

Tax Collector To Be Tougher On Delinquent Accounts

County Imposes Landfill Surcharge

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General Fund Still Gets 95¢ Of Tax Rate

The Madison County Board of Commissioners has voted to maintain the present tax rate of 95 cents per \$100 valuation for use in the general fund.

However, due to the increasing costs of the land fill, solid waste and garbage operations, it was necessary to levy a surcharge of 10 cents. The surcharge will be used strictly in connection with the land fill and related solid waste activities.

In addition, residents of the Smokey Mountain Fire District will have an additional tax levied upon them in an amount to be determined by the governing board of that district.

The county commissioners have instructed the tax collector's office to begin "an immediate and vigorous collection of all delinquent taxes."

Harold H. Wallin, the county tax collector, has been instructed to begin immediate enforcement measures, including the seizure of bank accounts and automobiles, and the attaching and sale, if necessary, of real property.

This Gal's Half As Big... Twice As Happy

By JIM STORY

"I've reached my goal, and I feel the greatest and am the happiest I've ever been," Carolyn Briggs of Route 2, Mars Hill, told this writer on July 5 at the opening of the Greater Ivy Nutrition Site in the community center at Beech Glen.

As we enjoyed the luncheon with more than 40 senior citizens, Carolyn told of the

incredible experiences of losing 161½ pounds in one year, 10 months.

Asked how in the world she did it, she commented that she decided to try Weight Watchers in Asheville as a last resort, and "I've never regretted the decision."

It was hard to believe that a girl who weighed 309½ pounds less than two years ago now weighs only 148 pounds.

As a general thing, a person

who loses much less weight than Carolyn has shows a strained facial appearance and usually appears tired and irritable. Not Carolyn. She has a glowing personality, no wrinkles, no double chin or loose skin. She is a most attractive person who is proud of her accomplishment and is more than willing to talk about it.

I asked her if she had some of her pictures when she was

"fat and unattractive." "I certainly do," she answered, "and I'll be glad to mail you a few if you want to write an article."

I assured her I'd be delighted to do a feature about her and she was most appreciative and cooperative.

Carolyn is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Briggs of Mars Hill and lives in the Greater Ivy community in the Beech Glen section.

She is pianist at the Beech Glen Baptist Church and teaches in kindergarten at the Marshall Elementary School. At present she is in training with Weight Watchers and plans on opening a Weight Watchers class in Mars Hill as soon as she finishes her training. "I hope to start the class within the next couple of months," she said.

CAROLYN'S STORY
Below, Carolyn writes of her life, as follows: "At birth (Feb. 8, 1951), I weighed 9 pounds, 15 ounces. On Sept. 16, 1976, I weighed 309½ pounds.

After a long, hot, miserable summer, I knew I had to lose weight or I might not be alive to see another one. I was 25 years old and had been overweight all of my life. I was wearing women-size clothes in the first grade. Never in my life had I been able to lead a normal life. Never had I known what it was like to step outside the doorway of my home without being harassed and made fun of. The nicknames I attained throughout school are too numerous and painful to even attempt to mention.

At the age of 9, I weighed 147 pounds which is near the weight I now am.

When it came time to be weighed and measured in the eighth grade, I wished I were not even there because I was afraid the teacher would read my weight aloud and I was teased enough as it was. But,



ABOVE picture was made of Carolyn on July 5, 1978, while she was attending the opening of the Greater Ivy Nutrition Site at Beech Glen. She now weighs only 148 pounds, a loss of 161 1/2 pounds in one year, 10 months. "I am the happiest and feel the greatest I ever have," she remarked. (Photo by Jim Story)

lucky for me, he only pointed down to the scales which read 201 pounds.

Words can't express the hard times I had in high school. Needless to say, there were no dates, no sports, none of the activities which my

classmates enjoyed and participated in. I covered my feelings and received positive attention from people around me by constantly cracking jokes about my weight. Everyone had a good laugh at my expense. But they all loved me because I was so funny — the life of the party! Yet I would go home and cry myself to sleep because, on the inside, it really hurt.

By the time of high school graduation, I weighed 270 pounds. The clothes I had to wear were for people two or three times my age and in hideous colors. Never did I own a pair of jeans or any kind of clothes the other girls my age wore.

By the time I graduated from Mars Hill College, I weighed 300 pounds. All my clothes had to be ordered from places specializing in fashions

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CAROLYN'S MEASUREMENTS

	Before	After
Height	5'7"	5'7"
Weight	309 1/2	148
Bust	48"	34"
Waist	46"	27 1/2"
Hips	60"	37"
Shoe Size	10C	9M
Ring Size	9 1/2	6
Dress Size	28 1/2	10-12
Pant Size	46	10-12

CAROLYN BRIGGS of Route 2, Mars Hill, is pictured as she looked in August 1976, while visiting Hawaii. Her weight was 309 1/2 pounds. With her is a tour

guide. "He tried to put his arm around me but his arm was too short or I was too fat," Carolyn jokingly remarked.

Ramsey To Receive Taylor Service Award

Rep. Liston B. Ramsey of Marshall will receive the first annual Roy A. Taylor Service Award at the 1978 North Carolina Young Democrats installation banquet in Asheville July 15 at 7 p.m., according to YD spokesman Wayne McDevitt.

The banquet, to be held at the Inn on the Plaza, will feature a keynote address by Sen. Adlai Stevenson III, D-Illinois.

Ramsey, a resident of Madison County, is serving his 8th term in the North Carolina General Assembly and represents Waywood,

Jackson, Madison, and Swain counties. He was recently ranked as the second most effective House legislator by the North Carolina Center for Policy Research. House Speaker Carl Stewart is ranked first.

"We are proud that this award will carry the name of former Congressman Roy Taylor, who did so much for our area and our party during the 18 years he was in Congress," said McDevitt. Taylor retired as 11th District Congressman in 1975.

In describing the award, McDevitt said it "is an effort

on the part of the 11th District Young Democrats to provide appropriate public recognition on an annual basis to a Western Carolina Democrat who has done the most to serve the district and the party."

McDevitt, who is chairman of the 11th District YD Organization, cited examples of Ramsey's position as a ranking member of the House Finance Committee and his outstanding service on the Advisory Budget Commission has given him an influence extending far beyond Western North Carolina.

— Ramsey authored and introduced legislation requiring roll call votes in committee.

— Was responsible for the secondary road spending formula favoring the mountain highway system.

— Worked on the "Windfall Tax Bill" which provides funds for prison construction and university building projects thru advance tax collection.

— Introduced legislation that eventually led to the appropriation of funds for the Western Agricultural Center and the funding of other

agricultural programs in Western North Carolina.

Ramsey who is a past chairman of the House Finance Committee is currently serving as the chairman of the House Rules Committee.

Ramsey has served two terms as chairman of the Madison County Democratic Executive Committee and is currently serving his fourth term as chairman of the 11th Congressional District Democratic Executive Committee. He was a delegate to the 1968 Democratic Con-

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Madison Students Urged To Register By August 10

Madison High School students are reminded that summer vacation will soon be over and the first day of the 1978-79 school year will be Aug. 10. Students needing to complete their class schedule cards may do it by visiting the guidance office at Madison High School Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

"It is important that everyone be registered for a six-period class load before this date to insure a smooth

opening for what promises to be an exciting year at Madison High," Ron McDaniel said.

"If you have neglected to register at all or have an incomplete schedule, you are encouraged to take care of this matter immediately. Remember, all students will have a completed schedule by opening day and we hope you will take advantage of the opportunity given you to have input in the selection of your coursework for the coming school year," McDaniel said.

Larry Leake To Become State YDC President

Larry Leake, son of Mr. and Mrs. A.E. Leake of Asheville, formerly of Walnut, will be sworn in as president of the N.C. Young Democrats at the installation banquet this Saturday night at the Inn on the Plaza in Asheville.

Leake, who is a partner in the Uzzell, Dumont Law Firm in Asheville, is a graduate of Marshall High School. He was awarded his A.B. degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a juris doctor law degree from the University of North Carolina Law School. Larry, who resides with his parents in Asheville, has a brother, Dr. A.E. Leake Jr., also of Asheville.

"Now that our primaries are complete, we Democrats need to come together, consolidate the Democratic party, and begin to move forward to the November election as a united body," said Leake, president-elect of the statewide group. In describing the theme "Unity First," for this year's gathering.

Leake announced the formation of seven county-level groups and a group of county representatives to organize the event.



LARRY LEAKE

McDevitt of Marshall, as one of the two coordinators for the 11th District outside Sumner County.

Roger Haynie of Marshall, a Madison County politician, will serve as a co-host for the banquet and will also be responsible for selecting the event in Madison County. Haynie will also serve as a

REP. LISTON RAMSEY