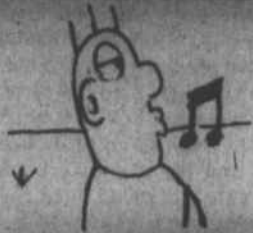


February 20, 1985

Introducing 'Fred',
Madison County's
Homegrown Cartoon
Character — page 8



Community Calendar

Laurel Rook Tournament

The Laurel Volunteer Fire Department will sponsor a Rook Tournament on February 24th beginning at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend and bring a friend.

Mars Hill Opens Sewer Project Bids

Last week's heavy snows didn't prevent more than 40 Mars Hill residents from attending the bid opening for construction projects on the town's sewer system.

The News Record wasn't able to attend the bid opening, but town clerk Dahryl Boone reports that the Town Hall community meeting room was filled to capacity for the opening.

The project was divided into four divisions for the purposes of bidding. The Cooper Construction Co. of Hendersonville was the apparent low bidder on three portions of the project.

On the Division 1 project, for construction of a treatment plant and pump station, Cooper Construction submitted a bid of \$752,187. The second lowest bid was offered by C.F.W. Construction, \$787,720. Hickory Construction Co. of Hickory submitted the third lowest bid, \$826,160. Boone reported that nine bids were received on the project.

On the Division 2 portion, which dealt with the electrical work on the project, Hayes and Lunsford Elec-

trical Co. of Asheville submitted the low bid of \$64,883. Brevard Electrical submitted the second highest bid at \$68,520 and M.B. Haynes of Asheville was third lowest with a bid of \$70,822.

Cooper Construction also submitted the low bid in Division 3 of the project which deals with construction of sewer lines. The company's bid of \$337,859.80 was the lowest offer received. Wheeler Construction submitted a bid of \$397,090 and Taylor and Murphy Construction, contractors on the Marshall sewer project, submitted a bid of \$425,255.

Division 4, dealing with construction of sewer lines and force mains, was also headed by Cooper Construction with a bid of \$687,218.80. The next lowest bidder was Dillard Excavating Co. with a bid of \$808,180. Taylor and Murphy Construction submitted the third lowest bid, \$854,260.

Boone said that contracts for the project will not be awarded for several weeks. The proposals are now being reviewed by the sewer project's engineers, McGuire-Beebe of Spartanburg, S.C.

Lakeshore Dr. To Be Paved

The Weaverville Town Council approved a contract with the North Carolina Dept. of Transportation at its Monday night meeting. The contract calls for DOT to grade, drain and pave a 750-foot section of Lakeshore Dr. at a cost of \$17,000.

The contract approval was the most important business conducted during the brief meeting. In other business, police chief Steve Goodson presented a report on his department's activities during January.

According to the report, the Weaverville police answered 74 calls during the month. Among the calls were three reports of prowlers, eight accidents, three fights and a domestic disturbance, seven stranded motorists, two fires, two larcenies, a missing person and an attempted suicide. The department made four arrests during the month.

Town manager Larry Sprinkle reported that the town has hired Doug Mackey as a meter reader. Mackey succeeds Jeff Ford, who was promoted. Sprinkle also outlined the town's hiring policy for the council members.

The council also approved eight tax releases, including six for persons who do not reside within the town limits. Harold and Sandra Ellis received a \$20.21 refund on their taxes.

It was also announced that the November municipal election will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 5. Deadline for registering to vote will be Oct. 7. Candidates for office may file for election between Aug. 30 and Sept. 20.

Upon a motion presented by Kathleen Young, the board voted to send a letter to the town's state representatives opposing the proposed end of the intangibles and inventory taxes. Town manager Larry Sprinkle pointed out that the town's 1985 budget anticipates \$18,000 in revenue from the intangibles tax.

Also upon a motion presented by Young, the council agreed to appoint a committee to look into purchasing Christmas decorations for Weaverville streets.

Mayor Lawrence Sprinkle adjourned the brief session at 7:40 p.m. The council's next monthly meeting is scheduled for March 18 at 7 p.m.

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF

MADISON
COUNTY LIBRARY
GENERAL DELIVERY
MARSHALL
NC

NCE 1901

28753

WEDNESDAY, February 20, 1985

25¢

Marshall, Gunter Reach Settlement

Reach Out-Of-Court Agreement

By ROBERT KOENIG

The town of Marshall, Mayor Betty Wild and the town's Board of Aldermen reached an out-of-court settlement agreement with former police officer Carlie Gunter on Tuesday morning.

Mayor Wild called an emergency meeting of the town board Tuesday morning to discuss details of the settlement with the aldermen. Aldermen John Dodson and Sammy Lunsford met with Wild at Town Hall at 10:30 a.m. Board member Ed Niles was

unavailable and did not attend the board's second emergency meeting in less than a week.

The three town officials went into an executive session that lasted only a few minutes. All three declined to discuss details of the closed session with reporters.

Gunter had filed a \$350,000 lawsuit against the town last February charging the town officials with libel and wrongful dismissal. Gunter was dismissed from the town police force in Nov., 1983 as the first act of Wild's administration.

In a telephone interview following the emergency session, town attorney Charles Mashburn acknowledged that the town and former police officer had reached an agreement on an out-of-court settlement. The lawsuit was scheduled to be heard later this week in Madison County Superior Court.

Mashburn told The News Record, "The emergency meeting this morning was called to go over details of a settlement. The town will report details of the settlement to the public in a short time through documents fil-

ed with the court."

Further details of the settlement were unavailable as we go to press. Asked about the settlement, alderman John Dodson declined comment. Attempts to contact Gunter or his attorney, Herbert Hyde, proved fruitless. Mayor Wild attended the public hearing of the state Utilities Commission at the Marshall First Baptist Church and was also unavailable for comment.

Details of the settlement agreement will be published in next week's issue.

Baker Completes Investigation

DA To Review Report On Shooting Incident

Madison County Assistant District Attorney James Baker has completed an investigation into the Feb. 8 shooting incident which led to the suspension of Marshall police chief Joe Griffey. Baker said that his investigation was completed Monday morning following interviews with Griffey, Marshall policeman Larry Davis and the motorist involved in the incident. Baker said he had also conferred with the Criminal Justice Dept. and the Attorney General during the course of the investigation which began on Feb. 13.

The investigation was begun at the request of Marshall Mayor Betty Wild and alderman John Dodson, but Baker pointed out that the District Attorney's office was investigating the

incident independently. "Apparently, the mayor and aldermen are waiting

for the report before taking any further action in the matter, but this office is investigating the matter to determine if Griffey is guilty of any criminal action."

Baker's report will be delivered to District Attorney Tom Rusher sometime later this week. Rusher said he would not discuss the results of the investigation until he has had an opportunity to read Baker's report.

District Attorney Tom Rusher was expected to come to Marshall Wednesday morning, at which time it is expected he will reveal the details of Baker's investigation.



REV. BUDDY BUCKNER, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Marshall, visited the Marshall Presbyterian Church Monday. Rev. Buckner was at the church to donate a pint of blood during a visit by the Red Cross Bloodmobile. Visit netted 38 pints of blood. Bloodmobile will be at N. Buncombe H.S. Friday.

Marshall Police To Work Seven Days A Week

By ROBERT KOENIG

Marshall Mayor Betty Wild has ordered the town's two remaining police officers to work seven-day weeks in the wake of the suspension of police chief Joe Griffey. Wild gave the order to acting police chief Larry Davis on Friday.

Davis, 29, was named as the acting chief last Wednesday afternoon following Griffey's suspension. The town's only other full-time officer, Ed McLean, will also be required to work

seven days a week.

The town's other acting officer, Craig Edwards, was notified that he will not be needed. On Friday night of last week, a report on WLOS-TV incorrectly stated that Edwards had resigned in protest over Griffey's suspension.

Contacted by The News Record on Monday, Edwards said his remarks on WLOS were taken out of context. "They asked me why I thought Joe

had been suspended," Edwards said. "And I told them, 'They (the aldermen) probably thought it was the right thing to do. They might have had someone in mind to replace them, or it might have been political.'" Edwards complained because only his remark concerning the political motives were aired during the Friday night broadcast.

Edwards was appointed to the town's police force as a part-time officer in October of last year following

the resignation of Chris Bowman. Edwards formerly served on the Marshall force in 1978.

Since Griffey's suspension last week, Marshall residents have been without a way to contact the town's police by telephone. The number listed in the directory for police assistance, 649-2111, is a number connected to Griffey's home. Repeated attempts to contact Griffey at the number have been unsuccessful.

Center Attempts To Preserve Southern Heritage

By MERCER CROSS
National Geographic News Service

Bill Ferris, wearing T-shirt and corduroys, sits cross-legged on a table, lecturing his class at the University of Mississippi on traditional Southern dogtrot houses.

Eighty-six miles north, in the attic of a cluttered, three-story brick house in Memphis, Tenn., Judy Peiser flips the switch on a movie projector, and renowned Mississippi author Eudora Welty says to the camera:

"In a way, I think Southerners care about each other, about human beings, in a more accessible way than some other peoples. We can reach our feelings more easily."

Both Ferris and Peiser work fulltime reaching for those feelings, studying and getting out the word on the traditions of a unique region that continues to inspire interest and curiosity worldwide.

TWO CENTERS COOPERATE

Ferris, a Ph.D. folklorist, is director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at Ole Miss. Peiser is executive

director of the Center for Southern Folklore, a nonprofit organization that tells the story of the South through films, slides, tapes, records, displays, and publications.

The two centers have no formal connection, although Peiser and Ferris co-directed the folklore center for 12 years after its inception in 1972. Through the separate but cooperative efforts of the two centers, the South has a double-barreled source of research and information.

The home of the Ole Miss center is the antebellum Barnard Observatory. Crammed into the stately old building's offices and cubicles is a shifting assortment of some 10 scholars and other staff members.

One of the center's most ambitious projects is the Encyclopedia of Southern Culture, a 1,000 page compendium of things Southern, eight years in the making, scheduled for publication in 1986.

Charles R. Wilson, co-editor of the encyclopedia, says he talks about one of its



Bill Ferris sits cross-legged at the Center for the Study of Southern Culture in Oxford, Miss., Tenn.