

April 21, 1985

Lions Down Alumni, 22-5

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## Community Calendar

### School Board Meeting Rescheduled

The monthly meeting of the Madison County Board of Education, originally scheduled for May 1, has been rescheduled for May 3 at 10:30 a.m. in the Madison County Court House. The public is invited to attend.

### Laurel VFD Annual Meeting Set

The Laurel Volunteer Fire Dept. will conduct its annual membership meeting on May 6 at 7 p.m. All Laurel residents are invited to attend and elect the fire company directors.

### Laurel VFD Pig Roast Planned

The Laurel VFD will sponsor a pig roast on May 5 from noon until 2 p.m. Charges are \$3.50 for adults, \$2 for children under 12. Proceeds from the roast will benefit the fire company's activities.

### Operation Child Find In Marshall

OPERATION CHILDFIND, a program to provide parents with fingerprints of their children, will be at the Marshall Presbyterian Church on April 27. Children to be fingerprinted must be accompanied by an adult. Parents will be provided with a permanent record of their children's fingerprints.

### Legion Ladies Plan Craft Fair

The American Legion Ladies Auxiliary of Post 317 in Marshall is planning a crafts and flea market in conjunction with the May 25 Memorial Day parade in Marshall. Spaces will be provided at no charge. For more information, contact Bea Banks at 649-2436 or Faye Reid at 649-3294 before May 11.

### Fox Hunters Bench Show Set

The Appalachian Fox Hunters will hold their Spring bench show at the Ebb's Chapel School on April 26 beginning at 6 p.m. Trophies will be awarded for first, second and third place. The public is invited to attend.

### Hot Springs Junior Beta Dance

The Hot Springs Junior Beta Club will sponsor a Spring Dance featuring Sid the Surf on May 3 from 8 until 11 p.m. in the Hot Springs School gymnasium.

## 573 Volunteers To Clean Streams

More than 500 Madison County volunteers will get their feet wet this Saturday during the first annual Clean Streams Day clean-up effort. Volunteers from Spring Creek to Greater Ivy and Sandy Mush to Shelton Laurel will take part in the effort to remove debris from county watersheds.

Group leaders can pick up trash bags and Clean Streams Day T-shirts at The News Record office until Friday at 5 p.m.

The Clean Streams Day campaign is sponsored locally by The News Record, Plowshares, the French Broad Rafting Co. and the French Broad River Foundation.

Among the waterways to be targeted for clean-up are Brush Creek, Big Pine Creek, Walnut Creek, Ivy River, Hayes' Run, Spring Creek, Laurel River, Bull Creek and portions of the French Broad River.

Several auto repair shops have also volunteered to help remove abandoned vehicles from along creek banks.

Response to the clean-up effort has surprised the event's organizers. News Record editor Bob Koenig said, "We would have been happy to have gotten half the response we have. It just shows that the people of Madison County, particularly the young people, are involved in protecting our watersheds from pollution."

Madison County youngsters account for the largest share of the volunteers. The Spillover 4-H Club, Marshall Hillbilly Cloggers, Sandy Mush 4-H Club, Spring Creek Junior Clogging Team, Brownie Troop 79, Junior Girl Scout Troop 386, Hayes' Run 4-H Club, Laurel Girl Scouts, Mars Hill Cub Scouts, Mars Hill Cloverbuds and Sleepy Valley 4-H Club have all volunteered for the Saturday clean-up.

In addition to the youth groups, the Walnut Creek Community Development Club, Greater Ivy Community Development Club, Plowshares and the Spring Creek Volunteer

Dept. and Ladies Auxiliary have volunteered their help.

Besides the organized groups, many individuals and families will be taking part. Lionel Filiss will be leading a group of 30 volunteers on Big Laurel Creek. Susan Adams and Kathy Graeter will bring their families to the clean-up on Brush Creek and Geneva Barnette will lead a clean-up effort on Upper Shut-In. Bill and Loreen Shealy and their daughters, Olivia and Natasha, will be part of the clean-up effort on Big Pine.

In the event of bad weather, local groups are asked to conduct their clean-up at their convenience. Project organizer Curt Crowhurst advises volunteers to wear old clothes and shoes and bring along raingear and gloves. Gloves would also be useful for hauling trash.

The Madison County Landfill will also be assisting in the clean-up effort. Landfill director Jim Brown said that the county landfill will be kept open until 6 p.m. Saturday to accommodate groups bringing trash for disposal. The county's convenience centers will remain open until 7:30 p.m. Saturday for trash disposal.

Brown said that a truck will be left at the landfill entrance over the weekend for groups bringing trash after operating hours. Groups are asked to deposit their collections in the truck.

Brown also asks that large, bulky items that cannot be removed be left along roadsides for Monday pick-up. Groups depositing large items are asked to notify the landfill as to their location on Monday by calling 649-2211.

Big Laurel residents began their Clean Streams effort last week on Big Laurel Creek. Flo Wallin reports that some 24 volunteers cleaned the creek and roadsides, collecting two dumpsters full of trash. On Monday the group will clean up along Walnut

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## Sunday Fire Destroys Petersburg Home

By ROBERT KOENIG

A Sunday morning fire in the Petersburg community destroyed the home of the Norman Littrell family.

Mars Hill VFD members arrived at the scene about 9 a.m. to find the wooden frame house engulfed in flames. The Mars Hill firefighters were assisted by members of the Marshall VFD in controlling the blaze.

Mars Hill fire chief Eddie Fox reported that his company poured some 7,000 gallons of water on the fire. The firemen succeeded in preventing an oil tank adjacent to the home from exploding, but the home was completely destroyed.

There was no one in the home at the time of the fire and no injuries were reported. The family was away for a weekend of fishing at Lake Hartwell at the time of the fire.

Cause of the blaze has not been determined. Madison County Sheriff E.Y. Ponder inspected the scene on Sunday and has called for assistance from the State Bureau of Investigation arson squad. The arson investigator is expected to search the rubble on Tuesday morning.

Littrell and his wife have five foster

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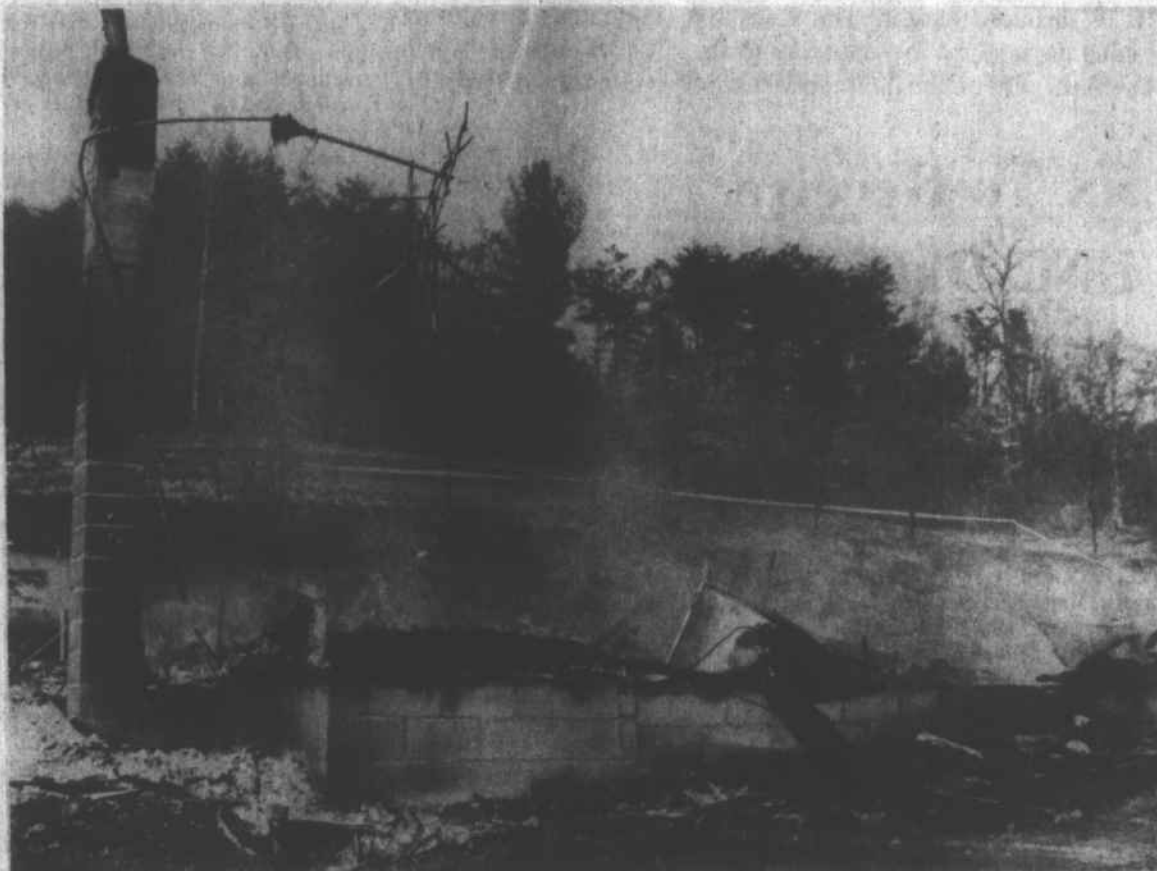


Photo by Bob Koenig

SMOLDERING RUINS ARE ALL THAT REMAINS OF THE Norman Littrell home in Petersburg following Sunday morning fire. Arson investigators were to visit the scene Tuesday morning.

## Downtown Marshall Approved For Historic District Study

By ROBERT KOENIG

The downtown Marshall business district has been approved for a study that could lead to the area being named a historic district. The study could lead to the town being included in the National Register of Historic Places.

The decision was made last week in Raleigh at the quarterly meeting of the State Professional Review Committee. Announcement was made in a letter to Marshall Mayor Betty Wild from Douglas Swaim, preservation specialist with the state Division of Archives and History.

Swaim said that last week's decision is the first step in a long process of thorough historical research. The decision opens the way for Marshall property owners to claim investment tax credits for rehabilitating commercial properties.

The Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 provides a 25 percent investment tax credit to assist with the rehabilitation of income-producing properties within a historic district.

Before Marshall property owners can proceed to claim the tax credit, however, the town or Marshall Mer-

chants Association will have to submit a request for nomination to the National Register.

Swaim administers the National Register program in WNC. In his letter to Wild, he offered to assist Marshall property owners. He can be contacted at 298-5024 in Asheville.

News of the committee's decision was welcomed by Richard Kingston, the Marshall harpsichord maker who has spearheaded the downtown revitalization effort. Kingston told The News Record that the designation could lead to the creation of a

historic district that would bring tourists back to the county seat.

Kingston is also involved in an ongoing historic survey of Madison County buildings being funded by a state grant. The harpsichord maker said, "I'm most appreciative of the fact that the county leaders have shown the forethought to support me in these efforts, realizing the importance this can have to the future economic development of the county."

## 335 Attend FBEMC Meeting

More than 300 members attended the French Broad Electric Membership Cooperative on Saturday at Madison High School.

This year's meeting celebrated the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Rural Electrification Agency, a federal program established by Franklin D. Roosevelt to bring electric power to rural areas.

Displays of early electric appliances and those used in pre-electric days were set up in the school vestibule. Entertainment was provided by the Madison High School String Band and ballad singers Sheila Barnhill and Cas Wallin.

At the afternoon business meeting, the membership approved the reelection of board of directors members Noville Hawkins, Thomas Buchanan and Carl Ramsey.

In his annual report, FBEMC general manager Charles Tolley told the members that increased industry in Yancey County helped the cooperative hold down the latest rate increase. Tolley also said that the recently completed Capitoa Dam project in Marshall would help contain consumer costs in the future.

Tolley said that the construction costs for a nuclear power plant being constructed by Carolina Power and Light Co. FBEMC's principal supplier, accounted for much of the latest rate increase. The general manager added that future rate increases can be expected in the next several years as a direct result of the Sharon Harris project near Raleigh.

Tolley said FBEMC is pursuing alternative sources of power. Among the agencies FBEMC is negotiating to purchase power from are Duke

Power, Appalachian Power Co. and the Southeast Power Administration (SPA). He said that SPA, a federal agency which generates power from dams operated by the Army Corps of Engineers, has promised to supply limited peaking power to FBEMC.

The general manager also detailed the co-operative's continuing maintenance effort, saying that treating the co-op's aging poles costs from \$150 to \$200 per pole.

Tolley also presented Pioneer Award to many individuals responsible to the formation of the co-operative in 1939. The first contract for power, Tolley said, called for 127 miles of line to serve 175 members. The present FBEMC system runs 2,900 miles of line and serves more than 21,000 members.

Among those receiving Pioneer Awards were: James Bailey, Mark Bennett, P.R. Elam, D.M. Robinson, Mrs. Crawford Bryan, Marty Buckner and Ernest Teague. Tolley also presented Pioneer Awards to former FBEMC employees Lincoln Davis, William Fox, Craig Deyton, Cheever Ramsey, Ed Ramsey, Roy Waldroup, Roy Wilson, Doris Young and Willis Woody. Present long-time FBEMC employees Florence Ramsey, George Fisher, Harold Bennett and Boyce Mayhew also received Pioneer Awards.

Mike Weaver of Marshall and Maria Mills of Del Rio, Tenn. were the winners of drawings in the raffle held following the business session. County Commissioner David Adams was chosen to receive a special certificate of appreciation for his part in the cooperative's development.



Photo by Bob Koenig

THAT'S NO FOOTBALL PLAYER...It's Dr. Fred Bentley, president of Mars Hill College. Bentley suited up and saw action during Saturday's annual alumni game at Meares Stadium. The 48-year old college president was inserted on several past plays. Afterwards, he told reporters he was thankful the Lion quarterbacks spotted other receivers open.