

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

On the inside . . .

Peanut butter is good
for something besides
sandwiches! See Page 3

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Day Care Centers To Undergo Change

"Naturally, we are not completely satisfied with the day care situation as outlined by Gov. Jim Hunt last Thursday in Asheville, but we will do the best we can under existing conditions," Teresa Zimmerman, Day Care Coordinator in Madison County, stated here Monday. Miss Zimmerman had reference to the meeting held at Livingston Street Community Center at which Gov. Hunt defended his plan to

expand to statewide proportions a child development program operating for the past five years in 29 western counties, including Madison.

Hunt stated that a new way to divide federal money will force the state to dismiss 200 workers to continue operating 62 Western North Carolina care centers.

Hunt suggested the centers could continue helping the same number of children by

using volunteer workers. He estimated 1,350 volunteers would be needed each week.

The centers, serving 1,943 children in 29 Western North Carolina counties and employing about 550 full-time workers, are losing about \$2.7 million of the \$3 million in federal Title XX money the state expects next year.

The cut comes because the money, given only to 20 counties in the past, will be divided equally among all 100

of the state's counties next year.

"There are 85,000 children in North Carolina who need organized day care services and who aren't getting it," Hunt said. "As we develop a statewide program, we're going to have to treat each section of North Carolina fairly."

After hearing the governor's plan, some center operators said Hunt's proposal will be difficult to follow and might

lower the quality of day care services in the state's 29 Appalachian counties.

They said they doubt volunteers can be found and, if they are, they probably won't be qualified to continue educational programs operating at the centers.

"If we go by what he says, it will cost us 10 (full-time) workers," said Elizabeth Provence, head of Transylvania County's day care program. "And if we can't find volunteers to take up the slack, I'd say 40 to 70 children will be cut from the program."

Ms. Provence's prediction conflicted with Hunt's opinion of the effects of his action.

"There will not be any mothers thrown out of work, because we're going to keep the same number of children in these programs," Hunt told a group of about 300 day care workers from affected counties.

"But you're going to be asked to make some changes you may not like."

The centers were established in 1972 by the Appalachian Regional Commission, a state-federal agency coordinating anti-poverty programs in the 13-state Appalachian region.

Under federal law, the commission's money should be used for other projects after five years. That law was amended however, and Hunt said Thursday the 29 counties will get \$1.4 million from the commission that was earmarked for health, housing and education programs in the North Carolina mountains.

ZIMMERMAN EXPLAINS

Miss Zimmerman was contacted by this newspaper to explain the situation of day care centers in Madison County following last Thursday's meeting. Following is what Miss Zimmerman says:

"The meeting was productive in that the governor stated that the same number of children would be served next year. Our public campaign was most definitely effective in terms of obtaining the governor's attention and in having the ARC funds reinstated."

However, the governor's proposal for next year's funding will still leave us \$51,366 short. This amount of

money must be forthcoming from some source in order to serve the same number of children. Without this amount we stand to lose at least six staff members and 15 children.

The \$51,366 is needed to meet federal child staff ratio requirements and to keep federal money in program in place.

With this amount we will be able to pay rent and utilities, buy essential supplies, provide transportation, and keep the same administrative structure.

We are certainly in better shape than we were a few months ago when we were told that we would have a \$136,000 deficit. However, the governor's plan still leaves us with many dilemmas.

The governor's plans would fund us at the rate of \$170-month-child. This assumes an average fee of \$35-month-child as part of the \$170. In Madison County where 93 percent of the day care families meet Title XX guidelines, we would have to increase the number of upper income children in our program substantially in order to guarantee reimbursement at the rate of \$170-month. Unless we can do this, we would face an even greater deficit than \$51,366. Unfortunately, this might mean that some working families whose incomes are low might no longer be able to obtain day care services.

We are currently looking at alternatives. If we can locate the needed money, we would

not have to attempt to develop an awesome volunteer staff force.

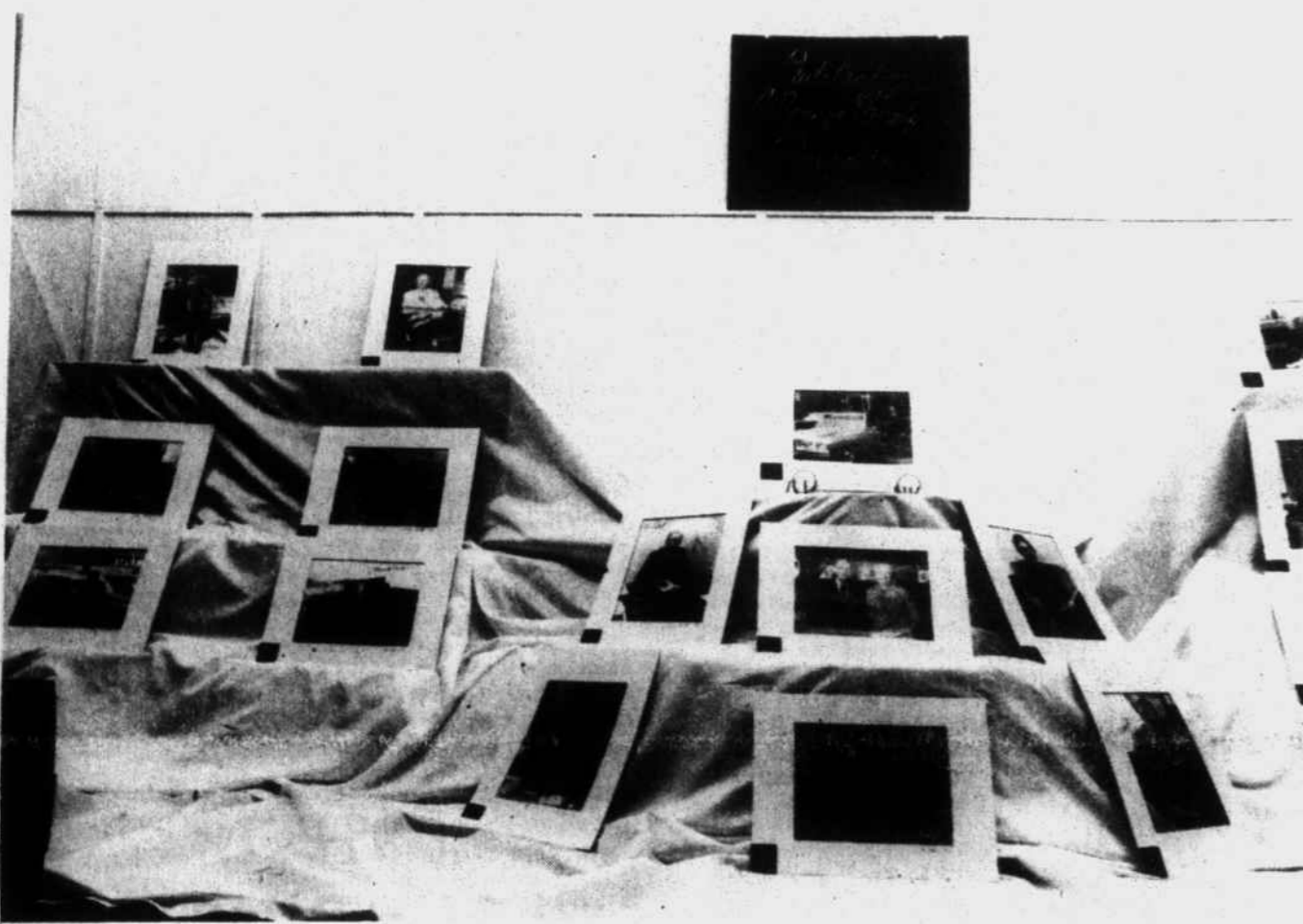
Some alternatives are local DSS Title XX money, an increased allocation from the county commissioners, and donations from parents, private citizens and industry.

Additionally, we are hoping to appeal to the various towns and owners of our buildings

for assistance with rent and utilities.

Another alternative is to petition the legislature for an appropriation for day care across the state.

Unless we locate the money there we will have to recruit a volunteer labor force. If we lose six staff members, we would have to recruit 120 (Continued on Page 8)



A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBIT by Barbara Brown and Terry Gunter will be on display at the Madison County Public Library during the month of March. The exhibit is entitled "Outstanding Madison County Personalities." Thirty-six prominent citizens from throughout the county were selected for this honor. Barbara and Terry met while students of photography at Mars Hill College. The idea originated when Barbara expressed interest in a photographic collection of well-known Madison County personalities for her home. Terry felt the idea should be expanded upon and shared with those who might enjoy

an exhibition of this nature. The photographers were aware of problems which might arise, i.e., all areas of the county should be represented as well as both sexes and some controversial figures. Another problem was that because of time, space and expense, only a limited number of subjects could be chosen. They were well aware that there were a great many more persons who should be included. To overcome this problem, they decided to make this an ongoing project, selecting another set of subjects to display at a later date.

\$255,175 Flood Relief For County School System

Two Western North Carolina school systems will receive a total of \$277,138 in disaster relief funds, Congressman Lamar Gudger has announced.

The Office of Education of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare has certified \$255,175 for the Madison County Board of Education and \$21,963 for McDowell County schools in the wake of last November's disastrous flooding in Western North Carolina.

William L. Stormer, director of the Division of School Assistance in Federally-Affected Areas, said Madison has a tentative total entitlement of \$340,223 in federal assistance and McDowell \$29,284.

Treasury checks will be sent to the schools within the next week, Stormer said.

Political Candidates

Maynard Seeks Position On School Board

Gilmer Maynard Jr. of Route 2, Hot Springs, is a candidate for the Board of Education of Madison County, District II, subject to the will of the Democratic voters in the May 2 primary. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gilmer Maynard Sr. of Del Rio, Tenn.

He is a 1956 graduate of Hot Springs High School. Upon completing high school he served four years in the United States Air Force. He worked at American Enka Corp. for six and one-half years as a laborer and supervisor before opening his own business at Hot Springs.

He is married to the former Isabell Barnett, who is a teacher at Spring Creek School. She has been in the teaching profession for 15 years. They have two children, Sherry, a sophomore at Madison High School, and Mike, an eighth grade student at Hot Springs School.

"If nominated and elected, I will strive for better education for our children and working conditions for our teachers."



GILMER MAYNARD JR.

Edward Gentry Education Bd. Candidate

Edward T. "Ed" Gentry of Marshall announces as a Democrat candidate for the Board of Education. He is a native and lifelong resident of Madison County. Married to Beulah Norris of Spring Creek, they have three children: Norris of San Francisco; Nancy Jo Allen of Marshall; and Tommy of the home.

Ed attended public schools in Madison County and trade schools in Michigan and Maryland. He served in the U.S. Air Force and Infantry in World War II.

Before retiring in July 1977 he was supervisor of school bus transportation in Madison for 15 years. "I feel that my experience with the school system gives me a broad insight that will enable me to serve the best interest of the students, teachers and parents, in giving the best possible education and character to the school system of Madison County," Gentry said.

"If elected I will serve all the people with the same sincerity that I used while supervisor of school bus transportation in Madison," Gentry stated.



EDWARD GENTRY

Wm. E. Powell GOP Candidate For Sheriff

William E. "Bill" Powell today announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for sheriff of Madison County.

Powell said, "One of the basic rights we have is to feel safe and secure in our homes and on the streets of the cities, towns and villages of Madison County."

"Since we are all paying taxes to support federal and state programs, our county should get its just share. Local taxes should not have to be increased or used to pay for programs or equipment when these could be paid for from other sources. If elected, I will be an active involved sheriff who will put the safety and welfare of all the citizens of our county first."

Powell, the son of Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Powell, was born and raised in Madison County. Presently he serves on the Mars Hill Police Force. A graduate of Mars Hill High School and Mars Hill College, Powell is certified in police science by Asheville-Buncombe Tech.

Powell is a member of the (Continued on Page 8)



BILL POWELL

New Scholarship At Mars Hill College



LATE MRS. ROBERTS

Dr. Fred B. Bentley, president of Mars Hill College, has announced a "substantial gift from an anonymous donor to endow a scholarship in memory of Mrs. Nona Moore Roberts."

The \$1,000 Nona Moore Roberts Modern Foreign Language Scholarship will be awarded to a rising junior or senior who is majoring in one of the modern foreign languages or is taking a double major with one major being foreign language. Other requirements include no grade lower than a "B" in language courses, demonstrated leadership potential and good character. The

scholarship can be applied to tuitions costs at Mars Hill or may be used for studies abroad. The first award will be made at Mars Hill's Honor Day activities in April.

Mrs. Roberts was the only daughter of Dr. and Mrs. R.L. Moore. Dr. Moore was president of Mars Hill College for 41 years, 1897-1938. She attended Mars Hill and was awarded a degree in music from Meredith College in Raleigh. Her father hired her to teach music at Mars Hill in 1919 and soon assigned her the task of teaching French. She eventually became chairman of the foreign languages department.

Mrs. Roberts retired from the college in 1969, having served 50 years as a faculty member.

She married Oren Roberts in 1923, when the former Cincinnati Reds catcher took over as head coach and

athletic director at Mars Hill. Roberts died in 1971. Mrs. Roberts, who was known affectionately as "Miss Nona," remained in Mars Hill after her retirement, where

(Continued on Page 8)

Precinct Officials

The Madison County board of election has named the following persons as precinct election officials, listed below with their phone numbers: (Registrars named first, Democratic judge, second, Republican judge, third).

North Marshall (Township 1-2): Grover C. Ponder, 649-2423; R. Wayne McDevitt, 649-2883; Daniel (Pete) Flynn, 649-2224. South Marshall (Township 1-1): Don L. West, 649-2407; Harold L. Snelson, 649-2173; Harry E. Ramsey, 649-2825. Laurel (Township 2): Fronia Gunter, 656-2231; John D. Ray, 656-2215; Odus Chandler, 656-2213.

Mars Hill (Township 3): Cecil R. (Rex) Sprinkle, 689-3255; L.W. (Woody) Ammons Jr., 689-2910; Cecelia C. Powell, 689-4251. Beech Glen (Township 4):

Nina H. Rogers, 689-2071; Mount J. Ray, 689-3754; Willard J. Hensley, 689-4325.

Walnut (Township 5): Glenwood (Tom) Wallin, 649-2554; Robena Adams, 649-3290; Ralph Baker, 649-3179. Hot Springs (Township 6): Carol E. Anderson (Mr.), 622-3544; Bernice L. Wright, 622-3538; Roy L. Roberts, 656-2345.

Ebbs Chapel (Township 7): Porter Wallin, 689-3318; Aaron Ponder, 689-4990; Furman Fox, 689-4752.

Spring Creek (Township 8): Joe Justice, 622-3378; Larry S. Plemmons, 622-3576; Bobby Clark, 622-3587.

Sandy Mush (Township 9): Blanch T. Walker, 683-2900; Luther Coates, 689-2408; Betty B. Clark, 689-2824.

Grapevine (Township 10): Elsbeth Wyatt, 689-2296; Luther Coates, 689-2408; Betty B. Clark, 689-2824.

DOT Approves \$200,000 For Bend Of Ivy Bridge

The North Carolina Board of Transportation has approved a \$200,000 contract to replace a Madison County bridge.

The contract to replace a bridge on Bend of Ivy Road (Secondary Road 1578) east of Marshall was awarded to Simpson Construction Co. of Cleveland, Tenn., the low

bidder. Work to replace the bridge over Ivy River may begin as early as next month and is scheduled to be completed by May, 1979.

In all, the state's transportation policy group meeting in Wilmington, approved nearly two dozen

separate contracts, totaling more than \$31.5 million in highway improvements across North Carolina.

The March board meeting, held at Wilmington's Cape Fear Technical Institute, was chaired by state Secretary of Transportation Thomas W. Bradshaw Jr.