

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

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Baseball-it's tough
without a field!
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LOUIE A. ZIMMERMAN, left, is shown above receiving the deed for the Laurel Medical Center Building Committee from H.W. Cook, right, seller of the property on which the new 2200 square foot

facility will be located. This up-to-date facility will be located at the cross-roads of the total Laurel community, being fully accessible from N.C. Highways 208, 212, and 1319.

Laurel Medical Center Progress Being Made

In a new development the Laurel Medical Center finance committee held a meeting at Laurel School, Monday night to review the progress of the fund drive. The original goal of \$10,000 is over 90 percent complete with pledges sufficient to complete this amount. However the community share of \$28,911 for the 20 percent matching share has not been achieved, leaving an over all goal yet to

be realized. The Appalachian Regional Commission is contributing the other 80 percent of the \$144,555 total expenditure.

Eight memorial gifts of \$500 or more have been purchased and four more are in the process of being secured. These will be displayed in a conspicuous place in the center.

The architect for the project is Taylor Barnhill. He

reported to the building committee on the progress of sight development plans.

The finance committee wishes to extend a hearty note of thanks for the support given to the project by the patrons and volunteer workers. Anyone wishing to donate to the project is invited to contact Mrs. Helen Shelton, treasurer, Route 3, Marshall 28753.

GOP Convention Here Saturday

The Madison County Republican County Convention will be held this Saturday at 2 p.m. in the Madison County courthouse.

All registered Republicans in Madison County are encouraged to attend. Each precinct chairman should bring a list of precinct officers to this meeting, it is requested.

The convention will elect officers of the Madison County Republican Executive Committee and will also select delegates to the 1979 District and State Convention.

The District Convention will be held in Franklin on April 28.

It was also announced that a Lincoln Day Dinner will be held this Saturday at 7:30 at the Greek Community Center in North Asheville. Congressman Campbell, of South Carolina, will be the guest speaker.

All county Republicans are invited to attend.

Blood Donors Give 87 Pints

A total of 87 pints of blood was received by the bloodmobile on its visit to Marshall last Friday, it was reported.

54 of the 87 pints were donated by students at Madison High School, Tom Wallin, Driver Education instructor, who helped coordinate the effort, announced.

"This was the largest response by students who should be proud of their worthwhile support of a much needed drive for blood donations," Wallin stated.

Meals, Transportation Top Elderly's Needs

A small group of people met March 5 at a public hearing at the HUD building in Marshall. After considerable discussion concerning the primary needs of the aging in Madison County, the group agreed that there are eight high areas of need in the county.

These needs are listed in order of priority:

1. Maintenance of 140 to 250 meals served five days a week in the nutrition program
2. Transportation

3. Expansion of congregate meal sites
4. Home delivered meals
5. Medical assistance
6. Housing
7. Telephone reassurance — home visits
8. Responsibility for the administration of the nutrition and transportation programs for the elderly

The meeting was conducted by Joan Tuttle, the administrator of the Land-of-Sky Region B Council on

Aging program, and Lucille Burnette, chair person of the Madison County Council on Aging.

According to Tuttle, only 20-25 people, most of whom are members of the Council on Aging, attended the meeting. Tuttle said that this is regrettable since those people who attend must represent those who do not. The decisions that were made at this meeting will determine

how the resources allocated to Madison County are used, Tuttle said.

However, the attendance at the Madison County was not lower than that of other counties, Tuttle said. In view of the deciding role which the participants are assigned, she did know the reason for low attendance but guessed that lack of transportation may have been a factor.

According to projections

made from the 1970 census by the North Carolina Division of Aging there are approximately 3400 people aged 60 or over in the county. The elderly represent about 22 percent of the entire population.

Other serious problems that were cited at the meeting include financial problems, psychological stress, low self-esteem, substandard housing, and serious illness.

Speaker Liston?

Only Major Upset Can Stop Ramsey Now

By ERNEST MESSER

Ninety-six members of the House attended a rally at the Angus Barn last Wednesday in support of Rep. Liston Ramsey's candidacy for Speaker of the House in 1981-82 virtually assuring him of election to the speaker's position. Six House members who couldn't attend because of schedule conflicts sent their regrets but pledged their support to Liston.

Only a major upheaval in next year's elections can deny the speakership to Liston.

Newspaper reports last week that Lt. Gov. Jimmy Green might join the Republican party and run for governor in 1980 on the Republican ticket brought offers of help from several Republican leaders, the most notable being Sen. Jesse Helms.

On Thursday, Lt. Gov. Green issued a press release denying such intentions. In his press release, he said: "I have been a Democrat all my life. As a matter of fact, I am a fourth or fifth generation Democrat and the events and circumstances of recent days have done nothing to change my political position."

He concluded his statement by saying "...it is my intention to run for governor or for re-election as lieutenant governor in 1980."

While Speaker Carl Stewart has made no official an-



REP. LISTON RAMSEY (D-Madison) shakes hands with Gov. Jim Hunt after Ramsey's swearing-in ceremony to the Advisory Budget Commission on

March 8, in the House Chambers of the Capitol. Rep. Ramsey was appointed to the Commission by Gov. Hunt.

ouncement, indications are that he is already running for lieutenant governor.

Gov. James Hunt is a sure bet to be a candidate for re-election for governor in 1980.

During the past few weeks, the governor has been holding a series of legislator-citizen

meetings at the governor's mansion.

He invites the legislators from a region, together with a number of leading political figures from the same region, to meet at the mansion for dinner.

Times Theatre Clean-up On Saturday

The Madison County Arts Council will be holding a general clean-up of the Times Theatre in Hot Springs this Saturday, if you are a member of the Arts Council or are willing to help please report to the theatre at 10 a.m.

All of the following items will be needed for the clean-up: mops, buckets, rags, old brooms, cleaning soaps, garden hose, and flat shovels.

Please call Erad Stevens (623-7181) or Dave Shafer (623-2222) co-ordinators of the clean-up, if you can loan some of this equipment or can work. All help will be appreciated.



PLASTIC WALL, beside the First Union Bank protects the workmen regardless of the weather, as they remodel the structure on

Main Street in Marshall. Rapid progress is being made on the project. (Photo by Jim Story)

Recreation/Citizens' Views Sought

A meeting was held March 8 in the Mars Hill elementary school to determine the recreational needs and problems of the community.

The discussion was conducted by Kevin Mortly, the Madison County recreation director. Morley, who is a five week novice to the job, is soliciting information and suggestions from the people in the county to develop a comprehensive recreation program.

According to Mortly, his job at this point is to learn. "Every area has a difference set of needs and goals," he said.

In his opening remarks Morley stressed the importance of both physical and mental health. According to him, the recreation department is interested in developing not only sports activities but also art, music, and dance. "Recreation covers more than athletics,"

he said. The attendance at the second of eight meetings around the county was small. Only six people (all adults) attended. Morley said that he had anticipated a small turnout at Mars Hill because the city already has a good program.

Most of the people who attended the meeting were directly involved with the summer softball program. One man suggested that all men's and women's games be played on Blannahasset Island in Marshall. He said that the island would make an excellent location for county activities every night during the summer because of its central location within the county and because it is sandy and dries quickly after a rain.

The main discussion concerned the need for trained umpires. According to one man, problems developed last

year because some umpires did not show up for the games and others did not know the rules. He said that umpires were needed who could maintain control of the game and the players to prevent the incidents of bad sportsmanship which were prevalent last year.

There was a suggestion that the spectators be charged a small admission fee (25 cents) to the games. This

proposal was countered by the suggestion to develop "an effective concession stand" as a means of making money.

The first meeting was held at Ebbs Chapel March 6. Morley said that 30 to 25 people participated. The upcoming softball season was a main topic there, also.

The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. March 9 at the Hot Springs grammar school.

At Greater Ivy, Laurel

People of all ages are urged to attend a discussion of recreation. The fourth of eight meetings around the county will be held at the Greater Ivy Community Center on Thursday March 15, at 7:00 p.m. Kevin Morley, recreation director, has planned the meeting to give

citizens a chance to express their views on recreation in Madison County.

LAUREL AREA The Laurel area recreation meeting will be held at the Laurel School on the night of March 20 at 7:00 p.m. It will be the fifth of eight meetings around the county.