



THE NEWS - RECORD

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Bicentennial Plans Discussed At Wolf Laurel Saturday



Approximately 30 members of various Madison County Bicentennial committees and sub-committees and other community leaders attended the Bicentennial meeting held Saturday night at the Ski Lodge on Wolf Laurel.

Dr. Evelyn Underwood, of Mars Hill, chairman of the Bicentennial Commission in Madison County, told the group of plans and goals for the county through the Bicentennial year of 1976. She reviewed the history to the committees which were organized in November, 1973 and commended the efforts of members and leaders of the various committees.

Dr. Underwood congratulated the fine accomplishments of 13 or more communities in the county who have waged gigantic clean-up campaigns which include the removal of countless junked cars, the continuous task of keeping the highways and adjacent properties attractive by picking up bottles, trash and refuse from the shoulders, and encouraging beautification of yards in the various communities.

She particularly commended the Greater Ivy and Laurel communities on their splendid campaigns and achievements which includes

the youth programs, mail box improvements, yard improvements, new community projects, etc.

"These accomplishments tend to make other communities strive for like improvements and a spirit of pride and cooperation," Dr. Underwood said.

Various community leaders gave reports of progress and goals, including Marshall (Community Development and Beautification), Mrs. O.A.

Gregory and Earl Wise; Sleepy Valley, Dr. Underwood; Big Laurel, Mrs. Juanita Adcock; Bull Creek - Gabriel's Creek, Dr. Underwood; Greater Ivy (13 communities, 502 families, 210 miles of road, Dr. Grover Angel, Forks of Ivy, G. M. Joyce; Greater Mars Hill, Fred Anderson, Jr.; Upper Laurel, Robert W. Ramsey, Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh English; Walnut, Mrs. Lucille Burnette; White Rock, L.A.

Zimmerman, Jr.; Hayes Run, Spring Creek - Bluff (Mr. Wise and Dr. Underwood reported for communities not represented).

The Bicentennial program began officially with the opening of the Southern Repertory Theater in July. The first festival celebration will be the Bascom Lamar Lunsford Music and Dance Festival October 2, 3, and 4. The first of these events of the festival will take place on

Thursday, October 2, at Madison High, and will continue on Friday and Saturday at Mars Hill College campus.

Of special interest is the "Time Capsule" being prepared by all communities in the county which will be buried at ceremonies on Sunday, July 4, on ground offered by Mars Hill College. Also being planned is a special issue of The News - Record, coming out on July 1, 1976.

Mrs. George Shape was named publicity coordinator.

working with the steering committee and sub-groups throughout the Bicentennial celebration.

Dr. Underwood explained the proposed calendar for Bicentennial activities in

Madison County during 1976 which involves, directly or indirectly, most every citizen in the county.

The complete calendar of events will be published when finalized.

Marshall Water Haul Stops; Crisis Ends

The National Guard stopped hauling water from Woodfin to Marshall at 4 p.m. Friday, following a meeting of state and local officials at which it was decided that the water situation is beyond the crisis stage.

"People should continue to conserve water as much as possible until local officials let them know otherwise," said William Ferrigo, Area F coordinator of the state Department of Civil Preparedness.

Ferrigo attended the meeting with James Ledford, chairman of the Madison County Board of Commissioners, and John Tolson

Ill, secretary of the state Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

Ferrigo praised the National Guard's 540th Transportation Battalion for its around-the-clock hauling of

water to the Marshall reservoir. Some 60,000 gallons were hauled by tanker trucks each eight hours to keep the town from going dry.

There was a week's supply of water in the reservoir

Friday, Ferrigo said, and showers were forecast Friday night.

Additional water is being supplied by two wells dug during the past week.



FRENCH BROAD RIVER CLEAN-UP is in progress from the Madison-Buncombe County Line to the Tennessee State Line. Work was started two weeks ago at the upper end. Top photo shows a cleared off spot near the county line. On extreme left is US 25-70 and on right is the French Broad River. Bottom photo shows Clarence Gunter, coordinator of the project, pointing to the other side of the river which will also be cleared of thick undergrowth and debris. Before this area was cleared, it was impossible to see river from the highway. (Pictures by Jim Story)

Republican Precinct Officials Chosen

Republican precinct officials have been chosen in each of the precincts of the county to serve two year terms. They were chosen in this "off year" in accordance with the GOP Plan of Organization that was adopted at the 1971 State Republican Convention. A Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and two OR MORE members have been tapped and delegates have been chosen to attend the Madison County GOP Convention that will be held in the county courthouse at 2 p.m. Saturday, September 20. Mr. Robert G. Shaw, a county commissioner (and former Commission Chairman) from Guilford County, and a candidate for State Republican Chairman, has been invited to attend the county convention and to speak briefly to the delegates.

The precinct officials are: Marshall - Walter Harrell

(Ch.); Mrs. Pat Roberts (V. Ch.); Mrs. Frances Buckner (Secy); Mr. Evan Payne; Sherman Ramsey; Fred Payne, Gary Sprinkle, Bobby Chandler, Abner Wilde, Mrs. Lucretia Freeman Griffin, Laurel - Mr. Odus Chandler, Mrs. Mamie Banks, G.M. Cutshall, Fred Henderson, Thomas J. Ray, Hubert Cutshall, Sherman Cutshall, Blaine D. Ray, Mars Hill - Mrs. Elizabeth J. Crocco, Doyle B. Cody, Mrs. Wm. B. Chapman, Alan Briggs, Mrs. Raymond Babelay, Sandy Cody, Beech Glen - Roger Swann, Mrs. Ella Vee Willis, Paul P. Briggs, Jr., Bruce English, Neal Willis, Ronnie Jarvis, Walnut - Jim F. Craine, Mrs. Sharon Brown, Mrs. Edith Lunsford, Wayne Rice, Lewis Rudisill, Clyde Randall, Ralph Baker, Kermit Blankenship, Mrs. Frances C. Ramsey, Hot Springs - Troy Self, Mrs. Irene C. Roberts, Eugene

Goode, Mrs. Odessa H. Roberts, Mrs. Peggy Baker Datterer, Mr. Frank Lee Roberts, Sr., Bruce Chandler, Sharon Baker, Ebbs Chapel - Terry Wyatt, Mrs. Susie W. Jenkins, Howard Jenkins, Mrs. Don Peek, Clay Honeycutt, Omar Fender, Edward Hoyle, Howard Roberts, Spring Creek - Spencer Rollins, Mrs. Betty W. Rollins, Frank Massey, Mrs. Eddie Lankford, Tony Plemmons, George Worley, Bobby Clark, Sandy Mush - Nealey Bradburn, Mrs. Mallie Brown, James Ashe, Robert Duckett, Robert Ray Buckner, Hubert Sharp, Mrs. Gale Brown, Grapevine - East Fork - Harold Payne, Mrs. Lockie Rice Coates, Kerfman Clark, Fred Huffman, Mrs. Ada C. Bruce, Roy E. Norton, Roger D. Sprinkle, Mrs. Shirley B. Caldwell, Everett Gosnell, Lanny M. Robinson.

Cecil Blackwell And Cherry Limb Find Underground Water

By JIM STORY

Cecil Blackwell, of Walnut, who is the Madison County Dog Warden, has become recognized statewide and especially in Madison County since he and a cherry limb discovered underground water on Monday of last week. The well, located some distance in the hollow on Walnut Creek not too far from the O.E. Roberts Memorial Stadium at Madison High School, produces about 75 gallons of water per minute. A pump has been rigged from the new source so that water may be carried to the main line 300 feet away and then to the million-gallon reservoir.

Other locations are also being explored to bolster the water supply for Marshall. During the critical shortage here water has been pulled from the headwaters on Hunter Creek. Since the regular storage lake on Hunter Creek is not being used due to a critical water shortage and orders not to use the water from the lake for consumption, every possibility of underground water is being attempted.

The N.C. National Guard with two 5,000-gallon capacity water tanks have been on round-the-clock duties bringing water from Woodfin to the Marshall reservoir. With this assistance from the National Guard, the new wells, intermittent rains, and cooperation of citizens in conserving water, the "critical" stage has been passed, at least for the present.

CECIL AND THE CHERRY LIMB
This writer contacted Cecil Blackwell last Friday morning and asked for an interview. "Come on out to the Health Center and I'll show you and tell you about the wonders and mystery of the

cherry limb", he said. Arriving at the Health Center, Cecil said he had started this unique method of finding water about three years ago.

He brought out the cherry limb, which is in a "Y" shape. The single prong is about 10 inches long with the two "handles" about 16 inches long each. The "instrument" resembles a large sling-shot.

He took this writer to a spot nearby where there was water under the ground. He grasped the "handles" tightly and when he pointed the prong toward a certain area, the prong wiggled up and down and Cecil's arms and entire body shook as if he was being electrified.

It was the weirdest demonstration I'd ever seen. He repeated the demonstration several times and each time with the same mysterious results.

"Let me try it. Will it wiggle when I hold it?" I asked Cecil. "I don't think so. Very few people have any results like I do," he said.

I took the cherry limb in my hands, pointed the prong to the same area but nothing happened. Not a single wiggle.

"I can't explain it and I assure you it's a mystery to me - it just happens, that's all I know," he said.

I grabbed my camera and took his picture holding the cherry limb "sling-shot." I was and am still mystified at the whole thing. It seems impossible but seeing is believing and I saw it happen.

He said that this method of "finding water" has thus far proved about 90 percent accurate. He stated that he had "discovered" large amounts of water in the past three years and enjoys helping find these spots with the aid of his cherry limb.



CECIL BLACKWELL, of Walnut, shown holding the cherry limb which helped in the discovery of a well which produces 75 gallons of water per minute. The water is piped to the Marshall reservoir from the well. (Picture by Jim Story)

Hot Springs Municipal Election Set

Mrs. Elizabeth Staude, Chairman, Hot Springs Municipal Board of elections has announced that an election is to be held on Tuesday November 4, 1975, the established by law, for the purpose of electing a Mayor and three Aldermen.

The polling place will be at

the Hot Springs Recreation Center, and the polls will be open on election day from 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The Chairman announces in a legal notice, published elsewhere in this issue, that the filing period for candidates will be to 11 noon October 3, 1975, excluding Saturdays and Sundays.

The Clerk of the Town of Hot Springs will accept the notices of candidacy. The registration books will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Hot Springs City Hall, located on Andrews Ave. Hot Springs, N.C.

The registration deadline for said election shall be on Monday, October 6, closing at 4 p.m.

N.C. Public Health Meeting Held

The annual meeting of the North Carolina Public Health Association, Inc. was held September 10-12 at Grove Park Inn in Asheville, N.C. An estimated 750 members were present. The program included section meetings on public health nursing, environmental health, health education, public health management, community health and various other aspects of public health.

Members of Madison County Health Department Staff attending the NCPHA meeting were Mr. Edward A. Morton, Mr. Michael Bradley, Mrs. Garnette Sprinkle, Mrs. Elizabeth Baker, Mrs. Elizabeth DuVal, Mrs. Nancy Wilde, and Mrs. Verna Buckner.

The environmental health section meeting include educational lectures on various areas of environmental health, business sessions, and presentations of awards and certificates. Mr. Edward Morton, Madison County Health Department, was presented the Registered Sanitarian Certificate by Mr. Marshall Station, Director of Sanitary Engineering Section.

The Nursing Section, NCPHA began with a luncheon September 10, featuring speakers on counseling and communications and "update and outlook in public health nursing". A joint meeting of public health nursing and community health aids was held September 11 which featured a lecture on minimal

brain damage and child abuse.

Mrs. Naomi Garrison, PHN, Madison County Health Department, was elected a member of the nominating committee at the business meeting of the nursing section held September 11.

Mr. Larry Burwell, MPH, Chief, North Carolina Office of Comprehensive Health Planning, former Madison County Health Director, spoke on basic public health needs at one of the four general sessions held at the meeting.

Mars Hill Gets \$88,000 Loan For Fire House

WASHINGTON - Congressman Roy A. Taylor Tuesday announced the approval of a loan of \$88,000 from the Farmers Home Administration for the purchase of a building site and construction of a new fire house for the Town of Mars Hill.

Rep. Taylor said Mars Hill plans to construct a 60' x 60' concrete floor, concrete block and brick front building for

the Volunteer Fire Department.

The new fire house will consist of four bays, a meeting room, bathroom and storage area.

The old facility is located in the Town Hall in the middle of the Mars Hill business district where traffic congestion presents a problem for the Mars Hill Volunteer Fire Department when answering a service call.

Bloodmobile To Be In Marshall Friday, Sept. 19

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the French Broad EMC Building here on Friday afternoon, September 19, between the hours of 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.

The blood unit is operating an hour earlier than in the past in

hopes that some of the high school students will be able to donate blood before the school buses run.

All citizens are urged to take off a few minutes and visit the bloodmobile and give a pint of blood. It could save someone's life.

French Broad River Clean-Up Now Underway

By JIM STORY

The French Broad River clean-up program which was approved by the U.S. Department of Commerce, started two weeks ago at the Madison - Buncombe County line is in full swing. Plans call for the cleaning up of trash, unsightly timber, underbrush, etc., from Madison County to the Tennessee State Line.

James Ledford, chairman of the county commissioners, stated this week that although the project has been started for only two weeks, vast improvements have already been made. He also said that the \$100,000 project time limit has been increased to 18 months.

Clarence Gunter, of the Laurel section of Madison County, is coordinator of the project. Mr. Gunter told this newspaper this week that he has 23 men hired, all from Madison County. "It's a fine group of hard workers who are taking pride in what they are doing."

The general purpose of the project is to create jobs in Madison County by utilizing funds made available to TVA from the TVA Department Program. It is the intent of this program to bring about long-term economic, environmental and community

improvements by "beautifying the shoreline" of the French Broad River, improving water quality, enhancing fish population, and reducing flood hazards. Mr. Ledford stated.

County officials anticipate that the clean-up project will help create public interest and support for environmental protection and beautification. Such efforts are currently being furthered by the various Madison County Bicentennial Commission results throughout the county.

Mr. Gunter, coordinator of the project, said Monday that 14 loads of brush, along with washing machines, car parts and all types of junk had been taken from the shoreline along the Madison - Buncombe County line on dump trucks. He also said that his crew had left stacks of cut timber on the cleared off places for the owners of the property to take if they desired. Otherwise, the brush is being burned in the burn pits.

He estimated that a total of 100 men are working on the project. He also said that the project is being carried out in a systematic manner, with the most critical areas being cleaned up first. He also said that the project is being carried out in a systematic manner, with the most critical areas being cleaned up first.

Robert M. Adams, D.D.S., Opens Office Here

Robert M. Adams, D.D.S., has opened a dentist's office in the Doctor Building on Main Street in Marshall.

He and his wife, the former Miss Susan H. Adams, are both from Winston-Salem.

Adams spent at Chapel Hill where he graduated from UNC. He was an undergraduate in 1971 and the U.N.C. School of Dentistry in 1975.

Dr. Adams became interested in the area last summer while working in the

Buncombe County Health Center Dental Clinic. His desire was to practice in a small town in need of a dentist and Marshall was the place.

"I am looking forward to practicing here," Dr. Adams said.