

# THE NEWS - RECORD

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ONE YEAR AGO TODAY, the nude body of Miss Nancy Morgan, 24, of Baton Rouge, La., a VISTA worker in Madison County, was found bound on the back seat of a government automobile in a wooded area just off US 25-70 a few miles from Hot Springs. Her hands and feet were bound with nylon cord with

a similar cord wound tight around her neck. The spot where her car was parked is known as Tanyard Gap, a "lover's lane" pull-off in Pisgah National Forest. Extensive investigation was conducted by the FBI, SBI, and local officers but one year later—June 17, 1971—the murder is still unsolved.



## Nancy Morgan Murder Probe Continues After A Year

No arrests have been made to date in the murder of the VISTA worker, Miss Nancy Morgan, who was found dead here a year ago Thursday, but a \$5,000 reward offered by Gov. Bob Scott is still in effect.

Sheriff F. Y. Ponder, who was not in office at the time Miss Morgan's body was found nude and bound with nylon cord on the back seat of her government-owned car, said Wednesday that the investigation is continuing. "has been every day and will be until the case is solved."

"I told the people that, if I were elected, the case could be and would be solved, and I mean to keep that promise," he said. Ponder declined to comment on details of his investigation.

Miss Morgan, the 24-year-old native of Baton Rouge, La., had

been missing from the farm house she rented in the Shelton Laurel section of Madison County for two days before a passer-by spotted her car in a secluded area within 100 yards of U. S. 25-70, near the top of Hot Springs Mountain near Tanyard Gap.

The VISTA project in the county began in December, 1969, with seven communities, sponsored by Mars Hill College and the Madison-Buncombe Rural Development Council.

Miss Morgan was the daughter of a University of Louisiana law professor, Col. Earl A. Morgan (Ret.) and Mrs. Morgan of Baton Rouge.

An autopsy performed by North Carolina's chief medical examiner, Dr. R. Page Hudson of Chapel Hill, showed that she probably was choked to death by a rope that was tied around her neck. Her hands and feet were tied behind her back with the same nylon cord. Hudson said there were no signs of rape.

The reward, offered by Scott, under authority given his office by the 1967 General Assembly, is for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the slaying of Miss Morgan.

Law enforcement officers are excluded, but there is no time limit on the reward, according to the governor's office.

## \$640,000 Grant Approved For V.E.F. At New School Here

Congressman Roy A. Taylor Wednesday announced the approval of two grants totaling \$920,000 from the Appalachian Regional Commission to aid the construction of new vocational education facilities for Madison and Polk counties.

Madison County Consolidated High School in Marshall while \$280,000 was approved for a similar facility at the Polk Central High School in Columbus.

Representative Taylor said the following information was provided by the ARC on the Madison County project: Madison County: Expected

total enrollment by 1973 of both academic and vocational students is expected to be between 900 and 1,000. The new vocational program is aimed among other purposes at reducing the presently high rate of school drop-outs and unemployment. Total cost of the project will be \$2,020,000.

## Spotted Fever Case Is Reported

Asheville hospitals have treated their first case of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever of the season, a youth who is doing fine, according to Dr. H. W. Stevens, director of the Buncombe County Health Department.

A Buncombe County youth who died in an Asheville hospital last week of strangulation may also have had Spotted Fever, but this has not been definitely determined.

Dr. Stevens said an autopsy was performed and blood samples sent to the Communicable Disease Center in Atlanta for examination.

Since the common dog tick most commonly carries the disease, dogs and livestock should be checked regularly, according to Dr. Stevens.

North Carolina ranked first in the nation last year in cases of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, with 88 cases. Buncombe County averages two cases a year.

A vaccine is available from physicians and is strongly recommended by the county health department for forest rangers, loggers and those who work in timberlands.

In humans, the disease usually appears three to 12 days after the tick bites. Symptoms are similar to flu with fever, chills, muscle aches and upset stomach.

A rash develops between the second and sixth day, usually beginning first on the wrist and ankles, hands and feet and spreading over the body in a few hours.

Dr. Stevens said the disease responds well to antibiotics and a hospital stay no more than two to three days is usual in most healthy adults.

AT CAMP EASTER David Sawyer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Sawyer of Asheville, left June 13 for Camp Easter at Southern Pines where he is spending two weeks. Mr. and Mrs. Sawyer and two children are former residents of Marshall.

## Edwards Elected Model Madison Chairman

The Board of Directors of Model Madison met Thursday evening, June 10, at 8 p.m. in the conference room of the R.E.A. Building here. The purpose of the meeting was the election of officers; and to review any other business that might come before the Board.

Robert L. Edwards, Madison County superintendent of public schools, was elected to serve as chairman of the Board of Directors. Harold Anderson, Hot Springs businessman and civic leader was elected vice chairman. Dr. John Hough, Jr., assistant academic dean, Mars Hill College was elected treasurer for the corporation; Robena Adams, executive director, shall serve as secretary to the board. A quorum was present and voting.

The primary purpose of Model Madison is to mobilize local leadership, public and private agencies to identify the needs and resources of Madison County, to set goals, objectives and standards for long range physical and human resource development; and to design and implement a comprehensive



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program in cooperation with existing planning jurisdictions to meet these needs.

The annual membership meeting was held May 27, in the cafeteria of Marshall School. The following persons were elected to serve as directors of Model Madison.

D. M. Robinson, William P. Powell, Earle Wise, Harold Anderson, and Robert L. Edwards, (public representation). Dr. John Hough, Jr., John D. Ray, Zeno H. Ponder, Knox Brigman, William Ferguson, (private representation).

Romulus Hensley, Clinton Massey, Clara Roland, Dempsey Woody, and Clarence Norton, (non-public private). A meeting of the board of directors is scheduled for Monday evening, June 21, at 8 p.m. in the R.E.A. Building here.

## Bids Opened For Marshall Housing Project

Bids were opened Thursday here on the construction of Marshall Housing Authority's 50-unit, unfurnished, low-rent facilities.

Apparent low bidders were—general construction, Federal Construction Co. of Fayetteville, \$654,444; plumbing, Wells and West Inc. of Murphy, \$55,888; ventilation, Moser Plumbing of Asheville, \$14,000; and electrical work and heating, Basic Electric of Charlotte, \$69,200.

A confirmation meeting will be held today (Thursday) in the Atlanta office of the U. S. Housing and Urban Development at which time contracts will be signed, according to Mrs. J. B. Tweed, Marshall executive director.

Mrs. Tweed said applications have already been received for 25 of the units. The approximately \$1 million project will be financed entirely by federal funds, Mrs. Tweed said.

## Willis Heads Mars Hill Housing Authority

C. N. Willis, Jr., former clerk of Superior Court of Madison County, recently assumed the post of executive director of the Mars Hill Housing Authority. Mr. Willis succeeds Bill Zink who is now associated with the State ASCS organization and works out of Raleigh during the week.

Willis stated that the Housing Authority office in Mars Hill is open from 9:30 a.m. until 12 o'clock noon on Mondays through Fridays.

He started his duties on June 7.



C. N. WILLIS JR.

## Mallonee To Be In County June 29

Tom I. Mallonee, 11th Congressional District assistant to Congressman Roy A. Taylor, is now making scheduled visits to the county seats and other sections of the counties.

On Tuesday, June 29, he will be at the Madison County Courthouse, Marshall, from 9:30 to 10:30; at the Yancey County Courthouse, Burnsville, from 1 to 2; and at the Town Hall, Spruce Pine, from 3 to 4.

Any person who has plans or official business pertaining to Congressional matters to be discussed, is invited to meet with Mr. Mallonee at the above-specified times.

## Mars Hill Horse Show Successful Last Saturday

Twelve-year-old Tresea Smith rode her big chestnut, Walk-Trot, to the three-gaited class championship Saturday night at the Mars Hill Horse Show.

Miss Smith won over three other strong contenders. Gwen Tomberlin won the English Pleasure, English Pleasure open and English Pleasure championship classes on Gypsy Rover.

The racking class and championship were won by Vicki Slagle on Copper S. Sun.

Warren Hughes won three walking horse classes—The two-year-old class on Mack K's Tiner Boy, the open class on Sun "B", and the junior class on

Hillside Souvenir. Bank Robber, owned and shown by Linda Burton, won the amateur class.

Sun's Prince "E", won the walking horse championship. Prince, owned and shown by J. R. Hunnicut, has placed first five times this season out of six times in the ring.

Miss Pat Starr, owned by Ken Treadway, won the western pleasure championship. Pat was shown by Ernie Treadway who also won the barrel race and championship barrel race on Jack. Ernie also won the buddy pick up on Bruce Gants Joe.

Billy Clark and his Dobys One Spot won the Texas barrel race. Another of Billy's horses, Pee

Wee, won the pick up championship.

Speed Smoke Signal, owned and shown by Lynn Bonham of Arden, won four classes, including ladies western pleasure and championship, Appaloosa pleasure and western pleasure 16 and under. Red Cloud's Play Boy, owned and ridden by Paul Brank, won the western pleasure, 17 and over.

Ann Brinkly won the ladies western pleasure class on Leo Peppy San. Lee Hyatt's Miss Stormy Lee gave her usual impressive performance to win the western reining class.

The high point of the show for 37 young equestrians and their

proud parents came as trophies were presented to all the youngsters in the lead line classes.

The show, sponsored by the Mars Hill Lions Club, was seen by some 2,000.

Other winners were: Sammy Parker on Sir William; Carl Shook on White Lightning; Frank Fox's, Foxes Midnight Real Gusto, owned by Bill Smith and handled by Doug Greer; Skipper, owned by Bob Felke and handled by Charles Blackenship; Cotmanche, ridden by Vicki Gosnell; Tico Bix, ridden by Tom Bonhan; Sluder, ridden by Eddie Reed; and Peanuts, owned by Betty Crawford and shown by Galt Feldman.

## Former SHC Engineer Corkill Dies

William McCoy Corkill, 69, of 17 Farrwood Ave., a former division engineer with the State Highway Commission, died Monday in an Asheville hospital following a long illness.

A native of Chester, S. C., and a graduate of N. C. State University, Corkill had lived in Asheville since 1933 and had been with the State Highway Commission from 1923 until his retirement in 1964.

He was promoted to assistant division engineer of the old 12th division in 1942 and became division engineer in 1960.

When the division districts were changed in 1953, he took over the 12th division which included Madison, Buncombe, Yancey, McDowell, Rutherford, Mitchell and Burke counties. Corkill held that position until his retirement.



PICTURED ABOVE are the "Mars Hill Hillbillies", fifth-graders, who won top honors at the Hubert Hayes Mountain Youth Jamboree held in Asheville. Mrs. J. Hughie Ray of Mars Hill is director of the team. The two trophies shown are for participation and the silver pitcher for top honors in Class I Smooth division. Listed left to right, front to back by partner: Roger Edmonds, Suzanne Powell, Tim Metcalf, Brenda Metcalf, Charles Hamlin, Nancy Zink, Brian Baldwin, Linda Ammons, Joe Walker, Debra Roberts, Craig McDaris, Glenda Hunt, Perry King, Rebecca Fox, Curtis Garrison, Joanie Osteen and Pamela Clark.