

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

## THE NEWS-RECORD

VOL. 88 NO. 52

10 PAGES THIS WEEK

MARSHALL, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1969

10c PER COPY

\$8.00 A Year In Madison and Adjoining Counties  
\$4.00 A Year Outside These Counties

### Retail Sales Gains Are Noted Throughout County

#### Christmas Pageant Last Week-End Attracts Many

##### Cold Weather Hampers Crowd; Pageant Is Successful

Despite a bitter cold rain, freezing temperatures and cold winds, an estimated 75-100 persons witnessed the Christmas Pageant here Thursday night. The characters performed well although they were wet to the skin when the performance ended. Many felt sorry for the angels who braved the elements bareheaded except for the angel crowns which gave them little if any protection.

Thursday's performance was the 21st time the pageant has been given. Many believe that last Thursday's weather was the most miserable although not the coldest in the seven years of the pageant.

Friday and Saturday nights, however, were ideal for the performances — cold but clear. An estimated crowd of over 200 attended Friday night's event and more than 300 attended Saturday night's performance.

Although the overall attendance was not as large as expected, those who did attend, especially those from other cities and states, were generous in their praise and highly commended the beauty, the natural setting, and the characters.

The hot coffee and cookies served by the Hospitality Committee and sponsored by the Merchants Association, proved popular as many persons from distant places came into the courthouse lobby following the performances to have

(Continued to Last Page)

#### WINNERS OF SAT. DRAWING ARE ANNOUNCED

##### \$400 In Trade Certificates Given To Nineteen Winners

The third and final drawing in the annual Marshall Merchants Association promotion was held last Saturday afternoon at four o'clock at the courthouse here. The total redeeming power of the certificates was \$400.

"I wish to thank all those who assisted and cooperated in the promotion and I especially wish to thank the general public for trading in Marshall," Mrs. S. C. Rudisill, president of the Merchants Association, stated.

Last Saturday's winners, their addresses and the firm the ticket came from are as follows:

- \$10.00: Mrs. Cecil Banks, Marshall (Dodson's Grocery); Allin Chandler, Rt. 4, Marshall (Bowman Hardware); Worley Cutshall, Rt. 2, Mars Hill (Penland & Sons); Thelma F. Freeman, Marshall (Roberts Pharmacy); Mrs. John R. Messer, Rt. 5, Marshall (McKinney's); Lydia Roberts, Rt. 3, Marshall (Dodson's Grocery); Mrs. Cecil Banks, Marshall (Dodson's Grocery); Solie Griffey, Rt. 3, Marshall (Wilk's Radio); Shirley Griffey, Rt. 1, Box 89-B, Marshall (National 5c & 10c); Joyce Plemmons, Box 527 Marshall (Dix).

(Continued to Last Page)

#### CEILING IN COURTROOM IS BEING LOWERED

##### New Jury Box, Chairs To Be Added; Other Improvements

Work started here Monday on remodeling parts of the courtroom. The main project is the lowering of the ceiling and the installing of a new jury box and chairs. A new lighting system will also be installed. The floor will also be sanded and the walls painted, it was reported.

H. M. Rice and Sons of Weaverville, are in charge of the remodeling.

"We hope to have all the improvements made in about a month," one of the workers stated.

##### MORE WAX

"I didn't come here to be told I'm burning the candle at both ends," said the patient to doctor. "I come for more wax."

#### FIRE DESTROYS BARN, CONTENTS IN SODOM AREA

A fire of unknown origin completely destroyed a barn and its contents in the Sodom area of Madison County on Wednesday night of last week.

The barn was owned by Mrs. Sophia Ramsey Rice. Mrs. Rice stated that friends told her of the fire. She said there was no insurance on the barn or contents.

In addition to the barn, six tons of hay, 1,000 tobacco sticks, lumber, two turning plows, a mowing machine, disc harrow, drag harrow, two cultivator plows, new Lemon wagon, doublefoot plow, and other items were destroyed.

#### COLD WEATHER, LATE SHOPPERS IN MARSHALL

Late Christmas gift shoppers discovered cold, freezing weather and some snow as they hurried to do their last-minute gift buying here and elsewhere in the county. Clear skies defied bad weather predictions Tuesday and snow flurries, predicted for Wednesday, had not arrived as this paper goes to press.

High Tuesday was 39, low was 17.

#### 1970 License Tags Go On Sale Jan. 2

##### Local License Office Again Located On Bridge Street

The application cards necessary for obtaining 1970 license plates were placed in the mail on December 18. Department of Motor Vehicles officials expect this huge mailing, estimated at more than 3,300,000 cards, to be delivered by January 1.

Motorists will be playing more for their 1970 plates than they have been paying in the past. The registration fees were increased about 25% by the 1969 Legislature. This does not apply to North Carolina's amputee veterans and those war veterans having a 100% disability rating by the Veterans Administration. They will get their tags free.

The new reflectorized red and white plates will go on sale throughout the State on January 2. The 1969 plates expire December 31 and their use beyond that date is permissible only if they are duly registered by the Department to the vehicle on which display is made. Owners who have their vehicles properly registered by the Department have until Feb-

(Continued to Last Page)

#### Retail Establishments Gain \$812,000 In Past Four Years

##### D & L WINNERS ARE ANNOUNCED

##### Ralph Ramseys Win Top Honors; Judging Held Monday Night

Judges have reported to the Marshall Garden Club contest chairmen the following winners in the Christmas Decorations and Lighting competition:

First Prize, \$10.00, for the Best Overall decorating — Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ramsey, Walnut Creek Road, Marshall.

Second Prize, \$7.50, for the best religious theme used in decorating — Mrs. Jessie Worley, Hayes Run Road, Marshall.

Third Prize, \$5.00 for the best door or (window), other than religious — Mr. and Mrs. Robert Banks, Route 1 (Sandy Mush Road), Marshall.

Honorable mention for the Best Overall decorating is made to Mr. and Mrs. Fain Sprinkle, Hayes Run Road, Marshall — and Honorable mention for best door is made to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rudisill, Walnut Creek Road, Marshall.

In awarding first prize, the judges noted the unusual use of natural materials, lighting effects and originality in ideas displayed in decorations at the Ralph Ramsey home.

The Marshall Garden Club expresses thanks to both the judges who gave time and effort in selecting winners and to all who have made the Christmas season more meaningful by decorating their premises.

##### 120 Stores, 217 Employees Have Payroll Of \$680,000

The general advance in the nation's economy, since 1965, has been reflected in Madison County, in mounting business activity in local retail stores.

Residents of the area spent more money and bought more goods and services of all kinds in the following four years than in any other comparable span.

According to the latest Census of Business, just released by the Department of Commerce, retail sales in the local area rose 10.9 percent in the period.

The gain was made despite consumer discouragement over the war in Vietnam, despite inflation, despite talk of a possible recession and despite higher taxes and domestic problems.

The figures show that the amount of business done by Madison County's retail establishments went up \$912,000 in the four years. Some of the gain is attributable to inflation, however.

The 10.9 percent increase compared favorably with the rise in many communities.

Sales in the area were equivalent to \$2,037 per local family.

Chiefly responsible for the progress that was made was the marked improvement in real income, even after the larger bites taken by taxes and the higher cost of living generally.

The average consumer spent confidently, feeling that he had protection in the form of a job he could count on, an income that was rising steadily and a future that was financially safe, by vir-

(Continued to Last Page)

#### County School Unit Approved For M.G.O.E. Program Funds

##### Program Designed To Study Drop-Out Problems In Schools

Raleigh — The Madison County School Unit was one of 21 administrative units in the Middle Grades Occupational Exploratory program approved for funding by the State Board of Education at its December meeting.

Dr. Craig Phillips Superintendent of Public Instruction, said the experimental program which was authorized this year by the General Assembly is designed to get at the problems of why youngsters drop out of school, especially in the middle grades.

The program was presented to the State Board by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Jerome Melton; Director of Occupational Education Dr. Charles Law; and the program coordinator Tommie Stephens. Implementation is expected to begin immediately in each of the 21 units.

Dr. Phillips told the board that the budgets for the individual projects recommended for funding vary from approximately \$50,000 to \$125,000 for the biennium. The average amount per project for the 21 recommended projects is approximately \$100,000 for the biennium.

(Continued to Last Page)

#### Fred D. Chandley If Office Manager Of IBM In Raleigh

Fred D. Chandley has been named administration manager for the branch office in Raleigh of International Business Machines Corporation's field engineering division which installs and services IBM information handling systems, equipment and computer programming systems. He was a distribution services manager for the division's Atlanta Distribution Center.

A native of Flag Pond, Tenn., he received a B.S. degree from the University of Tennessee and joined IBM as an administration specialist in Huntsville, Fla. in 1962.

Chandley is married to the former Kathleen Shelton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Shelton of Route 3, Marshall.

They reside at 6329 New Market Way, Raleigh.

##### OPTIMISM

Optimism: A cheerful frame of mind that enables a kettle to sing though in hot water up to its neck.

#### A BRIGHT NEW YEAR



We hope the New Year will indeed be a "bright one" for you. Serving you during the year now passing has been a pleasure. To all our friends we say Happy New Year!

#### Public Assistance Check Cut May Be Short-Lived -- Jordan

##### ASCS Office To Be Closed Dec. 25, 26, 27

According to Ralph Ramsey, office manager the local ASCS Office will be closed on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 25, 26 and 27 for the Christmas holidays.

#### NEWS-RECORD TO BE PUBLISHED ON WEDNESDAY

Due to New Year's Day coming on next Thursday, The News-Record will be published on Wednesday, a day early.

Community news writers and advertisers are asked to prepare their copy early.

##### A CAN OF PEOPLE

A mother scolded and her baby was weeping in the room when a salesman passed. The mother said "That's my brightest son, but a can of people."

##### Additional Funds Must Be Found, Official States

Impending cuts in the financial assistance checks for families with dependent children throughout North Carolina the first of the year may be short-lived, according to State Social Services Board Chairman, John B. Jordan Jr.

Jordan announced in Raleigh, "I will personally see that no stone is left unturned in trying to secure the additional state funds necessary to make up the deficit we are faced with."

He commented further, however, "I anticipate the greatest difficulty in alleviating this situation will be in the 100 counties finding the additional funds that will be required for this purpose."

"When the State Board of Social Services voted the cut payments in the AFDC category by paying a percentage of need rate, or than the total amount if we were as richly endowed and after much discussion for two reasons. We realized the amounts for basic necessities such as food, clothing, shelter, etc. were already very inadequate and to cut these amounts would be an undue hardship on the recipients. All the same, we had to make some cuts."

(Continued to Last Page)