

Ballot Issues To Be Voted On Next Tuesday

Most voters are aware that they will be going to the polls on March 23 to express their preference as to presidential candidates, but do they know that there will be three other vital issues on the ballot calling for their attention? Two of them are constitutional amendments, and one is a \$47 million general obligation bond issue for the greater UNC system. Basic to all three is the principle of tax-exempt bond financing.

Amendment No. 1 is an issue of whether or not citizens approve or disapprove the legislation authorizing revenue bonds for hospital improvements.

Although important statewide, since Madison County doesn't have a hospital, not too much has been said about the issue.

The third issue on the official ballot is a \$43.2 million General Obligation Bond issue to finance capital improvements at state institutions of higher education. It affects 13 of the 16 UNC campuses.

Amendment No. 2, however, is of greater interest to Madison County citizens since it encourages new industry into all sections of the state, including Madison County.

Below is a summary of Amendment No. 2:

Amendment No. 2 permits the sale of industrial revenue bonds, a method of industrial financing already used in 49 of the 50 states. The amendment would authorize counties to create authorities to issue revenue bonds to finance, but not to refinance, the cost of capital projects consisting of industrial, manufacturing and pollution control facilities for industry and pollution control facilities for public utilities. The bonds

may also be refunded for constructing improvements, additions, etc. in connection with the project for which the bonds were originally issued, or for paying all or any part of the cost of any additional project or projects. The amendment states that revenue bonds are to be "secured by and payable only from revenues or property derived from private parties and in no event to be secured by any public moneys whatsoever."

Communities are not required to participate in the bond program. Each county decides whether or not this type of financing is desirable for its area. If the county commissioners so decide, they will then appoint seven members to serve on the Authority which will be responsible for negotiating any proposed bond issue. Before a bond issue can be

floated in any county, approval must be obtained from the county commissioners of that county, from the N.C. Local Government Commission, and from the Secretary of Natural and Economic Resources. Approval will be granted only if the industry and the proposal meet certain criteria, including the requirement that the average manufacturing wage of the company in question must be above the average manufacturing wage paid in the county, and that the project must not have a materially adverse effect on the environment.

Until the bonds have been retired (a maximum of 30 years, according to the legislation) the industry would operate the facility financed by the bonds under a lease from the county bond authority, which would technically own it. Besides

operating and maintaining the facility, the industry would pay the required state and local taxes. Lease payments, under the agreement, would be sufficient to cover both the principal and interest on the bonds as well as any other costs incurred in their issuance.

If an industry should default on its lease payments, the county bond authority has the right to take over the property and either lease it to another industry or put it up for sale.

An IRS ruling limits revenue bond issues for manufacturing facilities to a maximum of \$5 million. Aside from the borrower's ability to repay, there is no limit on the amount of pollution abatement equipment which may be financed through revenue bonds. This equipment must, however, be "non-profitable" if it is to be financed with revenue bonds.

Weekend Wreck Is Fatal To County Man

A one-car accident Saturday night on Walnut Creek Road caused the death Monday of Robert Harold Thomas, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Thomas of Rt. 4 Marshall.

Trooper Arthur Cooper said the mishap took place about 8 p.m. Saturday on RPR 1395 (Walnut Creek) 4.3 miles north of Marshall. A car driven by Larry Cutshaw of Arden, formerly of Madison County, went off the shoulder heading eastward, struck a ditch and turned over several times. Thomas was the lone passenger in the vehicle.

Both men were taken to an Asheville hospital, where Cutshaw was treated and released. Thomas died in the hospital Monday.

Trooper Cooper said Cutshaw has been charged with exceeding a safe speed.

FUNERAL
WEDNESDAY.

Funeral services for Thomas were held Wednesday afternoon at the White Rock Presbyterian Church of which he was a member. The Rev. George Moore and the Rev. Millard Johnson officiated and burial was in the Rice Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Dean Shelton, Junior King, Boss Metcalf, Donnie Gleason and Kenneth Wallin.

Surviving are the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Thomas, of Route 4, Marshall;

one brother, Evarick Thomas of the home; one sister, Mrs. Christa Ann Wallin, of Marshall; the paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Eason Thomas, of Marshall; the maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Landers, of

Marshall. The decedent was formerly employed at Kimco Manufacturing Co., in Asheville.

Bowman Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Madison County Wagon Trail To Roll Again

"Wagon Masters Arthur Thomason and Ernest Boone will be all set to pull out on the first of July with their destination being Madison High School," stated wagon train Chairman Wayne Coone and Chief Scout Bill Murray.

On July 1, 1976, the wagon train will begin its journey from Mars Hill Elementary School and travel the Bruce Road through Murray's Gap to James Ramsey's farm near the head of East Fork for its first night of camping.

On the second day, the train will leave James Ramsey's traveling thru Bear Wallow, Plum Orchard, Meadows Gap down Long Branch, and down Laurel to Cody's farm on Old Grapevine Mountain Road.

On the third day, the train will travel across Old Grapevine Mountain down Grapevine Mountain down Grapevine to Cargile Branch

across mountain and down Heck Creek to camp on the Landon Roberts' farm on Walnut Creek.

On the final day, the wagons will begin their travel at Mr. Roberts' farm to continue down Walnut Creek to Marshall, ending the Bicentennial Wagon Train at Madison High on the Fourth of July, 1976.

At each campground water and rest room facilities will be provided.

For more information concerning a good clean week of wagon train fun and enjoyment contact any of the following: Ernest Boone, 649-3827; Wayne Boone, 649-3749; Bill Murray, 689-3179; or Arthur Thomason, 689-2919.

Wilde Home Destroyed By Fire Thursday

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Patterson Wilde and son, Dedrick, was destroyed by fire early last Thursday afternoon. The home, located in the Hog Cove section on Route 4, Marshall, burned rapidly and all household furniture, clothes and other contents were destroyed.

Flames had engulfed the house and there was no need in calling the Marshall firemen, it was reported.

Cause of the fire is undetermined but it is believed that faulty fuses could have been the reason.

Sexton Brothers In Altercation Here; One Injured

Charlie Sexton, 43, is out on a \$2,000 bond following a shooting incident which occurred in Marshall early last Sunday morning.

Sheriff Ponder stated this week that Mr. Sexton's younger brother, Ed, 32, suffered a neck injury when he was struck by a .38-caliber bullet following an altercation between the brothers on

Upper Bridge Street near the House of Bargains, which is owned by Mr. Charlie Sexton.

The victim of the shot was taken to the VA Hospital at Green where it was found he miraculously escaped serious injury although the bullet passed through his throat. He is now recuperating at his home here.



DR. CRAIG PHILLIPS, State Superintendent, spent last Wednesday in Madison County and visited Marshall and Mars Hill Elementary Schools as well as Madison High School. He was most complimentary about the instructional program here as well as admiring the high school. He is shown above talking to two of the mothers and two of the day care children.



MADISON HIGH Machine Shop Instructor, Mr. Fred Sams, (right) explains to State Superintendent, Dr. Craig Phillips, how the students in his classes used various pieces of equipment in making the anvil that was presented to Dr. Phillips last Wednesday. Also looking on, left to right, Robert L. Edwards, Superintendent, Madison County Schools; Culver Dale, Director of Western Regional Education Center; and Madison High School Principal, David Wyatt.

Bloodmobile At Madison High Friday

The Red Cross Bloodmobile returns to Marshall on Friday, March 19th, and both regular and first-time donors are encouraged to respond, according to Mrs. Donna Rice, President of Beta Omega Sorority.

The collection unit will be set up at Madison High School between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

"Blood demands climb every year but only about three per cent of the population donate," Mrs. Rice said. "It is vital for the ill and hospitalized of our community that regular donors continue to support the program and that more donors be recruited."

Citing as examples of the increased need for blood, Mrs. Rice said that use of whole blood had seen a steady increase every year, more blood derivatives were being developed and used by the medical profession, and surgery techniques were being expanded. "Many of our county residents have undergone open-heart surgery. There has been a 42 per cent increase in such operations since last year, and Red Cross provides blood for such surgery.

"Blood has taken its place as an important hospital resource and medicine," Mrs.

Rice said, "and only people can provide it. I encourage everyone to support the Red Cross Bloodmobile when it visits our county."

This bloodmobile visit is being co-sponsored by Beta Omega Sorority and the Marshall Lions Club.

Mars Hill Program Given \$7,800 Grant

The social work program at Mars Hill College has been awarded a \$7,800 grant from the Division of Social Services of the North Carolina Department of Human Resources. The grant will be used to formulate training programs for human services providers of Madison and Yancey Counties.

The "Developmental Training Project," designed by college faculty members Fay Walker and Griffin Lloyd, is based on the concept of helping local human service providers assess their own needs and have major input into designing programs to meet those needs.

Title XX services are those which help individuals,

families, and communities become self-sufficient. These services are usually provided by county departments of social services. County health departments, mental health centers, day care programs, and handi-schools are also agencies which can provide Title XX services. The provisions of Title XX also extend to individuals, such as foster parents, who provide human services.

The objectives of the new project is to create training programs which will help these people who provide human services extend their skills and knowledge areas in problems which are unique to this region.

Although the project has just been funded, it has been operative since January. A training advisory committee of Title XX representatives from Madison and Yancey Counties has been formed and Elaine Maples of the college's social work program has been named as consultant to the committee.

College Band Plans Concert Thursday Night

The Mars Hill College Band, under direction of Ray Babelay, professor of music at the college, will present its spring concert at 8:15 p.m. Thursday in Moore Auditorium.

The band will play selections by American composers, in celebration of the Bicentennial. The concert is free to the public.

Watch For Small Children On Day Care Bus

Motorists are warned to be especially careful and watch for small children getting on and off the Day Care bus.

Reports have reached this newspaper that several times lately cars have passed the Day Care bus while it was stopped for small children to get off the bus. This has been the case, especially on Main Street in Marshall.

Motorists must remember that these youngsters might not have the fear or realize the danger of moving cars when they get off the bus as do older children.

Whenever you notice ANY bus stopped to take on or let off children, stop your vehicle immediately and wait until the bus leaves and the children are safely off the street.

Madison Bands To Give Concert At Mars Hill

The Madison High School Band and the Madison Junior Band will give a joint Spring concert on Sunday, April 4 at 3 p.m. in the Moore Auditorium on the Mars Hill College campus.

A variety of music will be presented. No admission will be charged, it was announced.

False Alarm

Marshall firemen were called last Friday night to go to the Cook Store at Belva.

Fortunately, before the firemen started to the scene, a second phone call to a person near the store proved it was a false alarm.

Citizens are urged not to make false calls about fires and are also urged not to dial 649-3333 for any other purpose than to report a fire. It has been reported that numerous calls to this number means that more than 15 telephones at firemen's homes ring. Dial 649-3333 ONLY if there is a fire!

Election Returns

Returns from the Presidential Preference election and Amendments (Bond Issues) of Madison County will be posted on a blackboard next Tuesday night in the courthouse here, Jim Story, editor of The News-Record, stated this week.

Members of the board of elections will supply the returns as soon as they are received.

Ronald Howell Candidate For Resident Judge

Ronald W. Howell, Attorney at Law, Marshall, North Carolina, announces his candidacy for the Office of Resident Superior Court Judge of the Twenty-Fourth Judicial District, including Madison, Yancey, Mitchell, Avery and Watauga Counties, subject to the Democratic Primary on August 17, 1976.

Ronald W. Howell is a native of Newdale, Yancey County, N.C., and graduated from East Yancey High School and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He obtained his Doctorate of Law Degree with Honors in 1968 from the University of North Carolina School of Law at Chapel Hill. While in law school he was Assistant Editor of the North Carolina Law Review and became a member of the National Legal Honorary Society, the Order of the Bar.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Howell of the Newdale section of Yancey County, N.C. and is married to the former Annette Chubb of Chicago, Ill. He lives at 2001 Mountain, Madison County, N.C.

The office of Resident Superior Court Judge for the Twenty-Fourth Judicial District was held by James W. E. Anglin until January, 1976 when he resigned. Bruce H. Brown, Jr. is the present incumbent.

Howell is a member of the North Carolina Bar Association, the North Carolina State Bar, the North Carolina Trial Lawyers Association, the North Carolina Legal Honorary Society, the Order of the Bar, and the National Legal Honorary Society.

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Longhorn Rodeo This Week-End In Asheville

The Longhorn World Championship Rodeo is coming to the Asheville Civic Center for a three day run, March 19-20-21. This is the first time America's largest rodeo company has come to Asheville.

This is the Bicentennial edition of the Longhorn Rodeo, but the patriotic opening pageant is only a prelude to the six world championship events featured each performance.

Western Square Dance Lessons

A reminder that the Western Square Dance lessons will start at 8 p.m. Monday, March 22nd.

The charge will be \$1.50 per person per lesson. Ask your friends and neighbors to make up a group and join in the lessons.

Edwards Urges Passage Of Education Bonds

Passage of the \$43,267,000 higher education capital improvements bond issue March 23 would mean improved services for Madison County students attending regional state institutions, according to Madison County Schools Superintendent Robert Lee Edwards.

Edwards, who serves on the WCU board of trustees, said nearly 60 Madison County students currently are enrolled at WCU. Others, including some Madison County public school teachers, take advantage of courses offered in Asheville by both UNC-A and WCU.

"Our Madison students have benefitted through the years from the two institutions," Edwards said. During the past 10 years, 350 Madison County high school graduates have attended WCU and about 135 have attended UNC-A, he pointed out.

The bond issue also includes funds for a third mountain university - Appalachian State - where a \$3,328,900 addition to the library would be constructed.

C.B. Club To Meet Here Thursday

A meeting of The Madison County C.B. Club is scheduled to be held at the Marshall Recreation Center Saturday, March 20 at 7 p.m. The club will be discussing very important business. Refreshments will be served and a special door prize to be given away. All members and those wishing to be members are invited to attend and bring their dues.