

# Community Calendar

## Weaverville Council To Meet

The Weaverville Town Council will meet in Weaverville Town Hall at 7 p.m. Monday.

## Animal Carnival Feb. 22

Carnival of the Animals by Sainte-Saens will be performed on Feb. 22 at 2:30 p.m. in the Thomas Wolfe Auditorium at the Asheville Civic Center. Admission will be \$1 for children and adults.

## Young Republicans To Meet

The Madison County Young Republicans Club will hold its monthly meeting on Feb. 22 in the Madison County Courthouse at 7:30 p.m. All members and prospective members are urged to attend.

## GOP Sets Precinct Meeting

The Madison County Republicans will hold their precinct meetings on Feb. 28.

## Republican Convention Set

The Madison County Republican Party convention will be held on Saturday, March 21, at Madison High School starting at 4 p.m. All Republicans are urged to attend this meeting. A Lincoln Day dinner is planned for this date.

## Alzheimer Group To Gather

The Madison County Alzheimer's Association Support Group will meet Tuesday at 7 p.m., at the Marshall Senior Citizen Center. Those with family members or with friends who have Alzheimer's Disease or other dementing illness are welcome. For more information, call 649-3246.

## Soccer Registration Under Way

For registration in the Madison County Youth Soccer program, call 649-2223, 649-3518, or 689-4420 by Sunday. A final registration period will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Feb. 21 in the Mars Hill College gym. A soccer clinic will be held Feb. 28. Call the above telephone numbers for more information.

## Democratic Women To Meet

The Madison County Democratic Women will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 24, at the Western Steer Steakhouse in Mars Hill.

## Responder Class To Be Held

The Laurel Fire Department will host a 40-hour first responder class, with classes beginning tonight at 6 p.m. Call Eddie Fox at 649-3815 for more information.

# Tobacco Affairs Has New Official

The director of tobacco affairs for the N.C. Department of Agriculture has been named an assistant commissioner of the agency effective Feb. 1.

Weldon B. Denny will replace Melvin H. Hearn, who has held the assistant commissioner's position since January 1975. Hearn retired Jan. 31.

Denny was a 31-year employee with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. He was North Carolina's executive director from 1966 to 1969 and concluded his career as national ASCS deputy administrator from 1977 to 1980. After retirement, he joined the NCDA as a commodity inspector.

"Weldon Denny has done an outstanding job as head of tobacco affairs for almost one year just as he has done in all his jobs," said N.C. Agriculture Commissioner Jim Graham in making the appointment. "I'm glad I had a man like Weldon on my staff who could replace Melvin Hearn because it will take a man with a lot of know-how to take Hearn's place."

Denny's experience with the USDA brings a new dimension to the NCDA, Graham said. His responsibilities will include a "concerted effort" to help the family farmers in North Carolina through programs administered by the NCDA and USDA.

"His knowledge of federal farm programs will be an asset in helping to blend together the federal and state programs that will benefit our farmers," Graham said.

At 60, Denny is a native of Surry County and a graduate of Pilot Mountain High School. He attended George Washington University and the University of North Carolina. Graham said the state will miss

Hearn, and called attention to his agribusiness background, saying that his service to the state and the nation were outstanding.

"He was a classmate at N.C. State, a co-worker and a close friend for many years. We're going to be friends for a lot more years, but I'm sure to miss him as a fellow state employee working for farmers," Graham said.

# State Says Most Fires 'Preventable'

The large fires in North Carolina during the past two years have been the worst fires in the state since 1963. But landowners can help prevent forest fires through a new program of the N.C. Division of Forest Resources.

The Landowner Hazard Reduction Prescribed Burning Program is designed to eliminate the build-up of dead leaves, grasses and twigs on the forest floor that burn very easily during periods of extreme dryness and high winds.

Several of the larger fires of 1986 could have been more easily controlled with fewer acres lost if these burnable fuels were eliminated, officials said.

The objective of the program is to reduce the threat, or hazard, of the burnable fuels through a planned, or prescribed, controlled burning process done by the Division of Forest Resources.

# Church News

## Laurel Church Holds Singing

The Middle Laurel Church of God will have a singing Saturday starting at 6:30 p.m. The Rev. Ray Fletcher, pastor, invites everyone to attend.

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**Attend The Church Of Your Choice**

She's just a little girl, about four or five. Recently, she knelt by her bed to say her nightly prayer. "God, do you have any new stories? We've heard all the old ones at Sunday School many times."

People in charge of teaching and preaching would do well to hear the little one's frustration and try to tell the old, old stories with new enthusiasm and creativity.

## New Stories

But there's something more surfacing here. It's this: God tells NEW STORIES every day for those with eyes to see.

God tells new and current stories through people who "give a cup of cold water in His name," who touch the life of a young person on the skids; who nurse the aging in rest homes; who sit by offering damp towels for fevered brows in hospitals. God's NEW STORIES are all around us.



I have to believe that some of God's newest and greatest stories are still in the mind of God, just waiting for us to open our lives so he can tell the stories through us.

Yes, little one, God does have new stories. And through the likes of you, he will tell them. If God is permitted by our commitments.

- Sunday Exodus 3:1-20
- Monday Deuteronomy 2:1-14
- Tuesday Deuteronomy 15:1-15
- Wednesday Joshua 24:14-28
- Thursday Ruth 1:6-22
- Friday 1 Samuel 2:1-10
- Saturday 1 Samuel 10:17-27



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