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FHA Approves Loan, Grant For Fairview Water System

Congressman Roy A. Taylor announced Monday that the Farmers Home Administration has approved a loan of \$13,900 and a grant of \$12,600 to the Fairview Water Association, Inc., of Madison County, to build a rural community water system.

Rep. Taylor said the funds will enable the association, a community non-profit organization, to build a central system providing city style water service to the homes of 19 families along 11,000 feet of water line in the Fairview area near Hot Springs. A deep well will serve as a source of water. The loan portion of financing

from the Farmers Home Administration, a Department of Agriculture Rural Credit Service, will be repaid in 40 years with 5 per cent interest from proceeds from the water service.

Mrs. Juanita Tolley, of Route 3, Hot Springs, is president of the Fairview Water Association.

Bruce Briggs May Seek District Judgeship



Briggs

the \$26,000 a year job with the Justice Department.

Briggs is expected to resign from his federal job by Feb. 21, filing deadline for candidates for state office. He will probably open law offices at that time in Mars Hill and Asheville, at least until after the votes are counted in the May 6 Republican primary and the November general elections.

The district court system was implemented in the 24th Judicial District, in 1968, and Briggs and Holshouser were the first to serve there.

Briggs and Braswell apparently are the only potential candidates to date for the two judgeships.

A former state senator from Madison County who resigned in 1969 to take an appointment in the Justice Department will probably give up his post to run for a district court judgeship.

Asst. U. S. Atty. Bruce B. Briggs of Mars Hill is expected to become a candidate for judge of the 24th Judicial District before the Feb. 21 filing deadline.

One of the two incumbents, Judge James E. Holshouser Sr. of Boone, will not be a candidate for re-election. Judge J. Ray Braswell of Newland is expected to announce his candidacy for another term shortly.

The 24th District is made up of Madison, Mitchell, Yancey, Avery and Watauga counties. Holshouser is the father of Jim Holshouser Jr. of Boone, Republican candidate for governor of North Carolina.

Briggs had completed his second session with the North Carolina General Assembly when he was appointed an assistant to U. S. Atty. Keith S. Snyder of the United States District Court for the Western District of North Carolina in October, 1969.

He was a partner in the Asheville law firm of Fiddle and Briggs until that time, but he lived in Mars Hill.

A native of Madison County, Briggs was first elected to the Senate in the Republican sweep of 1966 which unseated every Democratic office-holder in Buncombe County who had opposition. The Senate district was made up of Buncombe, Madison, Mitchell and Yancey counties.

At one time Briggs was Republican Party chairman of Madison County. He was later GOP chairman of the 11th Congressional District.

If Briggs resigns his job as assistant United States attorney to run for the district court judgeship, it will be something of a reversal of the route taken by his boss, Snyder.

Snyder, who was appointed U. S. attorney for the western district by President Nixon in 1969 after the national administration changed, was a judge at the time himself.

He was district court judge of the 24th Judicial District of Catawba, Burke and Caldwell counties when he received the presidential appointment. He resigned from the bench in mid-1969 after the U. S. Senate confirmed his appointment to

Murder Trial To Begin Here Next Monday

The trial of Earl Davis, who is charged with the murder of his wife, Mrs. Ruby Jean Plemons Davis, on December 28, 1966, at their home in Walnut, will start here next Monday morning in a special term of superior court.

Judge Thomas W. Seay, Jr., of Spencer, will preside.

Seventy-five jurors from Buncombe County have been drawn for the trial.

Davis, who has been a patient at Dorothea Dix Hospital in Raleigh, will be represented by Attorney Joseph B. Huff. Solicitor Clyde M. Roberts will represent the State.



RECENTLY, the Weaverville Epsilon Lambda Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi formed a new chapter, Epsilon Phi in Mars Hill. Beta Sigma Phi is an International Sorority with 9000 chapters and 200,000 members. There are approximately 16 chapters in Asheville and surrounding areas. Seated on the front row are the members of the Epsilon Lambda Chapter in Weaverville; from left to right—Mrs. Joel Stegall, Vice-President; Neta Penland, Social Chairman; Mrs. Phillip Merrill, Membership Chairman; Mrs. W. G. Shetley, President; Mrs. Furman Ingle, Treasurer; and Mrs. Margaret Blackburn, Secretary. The other members were not

present. On the second row are the officers of the new chapter in Mars Hill—from left to right—Mrs. J. D. Thomason, Recording Secretary; Mrs. A. W. Hollifield, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Finley Johnson, President; Mrs. J. C. Moss, Vice-President; and Mrs. M. I. Hembree, Treasurer. The other new members are on the last row, left to right—Mrs. O'Neil Shelton, Mrs. Ronnie Wallin, Mrs. Doug Stevens, Mrs. Harold Taylor, Mrs. Jerry Gault, and Mrs. Bill Mitchell. All of the chapters are now working on the Valentine Dance to be held in Asheville in February.

County REAP For 1972 Announced

Madison farmers should be able to accomplish more soil, and water conservation and carry out additional pollution prevention and abatement practices in 1972 than they did in 1971, according to Emory Robinson, Chairman of the County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee.

Mr. Robinson explained that the recent action by the Secretary of Agriculture in announcing an additional \$55.5 million for the 1972 Rural Environmental Assistance Program will result in an additional \$1.5 million for the State of North Carolina. This will make a total 1972 REAP allocation of \$5,377,000.00 for our State and mean a total 1972 allocation of \$82,362.00 to Madison County, an increase of approximately \$25,000.00 more than the County's 1971 allocation.

"This additional allocation will enable us to help farmers do more to prevent or abate agriculture-related pollution of water, land and air and to conserve agriculture soil, water, woodland and wildlife resources," Mr. Robinson said. He further explained that the Secretary had cited response of farmers to the redirected emphasis of REAP in 1971, and their willingness to match or exceed additional Federal in-

vestment in pollution prevention and abatement as a major factor in providing the additional funds for the 1972 Program. An October report from selected states showed a 400 per cent increase in 1971 over 1970 in funds expended for pollution abatement practices according to the Secretary of Agriculture.

The County ASC Chairman said that the 1972 REAP will get under way on January 24 in Madison, and that the Program is quite similar to that of last year with greater emphasis to be given to request for cost sharing on farm practice which will contribute most in meeting the programs objectives. Among the practices with a high priority are the establishment of a vegetative cover of grasses and legumes and the planting of trees.

Other farm practices included in the 1972 Program are: Improving Vegetative Cover, Water Impoundment Reservoirs, Improving Stand of Forest Trees, Wildlife Food Plots, Habitat or Coves, Lagoon for Animal Waste, and Sediment or Chemical Runoff Control Measures.

In conclusion, Mr. Robinson invited farmers to visit the County ASCS Office to discuss their conservation problems and the filing of their request for REAP cost-sharing.

Firemen Kept Busy During Past Week

Members of the Marshall volunteer fire department have been kept busy during the past week.

Last Friday about noon, the firemen answered a call to the home of Fred O. Tison on the Mars Hill highway. Overheated furnace, minor damage.

Later Friday afternoon firemen were called to Wilde Oil Co., between Marshall and Walnut. Little damage.

Saturday afternoon at two o'clock, firemen were called to the mobile home owned by Lorado Ponder and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Higgins on Marshall Route 1. When firemen arrived the structure was engulfed in flames and was completely destroyed. Mr. and Mrs. Higgins lost all their clothing and possessions and

Mr. Higgins was slightly burned while getting out of the mobile home, it was stated by Fire Chief Joe Fisher. Loss was estimated at \$3,500.

Marshall firemen were also called to Mars Hill late Saturday night to assist the Mars Hill firemen battle a blaze at the building known as the Old Phillips Home near the college. When Marshall firemen arrived the Mars Hill firemen had the blaze under control despite subzero temperature. The interior of the structure was damaged.

On Monday morning at 6:45 o'clock, Marshall firemen were called to the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Robert Messer on Little Pine. When firemen arrived the blaze had been extinguished in the chimney with little damage reported.

Liston B. Ramsey Announces For Reelection

Liston B. Ramsey of Marshall announces his candidacy for reelection to the North Carolina House of Representatives; he has served 5 regular and 3 special terms in the North Carolina House of Representatives.



Ramsey

Ramsey will run for one of the two seats in the 44th District consisting of Haywood, Jackson, Madison and Swain Counties. Representative Ramsey has served on most of

the important committees during his 5 regular terms. He is at present Chairman of the Legislative Redistricting Committee as well as Vice-Chairman of the Local Government Committee and helped pass the Home Rule Legislation that gave Cities and Counties more home rule. During that Session, he sponsored legislation that created the Dept. of Local Affairs.

Ramsey has served as Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee in his home county of Madison, as a member of the State Democratic Executive Committee, and was a delegate to the 1968 Democratic National Convention. He is a World War II Veteran with service in the Pacific Theatre of Action. He is a member of the American Legion, V. F. W., Elks Lodge, Masonic Lodge and is a Baptist. He is married to the former Florence McDevitt. They have one daughter, Martha Louise, of the home.

Chandler To Coordinate TELL In County

Jonas H. Chandler, Cashier of Citizens Bank, has been named by the Young Bankers Division of the North Carolina Bankers Association to coordinate the activities of Project TELL (Teach Economic Literacy Lectures) in Madison County. Project TELL is the primary public service effort of the Young Bankers Division.

The statewide program was developed by the Young Bankers Division in cooperation with the State Department of Public Instruction. Project TELL makes available the experience of young bankers as resource people for classroom lectures on economic subjects. It is designed to supplement economic education programs offered through the public school system.

Each county representative is provided a kit of approved

classroom lectures on economic related subjects, but flexibility of presentation is one of the chief assets of the program.

"We encourage all of our representatives to work closely with the teachers and try to deal with whatever economic related subject they feel will be most helpful as a supplement to the courses they are teaching," said J. Curtis Hendrix of Greenville, president of the Young Bankers Division.

Project TELL was originated by the Young Bankers Division in 1963, and is rapidly gaining recognition for its contributions to the improvement of economic literacy among the young people of North Carolina. A Project TELL representative has been appointed for each of the state's one hundred counties.



AUTHOR JOHN FOSTER WEST sat by the Mars Hill College fountain in which he, 30 years ago, posed for a gag photograph which appeared in Life magazine. He reminisced on writing and his college days with Mrs. Elizabeth Watson, who is directing a creative writing workshop. West is one of two authors who will work with student writers. (Mars Hill College photo by Joe Franklin)

Wilde Elected President Merchants Ass'n.

Richard Wilde, popular owner of Shady Side Florist here, was unanimously elected president of the Marshall Merchants Association at a meeting here Tuesday night.

Wilde succeeds Mrs. S. C.

Rudisill who resigned after serving several years.

Other officers include Ed Niles, vice-president; James Penland, secretary; Frank Moore, treasurer.

Cody Files For Commissioner

James W. (Jim) Cody, of Marshall, has announced that he has filed for a seat on the

Madison County Board of Commissioners at a Democratic candidate.

Ernest Messer To Seek House Seat For Sixth Term

Ernest Messer of Canton, veteran Democratic member of the North Carolina House of Representatives, announced today as a candidate for a sixth term in the North Carolina General Assembly.

He will run for one of the two seats in the new 44th House District composed of Haywood, Jackson, Madison, and Swain Counties. Liston Ramsey of Marshall is the other incumbent representative.

Messer was recently appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives to serve on the Legislative Research Commission, a commission that will study designated state problems and make legislative recommendations to the 1973 General Assembly. He is also Chairman of a study committee on the "Professional Regulation of Teacher Licensing and Practices."

During the 1971 legislative session and during the October special session of the General Assembly, Messer served on the House Committee on Higher Education and helped write and pass the bill to restructure higher education in North Carolina.

He is chairman of the Appropriations subcommittee on Health, Welfare, and Institutional Care.

Other committees on which Messer served during the 1971 session were Congressional Districts, Conservation and Development, Employment Security, Manufacturers and Labor, and Social Services.

During the 1963 General Assembly session, as a member of the committee on Higher Education, he helped write and pass the bill which created our present system of Community Colleges and Technical Institutes.

During two legislative sessions, he was chairman of the committee on Manufac-



Messer

turers and Labor.

Messer is a member of the North Carolina Committee on Comprehensive Health Planning and was recently appointed by the Governor to serve on the State Board of Mental Health.

Messer previously served two terms as Chairman of the Haywood County Democratic Executive Committee.

He is a trustee of Haywood Technical Institute, a member of the Canton First Baptist Church, and a member of the Canton Lions Club.

During World War II he served in the United States navy. He is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and of the American Legion.

Messer is married to the former Jincy Owen. They have one daughter, Mrs. Gladys Poovey of Atlanta, Georgia.

Red Cross Meeting Next Wednesday

The annual Madison County Red Cross Chapter meeting will be held next Wednesday night in the French Broad EBC Office beginning at 7:00 o'clock.

Members of the board and everyone interested in Red Cross are urged to attend.