

THE NEWS RECORD

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WEDNESDAY, July 17, 1985

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MHC Receives Grant

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Community Calendar

Laurel Class Of 1959

Plans Reunion

The Laurel High School Class of 1959 will hold its 26th reunion on July 27 at 4 p.m. in the Western Steer Restaurant in Mars Hill. All former Laurel students, graduates or not, who attended with the Class of '59 are invited to attend.

Redmon Family Reunion Planned

Members of the Redmon family (also spelled Redman, Redmond) have been invited to the 29th annual reunion at the Redmon Cemetery near Leicester. Registration will take place Sunday, July 28 from 11 a.m. to noon. The cemetery is off Bear Creek Road, which turns off the Alexander Road in Leicester. Signs will be posted. Further information is available from Evelyn Redmon Davis in Asheville, 254-1849.

Mars Hill Car Show, Ham Dinner

The Mars Hill Volunteer Fire Dept. will hold its 14th annual Car Show on July 27-29 at the Mars Hill Elementary School. On July 28, the firemen will sponsor a ham and roast beef dinner in the school cafeteria from noon until 1:30 p.m. Proceeds from both events will benefit the fire department's programs.

Job Training Class Offered

The Opportunity Corp. will offer a five-day job search training program July 22-26 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Mars Hill Baptist Church. Participation is free. More information is available from the corporation at 649-3231.

A-B Tech Madison Center Offers Painting Classes In Hot Springs

Asheville-Buncombe Tech's Madison County Center at Hot Springs will offer beginning and intermediate drawing and painting classes, starting today. The beginners' drawing and painting class will meet Wednesday afternoons from 2 to 5, and the intermediate class Wednesday evenings from 6 to 9. Each class will run 10 weeks, and will be held at the Hot Springs Seniors Citizens Center. Paula Parker will be the instructor. Fee will be \$19. Applicants may pre-register by phoning the Madison County Center office at Marshall Elementary School, 649-2947, or coming by the center.

SART Presents

'Fire On The Mountain'

"Fire On the Mountain," the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theater's fourth production of the season will open Friday at Owen Theater, Mars Hill College, to run until July 28 except for July 22.

The drama, by Nora St. John, examines the lives and hopes of an Appalachian family on the day they await the return of the "prodigal" son. Curtain times are 8:15 evenings and a 2:30 matinee on Sunday.

The scene is set outside the roadside fruitstand home of the Hooker family in Ashe County. The play was picked from some 30 original scripts submitted to SART's fourth annual Playwrights' Workshop last February.

Commodities To Be Distributed

Surplus cheese and butter will be distributed at Dept. of Social Services headquarters in Marshall today and tomorrow.



Dean Shields Dies At 68

Well-known Marshall radio personality A. Dean Shields died unexpectedly Saturday at the age of 68. Shields owned and operated Marshall's only radio station, WMMH-AM, for nearly 30 years.

Several generations of Marshall residents awoke each morning to hear Shields's early morning news and music broadcast, "Breakfast Country Style."

Although a resident of Buncombe County most of his life, Shields was active in Madison County civic affairs as a member of the Marshall Merchants' Association and Lions Club. Along with Don Luckadoo, Shields organized the annual Marshall Christmas pageant for many years. The gravel-voiced radio announcer was also a fixture at election night counts held in the Madison County Court House.

He is survived by his wife, Selma G. Shields; a son and daughter and three stepchildren. Funeral services were held on Tuesday afternoon in Weaver-

Complete obituary details appear on page 8.

A 41-year old Marshall man was killed Friday afternoon in a construction accident on the Mars Hill sewer project. Tommy Richard Massey of Smith Hollar Rd. was killed when a portion of a trench he was working in collapsed, burying him beneath the ground.

At the time of the accident, Massey, an employee of the Cooper Construction Co. of Hendersonville, was working with a crew preparing to install a manhole on Homestead Road. A backhoe was preparing the 12-foot deep trench when a wall of the four-foot wide trench collapsed, completely burying Massey.

Fellow workers on the project were the first to come to Massey's aid, using hand tools to uncover the buried worker's head. Members of the Mars Hill Volunteer Fire Dept., Madison County EMS and Sheriff E.Y. Ponder arrived at the scene shortly after the 3:15 p.m. accident.

Massey was not immediately killed by the cave-in, as in other published reports. Workers at the scene were able to communicate with the buried man before he was removed from the trench by rescue workers who dug by hand to free the victim. Firemen used

sheets of plywood and four-by-fours to shore up the remaining trench walls and prevent further caving-in of the trench.

A Buncombe County EMS team was called to the scene and began administering cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) to the victim while workers dug to free him. Mars Hill physician Dr. W.O. Duck told reporters, "He was dead before they ever got him out."

It took the workers more than two hours to free the victim by digging out handfuls of the dirt.

Funeral services for the Marshall native were held on Monday afternoon in the Doe Branch Community Church. Mr. Massey is survived by his parents, a son and two brothers. Complete obituary details appear on Page 8.

The accident was the second since construction on the sewer project began in May. Earlier this month, workmen installing a sewer line mistakenly cut a main telephone line, wiping out service for much of the county. Friday's accident was the first involving a fatality on the \$2 million project.

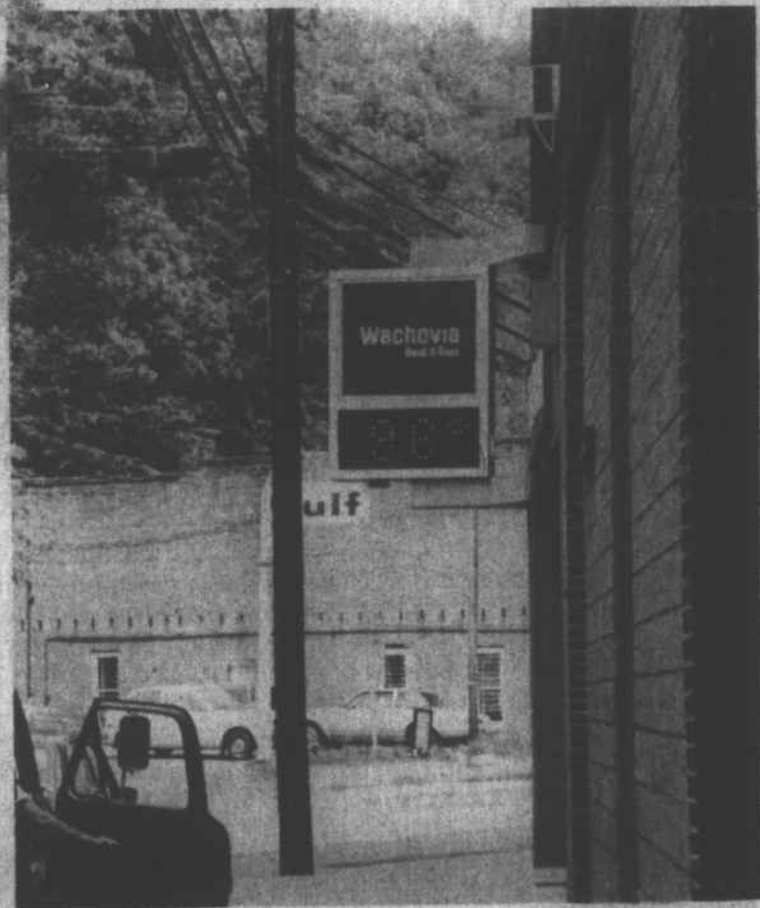


Photo by Bob Koenig

MARSHALL SWELTERED UNDER TEMPERATURES in the high nineties Monday afternoon. Heavy thundershowers Monday night brought temporary relief from the heat spell.

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Photo by C.B. Squire

RESCUE WORKERS ATTEMPT TO DIG OUT TOMMY MASSEY following collapse of trench he was working in. The 41-year old Marshall man died after being buried in the construction accident on the Mars Hill sewer project.

Ballard Cleared On Assault Charge

Mars Hill Elementary School teachers' aide Nancy Ballard was found not guilty of assault charges during the session of Madison County District Court held on July 3. Ballard was charged by Janie Robinson in connection with an incident on a school bus earlier this year. Ballard also charged Robinson with assault in connection with the incident.

Judge Alexander Lyerly found Robinson guilty of assault charges and ordered her to make restitution in the amount of \$36 to Ballard. Robinson also received a 30-day suspended jail sentence and was ordered not to threaten school personnel in the future. Charges of trespassing and damage to property against Robinson were dismissed.

A number of other cases were also dismissed during the July 3 session. Charges of damage to property and larceny against Harry Norton were dropped, as were charges of damage to property against Norman Roberts and misdemeanor assault charges against Chris Lunsford and assault charges against James Haynie.

Eric Paul pleaded guilty to com-

municating threats and received a six-month suspended sentence.

Gary Hensley pleaded guilty to a charge of breaking, entering and larceny and received a two-year suspended sentence and a \$200 fine.

Judge Phillip Ginn presided over the July 3 session of District Court, which dealt with traffic cases.

Wayne Fore was convicted of level 2 driving while impaired (DWI) and received a one-year suspended sentence and \$350 fine. Fore was ordered to serve a seven-day active jail sentence.

Gregory Lee Griffin and Annie Shelton Ray were also convicted of level 2 DWI and also received \$350 fines, seven day active jail sentences and one-year suspended sentences.

Joseph Ronnie Jones was convicted of level 1 DWI. Jones was fined \$450 and ordered to serve 14 days in the Madison County jail. Jones also received a two-year suspended sentence and was ordered to serve supervised probation.

District Court sessions are scheduled for Thursday and Friday this week.

Dewey Messer Joins News Record Staff

Dewey Messer of Whittier has joined the staff of The News Record. He is a rising junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, majoring in journalism.

Messer, 20, is participating in an internship program in which he works for seven papers across the state during the summer. He is a reporting intern and has worked for two other North Carolina newspapers, The Alamance News and Canton Enterprise.

Messer will be here for three weeks as part of the internship's program of sending students to learn the different techniques and styles of various newspapers. He spent roughly the same amount of time at the other newspapers.

After working in Marshall, Messer will have a two-week vacation before returning to school for the fall semester.

His parents, who live between Whittier and Cherokee, are Verla G. and Bill Messer.



Dewey Messer

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