

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

On the Inside . . .

Now everybody wants
wood stove . . . Page 6

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2 Suspects Held For Armed Theft

Two Buncombe County suspects, charged with armed robbery, are in the Madison County jail in lieu of \$10,000 bond, Sheriff Ponder stated Tuesday morning.

Quick notification of law officers by a rural storekeeper resulted in the speedy arrest of the suspects. Ponder identified the suspects as Phillip Allen Stewart, 17, of Georgetown Trailer Park, Leicester and his sister, Regina Gail Duncan, 21, of 10 Cloverleaf Trailer Park, Oakley.

A preliminary hearing is scheduled for March 9 in district court here.

Mrs. Frank Maney, 78, told officers that her store, located near the old Beech Glen post office, was entered about 3:40 p.m. and a man, armed

with a pocket knife, told her to give up her money. She reportedly attempted to pick up a hot file from a stove in the store to fight him off, but that he quickly took \$202 in cash and fled.

Two girls in front of the store saw the suspects ride off in a car that had two children in it. A description of the vehicle was relayed to officers in Tennessee, Buncombe County and the State Highway Patrol, Ponder said.

Trooper A. L. Cooper heard the information while his patrol car was parked at the Buncombe-Madison line and saw the vehicle coming by at the time. Cooper and Trooper Bobby Grayson pulled the car over, Ponder said, and shortly afterwards

The children were turned over to their grandparents.



BLUE RIDGE SHOE CO. officials headed the open house observance at the Hot Springs plant last Saturday when hundreds of visitors were taken on guided tours through the huge plant. Shown, left to right, Doyle Walsh,

chief plant engineer; Ben Byrd, plant manager; Roger McGrady, vice president of manufacturing services; and John DeWitt, vice president and general manager. (Photo by Jim Story)

FHA Funds Available For House Repairs

Farmers Home Administration, the United States Department of Agriculture's rural credit agency, has funds available to help low income families of Madison County to repair their owner occupied dwellings.

These loan funds are available at one percent to remove health and safety hazards on homes of low income families in rural areas and towns of under 10,000 population. These loans are made to individuals whose income is not sufficient to qualify for a regular FmHA 502 rural housing loan. The maximum funds available to an applicant family is \$5,000. To those eligible applicants who are 62 years of age or older, who can only repay a portion of the total cost of the needed repairs, a grant may be authorized. However, maximum loan and grant combination can not exceed \$5,000. Grant recipients, however, must agree in writing to maintain ownership for three years or repay the amount of the grant is the dwelling is sold within three years after grant funds are advanced.

Loan and grant funds may be used for repairs and improvements including but not limited to: (1) repairing roofs; (2) screens, storm windows and doors, insulation and needed heating system for the dwelling; (3) repair structural supports; and (4) providing sanitary water and waste disposal system.

More information may be obtained from the Farmers Home Administration county office located in the Wachovia Bank Building in Marshall. Interested applicants are encouraged to visit the county office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Electric Bills

Cold Weather Makes Them Higher Than Ever, Says EMC Manager Tolley

Charles Tolley, general manager of French Broad Electric Membership Corporation, has issued the following statement regarding the high cost of electricity and asks everyone to conserve electricity in every way possible.

Tolley's complete statement follows:

"You have probably just received or will be receiving, in the next few days, what is probably the highest electric bill you have ever received. If you will look at the KWH usage, you will probably see that you have used more than you have ever used before. The reason for this is the recent cold weather we have been

experiencing.

Your children have been out of school and at home. You have cooked more meals, used more hot water, washed more clothes, and have been forced to stay inside the largest percentage of time; all of which means your usage of electricity has greatly increased. Also, the cost of electricity is higher than it has ever been.

Everywhere we turn we are coached, prodded, and begged to conserve energy. Our governor and our President have pleaded with you and me, the American public, to conserve energy and yet we refuse to do so.

President Carter, in a recently televised speech, states that he plans to establish a National Energy Policy by April 20 and he predicts that the policy would, and I quote "require substantial sacrifice by the American public." This substantial sacrifice can mean only one thing, and that is, higher prices for electricity, fuel oil, gasoline, natural gas and coal.

The theory behind all of this, I believe, is that, if we will not

voluntarily conserve energy, our government will allow its prices to go so high that we will not be able to afford to use the quantities we are now using. I, as your manager, cannot change that and no one else as your manager could change that. Your board of directors cannot change it.

There is only one person and one group of people who can lower your power bill and that person is you, and that group of people is your household. If you do not cut back on the usage of electricity, you can expect to pay even higher and higher prices.

In the Bible, there was a King named Belshazzar who one night saw a handwriting on the wall of his palace. The king could not read the writing and asked a man named Daniel to interpret the writing for him. I am not a Daniel. I am merely an ordinary person as you are, but if you cannot read the writing on the wall, I will read it for you.

Take your most recent power bill and multiply it by two — yes! Double it! In the next three to five years, that is what you will be paying for the

same amount of electricity you have used today.

Our newsletter has repeatedly urged you to conserve energy. We have explained to you ways it can be done.

Over 65 cents out of every dollar French Broad EMC takes in, goes directly to Carolina Power and Light Company for electricity. The other 35 cents maintains 2,500 miles of line, pays 91 employees, operates over 30 vehicles, and completely covers our entire operation. I don't think you can find a power company anywhere that does any better with the exception of TVA Power which we cannot buy or use by federal law.

The employees of French Broad Electric are your friends and neighbors. They

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ONE OF THE MANY assembly lines in the Blue Ridge Shoe Company's plant at Hot Springs pictured during open house last Saturday. The huge plant makes about 160 pairs of shoes per day

with some 140-150 processes. Some 165 persons are now employed with expectation of employing about 250 persons in 1977. (Photo by Jim Story)

Bloodmobile To Visit March 4

The Red Cross Bloodmobile returns to Marshall on March 4 at the Marshall Community Center from 1:30-4 p.m. and both regular and first-time donors are encouraged to respond.

"Blood demands climb every year but only about three percent of the population donate," Sam Dickinson of the Asheville Regional Red Cross Blood Center said. "It is vital for the ill and hospitalized of our community that regular donors continue to support the program and that more donors be recruited."

Citing as examples of the increased need for blood, Dickinson said that use of whole blood had seen a steady increase every year, more blood derivatives were being developed and used by the medical profession, and surgery techniques were being expanded. "Many of our county residents have undergone open-heart surgery. There has been a significant increase in such operations since last year, and Red Cross provides all blood for such surgery, wherever performed."

"Blood has taken its place as an important hospital resource and medicine," Dickinson said, "and only people can provide it. I encourage everyone to support the Red Cross Bloodmobile when it visits our county."



PICTURED ABOVE are the Madison County 4-H club leaders who attended the annual awards banquet in their honor at the Ivy Steak & Fish House Thursday night. Awards were presented from the agricultural extension service in appreciation for their assistance with 4-H throughout the past year. Those receiving highest awards were Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Barnett, gold pin for 10

years of service and Mrs. Nan Wise, gold pin for 10 years of service. In addition, Mrs. Wise was presented a silver plaque for being selected most outstanding leader for the year. The banquet was sponsored by Ledford Enterprises, Teague Milling Company, French Broad Chevrolet and Farm Bureau Insurance Company.

Civil District Court Starts Monday

The March term of District Court will begin here Monday with Judge J. Ray Braswell

presiding. Court will convene at 9:30 o'clock.

Cases scheduled to be heard follow:

Mary Davidson, plaintiff, vs. Ernest Davidson, defendant.

In re-Custody of David Scott Payne and Anthony Payne, Norman D. Payne, petitioner, vs. Barbara B. Payne, Respondent.

Velma Gosnell, plaintiff, vs. Marion Gosnell, defendant.

Kathleen B. Robinson, et al plaintiff, vs. Glenn Roberts, et ux, defendants.

Joseph Fisher Cutshall, plaintiff, vs. William Cutshall Jr., defendant.

Rosa Lee Hensley Roberts

plaintiff, vs. Jackie Gene Roberts, defendant.

Barbara B. Payne, plaintiff vs. Norman D. Payne, defendant.

Douglas M. Sawyer, plaintiff, vs. Michael Leonard Williams, defendant.

Joseph B. Huff, plaintiff, vs. J. D. Howell, defendant.

Doyle Buckner, plaintiff, vs. Ruby S. Buckner, defendant.

Jarvis B. Treadway, plaintiff, vs. David Treadway, defendant.

Edward B. Krause, Adm., plaintiff, vs. Jeanette Hagan, et al, defendants.

JURORS

Jurors drawn for the term follow:

Sylvia Brooks Finley, Mrs. Edith W. Lunsford, Eugenia M. Whitt, Hilliard King, Nell D. Gillis, Roger Dale Pender, Levi Ponder, Nannie Caldwell Cogdill, Clate Grindstaff, Carter Matthew Parks,

Mallie A. Roberts, Mallie J. Hensley, Edna May Justice, Julie M. Khodyar, Mary Wood Woody, J. Winson Rice, Lena Wilds, Brenda Berfield Joyner, Levi B. Buckner Jr., Judy Edwards Wallin.

Robert A. Morrow, Wade Buckner, James Edward Kent, Edena Waldrop Sexton, Wanda Gail Jarvis, Eulala Rice, Altha Foster, Robert Shook, Charles Daniel Leatherman, Glen W. Walker, Wayne O. English, Jerlene S. Lewis, Carl Eller, Harold Wesley Brown, Claude Run-

nion, Joyce Gaylor Frederick, Annie Green Balding, Oscar McDevitt, John Wesley Ball, Linda Bailey,

Elizabeth G. Holcombe, Jack Swanger, Ethel Shelton, Gordon Allen Ball, Betty Gregory Ammons, Janice Evon Bailey, Willard Ball, Zaida Metcalf, Atha M. Lewis, Jane Viola Sawyer

Time To Vote Now In Burley Referendum

The burley tobacco referendum is now in progress in burley areas, Feb. 22 through Feb. 25 is the scheduled voting period. If two-thirds of the farmers vote in favor of marketing quota controls, poundage will be in effect for the next three crop years — 1977-79.

The provisions of the program will be the same as in effect for 1974 through 1976. Farmers undermarketing their effective quota in 1976 will be able to carry those pounds to 1977. Likewise, those overmarketing their 1976 quota will have those pounds subtracted from their 1977 quota.

Farm operators, owners, tenants and sharecroppers

who produced tobacco in 1976 are eligible to vote in this referendum. Ballots have been mailed to all known eligible voters but Bill Zink, executive director of the ASCS, urges any operator-owner who is eligible but did not receive a ballot to come in or call and request that one be issued. If a tenant or sharecropper did not receive a ballot, the farm operator or owner should call the ASCS office and request that the tenant be issued a ballot.

Zink reminded voters that ballots returned by mail must be postmarked on or before Feb. 25. Ballots returned in person must be received by close of business, 5 p.m., Feb. 25.