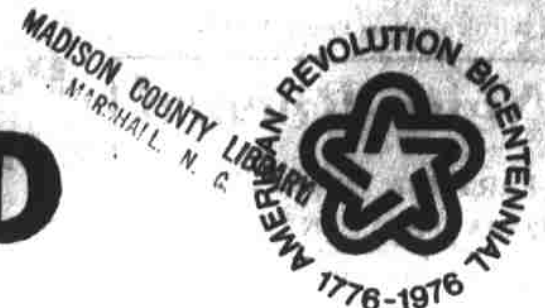


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THE NEWS - RECORD



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August 28, 1975

Sandy Mush Retains Present Voting Place, Brock Rules

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following letter is self-explanatory and was sent to:

August 20, 1975
Mr. Perry G. Willis, Chairman
Madison County Board of Elections
Post Office Box 142
Marshall, North Carolina
28753

Re: DECISION:
Petition to transfer voters

Dear Mr. Willis:
The undersigned acknowledges receipt, this date, of your letter dated August 18, 1975 submitted in response to my request dated August 5, 1975.

For the record, our file on this matter consists of the following:

(1) Copy of RESOLUTION adopted by the Madison County Board of Elections on July 5, 1975.

(2) Letter of transmittal from Mr. Joe L. Morgan, Secretary of the Madison County Board of Elections.

(3) Copy of my letter dated July 25, 1975 acknowledging receipt of Nos. (1) and (2) above and also containing a brief history of the 1975 legislation amending Gs 163-128.

(4) Copy of my letter dated August 5, 1975 addressed to you and requesting certain additional specific information regarding the proposed transfer of voters.

(5) Letter from Edward T. Gentry, member of the Madison County Board of Elections, stating reasons for his opposition to the RESOLUTION referred to in No. (1).

(6) Copy of the Official Minutes of a meeting of the Madison County Board of County Commissioners held on June 27, 1975 at which a RESOLUTION establishing two (2) townships in Madison County was adopted, as by law authorized.

(7) Letter of transmittal from Mr. Ronald W. Howell, Attorney for Madison County.

(8) Copy of the official Minutes of a meeting held by the Madison County Board of Elections on August 4, 1975, transmitted by you.

(9) Copy of COMPLAINT, AMENDED COMPLAINT and TEMPORARY

RESTRAINING ORDER listing members of the Madison County Board of Elections as Plaintiff and listing members of the State Board of Elections, the Attorney General and members of the Madison County Board of County Commissioners as Defendants, transmitted by you.

(10) Service of same as no. (9) by the Sheriff of Wake County.

(11) Copy of MOTION FOR

CHANGE OF VENUE and AFFIDAVITS prepared in answer by James Wallace, Jr., Associate Attorney, North Carolina Department of Justice.

(12) Your letter dated August 12, 1975 and received by this office on August 20, 1975 in response to my inquiry set forth in no. (4).

Now, THEREFORE, in consideration of all facts and information before this reviewing officer and in particular the information specified in the letter of response furnished by Mr. Perry G. Willis, Chairman of the Madison County Board of Elections the following FINDINGS are set forth:

1. Townships have been established by the Madison County Board of County Commissioners as permitted by law.

2. A Resolution proposing to transfer certain voters from one Township to a different Township was adopted by the Madison County Board of

Elections and submitted for consideration, pursuant to provisions contained in GS 163-128 as amended by Chapter 798, Session Laws of 1975.

3. The result of the proposed transfer would be the removal of 302 voters from their township of residence to an adjacent township.

4. No appreciable savings in travel distance for the voters would be accomplished by the proposed transfer.

IT IS THEREFORE CONCLUDED, based primarily on informational data supplied by Mr. Perry G. Willis, a petitioning party, that no substantive benefit will accrue to the voters proposed to be transferred and that the total number of voters proposed to be transferred far exceeds the total recommended by the State Board of Elections or the reviewing officer during the ten (10) years in which the reviewer has been consulted in similar proposed transfers;

that such transfers have consistently involved a bare minimum number of voters whereby such a transfer was deemed economically feasible and was supported by all interested parties, governmental and otherwise; that the ratio of voting precincts to voters in Madison County has been viewed with general acceptance by the State Board of Elections since the last significant realignment of voting precincts therein.

It is the DECISION of this reviewer that the facts do not merit affirmative action on the Resolution submitted and it is therefore, NOT APPROVED.

At Raleigh this 20th day of August, 1975.

Alex Brock
Executive Secretary

Director

cc: State Board members
Attorney General
Mr. Edward T. Gentry
Mr. Joe L. Morgan



GAIL KENT operates the new MTS terminal in the Weaverville office of Western Carolina Telephone. Alongside Gail is Nancy Blankenship, business office supervisor.

New Data System At Telephone Company

The Weaverville office of Western Carolina Telephone has begun to use a new data system to record customer bill payments, adjustments and service requests. The goal of the new system is to provide a more accurate and up-to-date telephone bill.

One of the major advantages is to reduce the mail lag time between the local business office and Continental Telephone Service Corporation's Data Center in Merrifield, Virginia. Presently, the gap between the time payments are made in the local office and the information is sent by mail to Dulles can be as much as a week, but the new system significantly speeds up the posting of payment information to the customer's account.

Another improvement is that service requests can be processed overnight into the computer. Under the old system, typing 80 service requests took an entire day, and then had to be mailed to the Data Center where they had to be entered separately into the computer. The new procedure cuts the time for doing 80 service requests

down to three hours, and posts them into the computer overnight.

What kind of electronic wizardry makes these changes possible? The answer is the MTS-7500, a combination typewriter - adding machine which electronically feeds all local customer activity into a timesharing computer and then on to the main computer at the Data Center. This new machine employs sophisticated computer technology to simplify the whole process of updating customer records used for billing.

The first step in the process begins when the MTS operator in the local office keys all daily customer account activity including cash payments, adjustments and service requests on the MTS terminal screen. This same data is then fed to the GE timesharing computer in Cleveland, Ohio, or to other satellite offices.

Later in the same 24-hour period, the customer activity is relayed from GE into the Data Center's main computer.

After that, the main computer feeds rejected service orders back to the GE com-

puter. A second step transmits a list of customer payments sent to the Data Center into a teletype machine located in the local business office.

The next day, the local terminal operator calls the GE computer and begins to correct service orders rejected at the Data Center. A service request requires only a few minutes to correct and resend.

Before the new system was implemented, those personnel who will work with the MTS, including the terminal operator, participated in a five-day training program in Merrifield.

According to Paul Wooten, District commercial manager at Weaverville, the new system represents "a significant improvement in customer service by applying a greater amount of customer activity to each month's bill. We've tested the MTS operation for three years and we think it's the best one available."

The new system requires no additional effort of the customer, nor does it change billing or payment due dates.

Ponder Awarded \$40,000 In Suit Here

Zeno H. Ponder, of Marshall, was awarded \$40,000 by a Madison County jury in superior court held here last week in which Judge John Friday presided. Ponder had asked \$150,000 in the suit.

The incident involved Ponder's car and a Budweiser beer truck on the highway near Bevard on the morning of March 27, 1973.

According to evidence, Ponder had stopped to make a left turn when the loaded truck struck his automobile from behind. The impact knocked Ponder's car some 105 feet. Ponder suffered an injured neck as well as cuts and bruises.

Ponder's car was demolished.

Hot Springs To Celebrate Labor Day

The 4th annual Labor day celebration will be held at Hot Springs this Saturday beginning at 3 p.m.

Bingo and other games will be enjoyed and a barbecued chicken supper will be served from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

Square dancing will begin at 8 p.m. at the school building and will continue to 12 midnight.

The Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the events and the public is cordially invited to attend and participate.

Most all stores will be closed Labor Day

Fireworks And Dance Here Monday Night

The Marshall Volunteer Firemen are sponsoring a square dance on the Island here Monday night beginning at 7:30 o'clock.

At dusk or darkness, a

beautiful display of fireworks will be shown.

The public is invited to come to Marshall Monday night and enjoy the square dance and watch the fireworks.

Conservation Of Water In Marshall Urged

Marshall officials are urging local people to be as conservative as possible with the use of water.

With the extended dry spell plus the fact that the water level at the Hunter Creek storage lake is being lowered a foot each day as a result of an order from the State Dam Safety Commission and the Environmental Management Commission recently, and due also to the increase in water usage by the two schools in the Marshall area, the water situation is "indeed serious", one alderman stated Monday.

The officials also urge all persons to immediately report any leaks in water pipes or other reasons of "wasted water".

"Unless the public cooperates in this conservation appeal, more drastic steps may have to be taken soon", one official commented.

It is generally known that July, August and September are the "dry months" of the year and this year's extended dry spell is worse than in many recent years.

"Although the conditions are not yet 'critical', a shortage of water for many more days could cause conditions alarming and critical," the alderman said.

"We urge everyone to have every drop of water possible by using water sparingly and wisely," the alderman concluded.

SBI Investigating Manpower Check Case

The State Bureau of Investigation has been asked to look into a suspected forged-check case involving a manpower program in Madison County funded through the Land - of - Sky Regional Council.

Asked to confirm reports of the investigation received, Robert E. Shepherd, council executive director, said the SBI had been called in after "irregularities" had been noticed with respect to some checks issued to workers in the Neighborhood Youth Corps in school program. The investigation was launched at

the request of Chairman James T. Ledford of the Madison County Board of Commissioners, a council member.

What happened, Shepherd said, was that accountants noticed that five checks issued to NYC clients had not been cashed. It was later determined that money that was supposed to reach the clients may not have done so.

Shepherd said the checks were drawn against an account with The Bank of Asheville. When the bank was asked about the old checks, he

said, it advised the council, to stop payment, which was done, and new checks were mailed to the homes of the clients involved.

However, he said, the old checks were then found to have been cashed. When the bank was informed of this, it took the responsibility but also stopped payment on the new checks.

It was at this point, Shepherd said, that the parents of some of the NYC youths complained to Ledford that their children had never received the original checks.

Then, he said, a comparison of the time cards filled out by the youths and the endorsements on the checks that had been cashed raised questions, at least to untrained eyes, whether the signatures were the same.

The sum of money involved is not large, Shepherd said, involving perhaps in the area of \$60 in each case. However, it is not yet known that only the five checks that triggered the investigation are involved.

The SBI has just begun interviews with persons connected with the program, which is federally funded and was, until the end of the last fiscal year, operated by the council.

228 Campers Graduate At Super Summer Day Camp

Super Summer Day Camp graduation exercises were held August 15 for 228 Madison County young people who completed a summer camping program which included classes in nutrition.

The unique camping experience was sponsored jointly by the Agricultural Extension Service with Mrs. Linda Harrell, supervisor; Opportunity Corporation, Madison County Recreation Program, and Madison County Board of Education.

The jam-packed agenda of fun programs was offered in six school districts and included a physical education program offering unfamiliar sports, sewing classes designed for little fingers, the fine art of copper enameling for eager young hands, and the world of nutrition and its implications to society.

Traditional teaching techniques were strictly taboo for nutrition classes, according to Mrs. Harrell. "Going fishing with magnets and paper clips proved to be very effective in teaching basic four food groups to campers," she said.

Unfamiliar foods were tasted and identified. Quizzing games were a part of this along with foods in a laundry bag to be touched and identified.

Men such as Pasteur and McCormick took on new meaning and a better understanding of the crucial role of vitamins in a balanced diet was gained, she said.

Milk and products day was termed the best by campers. Although they were actually able to see the blue glow of riboflavin B vitamin in milk, this experience did not match the joy of carefree children making old-fashioned ice cream by the hand crank method, said Mrs. Harrell.

The graduation night program will be held in Madison County Courthouse and is open to the public.

10 Warrants Served On School Charges

Warrants were served Friday on two principals and eight teachers in Madison County charging them with falsifying pupil accounting forms, Sheriff E.V. Ponder reported.

The educators - one man and nine women - were assigned to two schools in the county system last spring when the initial reports of alleged discrepancies were disclosed by the N.C. Office of Pupil Accounting, the Spring Creek and Hot Springs schools.

Ponder said warrants were served on Larry Plummer, Spring Creek principal; Mrs. Jewel Church, Hot Springs principal; Martha Kirk-

patrick, a Spring Creek teacher; and seven Hot Springs teachers: Isobel Maynard, Frances Lee Ramsey, Lois C. Moore, Vera B. Sumner, Elizabeth Wright, Mattie Ray Ramsey and Lucille R. Chandler.

Each of those charged posted \$50 bond set by Magistrate Lloyd Fowler. Hearings in all cases are scheduled in District Court here on Sept. 15. The officers alleged are indictment.

The warrants are the result of an investigation District Attorney Opie Roberts requested following the initial report by the Pupil Accounting agency.

Ellis Named Director Of Alumni Affairs At Mars Hill College

Richard P. Ellis, an Asheville native and Mars Hill alumnus, has been named Director of Alumni Affairs at Mars Hill College. A 1972 graduate of the Baptist affiliated college, he comes back to Mars Hill from Asheville, where he has been manager of a branch office of an Asheville bank.

Ellis, son of Mr. & Mrs. Candler W. Ellis of 9 Brookside Road, Asheville, will coordinate the work of the college's 33 alumni chapters. The chapters are spread over 10 southeastern states and the District of Columbia, and have over 14,000 members. Initially Ellis' efforts will be in the areas of chapter scholarships and the college's annual fund.

Eventually he will become responsible to the alumni records keeping operation as well.

A 1968 graduate of T.C. Roberson High School, Ellis was class vice-president, youth council representative, cheerleader, and received the good citizenship award and was a senior superlative. He attended the University of Tennessee for one year before transferring to Mars Hill. At Mars Hill he majored in history and minored in business. He was a French exchange student, cheerleader, skiing instructor, water utility instructor, and was named to



RICHARD P. ELLIS

the dean's list.

Following his graduation, he was named manager of a West Asheville branch bank. Under his direction the bank's assets were ranked second of all branches and deposits grew to over half a million dollars. Ellis has been active in the United Fund Industrial Division and the Heart Fund Drive.

He has been licensed as a real estate broker, is a notary public, and was a member of the National Ski Patrol and the Asheville Bowling Club. He is married to the former Rebecca Stone of Mars Hill, a teacher at South French Broad Junior High School. The couple made their home at 22 S. Andrews Street, Asheville.



MEASURING THE VALUE — Campers learned that one quart of milk contains the same amount of calcium that a total of all vegetables shown above does. Campers, (L-R): Junior Gardner, Donna Gardner, and Donna Briscoe, compare the quart of milk with 7 1/2 lbs. cabbage, 27 lbs. potatoes, 28 oranges, 39 eggs, 7 1/2 pounds carrots, two quarts ice cream, and seven ounces American Cheese.



STUDYING WORLD HUNGER — Teenagers spent some very serious time at camp studying the world's hunger problems. They "rode" the wheat crops to Kansas on hopper cars to the "docks" and "boarded" freighters to India, en route to Calcutta. They "went" to the city of Bombay in India, where they saw how the government was trying to feed the millions.