

# AFDC Changes Will Effect Thousands In State

An estimated 30,000 North Carolina families receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) will be effected by major changes in the federal assistance program that began last week.

The changes are the result of the Deficit Reduction Act of 1984 according to John Syria, director of the N.C. Dept. of Human Resources Div. of Social Services.

Syria said the new law will also effect those receiving child support and Medicaid. The Madison County Department of Social Services will be making clients aware of the changes by mail, Syria said.

Among the changes in AFDC as a result of the new legislation:

Parents, including all brothers and sisters, who are living in the same household must jointly apply for AFDC benefits. The joint total income and assets of parents and

children will be counted when determining eligibility. In the past, individual family members had the option of applying for AFDC assistance.

The income of a parent of legal guardian who lives with a mother under 18 years of age will be considered when determining eligibility.

The new law will also result in continued Medicaid benefits for those who are cut off from AFDC because of earned income or child support. Under the new law, the state will provide nine months of Medicaid coverage to families who lose AFDC eligibility because of excess earned income.

When a family is cut off from AFDC because it receives child support payments, the family will remain eligible for Medicaid for at least four months.

Syria said greater deductions also will be required by the new law in determining benefits.



KYLE GARROU

## Garrou

### Promoted

Kyle J. Garrou of Mars Hill has been selected as a banking officer with Wachovia Bank and Trust Co. Announcement of the appointment was made by Herbert Buckner of Marshall following a recent meeting of the bank's board of directors.

Garrou joined Wachovia in 1979 in Morganton. He entered Wachovia's management training program in Asheville in 1982. He served as a personal banker in Murphy in 1983 before transferring to Asheville as a retail loan collections manager. He was appointed as manager of the bank's Mars Hill branch earlier this year.

Garrou is a native of Morganton and graduate of Western Carolina University.

## Marshall Book Club Meets

The Marshall Book Club met on Oct. 15 at the Mars Hill home of Mrs. Ernest C. Teague.

Mrs. Frances Frisby Ramsey delivered brief reviews of three books: 'Aztec' and 'The Marco Polo Trail' by Gary Jennings and 'Dream West' by David Nevin.

'Aztec' describes the life and customs of Mexico before the time of Cortez. 'The Marco Polo Trail' is a tale of a young man searching for the famed explorer with a companion and mentor named Mordecai.

'Dream West' relates the vision for a western railroad of John Charles Fremont. The book details the difficulties of the project and the efforts to obtain statehood for California.

Mrs. Joseph Godwin attended the meeting as a guest. Members attending included Mrs. J.B. Tweed, Dr. Grace Lindsay, Mrs. Walter Ramsey, Mrs. Julian Culvern, Mrs. Frances Ramsey, Mrs. Wade Huey, Mrs. J.L. McElroy, Mrs. J.L. Baker, Mrs. Ruth Gregory, Mrs. Clyde Roberts, Mrs. John Corbett and the hostess, Mrs. Teague.

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