

# THE NEWS - RECORD

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## Mrs. Leake Public Health Nurse Here

Mrs. June Franklin Leake, R.N., of Route 4, Marshall, started her duties as a Public Health Nurse here on October 1.

She received an Associate Degree in Nursing from Asheville - Buncombe Tech in 1973 and has been associated with Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville for the past two years.

She and her husband, Warner Leake, have two children, Elizabeth, 16, and Jeff, 11.



A CHECK FOR \$2,202.13 was presented to Bill Stell, Madison High School Band Director, last Thursday by Mrs. Jenny Cody, Philanthropic Chairman, and Mrs. Donna Rice, president of the Beta Omega Sorority. This check is the result of the recent Walk-A-Thon for Band Uniforms. Left to right, J.C. Wallin, principal of MHS; Mrs. Cody, Bill Stell, and Mrs. Rice.

## Masons To Present Awards Oct. 25

Wentworth Lodge No. 282, AF & AM will present Veterans Awards at a meeting of the Lodge at the Masonic Temple in Marshall on Saturday evening, October 25th.

Prior to the meeting members of the Eastern Star Chapter will serve supper to Masons and their wives, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

## Mrs. Neple Adams Retires As Teacher At Laurel

After 32 years in the Madison County school system Neple Adams retired on August 19, 1975.

Mrs. Adams is the wife of Elyse Adams, member of the Madison County Board of Commissioners. She is the mother of June Gahagan and Shelia Rice.

A graduate of Asheville Normal College, Mrs. Adams was Principal of Revere School for her first two years of service. The remaining 30 years were spent at Laurel School. A master teacher, Mrs. Adams taught all grades from 1st during her tenure and taught them well.

She was instrumental in helping start a successful Title III "Accountability in Reading" program at Laurel. This program attempts to take the child where he is and let him progress at his own rate of speed. Mrs. Adams is a firm believer in this concept of teaching. She was a great educator and will be missed in



NEPLE ADAMS

Madison County Schools. Mrs. Adams says she wants to become more active in Church and voluntary work after she catches upon some of her "sleep."

She was replaced by Christa Wallin, a former Reading teacher at Laurel and Kindergarten teacher at Marshall.

## Westco Explains Request For Rate Increase

Summary: Declining earnings, reduced ability to compete for investment capital needed for expansion push Westco Telephone Company to seek new rate relief.

Declining earnings, a trend that has already hurt its ability to compete for expansion capital, has been cited as the reason Westco Telephone Company must again seek a general rate increase.

According to Norman Gum, president, "It's true that we just had an increase, but it simply was not enough to offset the continuing drop in our level of earnings. We filed for that increase in May, 1974, using year-end 1973 financial

data. We received our answer in May of this year, but then were granted only 60 percent of what we knew was needed to improve our company's economic health.

"We're like any other business that has been caught up in the present cycle of inflation. Our costs, like those of the retailer or manufacturer, have increased and we must again offset the effects with a compensating increase in what we charge for service. The increase we're asking for would add no more than from \$2.65 to \$5.20 a month to basic residential rates, and no more than \$12.95 per month to business individual line rates.

"Also proposed is an increase in residence extensions to \$1.35 a month and \$2.10 a month for businesses; charging \$30.00 for new installations and \$17.50 for installations where the previous customer has left the existing phone in place; and other related changes for supplemental services and equipment.

"The combined increase would generate approximately \$1.2 million in additional annual revenue.

"Today's harsh reality is that the company's net income has actually declined by some 25 percent when compared to year-end 1973," Gum pointed out, "and this is a trend that cannot be allowed to continue if we are to protect the integrity of our company and its service to the customer. It's already severely impaired our ability to attract outside investment capital that historically is used by our industry to finance expansion."

He said the company is unable to meet most of the standard economic tests used by investors in measuring the safety of investment opportunities. "Our only alternative has been to use funds generated from within the company as much as possible, but this has provided us with only a minimum of dollars and we therefore have had to cut back our construction program accordingly," Gum added.

Westco's annual construction expenditure has

fallen from \$2.6 million in 1974 to the estimated \$1.8 million for 1975.

"That's a particularly disturbing curve to us because the demand for improved service is still there. We have done a lot over the past few years to meet customer needs, including major improvements in long distance service and the elimination of multi-party lines, but there's still more to do, and we know it. Yet we can only go as far and as fast as our available dollars will let us."

In discussing his company's drop in net income, he said it is tied directly to a corresponding rise in company expenses. For example, the company's total operating expenses rose by an average of more than 2 percent a month from December, 1973, to May, 1975, and it is now costing Westco 33 percent more to run its operations than 15 months ago.

The state of the economy and inflation during this period contributed to the rise in costs generally while specific factors have included a 31 percent increase in interest expenses on borrowed money and a 54 percent jump in the cost of maintaining equipment and facilities.

At the same time, the company increased its overall investment in equipment by 14 percent and now has more than \$22 1/2 million behind the telephones, poles, cables, vehicles, and other facilities serving customers. This averages out to approximately \$960 invested in each of the 23,500 phones served by the company.

"We know we can't meet the customer's needs without putting more money into service improvements. Yet we can't build without capital, and we can't get that capital unless we're earning enough to attract the outside investor.

"If what we earn is inadequate, then that investor will simply turn away from us and put his money elsewhere. We know we have an obligation to provide the most reliable service possible, but that can only be done if we have the money to do the job," Gum stated.



LADY JUSTICE again adorns the courthouse dome here. The new model was erected last Friday. Bottom photo shows men starting to raise the 6-foot-tall, 75 pound statue. On left is W. C. Stanton, sometimes referred to as "Brother Rat", sculptor of the new figure, watching. On right is Cordell Massey, courthouse custodian. Center photo shows Lady Justice on way to dome and top photo shows Lady Justice again on top of dome. (Pictures by Jim Story)

## N.C. State Fair Opens Friday

The North Carolina State Fair will open its annual nine-day run here Oct. 17, showing off a new crafts building and livestock pavilion, plus a third consecutive year of admission-free entertainment and other frills and thrills that

Tar Heel residents have enjoyed for more than 100 years.

With the livestock being shown in the country's most up-to-date facility, the Fair will include more than 11,000 exhibits involving about 3,000 exhibitors from nearly all of the State's 100 counties.

Opening ceremonies will be held adjacent to the Governor Kerr W. Scott Building at 2 p.m. opening day.

Two special exhibits - "Turfs Up" and "Land of Horses," housed in Charter

Spheres, dome-shaped pavilions, will highlight two of the State's industries.

In Dorton Arena and on the outdoor stage visitors will be entertained by such stars as Brenda Lee, Jim Stafford, O.B. McClinton, the Duke Ellington Orchestra, Sonny James and the Country Gentlemen, Danny Davis and the Nashville Brass, the Dupont Marionettes and the Common Ground...all free.

On the Midway they'll thrill to the bright, lights, rides,

shows and games of the James E. Strates Show while in the Grandstand, they'll watch the daring exploits of Jack Kochman's Hell Drivers.

From displays of hand-crafted wares, to shows of North Carolina's finest farm animals, to foot-long hot dogs and sticky cotton candy, the State Fair draws a larger crowd than any other event in the state. The fun starts when the gates open at 9 a.m. every day except Sunday when they open at 1 p.m.

## ASC Community Committee Elections Set

The ASC Community Committee election this year will be held on December 1, 1975. Ballots will be mailed to voters about 10 days before the election. The voted ballots must be mailed or returned not later than December 1, 1975.

The ASC Communities in the County are known as: A-1 Marshall; B-2 White Rock; C-3 Mars Hill; D-4 Beech Glen; E-5 Pine Creek; F-6 Hot Springs; and G-7 Ebbs Chapel.

Voters will be sent a ballot for the community in which their principal farming interest is located.

A slate of at least six nominees will be developed for each community. A letter informing voters of the right to nominate candidates by petition has been mailed. A blank petition suitable for this purpose is printed on the back

of the letter. If additional petitions are needed they can be obtained in the ASCS Office. Each petition submitted must be: 1. Limited to one nominee; 2. Signed by at least three eligible voters in the community; 3. Include a certification that the nominee is willing to serve if elected; 4. Received at the County ASCS Office not later than October 28, 1975.

If six or more eligible candidates are nominated by proper petition, no further nominations will be made. If less than six are nominated by petition, the present Community Committee will add the number of nominees needed to complete the slate of six. If a person who is nominated by petition is found ineligible, he will be notified and given 15 days to appeal. Persons nominated should

be currently engaged in the operation of a farm and be well qualified for committee work. In general, a farmer is eligible to be a community committeeman if he lives in the community in which he is eligible to vote.

The duties of community committeemen include: 1. Informing farmers of the purpose and provisions of the ASCS programs; 2. Keeping the County Committee informed of local conditions; 3. Recommending needed changes in our ASCS farm programs; 4. Participating in community meetings as necessary; and 5. Performing other duties as assigned by the County Committee.

ASCs Committee elections are open to all eligible voters without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

## Flea Market To Close Saturday

The Women of the Greater Ivy Community Citizen's Association will close (for the season) the Flea Market and Rummage Sale this Saturday October 18th at 5:30 p.m.

There are a lot of good buys so come by and get in on the goodies we have to sell.

Don't forget Saturday October 18th from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Beech Glen School House near Mrs. Hill.

"If you don't like our prices, make us an offer," one member said.

## Elementary Guidance Counselor Employed

The Madison County Board of Education has announced that an elementary guidance counselor has been employed for the Madison County School System. Mrs. Loretta Robinson began her new

duties on October 7. Mrs. Robinson is a graduate of Tusculum (Tennessee) College and holds a Master's Degree from Western Carolina. She has done 36 hours of Post-graduate work

at Western Carolina. She will work in all elementary schools in the County. This is another effort of the Board of Education to decrease the number of school drop-outs in the County.

## 4-H Week Ends With Exhibits

Approximately 150 exhibit items were on display at the Madison Shopping Center.

Saturday, at the first Madison County 4-H Exhibit Day. Local club members and leaders

from across the County participated in the event. The exhibit items ranged

from canned pickles, preserves, and other fruits and vegetables to home grown vegetables, gourds, and craft items. There were items covering almost all areas of 4-H project work carried on in Madison County.

Judges for the event were: Mrs. Ethel Wallin, Home Economics Agent in Madison County and Mr. Brookshire, President of the Newfound Community Club.

They awarded prizes for first quality work with blue ribbons and recognized other workmanship with red ribbons. They reportedly found the over-all quality of work quite good and were impressed by the variety of items on display.

Gary Esley and Dale Everett, Madison County Extension Agents, with the 4-H program stated, "We are well pleased with our first Exhibit Day, with the number of 4-H'ers and leaders participating and the number of viewers. We hope it will become an annual event in Madison County and one that will show what quality work 4-H'ers are capable of doing in our County."



LOOKING OVER some of the items on exhibit at the first Madison County 4-H Exhibit Day held at the Shopping Center, Saturday, October 11.

## Sen. John Glenn Vance-Aycock Speaker

RALEIGH - Former Astronaut John Glenn, who won election to the United States Senate from Ohio in 1974, will be the keynote speaker for the Vance-Aycock Dinner in Asheville on October 18. That traditional \$50-per-plate fundraising affair is of particular interest this year, both because of the attraction posed by the personable space pioneer as speaker, and because of the concerted political activity it is expected to engender among the more than two dozen Democratic candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, and among contenders for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Staged annually in Asheville's picturesque Green Room, the event traditionally draws hundreds



SEN. JOHN GLENN of the Democratic ticket from across the state Asheville attorney John Vance-Aycock, a two-time legislator, and Congressman Jim Cooper will be the emcees of the Vance-Aycock Dinner.

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