



Top Toastmaster Speaker

Mooreville's Alice Garaas accepts the first-place trophy from Thomas Wright, president of the Lake Norman Toastmasters Club, after her performance in the club's first International Speech Contest. The event was held at the Davidson Community Center, where the club meets each Tuesday at 7 p.m. At the contest, Larry Spangler was the chief judge and Katie Bird was the toastmaster. Cheryl Roberts was the first runner-up. As the local winner, Garaas represented the club at the area contest held in Charlotte. She was the first runner-up in that competition. The club welcomes anyone who is interested in improving their speaking, leadership and/or listening skills. For more information, contact Garaas at 664-1745 after 5:30 p.m.

Tickets On Sale Now For June Rail Trip

Tickets are now available for a special one day rail excursion covering the entire length of the scenic Great Smoky Mountains Railway June 8.

The diesel powered trip, the first of its kind on the Western North Carolina rail line in two years, will take riders across tall mountains, through the beautiful Nantahala Gorge and along the shores of Fontana Lake. The route includes several bridges and an 800 foot long tunnel.

The Great Smoky Mountains Railway is a 67-mile-long freight and excursion railway that runs from Murphy to Dillsboro.

The railroad regularly runs several short segments of the line. But only this one day excursion covers the entire length in one day.

The event will originate at Dillsboro, where participants will board a chartered bus at 7:30 a.m. for a quick ride to Murphy. The train will begin its trip there at 9 a.m. for an all-day run back to Dillsboro.

Several stops are planned, for photos for the train in the mountains, and for a barbecue lunch buffet in the Nantahala Gorge.

Arrival in Dillsboro will be approximately 8 p.m.

Tickets which are \$60 per person for the excursion and \$6 per

person for the lunch buffet, benefit the restoration of a Shay steam locomotive from Western North Carolina now at Spencer Shops, the N.C. Transportation History Museum.

To order tickets, send check or money order payable to N.C. Transportation History Corporation, PO Box 44, Spencer, 28159, ATTN: GSMR Trip. Include a stamped self-addressed envelope.

For details write or call the museum in Spencer at 704-636-2889.

The N.C. Transportation History Museum, an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, is located at 411 S. Salisbury Ave., Spencer.

Elections Set For Area FmHA

Election of Farmers Home Administration committee members will take place on June 14.

The FmHA committee assists the county office in determining the eligibility of applicants for certain types of loans.

Farmers whose principal farming operation is in Iredell County are eligible to vote, according to Robin Hampton, county supervisor.

The nominee for Iredell County FmHA county committee is William P. White.

"We will elect one committee member," Hampton said, "who will serve a three-year term."

Voting ballots are available from the FmHA county office at 201 Water Street in Statesville. Marked ballots must be received at the FmHA office by June 14.

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