

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

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700 Attend Clog,
Blue Grass Festival

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Democrats At Meet Back School Bonds



BOARD OF EDUCATION members are shown above as they took the oaths of office in the courtroom here Monday morning. From left to right, Edward Gentry, Gerald

Young, Floyd Wallin, Bobby Ponder and Dwight Cody. At far right is William "Bill" Roberts, former member of the board, who administered the oaths.

Approximately 100 Madison County Democrats attended a meeting last Thursday night at the courthouse here when the upcoming school bond referendum was discussed.

The meeting was encouraged by W.T. Moore, chairman of the Madison County Democratic Executive Committee, who had publicly invited all Democrats to attend the meeting at which time both the pros and cons of the referendum would be aired and to decide "what is best for our county as well as our party."

R.L. Edwards, superintendent, presided and explained the situations of the various schools in the county as to the urgent need for repairs. He went into detail about the proposed \$2.5 million school bond issue, most of it, if approved, would go toward a new Marshall-Walnut elementary school.

The effort to build a new Marshall-Walnut school has been discussed for years in order to get the children off the flood-prone island. Also in the minds of the people is the condition of the present facilities on the island. Many persons believe that the facilities are unsafe from a structural viewpoint as well as the dangers of high waters and flooding.

Following the discussion by Edwards he opened the meeting to questions.

When few people responded, Edwards said with a smile, he didn't know he had explained it so fully and successfully.

W.T. "Bill" Moore told of the situation at the Spring Creek school in regard to the dwindling school attendance and the reduction of teachers. He stated that he was "100 percent" in favor of the school bond referendum and said that the Spring Creek school needed repairs and certainly he would welcome funds as would all the citizens of the area.

He caused the audience to laugh when he remarked that "what we need more than money for repairs to the ancient school building however, is more children so the school attendance could increase." He also stated that he was afraid that eventually the Spring Creek School would be forced to close or be consolidated, perhaps with Hot Springs. He further pointed out the urgent need for better roads in the Spring Creek area and said it was a shame the school children had to be bussed on the present narrow and dangerous roads.

Dr. Don Anderson, a member of the board of education who will not be on the board after April 2, said he was not in favor of the consolidation of Spring Creek and Hot Springs schools. "The Spring Creek school is vital to that area and its elimination would greatly impair the entire section and its activities," Anderson commented.

Zeno Ponder mentioned the role the Mars Hill residents should have in the upcoming referendum and also spoke briefly about the need for better roads for school buses in the county, especially in the Spring Creek area. He

urged citizens throughout the county to support the bond issue and stated that all sections of the county should cooperate in the progress of other sections other than their individual section.

William "Bill" Roberts spoke briefly about the need to have a new Marshall-Walnut elementary school so the children could be "taken off the island as soon as possible." He told of the past floods and near-floods which have made it necessary to miss countless days of school when high waters "filled the island".

Bert King, Asheville architect, was present and told the audience of the condition of the Marshall school and indicated that the school which had been inspected by state officials, was in worse physical condition than some of the Buncombe schools which have been declared as unsafe.

He said that no architectural drawings have been made of the proposed Marshall-Walnut school but this would be done immediately if the bond election is approved.

school would be located, Edwards told of the several sites which had been explored but the exact site has not been officially made.

Moore asked those present to raise their hands if they were in favor of and would support the school bond referendum. Practically everyone present raised their hand. A few didn't "vote" either way but no one raised their hand that they were opposed to the \$2.5 million school bond referendum.

The referendum is scheduled to be held on June 12.

Asked where the proposed



R.L. EDWARDS, superintendent, is shown discussing the \$2.5 million school bond referendum at a meeting of county Democrats held last Thursday night in the courtroom here. Facing camera, left to right, Debbie Ponder, W.T. "Bill" Moore, Zeno Ponder,

Edwards, and Bert King, architect. Approximately 100 attended the meeting. Those present overwhelmingly expressed their approval of the referendum which will be held June 12. (Photo by Jim Story)

Our Bug Problem

Ticks Cause More Diseases In North Carolina

The number one disease-bearing bug problem in North Carolina is the American dog tick. This tick carries Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and, despite its name, North Carolina leads the nation in incidences of the disease.

In 1978 there were over 200 cases of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever resulting in two deaths. Most of the cases occurred in the Piedmont section of the state.

According to Tom Blalock, state entomologist, with the Division of Health Services, N.C. Department of Human Resources, there are many ticks in North Carolina and the height of the tick season is

April through October. Ticks live on the blood of warm blooded creatures and humans are not the only target — dogs, cats, raccoons, deer, horses, cows and birds are also meal tickets for ticks.

"Ticks tend to congregate along animal pathways," Blalock said. "They are found outdoors along the areas where fields meet wooded areas or in tall brush areas."

Household pets are frequently infested with ticks and can bring them back to their owners if the pets are not frequently checked and dipped.

Outdoors ticks are difficult to control, but they are most frequently found on persons who are under 25, probably because that age group tends to spend more time outdoors, Blalock said. Parents need to check children carefully, particularly around the head and neck areas.

In order for the tick to transmit Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, it has to bite and usually has to feed for six to eight hours.

To remove ticks, Blalock said, it is best to use tweezers and with gently pressure, pull the tick off, making sure that the mouth parts come with the tick. A white plug of tissue indicates that the whole tick

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Bobby Ponder Will Chair School Board

Following the swearing in of members of the Madison County Board of Education in the courtroom here Monday morning, the current board members held an organizational meeting at which time Bobby Ponder of Hot Springs was elected chairman.

Larry Leake, Asheville attorney and State Senator, was re-elected attorney for the board.

In other action, the board unanimously endorsed the upcoming School Bond Referendum which will be held June 12.

The board also stated that the various school committees would be selected at the July meeting of the board.

SART Fund Raiser Set For Saturday

The Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre (SART) presents SART capades — an old-fashioned kaleidoscope of musical comedy entertainment this Saturday at 8 p.m. in Owen Theatre on the Mars Hill College campus. The highlight of this fundraising event will be a benefit auction of outstanding art objects and individual entertainment packages.

Entertainment for the evening will be provided by Dick Rice, Earl Leiminger, Theresa Phillips, Richard Billingham, Susan Hensley, Peri Sager, Kasandra Jackson, Carroll Cole, and a Barbership Quartet featuring Scott Hughes, Jim Dowsett, Larry Stern, and Charlie Boone.

The benefit auction features goods and services which include prints, paintings, and photographs by area artists,

special dinner packages, a weekend at the Great Smokies Hilton in Asheville, and a special weekend at the Great Smokies Hilton in Asheville, and a special weekend holiday package at Hilton Head, S.C. All proceeds from the evening will go directly on the 1978 operating deficit.

The Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre established itself as the only on-going theatre in Madison County in 1975 in preparation for the Bicentennial. Since then its reputation has grown throughout the Southeast. Each year SART premieres a new play and at least one play written by an Appalachian playwright or accenting an Appalachian theme.

Admission price for SART capades is \$2 at the door. Reservations are not necessary.



GREGG WALLIN, Annette Thomas, Wayne Brown (Mars Hill)

SWCD Conservation Poster Winners

The supervisors of the Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District recently sponsored a conservation poster contest for the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades in the six elementary schools in Madison County.

The contest was judged by Houston Baily, Jon Varns and David Clapp, Soil Scientist from the Soil Conservation Service.

The response from the children in Madison County was great. This reflects an interest of the children on the conservation of two of our most important natural

resources, that of soil and water. We the district supervisors, wish to thank each child for participating and also, to thank each principal and teacher for their help.

Each child participating will be awarded a certificate and ball point pen, officials stated.

The following were the winners in the poster contest: fourth grade, first place, Lenny Blackwell, Laurel, \$15; second place, Sherri Self, Hot Springs, \$10; third place, Angie Rene Bullman, Walnut, \$5.

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Fifth grade: first place, Annette Thomas, Mars Hill, \$15; second place, Wayne Brown, Mars Hill, \$10; third place, Kimberly Shelton, Laurel, \$5.

Sixth grade: first place, Gregg Wallin, Mars Hill, \$15; second place, Steve Burch, Marshall, \$10; third place, Lisa Shelton, Marshall, \$5.

Congratulations were extended to Gregg Wallin, on winning second place in the

Area 1 poster contest. Gregg, a sixth grader, attends Mars Hill Elementary School. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wallin.

Area 1 consists of the sixteen western counties. All first place winners of the county poster contest in the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades were entered in the Area 1 contest.

The supervisors for the Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District are: Emery Metcalf, chairman; Jack Lenders, Jim Brown, Randall Buckner and Henry Chandler.

Clean-up In County Is Now In Progress

Many communities are off and running in the April clean-up program sponsored by the eight organized communities in Madison County. A suggested schedule is offered for those who are not active in an organized community or all who might be responsible for calling together members of a community for getting a clean-up done:

FIRST WEEK: Clean roadside and streams or whatever is the "public area" or approach to your home.

Prune shrubbery, or trim trees except for early blooming pieces. Observe power lines and call the power company if any tree is near a power line. Replace any overgrown or misshapen shrubbery with new; trim or dispose of any growth that crowds or covers walkway or driveway, or in any way obstructs road for drivers.

SECOND WEEK: Clean attic, basement, garage, barn, or whatever your storage areas are. Dispose of all items not needed in the

near future. Be firm. Join community re-cycling with clear glass or old vehicles or farm implements that are worthless. Take down unsightly buildings and consider replacing and painting new storage areas. If you have not building for needed items, plan on area where they can be stacked or arranged together in neat order.

THIRD WEEK: Make repairs to your home; repaint, or wash or add im-

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Jarriel, ABC Newsman, At Mars Hill Tuesday



TOM JARRIEL

Tom Jarriel, one of American Broadcasting Company's (ABC) top newsmen, will speak at Mars Hill College April 10 at 8 p.m. in Moore Auditorium.

Jarriel, whose appearance is sponsored by the college's Visiting Artists and Lecturers Committee, is a native of LaGrange, GA., and began his television news work with station KPRC in Houston. He joined ABC's Atlanta bureau in 1965 and became that company's White House correspondent in 1968.

He has earned national distinction for his coverage of the civil rights movement and was the only network news correspondent covering James Meredith when

Meredith was gunned down on the highway outside Memphis. He has also covered the U.S. Manned spaceflight program for ABC, co-anchoring the voyage of Apollo 11 with Peter Jennings, Frank Reynolds, and Jules Bergman.

A graduate of the University of Houston, Jarriel accompanied the White House staff on the historic tour of China, and covered the Watergate story and was critically acclaimed for his impartial reporting.

Tickets for the lecture are \$2 for adults and \$1 for all students. Major events points are good for this lecture; other tickets may be purchased at the door.

YDC Club Will Meet On April 11

A meeting of the Madison County Young Democratic Club will be held on April 11 in the courtroom here. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

All Democrats, young and old, are encouraged to attend.