

THE NEWS - RECORD

Property Reappraisal In County Being Conducted

BY JAMES T. LEDFORD
Chairman, Madison County
Commissioners

The North Carolina State law requires counties to undertake a General Reappraisal of all taxable property once every eight years. The N.C. State law also requires a certified tax appraiser to be in charge of the revaluation and Mr. W. H. Bill Allen, certified appraiser is overseeing all of the revaluation of all property in Madison County.

In Madison County, that county-wide revaluation job has been going on for several months and will be completed in time to make a substantial impact on the 1974 tax bills. But does this mean that local tax officials in Madison County must sit back in the off years and impatiently watch land and development booms without being able to get any of those increased values on the tax books until the next octennial reappraisal. It certainly doesn't mean that. Wherever in the county land is being developed, subdivided or in any way improved by as much as \$100,000, it is a continuing part of the tax supervisor and his staff's job to keep tabs on what is going on, with view to increasing the valuation of individual properties at taxlisting time each year.

The new machinery act of 1971 describes only nine specific categories of real property, and no other. The law adds a which shall be reappraised for taxation in years in which no general appraisal or reappraisal is being conducted. Two of these nine categories cover real property which has increased in value by virtue of improvements or appurtenances, added, and

which has been divided into lots that have been sold or offered for sale as lots.

Other categories cover real property which has increased or decreased in value because of damage or destruction, fire, flood, circumstances, external to the property, a slaughterhouse built nearby, or a high-priced residential development; a change in the acreage allotment of a farm community in tobacco or real property which was last appraised at a figure that was manifestly unjust at the time appraised. In any such cases described in state law the Board of Equalization and

Review can increase or decrease tax valuations on its own initiative, or the taxpayer can request a decrease.

The new valuation established by tax officials is a combination of what the builders, owners, or developers report and what tax office representatives actually see when they make on-site inspections and appraisals.

During the development period the tax office's valuation is based upon what's there on January 1. Although many persons mistakenly believe that improvements aren't taxable

until complete, if a house is 50 percent completed on Jan. 1, the tax appraisal for that year will be on half a house. The same goes for much more substantial developments like shopping centers and industrial plants.

Increases in land values due to the general economy and market conditions in the county definitely do not, by themselves, authorize tax officials to increase land valuations on the taxbooks in the years between countywide reappraisals. But the general revaluation now going on will note of the land boom in Madison County, and of the

skyrocketing cost of commercial and residential construction, and the only direction the average new property appraisal can go is up.

Some real property will increase in value, some will decrease and some will stay about the same. But the overall county tax base - the total valuation of all taxable property in the county - is expected to increase by about a third.

Selective Service Boards To Continue

Even though draft calls have ended, young men in our state will still have responsibilities under the law. The Selective Service local boards will continue to function.

William H. McCachren, North Carolina State Director of Selective Service, announced today. McCachren said that the Selective Service Act will still require young men to register at age 18 and that local draft boards will continue to process some of these young men in order to have a readily available pool in the event of a national emergency. McCachren added that this standby role for Selective Service becomes effective without the requirement of any new legislative authority by Congress.

The State Director said that the standby role for Selective Service would result in a reduced level of operation across the country. McCachren said that the current year's budget for the System on a national basis would be curtailed by as much as 34 percent in the upcoming fiscal year. Assuming approval of these funds by Congress, a substantial reduction in the number of paid Selective Service employees will be required. The total reduction will be from approximately 2,300 employees nationwide to 1,300 employees. These reductions must be accomplished nationwide by December 31, McCachren said, and the reductions will result in uniformly reduced staffing levels for all states.

McCachren said that it would be necessary to reduce the number of Selective Service employees in North Carolina from 183 to 102. However, he pointed out that normal attrition would take care of many of the necessary reductions and that every effort would be made to assist those employees of the System who face termination to find other federal employment.

In order to provide continuing service to registrants, McCachren said that most of the states will be collocating many of their local board administrative sites so that the clerical duties can be handled by fewer employees. Local boards are still being maintained and

local board members will still be deciding classification requests. McCachren added. Although the collocation of local board sites may cause registrants to communicate over greater distances in order to contact their boards, almost all board sites which formerly were open on a part-time basis will be replaced by collocated boards which will be open for business during normal working hours on all working days of the week. It is anticipated that North Carolina will have approximately 21 area Selective Service offices across the State when collocation is complete.

To provide better public access to the collocated administrative sites, the State Director said that registrars will be utilized in all communities for the convenience of the young men who must register in order to preclude avoidable travel for them. Advisors to registrants also are being appointed on a widespread basis to answer questions regarding Selective Service. The registrars and advisors, like the local board members, are not compensated for their services.

McCachren said that final plans for collocation of administrative sites in North Carolina have not been completed. The plans are subject to approval of the Governor.

Dr. Leonard Payne



Dr. Payne Is Appointed V-P At Perdue Corp.

Dr. W. Leonard Payne was recently appointed Vice President, Research and Quality Assurance of Perdue Incorporated by Franklin P. Perdue, President. Perdue is a Salisbury, Maryland, based poultry company with annual sales of over \$80,000,000 and other facilities in Accomac, Virginia, and Statesville, North Carolina. In this position Dr. Payne is responsible for quality assurance, nutrition development, research and the evaluation, assay, and testing of ingredients and finished feeds.

Dr. Payne is a native of Walnut. He received his B.S. degree in poultry science and M.S. degree in poultry nutrition from North Carolina State University in Raleigh and his Ph.D. degree in poultry nutrition from the University of Maryland. Dr. Payne is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Emelitte Payne, of Walnut.

At Perdue, Dr. Payne has served in the capacities of Director of Research, Feed & Grain Production Manager, Director of Nutrition & Research, and as Director of Quality Assurance.

Dr. Payne has also conducted poultry nutrition research work for the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries at College Park and has been employed by North Carolina State University as an Extension Nutrition Specialist.

Dr. Payne and his wife, the former Elsie Redmond of Asheville, and their two children, Leonard and Nancy, reside in Salisbury and are members of Allen Memorial Baptist Church.

Marshall Senior Wounded In Family Dispute

David Hazen, 18-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. George Hazen, of near Marshall, and a senior at Marshall High School, remains in serious condition in Memorial Mission Hospital where he was admitted early last Saturday morning with a gunshot wound in the stomach.

Sheriff Ponder indicated the shooting resulted from an argument between the youth and his parents.

Ponder said he was called to the Hazen home on the Marshall-Walnut highway about 5 a.m. and found the youth lying in the dining room. A .38 caliber pistol with one spent shell was confiscated at the home, Ponder said.

The boy's father was found severely beaten, according to Ponder, and said the elder Hazen received dispensary treatment at Memorial Mission Hospital for head wounds.

Ponder quoted the young man's mother as saying she

was forced to shoot her son after he beat up his father and turned on her.

Formal charges are being delayed pending the outcome of young Hazen's condition.

Micro Switch Now Accepting Applications

MICRO SWITCH is accepting applications for employment at its Mars Hill facility. According to Larry Burda, personnel manager at Mars Hill, the Honeywell division will soon be hiring people for assembly, office and key punch operations.

Burda said the personnel office at the former Hammarlund factory in Mars Hill would be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday. The

office will also be open Saturdays during the first two weeks in March from 8 a.m. until noon. After March 17 he said the personnel office would be open during normal plant hours, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Bill Kloos, Mars Hill location manager, said MICRO SWITCH expects to begin limited assembly of basic switches during the latter part of March.



HAROLD LAYNE MERRILL of Western Carolina Telephone Co. practices cable splicing as part of the course in Fundamentals of Cable Splicing. Merrill recently completed the ten-day course at the Continental Telephone Systems Training Center at Haymarket, Va. Merrill joined the Continental System in 1969 and is a resident of Mars Hill. Oliver D. Honeycutt of Western Carolina Telephone Co.



used special circuit testing equipment as part of his training during the Station Repair course at Continental Telephone System Training Center at Dulles International Airport, near Washington, D. C. Honeycutt graduated from Mars Hill High School and was in the U. S. Army for two years. He now lives in Weaverville with his wife, Betty.

OEO Shut-down Will Affect Poor In County

A shut-down of the anti-poverty programs administered by the Opportunity Corporation would have a "staggering effect" on the poor of Madison and Buncombe Counties, according to William P. Powell, of Mars Hill, chairman of the community action agency's board of directors.

"Nationwide, the program of the Office of Economic Opportunity has had some shortcomings, but in Madison and Buncombe Counties we have had some outstanding successes," Powell said.

The Atlanta Regional OEO office has notified the local agency that there will be no funding for programs financed by OEO after June 30. No direct word has been received concerning the fate of programs sponsored by the Opportunity Corporation but funded by other federal agencies such as Head Start, financed by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) and Neighborhood Youth Corps, New Careers and Mainstream, funded by the Department of Labor.

Powell, a former state senator, said that while many persons are inclined to discount the value of the anti-poverty program, it has put a lot of people to work who never had a job before and it has kept a lot of young people in school who otherwise would have had to go to work for \$1 an hour.

In Madison, Powell said, the

craft program, with the craft shop opened two years ago at Mars Hill College serving as an outlet for products, has been of tremendous benefit to the people, particularly the elderly and handicapped with no other source of income.

A progress report issued recently by the agency shows that last year 180 persons received income in the amount of \$19,123 from the manufacture and sale of hand-crafted articles. The report also shows that nearly 600 persons attended programs at the various community centers last year.

The community centers were established through community organization, incentive grants and use of labor and materials furnished by the various communities.

Still another Madison County program which has proven highly successful, Powell said, is home improvement in which the houses of the elderly and the handicapped have been brought up to standard. In cases where the resident could not afford the materials, they have been donated. Powell said a carpenter lead man was employed and Operation Mainstream furnished enrollees who worked with volunteer help from colleges and churches.

Powell said programs like the Neighborhood Youth Corps, Operation Mainstream have had a decided impact on poverty in the two counties.

According to Opportunity

Corporation records, the Neighborhood Youth Corps, started in 1966, has provided jobs for 8,240 youths. New Careers has involved a total of 257 since 1967, of whom 146 were employed following training, while Operation Mainstream has provided employment for 187.

The Head Start program, Powell said, has been of unmistakable worth. The HEW program, administered locally by the Opportunity Corporation, is expected to be operated under other sponsorship if the OEO program is dismantled.

"But it will be impossible to get all of the worthwhile programs switched to some other type of financing," Powell said.

"There is no special revenue sharing program at this point and talk of increasing the program from \$2.5 billion to



William P. Powell
\$10.5 billion is sheer wishful thinking.

"As I see it, we are faced with an abrupt cutoff of incentive grants, development and operation of community centers, building of roads, rehabilitation of homes—all these things that have given new hope and encouragement to people who have been long without it," Powell said.

3-Car Accident Here Friday; No Injuries

Several people miraculously escaped injury last Friday night in an accident involving three cars opposite the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Jim McIntyre on Walnut Creek Road.

According to officers, a vehicle driven by Dolman Sawyers, of Route 6, Marshall, struck a car driven by Mrs. Hilliard King in front of the McIntyre home about 7 o'clock. After Sawyers vehicle struck the King car, it then crashed into the McIntyre car which was parked in the yard.

Officers stated that the Sawyers car was headed toward Marshall at the time it struck the King car which was headed in the opposite direction. The impact turned the King car completely around. Sawyers was said to be alone. Mrs. King and her

two children were uninjured as was Sawyers. Considerable damage was done to the King car and extensive damage was done to the McIntyre car when the Sawyers car plowed into the left rear.

Sawyers has been charged with reckless driving and driving without operator's license, it was stated.

Deringer Sign Knocked Down; Not Moving

Pat Clemens, manager of Deringer Manufacturing Co., located on Main Street here, announced this week that several people had been concerned since the Deringer sign had been accidentally knocked down by a truck. Pat stated that the sign would be put back up this week.

"Many thought we might be going out of business. Rest assured, we are not. Business is at a peak and we are planning on expansion in the future," Mr. Clemens said.

Mrs. Adams In Auditor's Office Here

Announcement was made this week that Mrs. Robena Adams has been added to the Auditor's staff in the courthouse. She started her new duties on Monday.

In addition to Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Debra Jean Roberts is also assisting Auditor Emory Metcalf in the office.

RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF ARTHUR M. RAMSEY, D.D.S. FEBRUARY 21, 1973



PICTURED ABOVE is Mrs. Arthur M. Ramsey, of Marshall, widow of the late Dr. Arthur M. Ramsey, receiving a memorial plaque at the Madison County Health Department Building on Wednesday of last week. Presenting the plaque is James T. Ledford, Chairman Madison County Board of Health. At left is Larry Burwell, Health Director, Madison County Health Department. The Resolution is as follows:

WHEREAS: The Madison County Board of Health has directed a gesture of appreciation be made in memory of Dr. Arthur M. Ramsey for his many years of service to the Madison County Health Department, and

WHEREAS: Dr. Arthur M. Ramsey served as Chairman of the Madison County Board of Health from April, 1949 until November, 1972, and

WHEREAS: Dr. Arthur M. Ramsey in the capacity as Chairman of the Board of Health was significantly instrumental in sponsoring the creation of a Health Department for Madison County and,

WHEREAS: Dr. Arthur M. Ramsey during his years of service was a guiding force for the development of Public Health Services to the citizens of the county.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED: That a memorial plaque be permanently placed at the Madison County Health Department with the inscription IN MEMORY OF ARTHUR MORROW RAMSEY, D.D.S., CHAIRMAN, MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH 1949-1972.

— James T. Ledford
Chairman
Madison County Board of Health
— Larry Burwell
Health Director
Madison County Health Department