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Mayor-Elect Promises 'No Drastic Changes'

By ROBERT KOENIG

Marshall residents won't see any radical changes in the operation of town government when mayor-elect Betty Wild takes office next month. Marshall's next mayor said Monday that she expects it will take up to three months for her to get acclimated to the operation of the town.

"There's a lot that needs to be done, but we don't plan any drastic moves," she said. "I expect that it will take us three months to get acclimated and familiar with the town's contracts. We're not going to do anything without thinking and talking about it."

Wild said she wanted to emphasize her slow approach because rumors have been flying around Marshall since she was elected last Tuesday. One rumor the mayor-elect moved to quash was that she would disband the Marshall Volunteer Fire Dept. Wild met with members of the department Friday night in Marshall to assure them that the service would not be cut.

"The only way we can show what we can do is by our actions. We told the fire department we weren't pushing them out the door. We have to work together to make it better," Wild said.

Wild will assume office on Dec. 5 prior to the next scheduled meeting of the Marshall Board of Aldermen. The mayor-elect will take

the oath of office along with newly elected aldermen Ed Niles and Sammy Lunsford and second term board member John Dodson.

Wild said her first act as Marshall's mayor will be to call for a complete audit of the town's books, including water and sewer billings and taxes. Wild said, "You can't do anything until you find out how much money you have," in explaining her call for the audit. She added that she has not yet decided on an accounting firm for the audit.

There'll be no changes in the present police protection or garbage collection until after the audit is completed. Wild said she will call for a study of the garbage collection routes before recommending any change from the present once-a-week system.

The mayor-elect also stressed the need for inexpensive improvements and programs, including a drug awareness program for the town's teenagers. "You don't always have to spend a lot of money to get things done. I hope to instigate a drug awareness program. We can get people in here to help us for nothing. It's something that's been needed here for a long, long time. I'm not implying that our kids are drug addicts, we've got some great kids here, but they should have this information."

Saying, "We have to have recreation for the



BETTY WILD

young people," the future mayor said that the future of the Marshall Recreation Center has not been determined. Wild operated the town's swimming pool in 1982. This year, the town leased the pool to Sammy Lunsford, who also won election as an aldermen last week.

Wild said she plans to meet with Marshall merchants to find out what the town can do for businesses. She also said she hopes to meet with

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Tobacco Bill Clears First House Hurdle

By A. L. MAY
THE NEWS AND
OBSERVER

WASHINGTON — Congressional tobacco forces Wednesday won a key House vote they hoped would clear the way for approval of tobacco legislation.

But the threat of a presidential veto loomed, because the non-controversial tobacco bill is tied to dairy legislation opposed by the Reagan administration.

"You are riding a sick horse," House Minority Leader Robert H. Michel, R-Ill., warned tobacco congressmen who helped win a victory on the dairy legislation.

With other Republican leaders, Michel warned that the farm package including dairy and tobacco would be vetoed. "I predict it will be a dead horse by the end of the year," he said.

Michel's warning to tobacco forces was the only mention of the commodity during the daylong battle over dairy program changes.

However, tobacco was part of the action behind the scenes

as North Carolina Democratic Reps. Charles G. Rose III and Charles O. Whitley, both House tobacco leaders, lobbied hard for the dairy legislation as a vehicle to get tobacco legislation to a conference committee with the Senate, bypassing a House floor fight on tobacco.

There was one interesting political development in the voting when Rep. James G. Martin, R-N.C., a candidate for governor next year, bucked the strategy set by Rose and other tobacco leaders and voted with dairy opponents on the key amendment vote.

Reps. James T. Broyhill, R-N.C., and James McClure Clarke, D-N.C., also voted with Martin against the strategy. All three represent districts in Western North Carolina with little tobacco but with substantial dairy interests who were opposed to the dairy legislation.

The key vote was on amendment by Rep. Barber B. Conable Jr., R-N.Y., which would have upset the dairy legislation. The rest of the North Carolina delegation — all Democrats with significant (Continued on Page 10)



EMERGENCY MEDICAL Service workers Arthur Ammons, left, and Jeff Ammons stand beside new ambulance Madison County EMS

received on Monday. The new ambulance has been assigned to the Marshall station.

Astronaut To Visit Weaverville

Astronaut Daniel C. Brandenstein, the pilot for the third flight of space shuttle Challenger, will be in Weaverville on Thursday to make a special presentation to executives of the A-B Emblem Company of Weaverville.

The Weaverville company has had an exclusive NASA contract to manufacture all official space flight emblems since Apollo 12 carried a three-man crew to the moon in 1969 for the second U.S. lunar landing.

Brandenstein, a Navy commander, was a member of the five-man crew that made several space firsts. His flight was the first to make a night launch and landing. Among its crew was Guion Bluford, Jr., the first black in space; and Dr. William Thornton, a physician who at 54 was the oldest person to ever make a space flight.

Brandenstein will present a display of space mission emblems to E. Henry Conrad, chairman, and Bernard Conrad, president of A-B Emblem Company. The emblems were made by A-B Emblem Company and are the patches carried into space by Columbia

The flight was launched

from Kennedy Space Center in Florida on Aug. 30 and landed at Edwards Air Force Base in California on Sept. 5. Mission officials dubbed the near flawless flight "the fabulous mission."

A native of Watertown, Wisc. Brandenstein has been in the NASA program since 1978. He was a member of the astronaut support crew for the first and second flights of the space shuttle Columbia. He made his first space flight as pilot for the third flight of the orbiter Challenger.

A-B Emblem Company, a division of Conrad Industries, was founded in New Jersey by E. Henry Conrad who arrived in the United States from his native Germany on Christmas Eve, 1929. He went to work as a pattern maker for a N.J.

firm that made military insignia. He started his own firm, Conrad Embroidery Company, in 1945, making trim for women's underwear and decorative designs for outerwear. A-B Emblem Corporation was founded in 1947.

Conrad moved the prospering business to North Carolina in 1963.

Last year, the company had sales of approximately \$9 million. It employs 300 people, operates three shifts a day and produces emblems for a broad variety of clients, including the military, law enforcement agencies, sporting organizations, government agencies and business in the United States and abroad.

Paw Paw, Michigan: Unlikely Setting For A Vineyard

By BORIS WEINTRAUB
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
NEWS SERVICE

PAW PAW, Mich. — The boxes of grapes came off the truck one after another, and were moved by forklifts to the crushing area, the first step in the process that would convert them into wine.

Wine grapes? In southwestern Michigan's cold climate?

Yes, winters are cold here. Harm J. de Blij, author of a new book on the geography of wine, remembers standing in a snow-covered vineyard here, the temperature 3 degrees above zero. Local winery officials say that temperatures dip to 20 below zero at least once or twice a winter.

Such weather would kill most varieties of vinifera grapes, which grapes make the best French wines, but

vineyards here plant hybrids that combine French taste qualities with the hardiness of American vines.

Grapes Suited to North
"They're bred to be almost ideally suited to this climate," says David Braganini, president of the St. Julian Winery here, where the fall harvest is in progress. "There are dozens and dozens of hybrid varieties. We work with about a dozen and we're always experimenting."

Braganini's grandfather, Mariano Messori, an immigrant fruit merchant with a surplus supply of grapes, started the Italian Wine Co. in Windsor, Ont., in 1921. When Prohibition in the United States ended in 1933, he moved to Detroit and, in 1937, to Paw Paw, where grapes were being grown. He changed the winery's name in World War II to St. Julian in honor of one of

several southwestern Michigan wineries. There are two others here.

But why southwestern Michigan? The answer lies in a geographical oddity that geographers call a "microclimate."

"The prevailing weather patterns here are from northwest to southeast," says Chas Catherman, 32, the St. Julian winemaker. "That means they come from across Lake Michigan at its widest point."

"In the spring, the air is chilled as it comes across the lake. We usually have an early thaw, but the lake tempers it so the buds don't think it's spring and open up, only to be damaged by the frost that is almost certain to follow the first nice weather."

"In the fall, the opposite happens. The lake has been warmed over the summer,



NIAGARA GRAPES from an winery. At the peak of the fall Alagan, Mich., vineyard tumbles into a box with the aid of a mechanical harvester operated by Don Rigoni, the St. Julian Winery in Paw Paw. The grapes are bound for a Michigan

and the result is that when everyone else is experiencing the first frost, we usually have two or three weeks to go before we get ours. It's not much in terms of degrees, only about four, but those four degrees make a difference in whether the vine will hold its leaf canopy, photosynthesize, and build sugar in the fruit."

Soil Plays a Part
What's more, the region has rolling hillsides and sandy, well-drained soil that enhances the growing of grapes. Grapes have been grown here since the 18th century, but most were Concord grapes, used for grape juice. What was left over was used to making sweet fortified wines that most Americans used to prefer.

Only in the last decade have many Michigan vineyards followed the changes in American taste and turned for

higher-quality table wines. The result is that many of the 12,500 acres of vines planted in the 40-mile area east of Lake Michigan, where the microclimate prevails, now produce wine grapes.

These include Amerigo Marcelletti's six acres of the hybrid seyval blanc and a few other varieties. For Marcelletti, whose parents came to this area from Italy and were, he says, "wine acclimated," the change couldn't come soon enough. He had been experimenting with hybrids as early as the late 1940s.

"We had a Thanksgiving freeze in 1982, and everything else died, not one cluster of grapes survived," he recalls. "But every year we have a new crop."

Still, it was a while before he could produce other grapes in such large quantities. (Continued on Page 10)