

# 699 Take Swine Flu Shots At Clinic

A total of 699 Madison County residents received shots Sunday at Madison County High protecting them from the wave of swine flu the federal government says could hit the nation this winter.

There is more vaccine left — 1,611 doses in the current supply, and more is expected in the weeks ahead. If you didn't take the shot Sunday, you will still be able to get it, either at the

health department, from your family physician, or from Hot Springs Health Program sites.

Madison received 2,310 doses of the vaccine — 1,240 doses of bivalent (protection against both the swine flu and the A-Victoria strain) and 1,070 doses of monovalent (swine flu shot only).

Sixteen persons who asked for the shot Sunday could not be given it due to

the fact they were either running a fever or were allergic to chicken feathers or eggs.

A total of 424 doses of monovalent vaccine were given, along with 275 shots of bivalent vaccine.

The largest number of bivalent shots went to the elderly, persons 65 years of age and over; 153 persons in that category asked for and received the shot. There were an even 100 in the

45-64 age group, 18 in the 25 to 44 age group, 3 between 18 and 24, and one child under age 18.

"We're not expecting any more vaccine until November," Ed Morton, acting director of the health department said. "We'll be dispensing it to some of our physicians in the area. All physicians in the Mars Hill area will have it. The Hot Springs Health Program will have it at their three

clinics. And we'll be giving it here at the health department Thursday from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m."

Thursday's shots at the health department will constitute a second clinic. If vaccine remains after that day, other times will be scheduled for giving the shots.

Morton said the department "just

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## Madison Awarded \$311,000 Grant



IT WON'T BE LONG now before motorists will have a much easier drive between Marshall and Mars Hill. Only about one mile of NC 213 remains to be completed and opened

to traffic. This photo shows the new route being cut down to grade at Petersburg, the last section to be completed. (News-Record Photo by Metcalf)

Madison County has been awarded a \$311,000 community development grant to finance the construction of new buildings at Marshall and Hot Springs and renovation of the old Beech Glen School.

James T. Ledford, chairman of the county board of commissioners, was notified of the grant Tuesday morning by U. S. Congressman Roy Taylor and Sen. Robert Morgan.

"That's final approval. Everybody's been interested in those projects for a long time," said Ledford.

The money will be used to erect community buildings at both Marshall and Hot Springs. Architects are working on plans now; they are not finished, and therefore the exact cost of each is not known. The Marshall building, which will serve the larger population in and around the county seat, will have somewhat more space than the Hot Springs center.

"We're going to use these buildings for day care centers and for things like nutrition centers and community activities," said Ledford.

The Marshall building will be erected on an 182-acre tract owned by county government, known as the landfill property, on Long Branch. A part of the tract has been set aside for the structure.

\$70,000 of the grant has been allocated for a general renovation of Beech Glen School as a community center. It will house a day care center and provide space for other activities.

"Actually we need quite a bit more money for that," said Ledford, "but this will help us get started. It'll be a general renovation. The electrical work will be upgraded to meet state and fire safety standards, and there'll be modern heating."

When will the projects begin? "Right shortly," said Ledford.

## County Library

### 12% More Find Knowledge, Fun There

Madison County residents are discovering in ever increasing numbers what a valuable storehouse of knowledge they have in Madison County Public Library.

It is reflected in the number of the books they have been reading during the past 12 months — 12.6 percent more than they read the previous year.

Library patrons here checked out 36,646 books during the immediate past report period, a new record for MCPL. That is an average of more than two books for every county resident, which stacks up well against other county records across North Carolina.

The Madison library has one of the most extensive

distribution networks for library readers of any county its size in the state. In addition to the main library, located on Main Street in Marshall, it has two branch library facilities and seven book depositories. The branch libraries are

located at Hot Springs and Mars Hill. Book deposits are at Walnut, Spring Creek, Meadow Fork, Beech Glen, Upper Laurel, Sleepy Valley, and the county jail in Marshall. The deposits at Upper Laurel and Sleepy Valley were

both added during the past year.

Activity in those deposits account for most of MCPL's increased book circulation in recent months. The number of

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## Weather Cuts Burley Weight

Madison's burley crop is much lighter than usual this year, thanks to weather conditions, but if the market is as strong as it looks like it could be, farmers may not feel much of a blow to the pocketbook.

With virtually all of this year's crop now curing in the barn, county farm specialists are able to get a good look at it and make their own assessment.

"We figure it's off about 15 percent in poundage per

acre," County Extension Chairman Earl Wise told the News-Record.

Last year Madison's leaf crop averaged about 2,350 pounds per acre. There is no longer a measurement program, and estimates are harder to make now, but "this time it'll cost to 2,050 pounds in my estimation," said Wise.

The weather gets the blame for the loss of weight.

June was relatively cool and wet, "not good for tobacco to get a good root system

established," said Wise. "Then there was some drought in July and August in most of the county, stunting growth. We ended up with smaller plants.

"In June some tobacco actually drowned out in some bottomland."

Not all farmers had those problems, however, Wise indicated. Some with their crop in well drained, higher elevations have excellent quality burley. Some entire townships like Hot Springs are reporting a "normal" crop. For most, however, the weather was not as kind as it has been.

It was not good news to the burley farmer; altogether, they planted about 2,400 acres of tobacco in Madison this year, more than they planted for the 1975 crop.

Last year the yield was "pretty well average," said Wise. This year's crop, however, "is probably the lightest we've had in the last six or eight years."

With a different allotment system now, farmers aren't concentrating as much as they once did on growing as many pounds per acre as possible.

There is more use of allotments with lease and transfer arrangements. Last year 1,109,000 pounds of burley was leased. To date this year 750,000 pounds have been leased, more than had been recorded at this point in 1975. Altogether, however, Wise expects a smaller total poundage lease this year than last.

This year's market won't open until about Nov. 22 — it's usually the Monday prior to Thanksgiving — and farmers won't know for sure until then, but the prospects look good for burley prices this year.

Flu-cured tobacco prices are up about 10 percent this year over last. Generally, burley price trends follow those for the flu-cured variety.

The support price is up 13 percent over last year. "and," said Wise, "we hope the price will follow suit."

If it does, it will help offset the lost weight.

Last year, buyers paid an average of \$1.03 for a pound of Madison burley, which brought the county \$5,998,000 in cash money, more than any other farm crop.

## Elementary Schools

### Improvements Have Been Made To All Of Them

Improvements have been made in all Madison County elementary schools in a program begun last summer and carried on into the new term.

While students were at home helping on the farm or enjoying a few weeks away from the books, workers were busy painting classrooms and refinishing floors in all schools. Many other improvements have been made since classes reconvened.

A new furnace has been installed at Spring Creek School. Eaves of the building have been repaired, painted and new gutters installed. Carpet has been installed in all classrooms

at Spring Creek.

At Hot Springs School, repairs have been made to the gymnasium, the eaves have been repaired, painted and gutters installed. Carpet has been placed in all classrooms.

At Laurel School, the eaves have also been repaired, painted and gutters installed. The parking area has been paved and new cement walkways constructed.

At Walnut School, the principal's office has been redecorated and new carpet for the kindergarten classroom has been purchased.

At Marshall School a classroom has been renovated to make a new office for the

principal, a station for the school secretary and a reception area. The parking area at Mars Hill School has been paved. The cafeteria has been remodeled and several new appliances have been purchased and installed. Walkways have also been constructed. The old office area is now used for an office for the guidance counselor.

During the summer in cooperation with the Madison County Recreation Commission, improvements were made on the football field at Marshall School. New lights were installed and another baseball area was built.

## Murder Trials Slated For 2

Two men have been bound over for trial in Madison County Superior Court on murder charges involving separate shooting incidents last month.

They are Clyde Gregory, 58, of Marshall, Route 2 and Martin Norton, 20, of Laurel.

Gregory has been charged with shooting Early Wiley

Boone, a stepson, with a .22 caliber rifle at the Gregory home Sept. 11. The defendant has been released under a \$15,000 appearance bond.

Norton has been charged with murder in the death of Gary Cook Sept. 19 in a shootout in the Revere Section of Madison County. In addition Norton faces two counts of

assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill in connection with the incident.

He has been released under \$10,000 bond.

Judge Robert Lacey conducted hearings on charges against both Gregory and Norton in Marshall last week and found probable cause, ordering the cases scheduled for trial in superior court.

Cook, 28, a Candler resident, was killed in a shootout Sunday, Sept. 19, that officers say may have stemmed from an altercation the previous night at a mountain music festival in the Rice Cove section of Sodom Laurel.

## Getting Food Stamps Is More Convenient With New Stations

Two outreach stations have been established in Madison County where persons may apply for the federal food stamp program and for recertification under the program.

Applicants should bring records of checking and saving accounts, names, ages, and income of everyone in household, Social Security numbers, SSI or Social Security award letter, pay stubs or statements from employers, tobacco income (bill of sale) and expenses, tomato income and expenses, all other income such as babysitting, odd jobs, etc., rent receipt or record of mortgage payment, receipts for medical and drug expenses, electric and fuel bills.

The bills and receipts will shorten the length of time necessary to certify applicants to receive food stamps and may save another trip to the office.

Outreach stations and hours of operation are:  
Hot Springs Town Hall — every Wednesday from 9 a.m. until noon.

Mars Hill Town Hall — every Thursday from 1 until 4 p.m.

## October 23 Is Absentee Deadline

The Madison County Board of Elections office will be open on Saturday, Oct. 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for the convenience of those expecting to be absent on 11 on election day and desiring to vote an absentee ballot.

The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is Wednesday, Oct. 27, 1976 at 5 p.m.

Persons desiring to receive information concerning the absentee voting may call the board of elections at (704) 738-2222 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.