

Len Sullivan's

## Shucks

All news is local

But for Kat Thompson we might never have known that one of our own hugged the hug seen 'round the world. Everybody saw the photo: the front of Queen Elizabeth and the back of Mrs. Alice Frazier. The visiting monarch with the fixed smile is embraced by her Washington, D.C. hostess.

A natural greeting — unless you happen to be British. In which case it is appalling, oh-myyes. Protocol does not permit touching the royal personage. The British press went into a frenzy of feigned indignation, and everybody in America with access to ink or a microphone egged it on by applauding Mrs. Frazier's matronly greeting.

The queen needed no introduction. Mrs. Frazier was identified in all variations on the theme I read as "a 67-year-old great-grandmother from North Carolina."

Alice Frazier, we were left to assume, had more than her 15 minutes of fame and settled back into a life of quiet anonymity. Then Kat's letter came early last week. You know Kat: widow of Harold, mother of Harold Jr. and Leigh Ann, Mooresville Little Folks teacher, 15 years a Head Start teacher, now grandmother of six living, for the past two years, in Lexington, Ky. with Leigh Ann and her family.

When the queen stopped off in Lexington to check on her horses the Herald-Leader played it big, including a rerun of the famous/infamous hug and a column by Merlene Davis on her telephone interview with the hugger. In the course of her piece, she mentions Mrs. Frazier "was born in Mooresville, N.C., where her father worked in a mill."

"Mooresville" jumped out at Kat, and she shared Davis' column with me. I rang up Mrs. Frazier, which she said everybody and his brother have been doing lately. Yes, she said, born, raised and lived in Mooresville until she and her late husband, Walter "Doodlebug" Frazier, moved to D.C. in 1957. Yes, her dad, Joe Freeman, worked at Mooresville Mills. Her mother, a midwife, helped bring dozens of Mooresville citizens into the world.

Any family here? No, but a former neighbor and friend, Mrs. Elizabeth Lawson, lives on West McLelland. How about a picture of the front of you? Well, Elizabeth has some snapshots of the Frazier family. Elizabeth does, indeed, and she also has word that Mrs. Frazier called after she talked with me, and told Mrs. Lawson to tell me photos of her back and front appeared in the June 3 issue of *Jet* magazine.

And indeed they do. The pictures and one page of the two-page story — "Black Woman First To Hug Queen In Centuries" — are reproduced on page 9 of this section. The headline is clarified a bit in the story by Housing and Urban Development Secretary Jack Kemp, who witnessed the historic hug: "Mrs. Frazier is the first person in the history of royalty to hug the queen, at least in public, that I can think of."

Which ought to make Prince Phillip feel slightly less unnecessary.

### Man for all seasons

Whose bread I eat his songs I sing. A lawyer worth his salt can argue either side with equal conviction.

Carl Eagle must know the feeling. An excellent math teacher at Mooresville Senior High, Carl followed the Peter principle to the central office as finance officer. He publicly retired at the end of last year, only to surface last week in the General Assembly as, according to The News and Observer of Raleigh, "a Mooresville schools consultant."

Carl was chair of the Rowan County Board of Education when it decided to consolidate with Salisbury, and he presided over the board during months of super-sensitive negotiations with the Salisbury board that led to merger. His role as consultant, lobby against proposed legislation that would deny some state funds to school systems in multi-system counties unless they showed some inclination toward giving some thought to consolidation in the interest of administrative efficiency.

He and the rest of the anguished administrators carried the day, the bill has been effectively altered.

## Town Donates \$30,000 To Habitat Operation

Mooresville's town government has joined the local Habitat for Humanity effort.

In response to a request from the Mooresville-Lake Norman Habitat for Humanity affiliate, the Mooresville Town Board voted Monday night to approve a \$30,000 donation to the program.

The money for Habitat will come from the town's Urban Development Action Grant Reimbursement fund, a pool of money generated through UDAG contributions to town developments.

The town is paid approximately \$6,500 a quarter in UDAG reimbursements and currently has more than \$40,000 in the fund. The reimbursements, which will eventually total approximately \$200,000, will continue through 1996.

According to the fund's guidelines, at least 60 percent of the money must be used to provide low and middle income housing. That makes it ideal for Habitat for Humanity use.

The local Habitat affiliate is in the organizational stages. Mayor Joe Knox said he understood the \$30,000 would be used to purchase lots — perhaps as many as eight — for future Habitat home sites.

Habitat is a home-building program designed to assist families who can't afford decent housing. Volunteers efforts, including work by the families being helped, make the Habitat program work.

In other action Monday night, the board voted to apply its new condemnation policy to two in-town properties that had already been marked for demolition.

Prior to the town's adoption of the condemnation policy, voluntary agreements for demolition had been reached with the owners of the old Center Hotel on West Moore Avenue and a residence at 325 Bruce Street.

However, at Monday's meeting, the board voted to drop those arrangements and apply the town's condemnation guidelines.

Under the voluntary agreement, the town would have to pay the costs of demolishing the properties. Under that plan, it would cost the town approximately \$3,400 to tear down and remove the old hotel and \$625 to demolish the residence.

The condemnation procedure would allow the town to bill the property owners for the demolitions if the buildings are not brought up to acceptable standards.

The board also adopted a new pool fee schedule for the War Memorial swimming pool. Under the new schedule, which was prepared and proposed by Sandy Church, superintendent of recreation, it will cost more for individuals and groups to use the public pool.

Admission fees will increase to \$1 for children and \$2 for adults. Season passes will increase from \$25 to \$40. Rental fees for private parties will also rise from \$25 to \$40 for two-hour periods. Lifeguard fees will increase from \$5 an hour to \$8 an hour.

The increase in fees is designed to help the recreation department meet the rising costs of operating and maintaining the pool.



## Stroud Named Teacher Of The Year

Melanie Stroud, who teaches resource curriculum for seventh and eighth graders at Brawley Middle School, was recently selected by the school's faculty as the "Teacher of the Year." At a reception in her honor, Stroud, right, received an engraved silver tray for her accomplishment. Jerry Fox, Brawley principal, presented the tray.

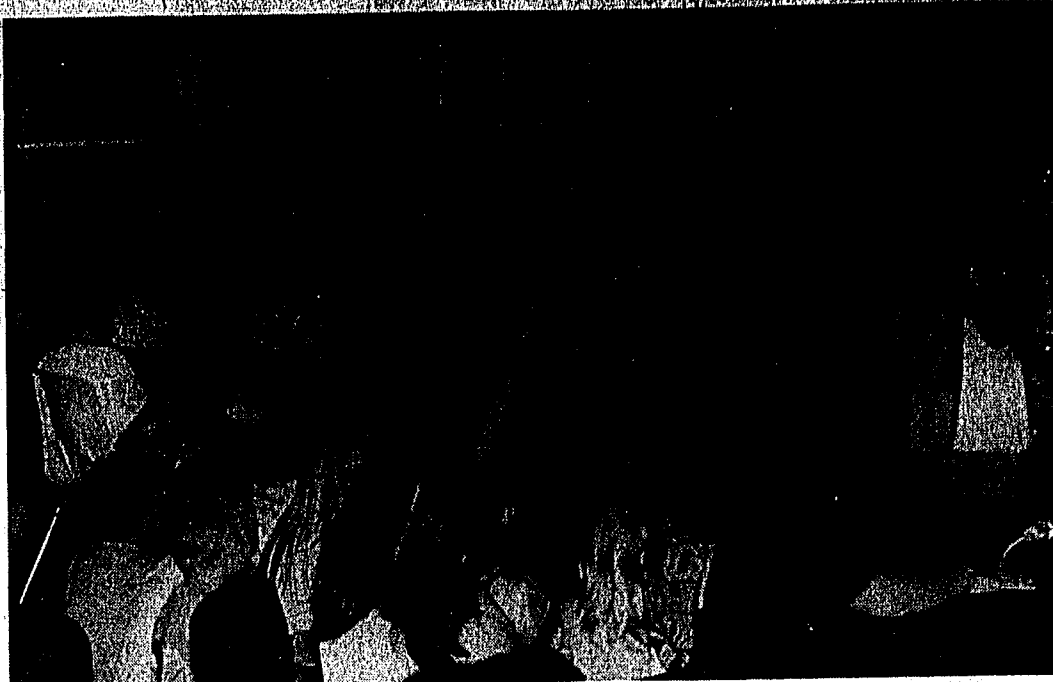
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LANDIS SALE CHINA GROVE



## Library Recruits Summer Reading Program Readers

With the lift-off of its Summer Reading Program less than three weeks away, the Mooresville Public Library has cranked up the recruiting process for participants. Jackie Cloutman, Children's Librarian, visits Shepherd Elementary School to inform the students of this year's program. Operating on an outer space theme, the program, catering to students from pre-kindergarten age through grade six, will begin June 17 and continue through Aug. 3. During the program, prizes will be awarded for various point levels achieved by the readers. Participants accumulate points based on the number of books they read. There will also be weekly drawings. Children reading 100 or more books will be honored during an end-of-the-program party, with the grand prize winner receiving a hot air balloon ride over Lake Norman. The annual Summer Reading Program is being co-sponsored by the N.C. State Library and the Morehead Planetarium, the latter which is offering special discounts and activities to participants.

## Roy Foutz Passes

Roy Pressley Foutz, 82-year-old resident of Mooresville, route 3, died June 3 at 3 a.m. at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte.

A funeral for Mr. Foutz will be conducted at 2 p.m. today (Wednesday) at Concordia Lutheran Church of China Grove, with the Rev. James B. White officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Born in Rowan County on April 19, 1909, Mr. Foutz was a son of the late James Edward and Orpha Karriker Foutz.

Educated in the Rowan County Schools, Mr. Foutz was a member of Concordia Lutheran Church.

Prior to his retirement, Mr. Foutz was engaged in textile work, being employed in the towel department of Cannon Mills in Kannapolis. He was an active gardener and in growing Christmas trees.

Surviving are: the wife, Mrs. Lillian Honeycutt Foutz; one son, Billy Foutz of Lenoir; and one sister, Mrs. Clara Moore of Landis. Three grandchildren also survive.

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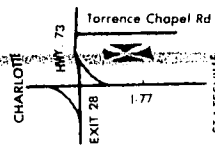


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