

THE NEWS - RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY



75th Year No. 14

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE COUNTY SEAT AT MARSHALL, N. C.

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1976

15¢ Per Copy



THE LITTLE Ivy Baptist Church youth group is presently engaged in building a recreational area for their church. The property was donated by J. C. Young, and is

located on Walker Branch Road near Mars Hill. Work is being done on the property by some of the members of Little Ivy Baptist Church.

College To Graduate Record Class

Mars Hill College will graduate its largest class in the Baptist-related school's 120-year history and seniors will receive degrees and diplomas during the college's commencement exercises May 16.

Between 310 and 317 students are expected to meet graduation requirements, according to registrar Robert Chapman. The largest previous class was 1974, when 286 students were graduated.

The formal graduation exercises are slated for 3 p.m. in Moore Auditorium, with an organ recital scheduled for 30 minutes beforehand.

Baccalaureate services for the graduates and their

families will also be held in the 1,800 seat auditorium at 10:45 a.m. with the congregation of the Mars Hill Baptist Church. The Honorable Jo Graham Foster of Charlotte, a member of the North Carolina General Assembly will deliver the address. Mrs. Foster is a member of the House of Representatives and serves on the powerful joint sub-appropriations committee as well as seven other important legislative committees.

The address by Mrs. Foster will mark the first time a woman has been invited to deliver the principle commencement address at Mars Hill. Her address is entitled "Upon What Do You Base Your Values?". A native of South Carolina and the daughter of a Methodist minister, Mrs. Foster is a graduate of Columbia College, Columbia, S. C. She taught school in Sumter, S. C., Ft. Meade, Md., and at Thomasboro High School. She has served as assistant principal at West Mecklenburg High School and currently an assistant in the Department of Management for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system.

She has served as president and also secretary of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg unit of the N. C. Educators Association. She is also a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, an international honorary teachers' society.

Mrs. Foster is active in the Dilworth Methodist Church, where she serves on the board of stewards, is a lay speaker, and teaches an adult Sunday school class. During the 1972 FHA convention, Mrs. Foster was cited as one of the three most outstanding educators in North Carolina.

May 15 will be Alumni Day with several hundred former students expected for a full computer course.

Dr. Grose is an alumnus of Mars Hill and a native of Winston-Salem and holds degrees from Wake Forest University and the University of South Carolina. He earned his Ph.D. from Mississippi State University. Dr. Grose returns to Mars Hill after a year teaching at Western Carolina University. Prior to his leaving for Western, he had been a member of the Department of Business Administration since 1964, and chairman of the department since 1973.

He will replace Miss Mildred Bingham, who has been acting chairman of the department. Miss Bingham, a veteran of nearly 40 years at Mars Hill, was formerly chairman of the department from 1948 until 1973. She will continue to teach in the department.

Grose, Russell Get New College Posts

Two new department chairmen have been announced at Mars Hill. They are Dr. Jack N. Grose of the Department of Business Administration and Dr. Donald R. Russell of the Mathematics and Physics Department.

Dr. Russell is a native of Natick, Mass., and has been a member of the mathematics department since 1973. He received his bachelor's, master's, and Ph.D. from Clemson University. While a graduate student at the South Carolina campus, Russell researched the development of a campus-wide survey system.

He is a member of the American Statistical Association, Biometric Society, and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. He replaces Dr. David J. Devries, who will remain in the department to research new computer courses.

Dr. Grose is an alumnus of Mars Hill and a native of Winston-Salem and holds degrees from Wake Forest University and the University of South Carolina. He earned his Ph.D. from Mississippi State University. Dr. Grose returns to Mars Hill after a year teaching at Western Carolina University. Prior to his leaving for Western, he had been a member of the Department of Business Administration since 1964, and chairman of the department since 1973.

He will replace Miss Mildred Bingham, who has been acting chairman of the department. Miss Bingham, a veteran of nearly 40 years at Mars Hill, was formerly chairman of the department from 1948 until 1973. She will continue to teach in the department.

Republican Convention Held Here

The Madison County Republican Convention was held at the courthouse here last Saturday with approximately 100 persons present. Roger Swann, chairman of the county executive committee, presided.

Topic of the meeting was "Plans For Coming Election". Delegates were elected to the District Convention in Waynesville on May 18 and the State Convention in Greensboro June 18 and 19. Names of the delegates will be published in next week's issue.

agenda of events. The Alumni Association, which lists 18,000 members, will hold its annual business session at 3:30 p.m. in Beik Auditorium. Immediately following the business session class reunions will be held in Wren College Union. Those holding fifth-year get-togethers are the classes of 1911, 1916, etc.

The annual alumni banquet is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. in the college cafeteria. It will be the occasion for honoring outstanding alumni and making 25-year service awards to members of the college faculty and staff.

Following the banquet, the

Music Department will present a pops concert in Moore Auditorium for the benefit of all campus visitors.

There will be several other events associated with the annual commencement celebration this year. An art exhibit in the gallery of the Fine Arts Building will officially begin at 4 p.m. on Friday. The semi-annual business meeting of the board of trustees will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday with Cecil Porter (class of '48), an attorney from North Wilkesboro, and chairman, presiding.

The board's agenda will

include consideration of a proposal to build additional housing for 72 students which will replace Treat Dormitory, which will be razed this summer to make way for the Blackwell Administration Building; adoption of the 1976-77 college budget (in excess of \$5 million); appointment of new faculty members, promotions, and similar personnel matters; and the election of officers of the board for 1976-77.

Anyone requiring further information should call the Office of Public Information at 689-1217.

Judge Considers Switch To Congressional Race

Bruce B. Briggs of Mars Hill, Madison County's resident superior court judge, is trying to decide whether to run for election to the bench or to try for Congressman Roy A. Taylor's U. S. House seat.

Speculation this week has been that Briggs will give up the judgeship to enter the race for Congress. Briggs, himself, has made no public confirmation of his plans.

He could not be reached for comment Tuesday. "I am thinking about it," he said of the House race earlier this week. But he emphasized then that he has reached no decision.

Briggs was appointed to the judgeship to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of W. E. Anglin of Burnsville. If he wants to continue on the bench, he will have to run for the remainder of the unexpired term in the November general election.

There has been considerable speculation that he is withholding announcement of his plans until he can clear his court calendar, expected to

take about two more weeks. Briggs has been widely active in political and governmental affairs in recent years, having served as chairman of the Republican Party in Madison, as assistant U. S. attorney for the Western District of N. C., and in the N. C. Senate.

Two Republicans are already in the congressional race — Walter R. Sheppard Jr. and Ralph Ledford, both of Hendersonville.

Briggs and former state Sen. Charles Taylor of Brevard are two of the party's most powerful figures in the West who are being encouraged to run for Taylor's 11th Congressional District seat.

Ronald Howell, a Marshall lawyer and a Democrat, has already announced that he will seek his party's nomination for the 24th Judicial District judgeship held by Briggs.

There are already four Democrats in the race for Taylor's seat, all seeking their party's nomination. They are

Asheville attorney Michael E. Vaughn, Hendersonville produce distributor Royce "Bo" Thomas, state Sen. Lamar Gudger of Asheville, and Glenn W. Brown of Waynesville, an attorney and former superior court solicitor.



BRUCE BRIGGS

Cancer Society Talent Show Is Saturday

The second annual Madison County Cancer Society Talent Show will be held this Saturday night, May 1, in the Madison High School gymnasium beginning at 8 p.m.

There will be four separate divisions of music: country western, bluegrass, old-time traditional and square dance. Trophies will be awarded in all divisions, it was announced.

Bob Caldwell, a native of Marshall and popular WLOS-TV announcer, will serve as master of ceremonies.

Admission will be \$1.75 for adults, \$1 for students, children, free.

On 'Profile'

Charles Tolley, general manager of French Broad EMC, and Mrs. Ernestine Plemmons, Public Relations director, will be guests of Fred Brown on "Profile" on radio station WWNC on May 2 at 6:15 p.m.

ABC Store Petitioners Want It Closed, Threaten Recall Election

Hot Springs residents have petitioned the N. C. Board of Alcoholic Beverage Control to close the town's liquor store.

The petition, signed by 159 persons, reportedly was filed with the board Monday. If the state does not revoke the store's license, the petitioners threatened to work for a referendum that would force its closing.

The store was authorized by a referendum in 1963.

Carol Anderson, the store's supervisor, this week charged that the store is being made the object of a struggle for

control of Democratic party machinery in the Hot Springs voting precinct and that bootleggers and others unhappy with the outcome of the recent municipal election in the town may be behind the move.

Mrs. Mattie Rae Ramsey, chairman of the Hot Springs ABC board for the past 22 months, could not be reached for comment immediately prior to press time.

Anderson told the News Record Tuesday morning that the store has distributed a total of \$144,332 in profits to county governmental agencies from the time the store was opened Oct. 14, 1963, until June 30, 1975.

He said the figures are from the store's annual audit report, done by an Asheville CPA. The money allotted individual agencies was as follows: \$7,216 for Hot Springs law enforcement; \$45,705.13 to the Town of Hot Springs; \$48,110.67 to Madison County government; \$36,083 to Hot Springs school; and \$7,216.00 to Spring Creek School.

In addition, Anderson said, county government also gets five cents in revenue from each bottle sold that is not included in the above figures.

A citizens committee has been formed to lead the effort to have the store closed. One of its members is F. E. Smith, who once served on the Hot Springs ABC Board and who was succeeded by Mrs. Ramsey. Smith replaced R. W. Ponder, a former board

chairman. Mrs. Ramsey's husband is a member of the Hot Springs governing board, which appoints ABC board members. She said earlier this week that she had been serving on the

ABC board 18 months when he was elected to the town board.

The store's opponents have complained about operating costs and about the fact employees are related to town and county officials.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

State Convention May Have To Settle Democrat Controversy

From latest developments it seems that the Hot Springs controversy between Democratic factions over the precinct meeting held prior to the county convention and the ruling at the convention may have to be settled at the state convention in Raleigh on June 12.

The Council of Review of the North Carolina Democratic Executive Committee turned down an appeal at a meeting in Raleigh last week from the Hot Springs precinct.

Larry Phillips, a school teacher, who was a candidate for Democratic precinct chairman at Hot Springs, said he plans to carry the fight on to the state convention.

Phillips said he was encouraged by members of the Council of Review to pursue the matter at the state convention.

Phillips contends that his side was arbitrarily denied the victory during the precinct election when Bobby Ponder ruled that a large number of his supporters had not been registered Democrats long enough to take part in the voting.

Ponder, a member of the Madison County Board of Education, was presiding for Herman Tino who was out of the state at the time. His action was upheld at the county Democratic convention which was held in Marshall.

Marshall Lions Club Elects New Officers



ROY REEVES
Lion President

The Marshall Lions Club elected officers for the next fiscal year at the meeting of the club at the Rock Cafe Monday night.

Roy Reeves, Marshall insurance agent and member of the Madison High School faculty, was elected president. He succeeds Lion Jerry Plemmons whose term expires July 1. Other officers elected are: John Corbett, first vice president; Page Brignan, second vice president; Steve Wallin, third vice president; David Caldwell, secretary; Ralph Rice, treasurer; Marvin Ball, tall twister; Ed List, lion tamer. Newly-elected directors are Clyde Hagan and Earle Wise.

Prior to the business meeting the Lions were treated to a program of instrumental and vocal music by "The Nut Family" of Clearwater, Fla. This group includes two brothers and sisters of the McAbee family and also the Rev. Otis Green. The non-demonstrational group in spending part of the summer at Spillars in Marshall, Route 4. In addition to their fine musical abilities, they are also doing much good by donating clothing to needy persons in the Spillars area. The group is a member of Abundant Life of Waynesville and are available to perform at all church and social events.

WMU Honors Mrs. Robinson



MRS. LOCKE ROBINSON

Mrs. W. Locke Robinson of Mars Hill was honored for her 50 years of service as French Broad Association's Missionary Union Director April 22. The surprise recognition came to Mrs. Robinson at the 72nd annual meeting of the organization held at Piney Mountain Baptist Church.

The regular order of the program was interrupted soon after the supper break with

Mrs. William Lynch presiding. Mrs. Vernon E. Wood pinned an orchid corsage on Mrs. Robinson and tributes to her were delivered by Mrs. David B. Roberts and the Rev. E. M. Jenkins, superintendent of sales for the association. Presidents of the Baptist women's groups in the local churches came forward with cards bearing signatures of all their members and gave them to

Mrs. Robinson. Miss Laura Navy, secretary-treasurer of the organization, presented a check for \$150 to home missions in Mrs. Robinson's honor.

Mrs. Roy Wall presented a memorial plaque to Mrs. Robinson in tribute for her three decades of service. The Rev. William Lynch, a former pastor of Mrs. Robinson's, led in prayer.

Mrs. Robinson is the second

director of the French Broad Baptist Women's Missionary Union. She succeeded Mrs. R. L. Moore in 1946. Mrs. Moore has led the organization since its formation in 1904.

The missionary speaker for the 1976 session was the Rev. Charles Buckner who, with his wife, serves at a Southern Baptist missionary in Indonesia. Buckner is a native of Madison County.