

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

76th Year No. 10

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE COUNTY SEAT AT MARSHALL, N.C.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1977

15¢ Per Copy

On the inside . . .
Farmers vote in favor
of burley tobacco
program . . . Page 8

Road Money Under Siege

Madison County will lose over a third of a million dollars a year if the state's large Piedmont counties are able to convince the General Assembly to change present formulas for allocating money for secondary road improvements to counties.

Under the present formula being used, Madison would get \$682,000 this year. If legislators agree to the change wanted by the state's largest counties, Haywood would get only \$305,000 — a loss of \$231,000. Allocations annually are expected to run in that range.

Rep. Ernest Messer and Rep. Liston Ramsey are helping research the effect of the proposed change and are informing legislators across the state about the plight in which mountain counties would find themselves. Presently, secondary road funds are allocated by the state on a formula incorporating the mileage of unpaved roads and the cost of construction. It gives mountain counties a break, because the cost of building roads here is much higher than it is elsewhere across the state.

The formula being proposed would consider only the number of miles of paved secondary roads. That would favor Piedmont and Eastern counties where most secondary roads are already paved and where construction costs are lower. It would mean they would get more money to maintain existing roads while

Mountain counties would lose money they are counting on both to maintain existing roads and to pave others for the first time. The 44th House District, served by Messer and Ramsey, for example, would get \$1,008,000 a year less than they are now receiving if the proposal goes through. Haywood's allocation this year under the formula now in effect is \$477,000. If the proposal advanced by a member of the Mecklenburg delegation and supported by delegations in large counties is adopted, Haywood would get only \$246,000.

Jackson County's allocation under the present formula is \$584,000. Under the new formula it would be \$263,000. Swain County's allocation now is \$170,000; under the new formula it would be \$101,000. Mecklenburg County gets \$133,000 under the present formula and would get \$375,000 under the new formula. Forsyth gets \$262,000 now and would get \$404,000.



TIMOTHY CHANDLER



KENNETH BISHOP



CHARRED remains of the 1968 Nova in which the bodies of Kenneth H. Bishop, 18, and Timothy Chandler, 17, Madison

High School seniors, were found fatally burned early Sunday morning on Skyway Drive in Marshall. (Staff Photo)

2 Madison High Youths Fatally Burned In Car

Two popular Madison High School seniors were found dead early Sunday morning in a burned car on Skyway Drive off the Marshall by-pass. The victims were Kenneth H. Bishop, 18, and Timothy "Tim" Chandler, 17, both of Route 2, Marshall (Ivy Hill Section). Sheriff Ponder stated that the two were last seen alive by friends about 11:30 p.m. Saturday night on the Marshall by-pass. Marshall firemen were notified that a car was on fire on Skyway Drive at 1:45 a.m. Sunday. Seven firemen and two fire trucks went to the scene where they found a 1968

Chevrolet Nova engulfed in flames. Inside the burning inferno were the charred remains of Bishop and Chandler. Further investigation revealed that Chandler's body was found under the steering wheel and Bishop's body was beside Chandler's. It was stated that the car belonged to Chandler's mother. It was speculated that Chandler drove the car off the side of the road in a slight curve and that the two, who were close friends, may have fallen asleep with the car's

motor running and that they may have suffocated before the car caught fire. Ponder said that the cause of the fire was unknown, but the car had reportedly caught fire earlier in the week. One relative speculated that the two boys could have been listening to the tape recorder in the car and fell asleep. It is doubtful that the exact cause of the tragic fire or the circumstances of the tragedy will ever be known. Both young victims were highly respected by classmates and school of-

ficials. Both boys had participated in athletics during their high school years. Recently, both of the young men had joined the Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church. **FUNERALS WEDNESDAY** Funeral services for both victims were held at two o'clock Wednesday at the Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church. The Rev. J. B. Rhinehart, the Rev. Mack Revis and the Rev. Larry Coates officiated. Burial was in the Mt. Zion Cemetery. Classmates were pallbearers.

The Bishop survivors are the mother, Virginia Bishop; and the grandmother, Mrs. Mary Lee Bishop, both of Route 2, Marshall. The Chandler survivors include the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Chandler, Route 2, Marshall; one sister, Mrs. Teresa Sharp of Mars Hill; the paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Patterson Chandler, Route 2, Marshall; and the maternal grandmother, Mrs. Faye Norton, of Route 2, Marshall. Bowman Funeral Home was in charge.

Mars Hill College Dormitory Destroyed By Fire Last Week

By JIM STORY

Treat Hall, the 71-year-old building on the Mars Hill campus was gutted by flames early Wednesday morning of last week despite efforts of Mars Hill and Weaverville firemen to extinguish the fire. Fortunately, no students were living in the dormitory although the 26-room wooden structure was furnished with each room containing 2 beds, 2 mattresses, 2 chairs, a chest of

drawers, a dresser and a desk. The origin of the fire is undetermined, but college officials suspect arson and an investigation was ordered by the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation. College officials stated that the large building, one of the few landmarks on the beautiful campus, was officially valued at \$150,000 but was insured for only \$50,000. The dormitory was destined for demolition, located on the spot chosen by the college, for

a new administrative building. The fire was spotted by two college security guards and an infirmary nurse who notified the Mars Hill Fire Department. Bill Zink Jr., a captain in the department, stated that the alarm was received about 2:30 Wednesday morning and firemen arrived at the scene minutes later with 3 fire trucks and 18 firemen. "When we arrived the blaze was entrenched in the interior of the building," Zink said.

No students have lived in the three-story structure since January, David D. Gehring, dean of student development, stated. "The building was being remodeled for use as an administrative building until a new administrative building can be financed. The remodeling began a few days ago," Gehring said. "The firemen should be applauded for doing such a fine job under trying circumstances," Gehring said. Flames from the burning building were visible several miles away, and smoke from the fire could be seen from 10 miles away.



TREAT HALL, the 71-year-old dormitory on the Mars Hill College campus, was gutted by fire early Wednesday morning of last week. No students were residing in the wooden structure

at the time of the fire. Top picture shows front of the building following fire. Bottom picture shows charred remains on one side of the building. (Photo by Jim Story)

Tolley To Chair Drive

Charles R. Tolley of Walnut has been named chairman of the annual drive for funds which is to begin April 1 for the Madison County unit of the American Cancer Society. Tolley is manager of the French Broad Electric Corporation, serves as scoutmaster for the Marshall troop, a member of the Marshall Lions Club, the Walnut Presbyterian Church and is active in many civic endeavors. He is married to the former Miss Sandra Landers and they have a daughter, Caroline Leigh. Officers of the Madison County unit are Mrs. George B. Shupe, president; Mrs. Tom Wallin, vice president; Mrs. E. O. Burnette, secretary; and Miss Pat Fisher, treasurer. Other officials include Rickey McDevitt and Jerry Plemmons, special events; Mrs. Nancy Wilde, educational director; Mrs. Faye Ramsey, services chairman; Mrs. Ernestine Plemmons, publicity chairman; and Mrs. Retha Ward, immediate past president. Recently named to the board of directors are Mrs. Ellen Coomer, Mrs. Dale Panaro, Dr. Reese Steen, Dr. J. Bates Henderson, Dr. Stephen McHatton, Mrs. David Wyatt, Dr. Robert Adams, Mrs. Elizabeth Clayton, Mrs. Hana Suttles, Bill Phillips, Mrs. Grover Gossell, Mrs. J. Leonard Baker, Mrs. Garret Sprinkle, Mrs. Lib Roberts, Miss Ina Henderson, Dr. Edward Kelley, Mrs. Fred Beatty, Jimmy Baker and Quentin Ramsey. Captain in the following committee who will be soliciting funds are Mrs. Juanita Adcock, (Mrs. Leland), Mrs. Bob Clark, Greater Ivy, Mrs. Ellen

Mars Hill Gets \$55,516 To Assist 8 Social Agencies

A \$55,516 grant has been awarded Mars Hill College to assist eight different social agencies in Madison and Yancey counties in their efforts to help individuals, families and communities become self-sufficient. The Title XX, Social Security Act grant is from the Division of Social Services of the N. C. Department of Human Resources. It is to implement a flexible training program designed last year around the needs of other agencies and their workers. College faculty will work with a training advisory committee composed of representatives of the eight Title XX agencies. They are Polly Taylor of the Yancey County Health Department, Kathy Lee of the Yancey County Social Services Department, Walter Anderson of the Adult Day Activities Program (ADAP) in Yancey County, Alice Maly of the

Mars Hill Handi-School, Theresa Zimmerman of the Madison County Department of Social Services, Frank Herbert of the Hot Springs Health Program, Laurie Thomsen of the Hot Springs Unaka Center (an adult day activities project), and Judy Sears of the Madison Care Day Care program. The new program was designed around the needs of workers in rural Madison and Yancey counties with the workers' full participation. "Most training programs in use are based on urban models," said Fay Walker, director of the project whose lengthy title is workshops and degree oriented training for presently employed Title XX service providers in Madison and Yancey counties. "This type of specialized training for rural workers has seldom been tried," she said. The first half of the two-part program is an academic

degree program. Mars Hill College is one of two institutions in Western North Carolina that offers a bachelor of social work degree, included in the evening education program. Stipends and tuition are available to currently employed Title XX workers in Madison and Yancey counties who wish to enroll in the BSW program. The second part of the project consists of extensive in-service training. This half is directed by Dore Hessel, a social worker for a number of years in Florida who moved to Madison County two years ago. She conducts workshops in each agency every month and then follows up the workshops with an additional meeting each month. The workshops cover areas such as interview procedures, self-assessment, problem solving, and

Phillip Briggs, fire chief, notified the Weaverville Fire Department which responded with 2 trucks and 12 firemen. Firemen brought the fire under control about 6 a.m., despite freezing conditions. Zink said that firemen remained until about 9:30 a.m. with at least two firemen remaining on the scene all day. Mars Hill firemen pumped about 1,300 gallons of water per minute on the burning building for 2 hours. Through these efforts, the entire building was not destroyed. No students have lived in the three-story structure since January, David D. Gehring, dean of student development, stated. "The building was being remodeled for use as an administrative building until a new administrative building can be financed. The remodeling began a few days ago," Gehring said. "The firemen should be applauded for doing such a fine job under trying circumstances," Gehring said. Flames from the burning building were visible several miles away, and smoke from the fire could be seen from 10 miles away. Mars Hill College Information Director Walter Smith said the building was not being used for housing, but that its loss will cost the school housing space. Use of buildings on campus will have to be shuffled to make up for the loss of the old building. The building was erected in 1906 and named for M. C. Treat, the man who gave the first endowment money to the college. It housed co-eds until December and was used in January to house exchange students from another college, Gehring said.

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued on Page 8)