

July 21, 1985

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Community Calendar

Tobacco Field Day Set For Aug. 1

The annual Madison County Burley Tobacco Field Day will be held on Thursday, Aug. 1 on the Roy Ammons farm in Mars Hill. Registration will begin at 9 a.m.

The tour is co-sponsored by the Madison County Agricultural Extension Service and the Burley Growers Association.

The field day will feature discussions on disease, control, varieties, fertilization and sod planting. There will also be an update for farmers on the latest developments in the federal tobacco program. A free lunch will be served and there will be drawings for numerous prizes.

For more information on the field day, contact Wiley DuVall at 649-2411.

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.

Davis Family Reunion Sunday

The Garfield and Susie Davis family reunion will be held on July 28 at noon at the Old Mill Wheel on Laurel River. Family members and friends are invited to attend and bring along a covered dish.

Corn-Metcalf Family Reunion

The annual Corn-Metcalf family reunion will be held at the Bull Creek Baptist Church, one mile off Hwy. 213 on Sunday, Aug. 4. Family members and friends will meet for lunch in the church recreation area. Everyone is asked to bring along a covered dish and join in the fellowship.

Deadline for all Community Calendar announcements is Monday at noon.

Fight Lands Former Teammates In Jail

By DEWEY MESSER
A fistfight between former teammates resulted in jail sentences for both men after they entered guilty pleas to fighting in District Court last week.

Judge Phillip C. Ginn sentenced Jeffery Flynn of Marshall to 14 days in jail for fighting on a Mars Hill street during Thursday's session of the Madison County District Court. Flynn also received a six-month suspended sentence for damaging flowers and sidewalk benches in Mars Hill on a separate charge in an unrelated incident.

The first charge resulted from a fight with James K. Jones, which was a continuance of a fight the two men were involved in earlier this summer while on a trip to the beach following graduation from Madison H.S.

Flynn and Jones were formerly teammates on the Madison H.S. basketball team.

Jones said his shoulder was dislocated during the fight at the beach. At that time, he told Flynn they would fight again sometime after he had recovered.

Mars Hill Police Officer Donald T. Shepherd testified he had found the two in a scuffle and that they had ap-

parently arranged the fight. He said they had been told to leave Ingles Supermarket earlier in the day. No injuries resulted from the fight, Shepherd said.

Judge Ginn sentenced Jones to 30 days in the county jail on the fighting charge. All but 24 hours of the sentence was suspended on the condition that he pay court costs and not assault Flynn again. He was ordered to report to the jail at 8 p.m. Friday to serve the 24-hour sentence.

The judge postponed sentencing Flynn on the fighting charge until he heard testimony on the second charge.

Flynn and Robert M. Riddle were charged with destroying seven containers of geraniums and two sidewalk benches in Mars Hill. The damaged flowers and benches had been installed by the Mars Hill Community Development Club.

Violet Navy, chairman of the club, said Riddle had called her on Monday, a day after the incident, to apologize and had offered to make restitution. She said Flynn called Wednesday to apologize.

Officer Shepherd testified that Riddle had repaired the benches.

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Mars Hill Mayor Bill Powell Resigns

Accepts Board Of Elections Post

By ROBERT KOENIG

Mars Hill Mayor Bill Powell officially resigned the post he had held for nearly 20 years last week. Powell stepped down from the mayorship in order to accept an appointment to the Madison County Board of Elections.

State law prohibits election board members from holding elective office.

Powell first announced his intentions at the July 1 meeting of the board of aldermen. The resignation was effective on July 16. Powell formally resigned in a letter to the aldermen presented at the July 1 meeting.

In the letter, Powell thanked the aldermen and the town's people for their support. "I appreciate the support over the past 20 years that the citizens, past and present Board of Aldermen members and dedicated and tireless employees have given me. Without this hard work and community support, our town would not be in the excellent condition that it is in today."

Powell was first elected as Mars Hill's mayor in 1965. His present term expires in November.

In a telephone interview with The News Record, Powell said, "Twenty years is enough for anyone. I think it's time someone else took over. I decided to step down several months ago when my name was first submitted for the board of elections. I've enjoyed it and had the chance to work with a lot of good people in the past 20 years." -Continued on Page 8



BILL POWELL
...Mars Hill Mayor resigns

Dr. Duck Named As Interim Mayor Anderson Appointed To Town Board

Dr. W.O. Duck was named to serve as Mars Hill's interim mayor last week following the resignation of Bill Powell, who stepped down to accept a post on the Madison County Board of Elections. Dr. Duck was named as the interim mayor at a special called meeting of the Mars Hill Board of Aldermen on July 16. Duck had served as the town's Vice Mayor since 1983.

Dr. Duck was first named to the town's board in 1983, replacing alderman Carl Eller who stepped down for health reasons. He won election in his own right during the 1983 municipal elections.

The aldermen also voted to name Mars Hill dairy farmer Franklin Anderson to Dr. Duck's vacated seat on the board of aldermen. Anderson ran unsuccessfully for the position in 1983.

Both Duck and Anderson will serve until after the November municipal election.



DR. W.O. DUCK



FRANKLIN ANDERSON

General Assembly Funds Local Needs

The 1985 North Carolina General Assembly adjourned in Raleigh Thursday, ending one of the longest sessions in state history. Before adjournment, the lawmakers approved an \$11 million package of appropriations for local projects.

The appropriations bill drew criticism from Republicans, who staged a walkout in the House chamber. Democrats, notably House Speaker Liston B. Ramsey of Marshall, defended the spending package.

All three Madison County towns received funds in the "pork barrel" appropriations package.

Mars Hill was the biggest winner this year, receiving \$35,000 for the purchase of a new garbage truck. A similar grant in 1984 allowed Marshall to replace its aging truck.

Marshall and Hot Springs each received grants of \$10,000 each. Marshall is to use the funds to purchase a new patrol car for the town's police department. One of the department's two cars was stolen and destroyed

earlier this year. The Hot Springs grant is to be used to maintain and upgrade the town's water system.

Hot Springs will also expand its borders as a result of late action taken in the General Assembly. The 80-acre industrial site on which is located the former Melville Shoe Co. plant will be returned to the town limits as the result of legislation introduced by Rep. Charles Beall of Canton.

The plant and adjacent property

are currently leased by the Dayco Corp., who announced plans to operate the plant in 1984 during labor negotiations with workers at the Dayco plant in Waynesville. Dayco dropped plans to use the Hot Springs plant following settlement of the labor dispute and pledged to find another tenant for the abandoned facility.

Hot Springs officials, dissatisfied with progress in locating a tenant, asked the General Assembly to allow annexation of the 80-acre site earlier this year.

Hettie Ponder Tours The Soviet Union

By DEWEY MESSER

Hettie Ponder of Oteen recently returned from a professional clinical study tour of various parts of the Soviet Union. The wife of Grover Ponder, she is a staff nurse at the Oteen Veterans Administration Hospital.

Mrs. Ponder left the U.S. from New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport on June 12. She flew to Ireland with 37 other medical professionals on the same tour and boarded an Aeroflot plane for Moscow.

She spent about five days in Moscow, then flew south to the city of Tbilisi, in the Georgian republic. From there, the group rode a bus to Yerevan, in the Armenian Republic. Then they flew 500 miles to Baku, in the Azerbaijan Republic. From there, they flew to Leningrad, which Mrs. Ponder said was the best part of the tour, because of the comfort of the hotel there and the city's beauty.

In Moscow, the group stayed at the Hotel Bolshoi, one of the best hotels

visited the children's hospital there to see how their Soviet counterparts treated diseases.

During a tour of Moscow the group saw the State circus. "I believe if Barnum and Bailey had seen it, they would've wanted some of those acts," Mrs. Ponder said.

The group also toured the Pushkin Museum and the palace of Catherine the Great. Catherine furnished several palaces with paintings, which are now scattered around Moscow and Leningrad, Mrs. Ponder added.

"We were there five days, and busy every minute," Mrs. Ponder said. "We saw the Kremlin, with its icons and frescoes. Icons are wooden paintings that have been preserved for 300 years. We saw a 200-year-old bell that had never been rung and a 200-year-old cannon that had never been shot."

"In Moscow, a lot of people walk in the streets. They don't have private transportation, most of them, they had public transportation."

"They were always walking in a hurry. I didn't see a cheerful look

about their faces. There was a harshness—not arrogance, the way some harshness is. It was fear, I guess you might say."

"And this was throughout Russia, but the people in Yerevan and Georgia were more cheerful."

"There weren't many cars in Russia. Moscow has 8 million people and it had as many cars, probably, as Asheville does. Most of the cars were really buses and trucks."

Members of the group were allowed to speak with some nurses in the first and the last hospitals they visited. "The doctor said most of what he wanted us to know," Mrs. Ponder said.

"The first thing the nurses wanted to know was how much money we made. Of course, we wanted to know the same thing from them. They also wanted to know how much money we made. They make 150 rubles a month, the nurses do. The doctors make 150 rubles a month. One ruble is worth \$1.1 in American money."

"I was always thinking it was a long

people and one young man said his father was a doctor. We asked him how much money his father made a month. He said, 'My father makes 3,000 rubles a month.'

"We said, 'Now we heard that doctors make 150 rubles a month.'

"He said, 'Oh, they do.' He said his father got a bonus for being a professor, a bonus for being a surgeon and two or three other bonuses. He said his father had some 'very grateful patients.'

"Sounds like a little bit of capitalism to me," Mrs. Ponder said.

In Tbilisi, Georgia, the group went to a folk concert. Mrs. Ponder said the concert had good music and dancing.

Most of the churches in the Soviet Union had been burned, destroyed and looted, Mrs. Ponder said. The group's itinerary guide said groups are assigned and people are sent free to go to church.

"There is a church," Mrs. Ponder said, "the girls go to an evening church, and people who want to