

# THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

On the Inside . . .

For Dorothy Shupe  
female prime minister  
wasn't enough... Page 4

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## County Explains School Bond Plan

A series of meetings scheduled by the Madison County Board of Education to explain the proposed school bond issue which will be voted on June 12 began Tuesday night of this week at the Hot Springs School.

Future meetings are to be held at 7:30 this Thursday at Laurel School, Walnut School on May 22, Marshall School on May 24, Madison High School on May 29 and Mars Hill School on May 31. Members of the Board of Education will be present to answer questions and discuss the bond referendum.

If approved, it will provide funds for construction of a new Marshall-Walnut Elementary School

adjacent to Madison High School and improvements at other schools in the county.

### Facts And Figures

According to figures released this week, the new Marshall-Walnut School cost is estimated at \$1,800,000. Costs for improvements to other elementary schools are as follows:

Spring Creek, \$350,000; Laurel, \$300,000; Hot Springs, \$300,000; Mars Hill, \$200,000; total for all schools, including Marshall-Walnut, \$2,950,000.

It was stated that \$450,000 is already on hand from flood disaster funds and previous 10 cent levy on taxes.

If bond issue is approved, the insured loan will

be scheduled for repayment over a period of 40 years. The first two installments will be for interest only. Each installment will be due June 1 with the first installment due the first June following the date of loan closing or delivery of the bond. In other words, the interest for the first two years (\$125,000 per year) will total \$250,000. The principal and the interest for the remaining 38 years at \$146,925 per year will total \$5,583,150. Total repayment will be \$5,833,150 on bond issue of \$2,500,000. Interest repayment will be \$3,333,150.

It was further announced that if FmHA makes the loan, the interest rate will be that charged by FmHA at the time of the loan approval

(most likely 5 percent, it was stated).

If the conditions set forth are not met within 10 months from the date hereof (Feb. 23) FmHA reserves the right to discontinue the processing of the application.

Other instructions involving interim financing, security, organization, accounting, audits and reports, insurance and bonding, construction contract documents and final plans and other conditions may be inspected in the county accountant's office in the courthouse here.

It was announced that the approximate increase in taxes would be 15 cents per \$100 property valuation.



MISS HELEN MAYS, retiring tax collector and office manager for the town of Mars Hill, was honored with a luncheon on May 9 given by the mayor, board of aldermen and employees of the town of Mars Hill. The luncheon was given at the Mars Hill Town Hall with approximately 30 people attending. Mayor William P.

Powell (above) on behalf of the board, presented Miss Mays with an engraved plaque in appreciation for 15 1-2 years of service. She was also presented a gift given jointly by her co-workers, present as well as former, and the board. Miss Mays was hired by the town on Nov. 5, 1963, and retired April 30.

### Alleges 'Mistreatment' While Awaiting Trial

## Crews Sues Sheriff For \$200,000

Sheriff E.Y. Ponder was named defendant in a \$200,000 civil law suit in a summons found Crews and also Phillip Eugene "Phil" Turpin, guilty of murder but recommended both defendants be imprisoned for the remainder of their natural lives, rather than the gas chamber. The case ended here in November 1977.

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mistreatment while awaiting trial here after extradition papers had ordered Crews from Tennessee to Marshall on July 11, 1977.

Crews contends that Sheriff Ponder denied him the use of a telephone while in the Madison County Jail. He also states in the summons that Ponder would not allow him letters or mail of any kind

while in jail awaiting trial.

Crews also contends that Sheriff Ponder made prejudicial and inflammatory statements to the news media, namely, the News Record, which prevented him from receiving a fair and impartial trial.

The case is expected to be heard in the U.S. Federal Court, Western District of North Carolina, at a later date. Crews is asking \$100,000 punitive damages, trial by jury, plaintiff's cost of this suit and other reliefs as the court finds.

## Bluegrass Festival Scheduled At Zenina Farms

History will rewrite itself as the folk of Madison County and their guests join the "Daddy of Bluegrass Music" in the cake cutting celebration of 40 years of bluegrass music on the Zenina Farms near Marshall on the Zeno Ponder property May 30 through June 2.

One of the many features will be Bill Monroe and his entertainers.

"To appear at this festival is like coming home to me and a chance to revisit my most loyal friends," Bill said.

"Our first appearance with the Bluegrass Boys was on radio station WNCN in 1939 in Asheville. I want to see and shake hands with the old timers while I am there," Monroe said.

Helping Bill in the celebration will be some of America's top bluegrass performers. As a matter of fact, the law of North Carolina will be playing a part when N.C.'s Attorney General Rufus Edmisten plans to sing some bluegrass for the folks on Saturday.

This festive occasion will be helping out in another worthwhile way as a benefit to the North Carolina Heart Fund according to the two local county chairmen, Chuck Eggers and Dennis McCurry.

Festival grounds will open a day early on May 30 and there will be plenty of free parking and freelance jam sessions

beginning around noontime throughout the festival grounds.

Thursday activities will begin at 2 p.m. with a day-long band contest with stars Byron Berline and Ralph Lewis on hand for the judging with others on the list of judges.

Friday's activities will get under way at 2 p.m. and continue until about midnight with continuous entertainment by some of America's favorite bluegrass players and dancers. The lineup will consist of Jim and Jesse and the

Virginia Boys, Eddie Adcock, Byron Berline, Raymond Fairchild and the Maggie Valley Boys, Ralph Lewis Family and Friends, James Worley, Dan Crary, the Turkey Branch Junction, Bill Clifton and Red Rector; the Tasty Licks, and James Monroe and the Midnight Ramblers.

Saturday's homecoming and cake cutting celebration will get under way at noon, starring the daddy of bluegrass music himself, Bill Monroe. Other notables will be

there performing and dancing until midnight.

Dunham's Music Center will provide the sound system and engineering to insure a pleasant and enjoyable time for all.

Tickets may be purchased in Marshall at the Plaza Burger Parlor on the Marshall bypass.

Ticket prices are: Thursday band concert, \$4; Friday's 2 p.m. until midnight, \$7; Saturday's celebrations, \$8; and all three days with free souvenir program included, \$15.

## Grayson To Receive MHC Degree

J. Wesley Grayson of Laguna Hills, Calif., will be awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws during commencement activities May 20, at Mars Hill College.

Grayson, a retired investment counselor and economic consultant, gave Mars Hill \$1 million last September to establish the Grayson Scholarship Endowment, which will award \$4,000 scholarships to outstanding high school graduates. In addition to being a form of financial aid, the scholarship will involve an academic program designed to enhance the leadership skills of the recipients.

Long associated with education, Grayson holds bachelor's and master's degrees and was associate professor of economics for eight years at the University of Kansas and at Ohio State University. He also established and managed a brokerage firm in Ohio, and for 20 years was a tax economist with several government agencies, including the Internal Revenue

Service. He became acquainted with Mars Hill through his wife, the former Sarah Pauline "Polly" Wall of Mars Hill. She is an alumna, as is most of her family. Her uncle, Dr. Robert Lee Moore, was president of the college from 1897 through 1938.

In making the gift, Grayson noted Mars Hill's commitment to a sound education founded on Christian principles, remembering the teachings and Christian examples of his father, a Methodist minister, and his mother. In accepting the gift, Dr. Bentley stated that it was an expression of confidence in the college and its faculty, staff, and students.

Graduation weekend will officially begin May 18, with an exhibition of student art in the Fine Arts Building. The college's Board of Trustees will hold their semi-annual

business meeting May 19, and will meet with the Board of Advisors for a joint luncheon at noon. On Saturday evening the college will honor graduating seniors and their parents and other guests in a banquet in Bridges Cafeteria. A "pops" concert in Moore Auditorium will end the evening's activities.

The baccalaureate sermon will be held May 20, in Moore Auditorium with Dr. Harold C. Bennett, executive secretary-treasurer elect of the Southern Baptist Convention speaking to the assembly of students, parents, guests, and the congregation of the Mars Hill Baptist Church, which traditionally joins the college for the 11 a.m. service. The final event of the weekend will be the awarding of approximately 277 degrees by Dr. Bentley in commencement ceremonies which begin at 3 p.m.



J. WESLEY GRAYSON

## Mars Hill Students Win Honors

More than 300 Mars Hill Elementary School students jammed the Belk Auditorium at Mars Hill College last Friday afternoon for the presentations of the coveted citizenship trophies and enjoy an audio-visual program presented by Dr. Harley Jolley, history professor at Mars Hill College.

Despite the warm temperatures, the students and others present were highly entertained with slides on a large screen and the excellent audio presentations on citizenship by Dr. Jolley.

Teress Norris gave the devotions which were followed by a song by students of the seventh grade.

As the names of Rhonda Moore and Richard Lambert

were announced, applause and happy yelling were heard from the sixth, seventh and eighth grade students, who selected the two popular students with the aid of their teachers.

Rhonda, from the eighth grade, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Moore, Route 2, Marshall. Richard, seventh grade winner, is the

son of Mr. and Mrs. Sibbald Lambert of Mars Hill.

The two recipients will be guests of the Mars Hill Civic Club next Monday night.

Frederick Anderson, principal of the Mars Hill Elementary School, and Fred Dickerson, former principal and now president of the Mars Hill Civic Club, participated in the presentations.



TWO MARS HILL elementary students were presented coveted citizenship trophies last Friday afternoon in Belk Auditorium at Mars Hill College. The winners were selected by the students. Shown above, left to right, are: Frederick Anderson, principal, who participated in the

ceremony; Rhonda Moore, winner; Richard Lambert, winner; and Fred Dickerson, president, Mars Hill Civic Club, sponsor of the annual event. Large trophy in center is the Fred Dickerson Citizenship Trophy, formerly the Susan Britt Citizenship Trophy.

owned by Zeno Ponder, on the Buncombe-Madison County line.

Led by the Rev. Larry Edwards, associate pastor of Mount Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, the protestors made a line on the plaza and held up placards with Bible verses citing the hazards of strong drink.

"We are against the beer joint they want to put in and against the concert," said Barbara Edwards. "There's going to be a lot of drinking, a lot of drugs and no telling what else. I don't want my children exposed to it."

"We are hoping the public will see us and know our community is opposed to this," said Judy Randall. "We've seen the results of things of this nature in other communities - damaged property, litter. It's not becoming to any neighborhood."

Explaining the purpose of the demonstration, Edwards said, "On something like this, you like to think that it will just go away. But it takes people working from the inside for the good to make a change."

Sheriff Thomas E. Morrissey, who attended the rally, said that as long as concert promoters obeyed the law and obtained the ABC permit for the beer sale, there was little that could be done to stop the festival.

"But we'll have many off-duty personnel, including myself, up there to keep the peace," he said.