

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

On the Inside . . .

There's lots
going on in Madison
sports... See Page 3

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44 Candidates File For May 2 Primaries

Forty-four candidates filed for county office nominees in the Democratic and Republican primaries to be held May 2. The deadline for filing was this past Monday at noon. According to the list of candidates issued by the Madison County Board of Elections, there are 27 Democrats seeking nomination, and 17 Republicans seeking nomination.

They are as follows:
STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
44th DISTRICT

(2 SEATS)
Democrats: Liston B. Ramsey (incumbent).
STATE SENATE
26th DISTRICT
(2 seats)
Republicans: Edward B. Krause, Joe L. Morgan.
CLERK OR SUPERIOR COURT
Democrats: James W. (Jim) Cody, Samuel E. (Sam) Parker.
Republicans: C.N. Willis (sole nominee).
SHERIFF
Democrats: E.Y. Ponder (incumbent), Raymond

Ramsey, Amos C. Ray.
Republicans: Dewey Griffey, Clarence E. Henderson, William E. Powell III, Allon Silver.
TAX COLLECTOR
Democrats: Dean Ledford, Harold H. Wallin (incumbent).
Republicans: Fay J. Ball (sole nominee).
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
(3 seats)
Democrats: Ervin Adams (incumbent), Carolyn T. Ammons, Virginia H. Anderson (incumbent).

Wayne Brigman, J.G. Gardner Jr., James T. Ledford (incumbent), Emery Metcalf, Claude Moore.
Republicans: L. Patrick (Pat) Clemens (sole nominee), Frank W. Massey (sole nominee), Perry G. Willis (sole nominee).
BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT I
(2 seats)
Democrats: Donald N. Anderson (incumbent), Dedrick C. Cody (incumbent), Kelly Ledford, Gerald Young.
Republicans: Don Hall, Bill Sears, Terry A. Wyatt.

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT II
(3 seats)
Democrats: Ernest O. Burnette, Nell C. Franklin, Edward T. Gentry, Gilmer Maynard Jr., R.Z. (Bobby) Ponder (incumbent), James A. (Jimmie) Ramsey, Floyd Wallin.
Republicans: Willie L. (Bill) Hodge (sole nominee), F. Crafton Ramsey (sole nominee), Gregory A. (Gary) Sprinkle (sole nominee).



FAMILIAR scenes, as above, have been evident for the past month along the highway from Marshall to Asheville as pic-

turesque ice accumulations can be seen every few feet in Madison County.

Mars Hill To Sponsor 'Elderhostel' Program

Approximately 105 older adults will share "An Appalachian Experience" this summer during Mars Hill College's "Elderhostel" program.

Elderhostel is an opportunity for those over 60 to enroll in a weeklong residential program during the summer months which features especially designed non-credit, college-level courses, a variety of extra-curricular activities as well as community and cultural events. Begun in North Carolina in 1977, the program has demonstrated that retirement can be a time of enriching new experiences.

Mars Hill, as one of the 10 colleges and universities participating in the state-wide program, will offer three courses during each week-long session: Appalachian music, folklore and crafts; Appalachian history and contemporary social issues. Those enrolling in the Elderhostel program may take one, two or all three of the courses. The dates from Mars Hill's programs are June 4-11, June 25-July 2 and July 16-23.

Persons over 60, regardless

of educational background, may enroll in the Elderhostel program for \$75 (slightly higher for out-of-state residents) which covers one week's housing and meals in the college facilities as well as the courses and other activities.

In addition to Mars Hill, three other Western North Carolina schools and six institutions in the eastern part of the state will be cooperating in the Elderhostel program. They are UNC-Asheville, Appalachian State University, Western Carolina University, UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC-Charlotte, UNC-Greensboro, UNC-Wilmington, Winston-Salem State University and Duke University. Each school will have vacancies for 30 participants, although Mars Hill will be able to accommodate 35.

Applications for Elderhostel can be obtained after March 1 from Ray Rapp, coordinator of Programs for the Aging, Mars Hill College, Mars Hill 28754.

Information on the state

program as well as applications can be obtained from Bob Wagoner, Elderhostel regional coordinator, 204 Abernathy Hall 002A, Chapel Hill 27514.

Private Hearing Scheduled

Larry Leake, attorney for the Madison County Board of Education, stated Monday that a private hearing as declared by law before the board of education "is scheduled this week" concerning the suspension of Don Fowler, a member of the Madison High School faculty, by the board at a called meeting Jan. 20.

The board voted to suspend Fowler following an investigation by David Wyatt, principal, and Bruce Phillips, assistant principal, when the board made the following decision:

"Whereas the Board of Education has been presented with information, which if true, causes it to believe that Don Fowler's performance at Madison High is inadequate due to his alleged immoral conduct and that therefore an emergency situation exists requiring that he be suspended from his duties. The superintendent is instructed to notify Mr. Fowler of the decision and of his rights under the law."

It was stated that Robert S. Swain, attorney, will represent Fowler at the private hearing sometime this week.

The decision of the board will be published next week.

Mrs. Criss Killed In Wreck

Eugenia "Jeannie" P. Criss, 34, of the Ammons Branch community, was instantly killed Monday afternoon about 4 o'clock when the Jeep she was driving skidded off Hill Street (Corkscrew) in Marshall when it struck an ice accumulation. Her body was thrown from the Jeep as it plunged about 230 feet down the embankment.

Mrs. Criss apparently had started to the Marshall Day Care Center to pick up her son. The accident occurred below the lower reservoir on the steep street.

Mr. and Mrs. Criss and two children, formerly of Maryville, Tenn., had resided in Madison County for the past two years. Mrs. Criss was secretary for Bill Brigman at the Marshall Elementary School. Her husband, Steve, owns and operates the Steel Crafters Shop on US 25-70 near the Riddle Farm Road intersection between Marshall and Walnut.

Bowman Funeral Home will announce arrangements.

Laurel Man Arrested Following Shooting

Bruce Gentry, 28, of Route 4, Marshall was rushed to Memorial Mission Hospital Thursday afternoon after suffering a pistol wound in his neck following an argument on the Rock Quarry Road off N.C. 208 in the Big Laurel section.

Love Gunter, 49, of Route 4, Marshall, was arrested and charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill and was placed in the Madison County jail. He is now out under a \$3,000 bond, posted Saturday.

Sheriff Ponder said that he received a telephone call from Barbara Gunter of Guntertown about 4:15 last

Thursday afternoon stating that she had passed three small children standing beside the road below Belva on N.C. 208 and they were apparently in trouble. She thought that Ponder ought to know about it was the reason she called.

Sheriff Ponder said he sent deputies Grindstaff and Ogle to the area. They arrived about 4:30 p.m. and found that the three children had been picked up and were in a neighbor's car. Ponder said the neighbor's wife told the officers that her husband and two other men had gone up the road to see what the problem was. About that time Bruce Gentry came down the same

road (Rock Quarry Road) in his car, Ponder related. Gentry stopped his car and asked to be taken to the hospital. Officers stated that he was bleeding and had been shot in the neck. Ogle and Grindstaff put Gentry into the car and headed toward Marshall. They called Sheriff Ponder who met them at Walnut with an ambulance. Gentry was then rushed to Memorial Mission Hospital where he was given 10 units of blood and underwent surgery.

Ponder said that Gentry was released from the hospital Saturday and is recuperating at his home.

An investigation was started by Sheriff Ponder and his deputies, resulting in the arrest of Love Gunter, who was charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill.

Ponder said eye witnesses stated there was an argument, and Gentry was shot one time in the neck with a 38 caliber pistol.

Sandra Higgins, mother of the three children, was also placed in jail as a material witness. She is now out under \$1,000 bond, Ponder said.



MRS. FAY BALL

Mrs. Fay Ball Candidate For Tax Collector

Mrs. Phillip "Fay" Ball, Mars Hill, announced her candidacy for the Republican nomination for Madison County Tax Collector.

Mrs. Ball stated, "I feel it is time Madison County had fair and equal taxation. My background in business would allow this office to be run on a competent basis. I would also use the influence of this office to see that the monies collected are distributed fairly to all communities in the county."

Mrs. Ball was a business major at East Tennessee State University. She is financial vice president of Dan-Kay Inc. in Asheville. Mrs. Ball is youth choir director and a Sunday school teacher at Calvary Baptist Church, Mars Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. Ball live at Route 1, Mars Hill, and have two children, Daniel and Kaylen.

'Pat' Clemens Announces For Board

L. Pat Clemens, who has announced his candidacy for the board of county commissioners on the Republican ticket, made the following statement this week:

"We are operating this county as if it were 1930," he feels. "Look at our police protection... what happens if you need help in the middle of the night? Our fire protection, a handful of good men trying to hold together three small fire departments on their own with little or no help from the county. And most important, our schools or better yet the roads leading to those schools. These are some of the

(Continued on Page 2)

County Gets \$555 For Law Officers

The Land-of-Sky Regional Council was recently awarded a grant in the amount of \$4,988 from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration through the Governor's Crime Commission. The project will help to meet a portion of the low cost needs associated with law enforcement agency services. Officer supplies and equipment will be provided to the Madison County Sheriff's Department in the amount of

\$555.

This project type was developed by the Governor's Crime Commission to support improvements in enforcement agencies which otherwise might not receive LEAA support during the year, and show Crime Commission interest in their department to improve agency operation, and thus their services to the citizens in their community.



SOLAR ENERGY classes at Mars Hill College proved highly successful as shown above as students construct a manifold hot water collector. Plans are being made to resume the solar heating classes at the

college during the summer for study of the systems for both farms and homes. Those interested in taking the courses may contact Dr. John Hough at the college. Bill Shealy will be directing the classes.