

Changes At Courthouse; Ledford Stresses Modernization

The Board of County Commissioners, at their regular meeting on March 5, made a thorough review of the tax administration process in Madison County. The Board heard from Emery Metcalf, Auditor, who indicated that at present there were over 12,000 tax listing abstracts which had to be reviewed and evaluated by the tax supervisor. He indicated that the magnitude of the tax administration process had become so great that he could not continue to undertake the job of tax supervisor without interfering with his duties as Auditor. Metcalf then submitted his resignation as tax supervisor, which was accepted by the Board.

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and that it be staffed with the appropriate experts and secretarial help. Based upon Ledford's recommendations, the Board, by unanimous vote, agreed to establish a separate tax office in the courthouse charged with the sole responsibility of listing taxes, appraising property and completing current abstracts. Harold Wallin accepted the position of Tax Supervisor and was sworn in. Wallin recommended that Ernest Snelson be appointed Assistant Tax Supervisor. The Board of County Commissioners approved Ernest Snelson and he was sworn in as Assistant Tax Supervisor. It was agreed that the new tax administration office would be located in a separate facility, County Commissioners meeting room, and that adequate employees should be

hired immediately. Wallin agreed to undertake the establishment of such an office and to report upon the progress at the next meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Wallin indicated to the Board that his new duties as Tax Supervisor would prevent him from continuing as custodian of the courthouse and Emery Metcalf agreed to assume these responsibilities.

"This is an effort to modernize the tax structure in Madison County and to maintain a current and accurate tax record of ownership. With the great increase in land purchases and transactions, it is the feeling of the Board that these reforms must be made immediately," James T. Ledford, chairman of the board of commissioners, stated.

Homebuilders Urged To Support Land Regulation

More than 100 members of the WNC Homebuilders Association were urged in a talk here Thursday to support local and statewide land use regulation.

The Executive Director of Region B Commission, L. D. Hyde discussed activities of the four county Council of Governments and stressed the urgency for private enterprise to "give your best thinking to assist local and state government to develop land use regulation now."

Hyde told the homebuilders that Region B Commission was one of seventeen such agencies established by joint local and state efforts to serve North Carolina. The commission is composed of the chief elected official from the four counties of Buncombe, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania.

Hyde said the central purpose in a land development policy is to insure:

1) that land development occurs in an orderly fashion, one which is pleasant for the citizen to use and not wasteful of tax dollars.

2) that critical pieces of land, important for their natural or environmental values, are protected against unnecessary or premature development.

3) that a democratic process is used to insure all citizens affected by land development the right to be represented equitably.

There are four principal

methods which can manage and control development of land:

(1) direct land use regulation by governmental police powers.

(2) rates of taxation of property.

(3) location of public facilities serving land development.

(4) acquisition, leasing, or easements for public uses.

It is incumbent on local and regional authorities to begin looking at the problems of land use and water-sewer services, especially in mountain resort areas where uncontrolled development threatens the well being and security of native inhabitants. Without some controls, land speculators can move into an area, develop all their lots, leave tremendous problems behind for the people of the community to solve. Vermont has passed a State law where any mountain development of over a few acres must first submit plans to local authorities and show how water and sewer services, roads, and other public facilities are to be provided as the area develops.

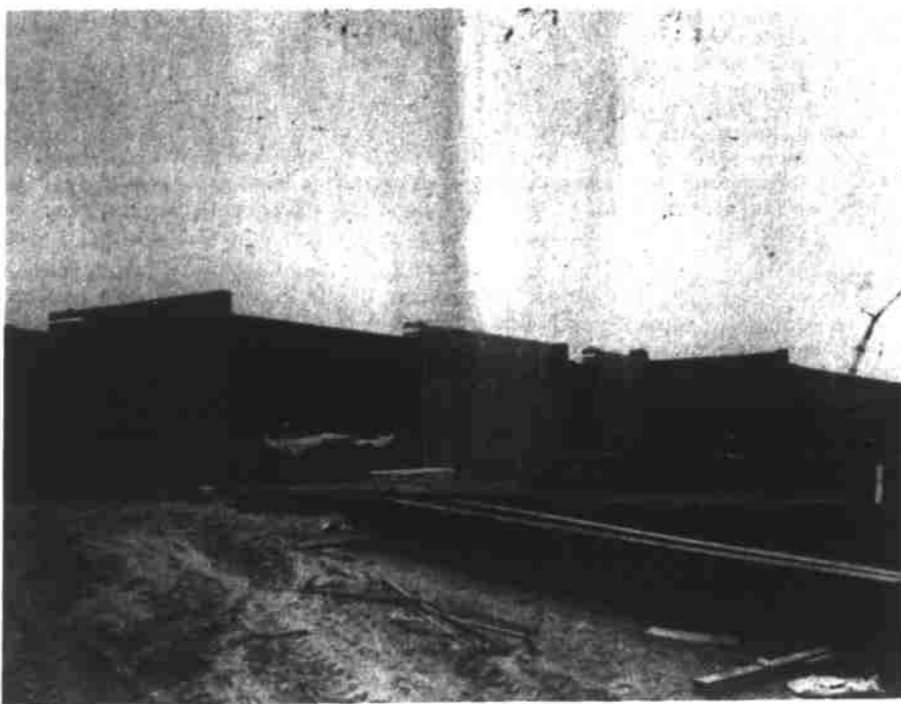
"It is my opinion," Hyde said, "that North Carolina will pass a statewide land development policy during 1973 or by 1975."

President R. Wiley Smith Weaverville Realtor-BUILDER presided at the meeting.

Self Defense For Youths

The Agricultural Extension Service, in cooperation with the Mars Hill College Physical Education Department, will sponsor a special course in self defense for Madison County youth beginning Monday, March 19. The class will meet Monday and Thursday nights for six weeks. The final class will be held Thursday, May 3. Cost of the course will be \$10 per person with an extra charge for insurance for non 4-H members. Uniforms will not be used in the class.

The class will be open to both boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 19. Registration for the course will be Monday, March 19, at 7:30 p. m., in the Mars Hill High School Gymnasium.



CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL starts to "grow" on the Marshall by-pass as picture above reveals. Shown is one of the units of the school taking shape. Tons of bricks, steel and other materials are on the site as construction continues, although delayed at times by inclement weather.



ANOTHER ADDITION JUST OFF THE Marshall by-pass is a new road under construction from the shopping center to the county school bus garage and to Mato, shown above. On right is the Farm Credit Bureau building.

Winners Announced At County 4-H Talent Show

The Annual Madison County 4-H Talent Show was held Saturday night, March 10, at Mars Hill with nearly 300 people in attendance. This year's show was another success as about 68 boys and girls participated in more than 20 acts.

Master of ceremonies for the event was Gary Moore, Program Director for WMMH Radio, Marshall. Judging the show were Mr. and Mrs. John Blair from Burnsville, N. C.

Blue ribbon winners who will represent Madison County in the Western District Talent Show, June 14, in Spruce Pine are Mike Metcalf, Foster Creek 4-H Club, piano solo; Cynthia Niles, Dawn Clemens, Rosa Dean Frisby, Tim Hodge, J. C. McIntyre, and Diane Wallin, Marshall Helping Hands 4-H Club, comedy skit; Janet Reeves, Marshall Helping Hands Club and Faith Wise, Haynes Run 4-H Club, tap dance.

Each person participating in the Talent Show received a ribbon. Red ribbon winners were Vickie Merrill and Lynn Merrill, Bull Creek Club, Vocal duet, accompanied by Mrs. Arnold Garrison; Susan Frisby, Cynthia Niles, Marshall Helping Hands Club and Rhonda Sprinkle, Haynes Run Club, pom-pom routine; Tammy Sprouse, Grapevine Club, reading; Renee Stronce, Bull Creek Club, piano solo; Linda DeVall, Haynes Run Club, dance routine; Vickie Radford, Pioneer Club, piano solo; Felicia Shelton, and Anna Lou Silver, Grapevine Club, clog dance; six members of Bull Creek Club, skit; Ricky Ballard, Vickie Radford, Eddie Rice, Donna Gasperson, Sharon Ponder, Jerry Buckner, Kathy Chandler, Dwayne Buckner,

Bobby Jamerson, Jeff Revis, Pioneer Club, group singing, accompanied by Mary Glen Miller, Vickie Robinson, Pioneer Club, piano solo; Tony Craine, Haynes Run Club, solo, accompanied by Mrs. Roberta Roberts; Bobby Jamerson, Brian Ramsey, Kent McPeters, Becky George, Dwayne Buckner, and Mark McPeters, Pioneer Club, skit, accompanied by Mickey Church; Meg Pressley, Mars Hill Club, dance routine; Members of Grapevine Club, circus act; Steve Fox, Bull Creek Club, solo.

Blue ribbon winners were Mike Metcalf, Foster Creek

Club, piano solo; Craig McDaris, Sidney Hunter, Steve Fox, Bull Creek Club, trio, accompanied by Vickie Merrill, Jeff Revis, Vickie Radford, Eddie Rice, Donna Gasperson, Sharon Ponder, Jerry Buckner, Kathy Chandler, Ricky Ballard, Dwayne Buckner, and Bobby Jamerson, Pioneer Club, group singing, accompanied by Mary Glen Miller.

Special thanks are in order for the Judges and Mr. Gary Moore who did an outstanding job. Also, special thanks to Mr. Gary Elms, stage technician, for his help and Mars Hill College for the use of the auditorium.

Upward Bound Summer Phase Recruitment Begins

Upward Bound program officials will begin recruitment efforts Monday, March 19, for the summer phase.

The federally-funded program serves Buncombe, Madison and Yancey counties and is designed for 50 high school juniors and seniors who are interested in going to college but who may have problems meeting college entrance requirements and college costs, according to Miss Janet Whisnant, program counselor.

The Mars Hill program consists of a seven-week summer phase involving campus living, academic courses and travel and of a

school-year phase involving tutoring and counseling.

The Mars Hill program, which began in 1968, operates in Asheville, North Buncombe and Erwin high schools in Buncombe; Marshall, Mars Hill, Laurel, Spring Creek and Hot Springs high schools in Madison; and East Yancey and Cane River high schools in Yancey.

Miss Whisnant will begin recruiting in these schools. She asks that students interested in Upward Bound contact their school counselor, principal or an Upward Bound student and then meet with her when she visits during the last of the month.

Local Food Dealers Object To Resolution By Town Officials

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following reply concerning the Resolution by the mayor and two of the three aldermen, published last week, is signed by J. C. Dodson, W. H. Deal, and Kelly Davis, Marshall food dealers.

The public by now is familiar with the move of the Town Officials of Marshall, Lorado Ponder, Roy Wild and Fleet Nix to legalize the sale of beer, liquor and wine within the corporate limits of the town.

Their resolution carried a phrase to the effect that the local business men felt they were at a disadvantage in being denied such. This statement is utterly false and untrue. We the food merchants of Marshall were never consulted or asked if we approved or disapproved such issue.

Let it be known as of now we the present food dealers highly disapprove such move and those of us eligible to vote will definitely vote no on this issue.

We feel this is a camouflaged scheme on the part of the town officials and other interested parties set up to benefit only one party, namely the occupant of the food store on the Marshall By Pass. It has been said that whoever the occupant of the food outlet on the Marshall By Pass might be, they would need the privilege of sale of

package beer and wines.

We humbly ask and request the city officials to present us with any petition of signers for the legalizing of the sale of such in the town of Marshall.

We the undersigned citizens and merchants have for as long as we have been serving the Marshall shopping area been successful enough to survive without having to resort to the sale of any alcoholic beverages and plan to continue without the sale of any.

The city officials state that the town can use the revenue derived from the sale of such. We question this matter. We know of no long or short range improvements contemplated for the town and along with the Federal government supplementing the town, as it does all city and county governments now, we can see no necessary need for any further tax money or tax increase. We feel the present tax structure is adequate for our present and future needs and plans.

Shop Early For Fertilizer

Shortages of some types of fertilizer, particularly tobacco sidedressing, and an anticipated fertilizer hauling problem could be sources of trouble for North Carolina farmers this year.

The problem could become serious if farmers don't do their fertilizer shopping early," cautioned North Carolina State University extension tobacco specialist S. N. Hawks.

Hawks said one of the primary problems is a sharp cutback in the availability of two primary tobacco sidedressing materials—the 15-0-14 analysis and nitrate of soda.

These materials are products of Chile. Indications are that a much larger than normal sale to European countries will sharply reduce the amount available in the U. S.

Compounding the problem is a tie-up of rail cars in the movement of grain for shipment abroad. The same type rail car is used for both grain and fertilizer.

The situation has been called "unprecedented" by Edwin Wheeler, president of the Fertilizer Institute, a national organization of the plant food industry.

With an expanded tobacco crop planned in North Carolina this year, Hawks said farmers should begin now to locate sources of fertilizer and plan to use substitutes for the materials that may be in short supply.

County extension agents throughout the state are assisting in alerting farmers of the possibility of a fertilizer problem and the alternatives available to them.

Hawks explained that the nitrate form of nitrogen, such as that in 15-0-14 and nitrate of soda (16-0-0), is preferred as a tobacco sidedressing. If these materials aren't available, a farmer might turn to other fertilizer containing the nitrate for mol nitrogen, such as potassium nitrate (13-0-14), or calcium nitrate (15-0-0).

We feel this is placing such at the convenience of our children and students and highly disapprove of this matter.

These circumstances and events leave us with only one choice: that is to soundly defeat this issue whenever it comes to the vote of the people. We invite all churches, civic organizations and all interested individuals in this and surrounding area to join with us. We suggest organizing now so we will be ready whenever we have to stand up and be counted.

Let's get started now, all parties interested in defeating this issue let us know, we will be there.

J. C. Dodson
W. H. Deal
K. Davis

Rector Seeks Mayorship Of Columbus, Ga.



CHARLES RECTOR

Charles Rector, a native of Marshall and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Willard C. Rector, Sr., of Marshall, is seeking the high post of Mayor of the city of Columbus, Georgia in the election on April 3. It was learned here this week.

Mr. Rector has been a citizen of Columbus for 24 years and for 14 years has been Account Executive WRBL-TV Station in Columbus.

He and his wife, Vi and two children, Bobby and Frances, are members of the St. Luke United Methodist Church where Mr. Rector served as teacher and President of the Fellowship Class.

Listed in the attractive folder announcing his candidacy for mayor, the following accomplishments are announced:

First Lt. American Field Service, Volunteer Ambulance Unit with British and Free French Forces... Africa star, Italy star, France-Germany star, India-Burma star, British mention in dispatches; Founding and Life Member, AFS International Scholarships (more than 35,000 foreign students brought to U.S. since 1947); President Columbus Optimist Club (1971-72); Member Board, Lusting Eyes School, Chairman, Personnel Review Board of the Consolidated Government.

Masons Will Confere Degree

French Broad Lodge No. 292, AF & AM, will confer the Master Mason Degree at the temple here Saturday night. Supper will be served by the ladies of the Eastern Star at 6:30 o'clock. The Lodge will open at 7:30 o'clock.

All Master Masons are urged to attend.



PICTURED ABOVE are Madison County 4-H winners at the Talent Show at Mars Hill College last Saturday. Left to right, Faith Wise, Janet Reeves, Michael Metcalf, Rosa Dean Frisby, J. C. McIntyre, Dawn Clemens, Tim Hodge and Cynthia Niles. (Photo by Diane Wallin, another 4-H winner)

Second Session Housing School Here Thursday

The second session of the Extension Housing School will be held Thursday night, March 15, at 7:30 p. m., at the French Broad Electric Building. The classes are designed for families that are planning to build a home, as well as those that are already building. Since housing is such a large investment, every family wants to get the best house possible for its money. Money management in relation to how much a family can safely invest in a home will be discussed. Building specification sheets and the principals of good floor plans will be covered. Selection of a house plan that is compatible to the life style of the family will also be stressed. The classes are open to the public without cost. If interested, contact Mrs. Linda Harrell, Housing and Home Furnishings Agent, at 649-2411.

REVELATIONS AT RED HILL SUNDAY
The Revelations, a musical group from Sylva, will be featured at the Red Hill Baptist Church this Sunday at 7:00 p. m.
The public is invited.



BELIEVE IT OR NOT, the 1971 Maverick shown above was headed in the opposite direction before "riding" the guard rail some 25 feet and coming to rest on top of rocks on Panhandle Curve, US 25-70, last Saturday afternoon. Michael Metcalf, 19, driver of the car, stated that he was crowded off the highway by an approaching car. He was uninjured. His brother, Robert, 17, was taken to an Asheville hospital with minor injuries. Both are sons of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Metcalf, of near Marshall.