

Attendance At Meetings Is Encouraging Sign

Although Marshall is facing some very difficult problems ahead, we are encouraged by at least one development we noticed at this week's meeting of the town board. Perhaps because of the gravity of the problems Marshall faces, it seems that residents' interest in the workings of town government has been revived.

The 30 or more residents present for Monday night's meeting were an encouraging sign we hope will continue to grow. Citizen's participation in the operation of government can provide the basis for the kind of change Marshall will need in the years ahead. Too often in the past, we have attended public meetings at which taxpayers money is spent without the taxpayer's presence.

Open government requires the participation of the citizenry. We have noticed that public officials often decline to take government behind closed doors when a large audience is present. If large numbers of taxpayers continue to attend public hearings, we feel certain that executive sessions will become rarer than hen's teeth.

By their attendance, Marshall residents have shown that they are interested in the workings of their town government. With such interest, town officials will be left with no choice but to make the people a part of the decision-making process.

Congratulations Marshall, keep it up.

We'll Take The Raiders

The long sixteen-week regular season is a memory now and the playoffs have eliminated all but two teams in the contest for pigskin supremacy. A memorable Super Bowl lies in the offing as the Redskins and Raiders prepare for battle in Tampa Bay.

This was the season that saw Pete Rozell's dream of parity reach full bloom. Along the way to the Super Bowl, football fans watched as more than a dozen mediocre squads competed for tickets to Tampa. Fortunately, as the long season wound down, the cream of the crop rose to claim their respective championships.

This year's Super Bowl promises to be an exciting one, a fitting reward for football fans who suffered through a season of mediocrity. The defending world champion Redskins will be attempting back-to-back Super Bowl wins against the bad boys from L.A. spelled "O-A-K-L-A-N-D". The game has all the trappings of a classic confrontation. Both teams boast excellent quarterbacks, powerful fullbacks and tenacious defensive lines. Super Bowl XVIII promises to resemble World War II.

When the dust settles, however, we think the trophy, and all the money that goes with it will be heading back to L.A., or Oakland.

Letters To The Editor

Airman Defends Granada Action

Dear Editor:
I am writing in response to Danny Wyatt's letter published in the Nov. 23 edition of The News Record.
We are not hypocrites for invading Granada. Russia invaded Afghanistan to take over the country. We invaded Granada to get American students off an island that was under siege.
Mr. Wyatt stated that the right of free press was denied. I think that he should understand that the military forces that invaded the island did so to get the students out safely. If the press had been told beforehand and it was on the six o'clock news the night before, the military leaders who were in command of the island would have known we

were coming and may have taken the students hostage like in Iran.
I don't think the White House trusted the messages they got from Granada about the students being safe. Think of it this way — the people who were telling the White House that the students were safe were the same people who had just killed most of the country's government officials. Who would you have believed?
Yes, there were fewer than 800 Cubans on the island, but when the fighting broke out, they seemed to be well trained in combat. This may lead you to believe they had been trained in more than just construction. The ammunition have been old and outdated, but guns and bombs, no mat-

ter how old, still can kill people.
I may understand the invasion a little better than Mr. Wyatt because I was there. I was off the coast of Granada during the invasion. I am an airman aboard the U.S.S. Independence.
I was born and lived in Marshall until I joined the Navy a year ago. I saw the wounded Marines and Army Rangers as they were flown onto my ship before being sent to hospitals in the states. It hurt to see those men who had been shot while trying to help their fellow Americans, but it gave me a feeling of pride to know that I had helped.
Now I'm off the coast of Beirut, backing up the Marines on shore. I feel sad that people feel the way Mr. Wyatt does. Maybe people should think of the invasion of Granada this way. What if one of your family had been one of the students on the island and President Reagan had not taken the steps he did to get them off the island and they had been killed?
I would rather be home with my wife and son, but after thinking of the invasion this way, I can honestly say that I am proud of the U.S. military or what they did.
AN Jack Wallin, U.S. Navy
Editor's Note: Anyone wishing to drop Airman Wallin a line can do so by writing to AN Jack Wallin, UF-14 C/C, USS Independence CV-62, Fleet Post Office, New York, N.Y. 09501.

League Studies Nuclear Question

Dear Editor:
Since May of 1982, League of Women Voters members throughout the country have been studying arms control issues. Locally, we considered a variety of viewpoints in meetings and discussions, as did other Leagues at local and state levels; and we responded to a questionnaire formulated by the national League. Responses were read, tabulated and analyzed by the

national board.
Now the League of Women Voters of the United States has announced support for bilateral, mutually verifiable freeze on the testing, production, and deployment of nuclear weapons, followed by reduction of those weapons.
The League also regrets that the INF and START talks have been suspended and will urge the merger and resumption of these negotiations.
The League's position includes: support for a Comprehensive Test Ban on

nuclear weapons; support for negotiations to prohibit deployment of anti-satellite weapons; and opposition to the deployment of space weapons that would violate the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.
The League strongly supports both multilateral and bilateral negotiations to achieve agreement in all arms control areas. The League believes that unilateral initiatives are not the most appropriate means to achieve arms control.
The League is entering the arms control debate at a critical period. World tensions are high, the government's commitment to arms control is being challenged, and citizens are looking for progress towards arms reductions. The League brings an active grassroots network to the debate, to help citizens translate their concerns into concrete actions.
Locally, the League is continuing its study of U. S. military policy and military spending. To enhance that study we are sponsoring, with a grant from the North Carolina Humanities Committee, a panel discussion on "Militarism and the Gender Gap" on Saturday, January 14, 9:30 a.m. at the East Asheville Community Center.
The local study committee will continue its efforts to clarify the issues involved in military policy and military spending, culminating with a meeting for members in March prior to the national evaluation of that phase. Persons wishing to join the study group may telephone the League office at 288-8223, or write to 205 Miles Building, Asheville, 28801.
Sincerely yours,
Lydia Booth
Chair, National Security Committee, League of Women Voters of the Asheville-Sunshine County

Heard And Seen

By POP STORY



THE CHAINED ROCK

One of the most frequently asked questions by strangers passing through Marshall is "Where is the chained rock?"

They have either heard or read about the "huge" rock which is located opposite the Pioneer Ford Co., on the mountainside between the courthouse and the Methodist Church.

Since moving to Marshall when I was a 12-year-old lad, I've been asked this question hundreds of times, most recently by a newspaper reporter from Greenville, S.C., who was in Marshall last Thursday to write a feature article. After explaining to him that the legend of the chained rock has been grossly exaggerated, I took him down the street and pointed out the rock. Needless to say, he was disappointed.

For the benefit of many younger people who have probably never heard of the chained rock, many years ago someone started a story about the danger to the town should the chain break. The legend revealed that the "whole town, including the courthouse, would be destroyed by the huge rock."

It is true that a large rock is on the mountainside but should it fall it wouldn't damage anything, certainly not the town and courthouse. It is also true that a chain on the rock was put there "for fun", not to hold the rock to keep it from falling.

But the legend still exists and ever so often someone will still ask about the chained rock.

It is one of Marshall's greatest attractions although it really doesn't exist.

A CLOSE FRIEND PASSES

Although J. Moody Chandler had been in declining health for sometime, his sudden death at his home on Thursday of last week came as a shock to his family, relatives and host of friends in this area.

He was a kind, respected, and dedicated man who was admired for his desire to help others in every way he could. Soft spoken, I never heard Moody criticize anyone.

He was retired from the N.C. Forest Service and was employed by the White Monument Co., of Asheville. He was a member and past master of French Broad Masonic Lodge Number 292 AF and AM and a member of the Marshall Presbyterian Church, of which he was an elder and choir member.

My deepest sympathy is extended to his wife, Frances Ramsey Chandler, and to members of his family.

He was a close friend I will miss very much.

REDSKINS, RAIDERS IN SUPER BOWL

It will be the Washington Redskins and L.A. Raiders in the Super Bowl on January 22 at Tampa Stadium following the Redskins victory over the Seattle Seahawks, 30-14, on Sunday.

The defending Super Bowl champs were favored to win Sunday but were able to score the winning points when Mark Mosely kicked a 25 yard field goal with only seconds remaining in the close contest.

The Raiders had an easier time with the Seahawks, as they routed the Hawks, 30-14 in the AFC championship game.

Know Comment

By JOSEPH GODWIN



Looking Up

During the whole of 1984, I shall be an up-beat optimist! My outlook will be so positive that if I were a battery, I would not even have a negative pole!
This perspective does not come because I'm so simple-minded that I don't know of the great problems facing the world. Of course, I know about them. It is just that I refuse to believe that we should give up on all of our problems just because there are some we cannot solve immediately.
It is true that I have no immediate, complete, and sure solution to the international arms race and the threat of nuclear war; but does that keep us from applying the Golden Rule on an individual basis?
I know a tremendous amount about mental and emotional illness, probably almost as much as any other psychologist knows. All of us together know far less in this area than we need to know. However, I know that every

human being needs to love and to know that she or he is loved. We also have an incurable need to be significant.
It would be a much better world if no earthing were deprived in these areas.
The problems related to the Near East constitute our single greatest concern because of their potential for a holocaust. On the other hand, no two of us can make a contribution toward peace there as long as we are unable to live herein peace with one another.
This year, we shall not erase cancer, heart disease, AIDS, and herpes from the face of the earth. You and I know that, but we do know some of the causes, or contributing factors in the causes, of some of these illnesses.
Our first order of business is to walk by the light we have; otherwise, additional light would help little or none at all.
The extent and intensity of world hunger is staggering. A hundred thousand human be-

ings starve to death every week. The sure-fire solution has eluded those with the best minds and the best intentions.
One suggestion — We should not waste food. I do not believe that most people who starve do so because there is insufficient food in the world. They starve primarily because of waste and because we have no adequate and realistic system to distribute food.
The problem of prejudice and discrimination has refused to go away. If it has gone anywhere, it is underground or behind a sheer screen of hypocrisy. This social and spiritual menace will not leave us in 1984. One political candidate may, by the simple fact of being, make it worse.
We will be much better off, nevertheless, if we learn that government-sanctioned reverse discrimination does not cease to be discrimination just because the government sanctions it.
In 1984, it would also help if each company that stuffs

our mail boxes with "giant sweepstake offers" were required to use the same mailing list and supply us with names and exact addresses of all the winners . . .
If there were some way to prevent our intelligence from being insulted more than once by the same shallow-minded commercial during a thirty-minute news program. (I'm going to work on that one — and I need your help!) . . .
If we could, in this election year, require all political candidates for all offices to answer all questions in clear, concise, unambiguous English. Or would that be as difficult as trying to teach a hog to wear a tuxedo?
A defeatist attitude is the incubator of defeat. We have rested our chins on our chests long enough. Victory and success materialize from cherished positive hope. Hope is the child of noble dreams and a lofty belief, a belief that Man was made for something better within his reach.

Living And Growing

By CARL MUMPOWER, MSW
The Asheville Counseling Center
"Love Stuff"


It's probably the most misrepresented word in the English language. It is used, somewhat incoherently, as a frequent cover-up for deceit, dishonesty, and selfishness. Paradoxically, so much that is described as love is anything but. It's an altogether confusing, yet ever so important word.
Before we talk about what love is, let's talk about what it is not. Take sex for example. Many of us like to interchange the words. Sorry, but those who do need to reread the dictionary. Although they can be close partners, they are not the same thing. Why separate the two? Because sex without love is an empty and shallow impostor.
Another concept frequently confused with love is respect. Respect may be our founda-

tion of lasting love, but it is not the same fellow. Whereas we can learn to love someone, we cannot make ourselves feel respect for someone. Keep in mind that choosing to treat someone with respect is different than feeling respect. Feeling this emotion seems to depend on our perception of another in a way that can't be forced.
People like to use the word love. It can cover a multiple of sins. The husband who frequently verbalizes his love, but does little to demonstrate it is a common example. He, and perhaps his spouse, like many of us, fails to see that love is less a matter of words than actions. Another example would be man's historical tendency to kill people out of a professed love of country. Love of power, love of self, love of excitement, possibly, but seldom do such destructive things as war come from real love.
We assign a great deal of magic to the word love. Some

White and Cinderella are manifestations of some of this sort of thinking. So, too, are many of our movies. Often, we are left feeling that one's true love in life is dependent on our lucky stumble across some extraordinary individual under extraordinary circumstances. Few of us have this golden opportunity, but it makes for an exciting fantasy. Contrary to movieland fantasies, love is a very real and down to earth reality.
Love, quite simply, is not something found. It is something built. You build it by investing yourself in that which you seek to love. Sounds a bit mechanical, but think about it. Do you remember that first car that you spent hours waxing and polishing and nurturing. If so, you will also remember that your love for that car existed in direct proportion to the energy you put into your car. Babies are another good example. Rarely do we just love our baby. To my knowledge there is no



genetic or magical happening that brings instant love for our baby. What does bring love is the constant investment of energy and attention that we invest in our child. Every bit of constructive energy, from mother's nurturing of the infant in her womb, to dad's changing frequent diapers, feeds the love.
Take care to avoid getting caught up in the stuff surrounding love. It's a fairly simple and readily available commodity that we all need. It's best gained by being given. And it does not occur by accident. It is the product of a good carpenter who puts caring and constructive energy into his chosen task. Be a good carpenter.



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Robert T. Koenig, Editor
Cheryl W. Koenig, Advertising Manager

James "Pop" Story Dot Shupe
Joseph Godwin Columnists Contributors

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