



## Len Sullivan's Shucks

Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.: from the morning mail I glean reference to House Bill 1225 from Rep. Robert Brawley's weekly bill-listing newsletter: "a statewide bill allowing any local government to levy an occupancy tax up to three percent. It directs that money realized from the tax be used for travel and tourism-related projects."

Whoa! Is this what town government and the Mooresville/South Iredell Chamber of Commerce want or what!

I check the legislature's bill-status office. The bill was introduced by Rep. Joe Mavretic May 10. It's in the House Finance Committee. Because it has to do with increasing taxes it was not among proposals that died May 16 because they had not passed from the chamber in which they were introduced to the other. It is alive and well, and expected to be reported favorably out of committee.

It looks like an idea whose time has come. What motivated Mavretic? Politics being an imprecise science, who knows? The person in his office said he was in a committee meeting. I leave please-call word for him, for Brawley and for Sen. Howard Bryan. I must muddle on; deadlines wait for no man.

Hey, who knows, I say to me, maybe the Down East daddy of the General Assembly's jerrybuilt and short-lived Democrat-Republican coalition is just what the doctor ordered for Mooresville.

Remember last legislature? He built a flimsy but functional bipartisan machine that carried him to the House speaker's job. His vehicle self-destructed between sessions, but the man made his point: you want something, go for it.

In review: Brawley, who lives here, and Bryan, of Statesville, introduced separate "motel tax" bills for Mooresville. Late last week, neither was satisfactory for different reasons, and neither legislator was willing to compromise. Brawley's assigns all revenue to the town's general fund, instead of earmarking half for tourism and promotion, as requested by the town and chamber. Bryan's designates the money, but it permits a countywide occupancy tax to nullify a Mooresville tax, should county government elect to levy one. Definitely not wanted by local interests.

Mooresville wants a tourism/promotion revenue source it can depend on, one not tied to the whims of county or town commissioners.

Tuesday, 11:30 a.m.: Brawley checks in. While we're talking Bryan calls. I return ASAP.

Relax, Mooresville, the all-clear has sounded.

During the weekend the two legislators worked out their differences. Since Brawley's bill has passed the House and is in the Senate, and Bryan's bill, introduced just last week, still is in a Senate committee, their compromise bill will negotiate the legislative labyrinth as Brawley's, HB 248. The amended measure earmarks half the two percent occupancy-tax revenue for tourism and promotion, its creates a five-member authority to direct use of the money and it contains no mention of county government. It is a Mooresville bill that does what Mooresville wants done.

Both men agree that if it takes the course of unopposed local bills—that of least resistance—the "motel tax" could be law within 10 days, probably to become effective July 1.

And both point out that Mavretic's generic bill cannot be adapted to accommodate all local-government situations and probably cannot survive.

Newspapering has been called literature in a hurry. Hooboy, is it ever. Consider these type-in-haste, regret-in-leisure examples that jump out at you from the third section that was printed Monday afternoon:

"Commissioner" and "Johnson" in the travel/tourism caption; "found" should be "fought," it should be "seize-the-moment lesson," and "propheying" in the editorial; Tommy Treaday took a job in Davidson, not Cornelius, as the head says; the children in the Scrapbook photo were in Miss Winona's, not Mrs. Winona's, class.

I'm crazy about comics, except "Kudzu," wooden and one-dimensional, and "Cathy," way too wordy. Never followed a story line, though, like "Luann's." For the past week, two girls the same age have been walking home from school, one bragging about her first period and the other, enviously.

## McKendree Supper To Help Family Pay Medical Bills

An upcoming event at McKendree Chapel United Methodist Church is being held to help a local family deal with the burden of mounting medical expenses.

The benefit supper at the church will be held June 1 starting at 5 p.m. All proceeds from the meal will be donated to the Kelly Hobbs family.

Hobbs, 31, was critically injured in an automobile accident four months ago. The resident of Chuckwood Road in Mooresville has undergone extensive treatment costing more than the insurance will pay.

In the accident, Hobbs sustained extensive head injuries and several broken bones. In the days after the accident, he underwent operations for the head injuries and for his broken right leg.

Hobbs was in the Trauma Unit at Carolinas Medical Center for two weeks, in the Progressive Intensive Care Unit for two weeks and then moved to the Neurosurgical Care Unit.

He was recently transported from Carolinas Medical Center to the Charlotte Rehabilitation Hospital.

Hobbs remains in a coma. The church-sponsored supper is being held to raise money to help the Hobbs family handle the soaring medical bills.

Donations will be accepted for the meal, which will include pinto beans, onions, cole slaw, cornbread, cake and a beverage.

McKendree Chapel is located on McKendree Road off Brawley School Road in the Mayhewtown

community. The public is urged to attend.

## Fun-Filled Saturday At Morrows

Saturday will be a fun-filled fundraising day at Morrows Chapel United Methodist Church.

A yard sale and meal will be among the festivities at the church, starting at 10 a.m.

Hot fish, cooked the old-fashioned way in a black pot, will be available as will cold drinks. And the yard sale will feature a variety of items.

Also for the enjoyment of participants, horseshoe pitching and softball games will be held.

The public is urged to attend the event at Morrows Chapel, which is located on Brawley School Road.

## Bloodmobile At Centenary Set This Sunday

This will definitely be a Sunday designed for giving at Centenary United Methodist Church.

On May 28, the church's youth groups will host a bloodmobile visit from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The bloodmobile collection operation will be set up at the church and all blood donors — veterans and first-timers — are urged to participate.

# Mooresville Tribune

"Although I Disagree With Everything You Say I Will Defend Unto Death Your Right To Say It"

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## South Students Big Winners In Combined Project

Two South Elementary School students were big winners in a unique project at the school. Morgan Arnold, front left, and Casey Smith won bicycles and safety helmets as rewards for their pace-setting efforts in the Lowes/Apply Computer project. Lowes and Apple sponsor a program that allows schools to use Lowes Foods register tape to "purchase" computers and computer equipment. At South, an in-house contest was added to see which students could turn in the most register tape. Arnold and Smith were the winners and they received Cool Breeze Cyclery bicycles and safety helmets purchased and donated by local chiropractors, Dr. Mack H. King, Dr. Robert Leslie and Dr. John Redden. The project at South was supervised by parent volunteer Debbie King. Taking part in the award presentation, in addition to the winners, are, from left, Jeff Arnold of Cool Breeze Cyclery, D. King, M. King, Leslie, Redden, Mike Greene of Lowes, and Pam Aman, principal at South.

# Marlboro



17 mg. "tar," 1.2 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method.

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