

Mount Holly News

Constructive—If It Will Help Mount Holly And Gaston County The News Is For It—Progressive

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NUMBER 1

THESE JAYCEES GAVE \$100 OR MORE TO BUILDING FUND



Above are pictured eleven of the fifteen members of the Mount Holly Junior Chamber of Commerce who contributed \$100 each to the building fund last Monday night. They are members of the \$100 Club of the Jaycees. This money will go toward the new Jaycee Community Building for Mount Holly. Those in the picture are shown handing their money to Vice-President J. C. Rhyne, who presided in the absence of President Ted Johnson who was ill the first part of the week. They are, left to right: Henry Fowler, Ken Davis, Gus Chagaris, John Calder, Harold Stroupe, J. B. Thompson, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Rufus Ingle, Wally Thompson, chairman of the building committee, Pete Chagaris and Harold Henkle. J. C. Rhyne is shown seated. Those who contributed \$100 or more that were absent when the picture was made are Ted Johnson, Johnston Miller, John Painter and Jack Sumner. There will be other \$100 Club members before May 1st.

Riverbend Plans Special Dedication Next Sunday

The dedication service at the Riverbend Methodist church will be held next Sunday, February 19, beginning at 11 a. m. according to an announcement by the pastor of the church, Rev. T. G. Highfill. A large crowd is expected to attend the dedication service, the picnic lunch following the morning service, and the organ recital to be given at 2 p. m. as well as the informal service to be held at 3 p. m. Dr. W. A. Stanbury, District Superintendent, will introduce Dr. Costen J. Harrell, Bishop, who will take part in the dedication service.

The picnic lunch is expected to be a highlight of the day's observance with an estimated 300 people bringing their lunches to the church for the gathering. The afternoon organ recital will be given by an organist representing the Charlotte Company where the church organ was purchased.

Many past leaders and pastors of the Riverbend Methodist church will be present for the dedication services which mark the end of a mighty effort by the congregation to pay for the attractive new church building in which the first service was preached on the first Sunday in May, 1947. Among those who will be present to greet their old friends and the attending friends of the church will be D. C. F. Rozzell, a former resident of this section; Rev. M. C. Ellerbe, pastor of the church from 1945 through part of 1949; and others. The actual construction of the church took place during Rev. Ellerbe's pastorate there and he has a personal interest in the church.

The church membership at the present time is 101. Sunday school Superintendent is R. H. Rhyne and the Trustees of the church include E. L. Norwood, I. L. Davenport, and C. A. Bolick.

The original church was built on land donated by Mr. Sidney Cannon and A. C. Rozzelle. Deed for this land was made in 1883, and the first church was probably built at this time. This church was used until 1928, when it was torn down to make room for an industrial project.

From 1918 through 1928, services were held at Riverbend Methodist church by visiting pastors, approximately one service per month. Riverbend has been a part of the following Circuits: Lincolnton, Gaston and Lowesville Circuits. The following ministers have served Riverbend Methodist church at various times: L. G. McLeod; J. C. Hartsell; M. D. Giles; D. B. Glenn; G. W. Calahan; A. R. Surratt; E. W. Dickson; L. T. Mann; R. L. Owenby; S. H. Bradley; Rev. Siler; J. J. Grey; W. H. McLarin; E. N. Crowder; J. B. Tabor; J. A. Bowles; D. W. Drown; J. A. Sharpe; and recent pastors since the Church was re-organized are as follows: Rev. C. L. Grant, M. C. Ellerbe and T. G. Highfill.

our present pastor. Riverbend Methodist church was re-organized on Sept. 3, 1944, Rev. C. L. Grant being the pastor. He was very instrumental in getting the church re-organized, as he took the leading part in this project. A building program was started shortly, but due to the war time condition, actual construction was not started until Aug. 5, 1946. In the meantime, Rev. M. C. Ellerbe became pastor on the Lowesville circuit Oct. 1945 and he carried on the work started by Rev. Grant until the Church was completed and ready for service, the first service being held in the Church on the first Sunday of May 1947, the church official opening date was on May 14, 1947, at which time District Conference was held at Riverbend. The final debt on the church was paid on October 5, 1949, at which time preparation was started on our dedication program, by our present Pastor Mr. T. G. Highfill.

VFW Has Booked Two Fine Films

Ready for showing to members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and other eligible veterans are two great films booked for the February 28th meeting from the U. S. Army, Commander F. H. Abernathy announced this week. The two motion pictures, which can be shown only to select audiences as provided by Army regulations, have never been released for general showing because of their blunt dealing with the recent war.

One of the films, "The Nazi Strike" shows how Germany planned and prepared for World War II and how she struck her first blows in Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Poland.

The second film is to be shown at the next meeting is entitled "Death Mills" and is a forthright history of the German concentration camps and shows the mass murders committed in the camps under the Nazi regime. This film in particular is limited in its showing by the Army.

At the other regular meetings which take place twice each month, Commander Abernathy said, other films released by the Army will be shown. The planned program of entertainment being inaugurated by the V. F. W. here includes scheduling 32 motion pictures to be shown at intervals during the coming year. Included among these films which will be booked at intervals are "Divide and Conquer," telling the story of the Nazis' conquest of Denmark, Norway, and Belgium, and also shows the Battle of Denmark. "Battle of Britain," is another of the great films, shows the defense of the great films, shows the defense

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New Building To Be Modern

The new two-story building to be erected by Leo Fuller, for the Mount Holly Furniture Company, will start going up on, or before, March 1st, weather permitting. Mr. Fuller, who owns the local furniture company, will have a building with several hundred more square feet of floor space than even the large building he occupies now.

As was stated last week the new building will go up on the lot between Beatty's Auto Parts and the present site of the Mount Holly Furniture Company. It will have a 45-foot front, which is the exact frontage of the building they now occupy. It will run back for 80 feet and will be of all-brick construction.

The entire front of the store, on both the first and second floors will be all glass. This type of front is considered the most modern by all builders and will certainly give Mount Holly one of the most beautiful furniture buildings in this section of the State.

Another new feature of the new building will be the first elevator ever to be installed in a retail business in this community. Mr. Fuller stated that he was placing a modern elevator in the building that will be designed to carry passenger or freight. It will be very attractive and up-to-date.

On The First Floor Also on the first floor will be the offices for the management, bookkeeping department and the cashier. These offices will give privacy to customers who desire to talk over contracts, purchases, etc.

On both the floors the building will have a total of 7,200 square feet, 3,600 square feet on each floor. Being entirely of all brick and with the big window fronts on both floors it will be one of the show buildings of Gaston county.

The A. and P. will take the present Mount Holly Furniture building. There are other improvements to be announced in the next few weeks for Mount Holly that sound very encouraging for the future of the community.

WORLD PRAYER DAY
On Friday, February 24th at 3:30 p. m., all the churches of Mount Holly will meet at the Presbyterian Church for the annual World Day of Prayer. Everyone is reminded to set aside this day in their minds for devotional purposes. The Presbyterians are the host church for this year and cordially invite all members of all faiths to join them in this day of spiritual guidance.

COMMUNITY BUILDING TO BE STARTED HERE MAY 1

P.T.A. Has Plans For Next Meeting

The P.T.A. will hold its next meeting at 7:30 p. m., Thursday, February 23, at the high school gymnasium. Mrs. Charles R. Holtzclaw, the president, will preside during the business session, and a very clever and interesting program has been arranged.

Further carrying out the theme of "Know Your School," the grammar grade music department, under the capable direction of Mrs. Paul Jones, teacher of public school music, will present the program. Following this, the audience will be led in an old-fashioned community sing by Rev. J. O. Stroud, minister of music and director of education at the First Baptist Church in Belmont.

To mark Founder's Day, this meeting will be the P.T.A.'s birthday party, and the evening will be topped off by the raffling of a huge birthday cake to some lucky winner.

HIGHLY HONORED



Kelly L. Stone, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Stone of Mount Holly, has been selected as a member of the Honor Guard for General Douglas McArthur in Japan. This is a high honor for young Stone and also for this community. The Honor Guard, of which there are actually only two members, flank the color bearers when General McArthur makes an official appearance. The soldiers for these positions are selected with the greatest of care in regard to character, appearance, etc.

Kelly joined the service in March, 1949, less than one year ago. He took his training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S. C. and sailed from there to Japan. He went directly out of high school into the Army. He is now only 19 years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Stone, parents of Kelly, have been employed in Mount Holly for the past twenty years. They are both working for the Globe Mills.

The picture, above, of Kelly was snapped on duty as an Honor Guard.

Strike Fails To Hurt Local Mail

The cancelling of one Seaboard Railroad train, which formerly ran each day and now runs only on alternate days has not affected the outgoing mail shipments here in the least. Postmaster O. L. Hoffman said this week. The railroads have been forced to cancel the train temporarily because of the impending coal shortage caused by costly and lengthy negotiations between John L. Lewis, head of the United Mine Workers, and a three man fact-finding board appointed by President Truman. Meanwhile, railroads, some industries, and others who depend on coal for a main source of their operations, have been forced to begin rationing coal supplies in order to make them last.

The local post office still has four outgoing mails and 6 incoming mail shipments, Mr. Hoffman said, while other towns and cities are being limited in their mail shipments. In some cities and towns the mounting parcel post shipments, delayed by the cancellation of trains is causing much inconvenience.

Arrangements were made by the Mount Holly Post Office to make mail shipments via trucks running from Shelby to Monroe on the days when the trains do not operate. This system, put into operation for the first time last Saturday, has proved to be entirely sufficient and Mount Holly residents will continue to receive service on a par with the previous prompt shipping arrangements, Mr. Hoffman said.

Stanley Boys In Golden Gloves

Two Stanley boys, Bob Smith and Willy Hansel, entered the squared circle of Charlotte's great annual Golden Gloves Wednesday night to take part in the opening slate. Both fought in the novice division and while they split the ticket with Smith taking a decision that fans booted after putting up a terrific scrap, and Hansel putting his man away on a TKO in the second round, both made magnificent showings. Smith lost his novice welterweight match with Sonny Price of Lincolnton on a split decision after coming out in the second round to put Price on the ropes. Smith weighed in at 146 for the match while Price weighed 144.

Hansel, fighting the novice bantamweight at 116, floored Charles Hinnant of Sumter, S. C., in 1:37 of the second and waited with gloves cocked while Hinnant took the long count. Both local fighters representing the Stanley boxing team, coached by Dick Thompson and Donald Fortner.

HERE FOR FUNERAL
Miss Ann Connell, a student at Greensboro College, came home on Wednesday of last week to be here for the funeral of her cousin, Ben Hunsuck on Thursday.

Jaycees Busy Now Making Plans For New Projects

Donors Giving To Band Drive Here

The Band Uniform Drive is coming along nicely but James H. Ware, chairman, was out of town Thursday and did not get all the reports from the various workers. However, donations are known to have come in from Leo Fuller, Frank L. Rankin, Amy Holland Smith, Julius A. Grier, Mr. and Mrs. B. Nixon, Nixon and Robinson Body Shop, Muriel Guin, J. A. Costner and Frank Dameron.

These donations have aided greatly and reports will be given against next week. If you haven't donated see Mr. Ware or Wilson Crane at the First State Bank and Trust Co.

Local Boy Is Believed Missing

Lieutenant Clinton W. Sparks, son of Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Hankins of Mount Holly, is believed to be among the missing crew members of an Army Air Force B-36 forced down in icy Charlotte Sound en route from Alaska to the home base at Fort Worth, Texas. Lieutenant Sparks, member of the Armed Forces since he volunteered on December 8, 1941, was a regular member of a B-36 crew which was to have left Alaska at the same time the lost ship left the Northern base. Lt. Sparks had served on one previous mission to Alaska and according to his step-father, Mr. Hankins, had written his wife that he expected to leave Alaska to return to Fort Worth at approximately the time when the ill-fated aircraft was to have left.

Mr. Hankins told a News reporter late Thursday afternoon that no word had been received by the family from the War Department verifying whether or not Lieutenant Sparks was on the lost bomber. Mr. Hankins said that it was possible that Lt. Sparks may have been aboard the second B-36 which landed at Fort Worth after losing contact with the burning bomber, but that no information concerning the members of either crew was being released by the Air Force officials.

The plane carried 16 crew members and one civilian, it was reported. An extensive air-sea search was begun immediately after the giant six engined plane reported about 6 a. m. EST that it was being forced to "ditch" in the surrounding waters because of fire and ice. The reports were relayed by the accompanying plane which reached the Fort Worth base Tuesday afternoon. The reports said that the instruments in the plane were crippled, one engine was afire, and that severe icing had occurred on the plane.

A general air of secrecy has surrounded the missing plane since the first reports were received saying that it was in distress.

Mr. Hankins said that Lieutenant Sparks had left the impression that three of the giant planes were in Alaska and that it was possible that he was still there with his crew while it was also possible that his plane may have been the one which reached Fort Worth and that he is restricted from contact with his wife or parents until the shroud of secrecy is lifted. Lieutenant Sparks had assured his wife on numerous occasions that if any of the planes in his group were forced down or involved in any accidents, he would contact her immediately, but it is possible that he has not been able to comply with his promises due to War Department restrictions.

CAKE AND PIE SALE
The ladies of the Lutheran Church will hold a cake and pie sale Saturday morning at Ward Rhyne's grocery for the benefit of the educational building fund, it was announced.

The Junior Chamber of Commerce lined up projects and made other gains to finish securing their needed money by May 1st to start on the Jaycees Community Building. At the last meeting there were 15 men who made the Jaycee Hundred Dollar Club. This club is made up of members inside the Junior Chamber of Commerce who have given \$100 or more toward the erection of the Community Building.

Many other Jaycees have given between \$25 and \$100 and it is believed that the \$100 Club will take on more members between now and the time set to start construction, May 1st. At the last meeting Wally Thompson, chairman of the building committee, explained the plans and gave the club figures on the proposed building construction costs.

The building will be 70 feet front with an attractive brick entrance. The side-walls will be of concrete blocks and the flooring of maple. At the present time the first unit will run back 50 feet with a possibility that the Jaycees may make it 66 feet back. The building will have a false wooden back in order that it can be completed to a building 70 by 100 feet, which is extremely large and would house any sort of entertainment or athletic event that would ever be staged here.

There is some talk that several business men are planning on making donations to the club toward the Jaycee community building. If so they are asked to see or call J. B. Thompson, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the building, Henry Fowler, treasurer of the building fund, President Ted Johnson or Harold Henkle. There will be no drive for money but voluntary donations will be accepted.

The Jaycees are building this new structure for Mount Holly and will use it regularly only on Saturday nights and for meeting nights twice each month. The building will be available for all other clubs, churches or groups wishing to sponsor civic events.

Andy Holt Has Great Record

Andy Holt, 18 year old former resident of Mount Holly, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Holt of Durham, is a member of the wrestling team at the State School for the blind in Raleigh and thus far in his career extending over several years has been pinned to the mat for the count only one time. Young Holt, a senior at the Raleigh School, has proven his athletic prowess in several other fields including the "grunt and groaners" and has been one of the outstanding students at the school in track, swimming and other athletics.

Also an outstanding student in the scholastic curriculum at the school, the former local resident is making a fine name for himself in the school and is president of the student body. Andy's father, A. S. Holt, is a former coach at Mount Holly High School, and for a time was coach at one of the high schools in Durham before accepting a position with the Durham Y. M. C. A. A brother, Ed Holt, 15 years old, is an outstanding basketball player for the Junior Varsity team of one of the junior high schools in Durham and was recently in Charlotte taking part in a tournament in which Durham won over Piedmont and Tech high schools.

Mrs. Wilma Moore, Andy's mother, traveled to the week to watch the young in action when the wrestlers at the State School for the Blind met the wrestling team from Greensboro High School in a series of matches. Andy pinned his man in less than two minutes of the first round, Mrs. Moore said, and at the same time was handicapped by the forced loss of several pounds within a week preceding

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