

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

79th Year No. 42

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

THURSDAY, October 16, 1980

15¢ Per Copy

On the inside . . .

Molasses Making At The
Bruce Farm In Mars Hill
See Photo Story Page 3

Aldermen Hear Cemetery Complaints

The Marshall Board of Aldermen were brought to task for allowing the city cemetery to go unmaintained, and the aldermen adopted a resolution accepting the housing rehabilitation standards proposed by the Marshall Planning Board for community development projects at their regular monthly meeting.

Mrs. Polly Robinson came before the town board to request that the town take on the responsibility of grooming and maintaining what is designated as the Marshall Cemetery near the end of Frisby Branch Road and the 25-70 by-pass.

Mrs. Robinson said the property was deemed to the town many years ago, and the town should do something about the way the cemetery has grown up in weeds and bushes. She said the property was cleared

several years ago, but it has been left to grow back up since.

Donald Ramsey added that a backhoe was necessary to clear the ground for a recent interment at the cemetery.

Mrs. Robinson suggested that the town issue deeds to existing burial plots at the location, and consider selling deeds for plots in the future as a means to provide funds for maintenance of the cemetery.

In another matter related to maintenance, the Board of Aldermen listened to Ms. Becky Williams, Land-of-Sky Regional Council representative, explain the housing rehabilitation standards proposed by the Marshall Planning Board, and acted on accepting the standards in order to get another community development project underway for the town.

The housing rehabilitation program is funded by a community development block grant provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). According to Ms. Williams the objective of the program is to improve houses within a designated area that are in substandard condition. The program will attempt to eliminate substantial health and safety hazards in a majority of the houses in the target area.

The area approved by HUD for the housing rehabilitation program in Marshall presently consists of the area along U.S. 25-70 business, Rollins Road and parts of Hayes Run Road at the south end of town.

There is no cost to homeowners or tenants living in the project area for rehabilitation work performed on their houses. However, home occupants must meet

eligibility requirements, and the dwellings must meet project guidelines before they are considered for the rehabilitation program. Residents and landlords must also complete applications and execute a program agreement before any rehabilitation work can be started.

Mr. Donald Ramsey will act as Community Development Director for the program and be responsible for the overall administration of the program. As director, Ramsey will establish family income and residence eligibility for each house targeted in the project.

According to the rehabilitation standards adopted by the aldermen, Ramsey will also furnish the Board of Aldermen with monthly progress reports of the work being done in the program.

The Marshall Citizen Ad-

visory Committee will be responsible for reviewing the housing rehabilitation procedures and standards, and submit any recommendations to the Board of Aldermen for final approval as regarding the program.

In other town business the aldermen:

• Discussed the spending of \$14,568 in Powell Bill monies received Oct. 1 for street improvements in the town. No action was taken.

• Decided to pursue the possibility of purchasing the vacant French Broad Electric Membership Corp. building on Main Street.

• Asked for nominations and recommendations for two vacant seats on the Marshall Planning Board. Planning Board chairman, James Allen is resigning his position to take the job as clerk for the new community development project.



Photo by N. Hancock

MARSHALL CITY Cemetery is in need of maintenance, according to Polly Robinson who went before the Board of Aldermen last week to ask them to provide for cemetery up-keep.

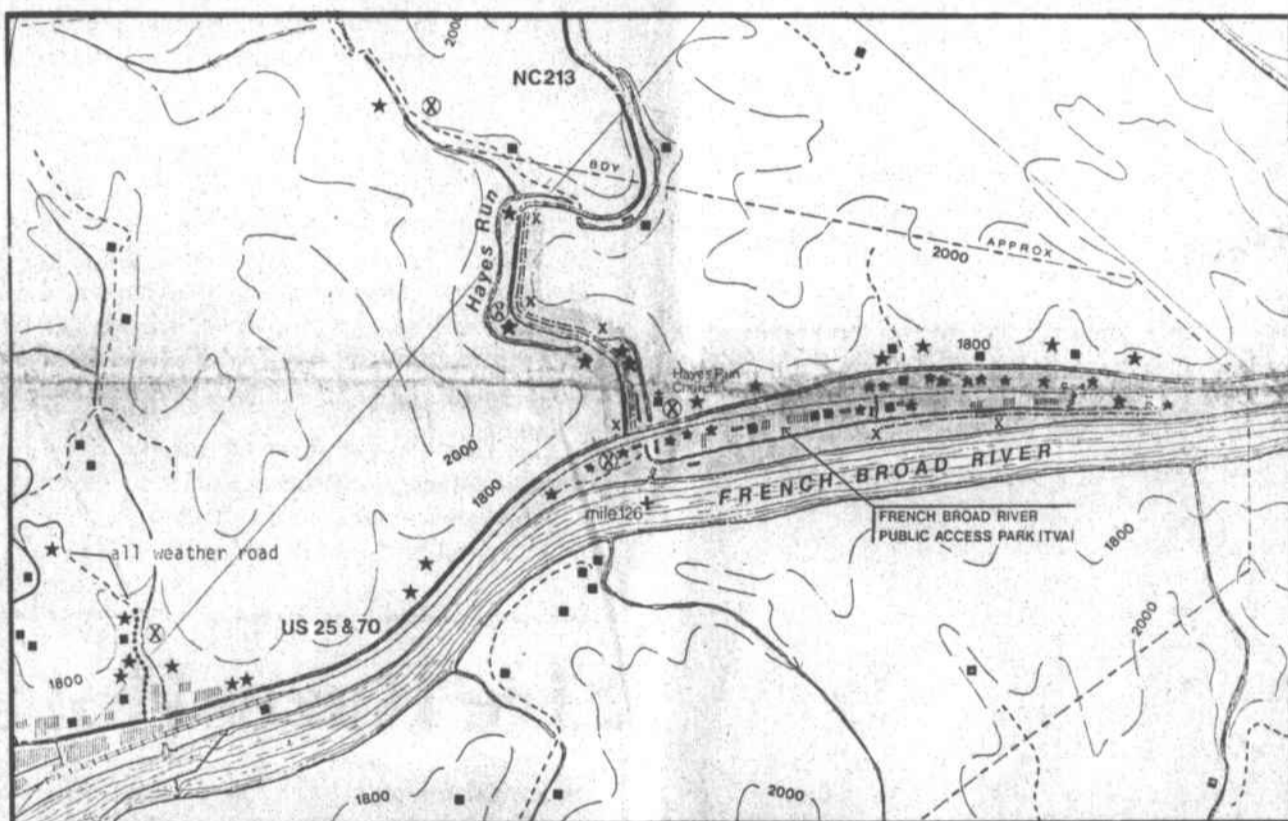
Housing Authority Sets Hearings On Projects

The Madison County Housing Authority has set Tuesday, Oct. 28, as the time for the first of two public hearings on which areas the county should propose for use of a Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) community development grant. The meeting will be held in the county courthouse at 7:30 p.m.

According to Becky Williams, Land-of-Sky Regional Council representative, the purpose of the grant is to make improvements for low to moderate income citizens in the areas of housing, public facilities or economic projects, resulting in increased job opportunities.

Madison County has already used community development funds for housing rehabilitation in the Spillcorn community. During the coming year, these funds will be used in the Bluff and Lisenbee Branch neighborhoods.

"Citizens who wish to have their neighborhoods considered as a target area for HUD grant funds are urged to be present at the hearings," Ms. Williams said.



MAP OF THE AREA included in the proposed community development project as recommended by the Marshall Planning Board. The project site includes houses along

U.S. 25-70 business, Rollins Road and Hayes Run Road. Houses targeted for rehabilitation are indicated by stars.

Barnhill Is New CETA Coordinator

At their October 3 meeting, the county commissioners named a 32 year old architect, Taylor Barnhill, the new CETA coordinator for Madison County. CETA (Comprehensive Employment and Training Act) programs enable the county to fill positions in areas as diverse as Day Care and the Ambulance Service.

A resident of Sodom Laurel, Barnhill is married and has two children. He was born in Greensboro, N.C. and raised in Atlanta and Durham. He was educated at North Carolina State University receiving a bachelor's degree in architecture and attended the University of North Carolina in the Department of City and Regional Planning.

He worked for the State of North Carolina in the Department of Human Resources, Division of Facility Services, Office of Rural Health Services, and then entered private practice in Madison County as an architect and planner and as a consultant in architecture and planning.

Thai Visitor Tours Marshall

By NICHOLAS HANCOCK

A Thai government official was in Madison County Thursday looking at some of the project sites under consideration for community development projects in the near future.

Mr. Raewat Kanittasut, Assistant Director of the Operation Center for Displaced Persons, visited Marshall with Becky Williams, Land-Of-Sky Regional Council representative, and Sam Parker, Madison County Community Development director.

Mr. Kanittasut's interest in community development projects stems from his serving as Community Development Officer in Ranong Province, Thailand from 1971 to 1975.

Mr. Kanittasut is on a one-month tour of the United States sponsored by the International Visitor Program under the new U.S. International Communication Agency. He is accompanied by Jon Hager, escort and interpreter, from the U.S. State Department.

Hager explained the visitor program by saying grants are offered to individuals from around the world to visit the United States for one month. The visitors are allowed to go anywhere in the U.S. they choose and "no special ar-

rangements are made beforehand" as to what the visitors may see or do while visiting the country.

"It's a unique program," Hager said, "and the United States is the only country in the world that offers such a program. For example, if anyone goes to some countries, their itinerary is carefully planned as to what they can see or do in that nation."

"With this program, visitors are allowed to see what the real America is like; rich neighborhoods, poor neighborhoods, the average citizen on the street," Hager said.

"The idea behind the U.S.I.C.A. program is to create better communications between the U.S. and other nations," Hager added.

Mr. Kanittasut, who speaks both Thai and English, said he is enjoying his visit to the U.S. and that he is learning much about American culture and governmental programs. While in the western North Carolina area, he indicated he was interested and impressed with the Tennessee Valley Authority operation. He said the work being done by the TVA would be of interest to the Ministry of Interior in Thailand.

He explained that the Ministry of Interior, unlike our U.S. Department of the Interior, is the name of the governmental body that encompasses all governmental functions in Thailand.

Thailand, known as Siam until 1940, is located in southeast Asia between Burma and French Indo-China,

and is bordered on one side by the Indian Ocean. The country is divided into provinces administered by individual governors.

In addition to having worked as a Community Development officer, Mr. Kanittasut has served as Administrative Officer in the Office of the Under Secretary of State for Interior

in Bangkok, the capital of Thailand.

He holds a bachelor's degree in political science and public administration from Thammasat University in Bangkok. His only other visit to the United States was in 1978 when he visited Los Angeles for five days. He has also traveled to Japan, China and Europe.



RAEWAT KANITTASUT OF Thailand talks with Becky Williams and Sam Parker about the construction of a hydroelectric generating station at the

Capitola dam in Marshall. Mr. Kanittasut is learning about community development programs in the United States.

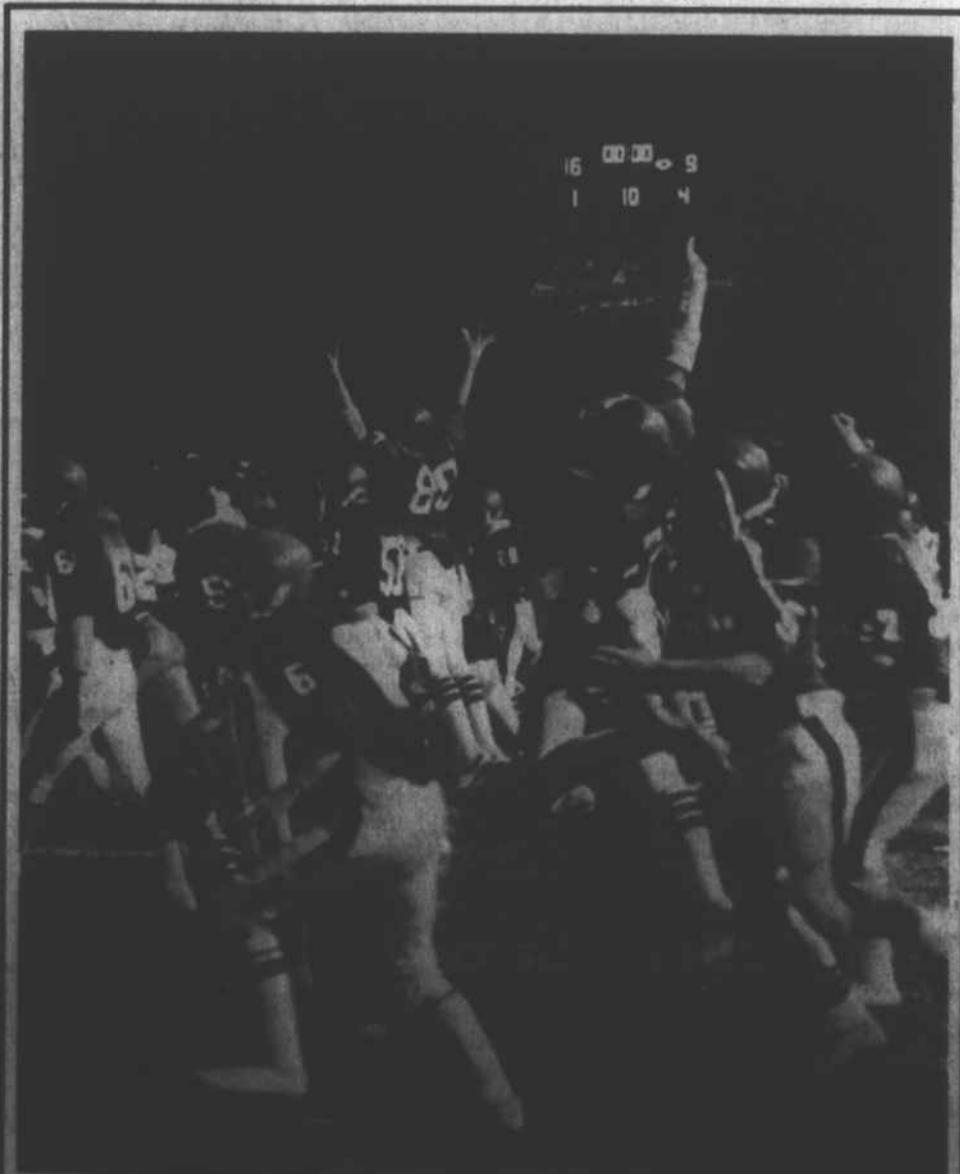


Photo by John Goodstaff

THE SCOREBOARD tells it all as the Madison Patriots leap for joy and rush onto the field after their homecoming victory over Mitchell. See story and photos in Sports section.