also the first movie house to begin printing full-length novels on the back of their admission tickets. As we all know, this is now a regular practice for all movie theaters.

FLOWING BULL AMPHITHEATRE — One of our more popular tourist attractions, Flowing Bull Amphitheatre is the site where America's first politician gave his first campaign speech.

He promised his listeners a job for everyone, a government of the people and lower taxation.

Also among his promises were: Calvin Kleins on every bottom, every citizen would get his own beach house, and a partridge in a pear tree.

None of these first campaign promises were ever kept — thus, the name "Flowing Bull Amphitheatre."

BIRTHINGTON BIRTHPLACE — This little known site is where one of America's traditional holidays started out. It seems Mr. Birthington, an eccentric millionaire, only washed his clothes once a year. This evolved into a celebration on that day each year that was recognized throughout the English Colonies.

Mr. Birthington was considered the father of our country until a guy with wooden teeth and a white wig came

along and took away his title. This holiday is still recognized across America. There isn't a patriotic U.S. citizen alive who hasn't heard of George Birthington's Wash-day.

YELLING SQUIRT CAMPGROUND — On this site in 1723, the first bratty kid yelled, held his breath and pitched a fit to get what he wanted until he had his Mommy.

The family was on a camping excursion when little Patrick decided he wanted a drink of water.

The noise was reported to be so unnerving that all nearby wildlife ran away.

Later, as Patrick Henry grew older, he matured to become a founding father of our country. He became famous as a statesman by yelling, holding his breath and pitching a fit to get what he wanted.

If by chance you see any more historical markers, send them in. I may have missed some, you know.

Living & And Growing

By CARL MUMPOWER
M.S.W.
The Asheville
Counseling Center

There's a book circulating around these days called "Real Men Don't Eat Quiche." The author suggests things like real men don't wear shirts when they fry bacon and that real men don't crush beer cans, they eat them whole.

It's a cute book, with lots of good stuff on being a real man. It's a tongue-in-cheek kind of book that's not to be taken seriously. It stirred up the

thought, however, about what a real man really is.

Believe it or not, a real man is sensitive. No, that doesn't mean he runs around crying all the time. It does mean that he realizes that feelings are a natural and normal part of the human experience and that killing your feelings is like killing your soul. A real man not only uses the thinking and doing part of himself, but also the feeling part that helps separate him from computers and machines.

A real man recognizes the importance of giving. He

doesn't throw his trash out of the car window, he does more than just get by in his work, and he makes some effort to play it straight on his income taxes. In short, a real man tries to add something to the world around him instead of constantly taking or destroying. Almost everyone has the power to tear down, but it takes a person with skill and awareness to build.

A real man identifies and accepts his need for relationships. It is a fact that no man is an island. The real man looks for the opportunity to

share himself emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually with others. He views people as the opportunity to look into a mirror that reflects his soul and personhood rather than as a source of competition, hassle, and potential pain. He understands that energy invested in quality relationships pays dividends.

A real man seeks growth and develops goals. He resists stagnation as an ultimate enemy and actively invests energy in developing his potential and skills. When a man quits the process of grow-

ing, he begins the process of dying. A real man doesn't want to go before his time, and when he does go, he wants to leave his good mark on the earth.

A real man lives in the real world. He doesn't waste his time with escapes like drinking, drugs, or general ball-raising. That doesn't mean a real man is a prude. It does mean he focuses on learning how to pull happiness out of reality instead of a fantasy world. He tries to live today

(Continued on Page 6)