

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

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State Relieves 2 On Election Board



FRONT VIEW of Deringer Manufacturing Company building which is located on

Deringer Drive just off Marshall by pass behind the shopping center.

At Marshall Plant Operation

Deringer Enjoying 7th Year

BY JIM STORY

Deringer Manufacturing Co. is in its seventh year of operation at its Marshall plant which is located on Deringer Drive just off the Marshall bypass behind the shopping center.

The plant started on Sept. 9, 1972 with only eight employees in a building on Main Street with less than 6,000 square feet.

The present plant, located

on a beautiful site, has 22,000 square feet with modern facilities and employs more than 60 persons, all from Madison County.

In addition to the original Contact Division, Deringer has added assembly and secondary operations plus a new rapidly growing Bi Metal department.

"We are indeed extremely pleased and proud of the accomplishments of our employees," Pat Clemens,

popular plant manager, bi metal coordinator, Josh Ball continues as Heading Department coordinator, and Larry Davis is tool room coordinator.

Promotions have been made which attests to the interest and desire of employees, such as the following advancements recently:

Michael Jenkins to production manager; Phillip Wallin to technical manager; Ester Hodge to office manager; Jean Wallin to personnel and quality control; Arvlee Thomas to second shift coordinator; George Pack to

metal coordinator, Josh Ball continues as Heading Department coordinator, and Larry Davis is tool room coordinator.

A visit to the plant shows a friendly and cordial reception by Pat Clemens and an atmosphere of friendly working conditions and relations among the employees who appear to enjoy their work and companionship with each other.

To sum up the feeling which exists is to simply say that "Deringer is proud of its entire personnel and the personnel is proud of Deringer."

New Recreation Program Here?

An important recreational meeting will be held this Thursday night at 7:30 at the Housing Authority Office on Walnut Creek Road, it was announced Monday by Mayor Lawrence Ponder.

Ponder said that a state official will be present to discuss possibility of recreation programs for the Marshall area. Slide presentations will be shown which point out what some communities in Western North Carolina have already done.

Interested persons regarding our recreation are urged to attend.

The state Board of Elections announced Tuesday morning that its decision is that both Harold Ammons, Democratic member of the Madison County Board of Elections, and L. Roger Swann, Republican board member, would be replaced on the Madison County board. The State Board, however, announced that the two members would serve until their successors had been appointed and qualified. This will be done in the near future, Alex Brock, secretary of the State Board, said.

The decision of the State Board followed a hearing Monday in Raleigh which Ammons attended with counsel. Swann, who was out of state on vacation, was unable to attend the meeting. Miss Sharon Ray, supervisor of elections in Madison County, was present at the hearing, along with other interested citizens. Oscar McDevitt, the newly named member, did not attend the hearing, it was reported.

Marvin Ball, chairman of the Madison County Board, recently resigned from the board following an investigation and hearing by the State Board and the SBI in Madison County of election irregularities in the Democratic primary.

Following Ball's resignation, Ammons, of Mars Hill, was named acting chairman of the board. Oscar McDevitt, Democrat, of Marshall, succeeded Ball as a member of the board.

Brock stated Tuesday afternoon that the State Board members would serve as a "search committee," with Kenneth Babb, chairman.

Brock also reported that neither Ammons nor Swann were guilty of any criminal violations but the decision had been made after the hearing Monday.

Brock stated that a full and formal statement in writing would be forthcoming which would explain the decision and judgment of the action taken by the State Board.

Mars Hill To Present 'South Pacific'

"South Pacific," Rogers and Hammerstein's Pulitzer Prize winning musical, will lead Mars Hill College's 1978-79 drama season. It will be followed in the spring by one of Broadway's most popular shows, "The Passion of Dracula." The final major production will feature Garcia Lorca's "Blood Wedding."

"South Pacific," which was based on James Michener's "Tales of the South Pacific" — also a Pulitzer Prize winner, will be produced Oct. 12-15, again on Oct. 17-19, and the final performances will be held Oct. 27-29. All performances will be in Owen Theatre. "Dracula" by Bob Hall and David Richmond, will be produced Feb. 15-19 and 22-25, 1979, and "Blood Wedding" will be performed May 8-13, 1979. Several student directed and workshop productions will also be produced during the year.

"South Pacific" was first performed on stage in 1949 with Mary Martin in the female lead of Nellie Forbush and Ezio Pinza portraying the male lead of Emile deBecque. Almost 10 years later it was produced as a movie with Mitzi Gaynor in the female lead and Rossano Brazzi as the male lead. The movie was directed by Josh Logan.

Tickets for the musical will be \$3 for adults and \$2 for children and students. Individual tickets for the remaining two shows will be \$2 for adults and \$1 for students-children. Season tickets are also available and cover all three shows as well as the student-directed and workshop productions. The prices are \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for students and children.

Tickets for "South Pacific" will go on sale Oct. 9. All seats will be on a reserve basis.



MR. AND MRS. DONALD PAYNE of the Holcombe Branch Road in the Greater Ivy community, pose on the front porch of their mobile home after having won first place in the Madison County Mobile Home

Beautification and Improvement Contest and third place in the 19-county Western North Carolina Community Development contest. The young couple received a \$100 check as the award in the Western North Carolina contest.

W.C. Bledsoe Named Supervisor

W. Carlyle Bledsoe, Yancey County extension chairman, has been selected by the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service to succeed Harry Silver as supervisor of Extension-TVA programs in Western North Carolina.

Bledsoe's appointment was announced by Dr. T. Carlton Blalock, state extension director. He will assume his new duties Oct. 16, according to Denver Robinson, Western District extension chairman.

Silver, formerly of Marshall, retired June 30.

Dr. Blalock described Bledsoe "as a man well qualified for his new position." He added, "Mr. Bledsoe has broad experience. He has worked with nearly all farm enterprises in Western North Carolina."

Bledsoe's main responsibility is to work with the Tennessee Valley Authority and extension specialists at North Carolina State University in providing resources that extension workers can use in increasing agricultural income in the 15 TVA counties of Western North Carolina.

A native of Ashe County, Bledsoe has been Yancey County extension chairman since 1970. Prior to that he served as an extension agent in Yancey and as a TVA test demonstration agent with responsibilities in Buncombe, Henderson, Haywood, Transylvania and Rutherford counties. He has also been in private employment.

Bledsoe has a B.S. degree and a M.S. degree from North Carolina State University.



W.C. BLEDSOE
New Extension-TVA
Supervisor

Lunsford Folk Festival At Mars Hill Oct. 5-7

The 11th annual Bascom Lamar Lunsford Mountain Music and Dance Festival was founded by Lunsford and Mars Hill pharmacist Ed Howard primarily as a time for folks to get together to play their favorite tunes, celebrate their way of life and especially as a time when traditions could be passed from the older generations to the younger people.

According to some officials, one of these traditions — ballad singing — has not attracted as many participants as other musical forms and in fact may be in danger of dying

out. To prevent this, and in maintaining the traditions set down by Lunsford Oct. 6, will feature a special evening of ballads and ballad singers in Owen Theatre beginning at 7 p.m.

Before industrialization and mass communication, traditional unaccompanied ballad singing took place in nearly every part of America. Now, they remain alive in only a very few places. One of these places is the Sodom Laurel section of Madison County. First documented in 1916 by English folksong collector Cecil Sharp, the Sodom Laurel

community remains one of the extremely few "living" communities of ballad singers. They have continued to receive attention from folklorists at the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian Institute, the N.C. Folk Music and Archives, and numerous folklife festivals.

The singers who will participate in Friday evening's activities represent four generations of ballad singers in the same community. They are Cas Wallin, Evelyn Ramsey, Bessie Wallin, Della Norton, Sheila Rice, Darlene Cody and Betty

McMillan. Festival officials have also persuaded Dr. Cratis Williams, well-known Appalachian scholar, to be the master of ceremonies for the evening.

The ballads sung by these traditionalists are long narrative songs which can be traced back to 17th and 18th Century England, and their significance lies in both their words and the tunes. Though the songs have changed in some ways they are still recognizable to historians and retain their references to castles, lords and ladies. The ballads have been passed

down in the Sodom Laurel community orally; that is, they were never written down or learned from books.

The Lunsford Festival will open officially Oct. 5 with an evening of mountain dancing in Moore Auditorium. The festival continues through Saturday, with craft exhibitions, woodstove cooking and handicraft demonstrations, workshops in many mountain musical instruments, street dancing, jam sessions and a special event for children. These activities will be held on the

lawn between the Country Boutique and Bridges Cafeteria from 10 a.m. through 4 p.m.

Saturday evening musicians and dancers will gather to honor the memory of Mr. Lunsford and to carry on the tradition he began nearly half a century ago. "The Minstrel of the Appalachias" will begin at 7 p.m. In keeping with Mr. Lunsford's wishes, some of the events during the three days are competitive, but rather serve as a time of celebration and learning.

Burley Grade Loan Rates Are Proposed

Proposed loan rates for 1978 crop burley tobacco range from 83 cents to \$1.39 per pound and reflect an average support of \$124.70 per hundredweight — 7.4 cents per pound above the 1977 level. The loan rates for eligible burley packed in bales will be the same as the rates for

burley tied in hands.

As in the past no loans will be available on any tobacco graded No-G (No Grade), W (Wet), U (Unsound), or Scrap, according to Ray Fitzgerald, administrator of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. Marketings of these grades, however, will be charged against the quotas for the farms on which they were produced, Fitzgerald said.

The cooperative associations, through which advances are made available,

will be authorized to deduct one cent per pound to apply against overhead costs.

Comments regarding the proposed rates will be considered if submitted in writing by Nov. 20 to the acting director, Price Support and Loan Division, USDA-ASCS, P.O. Box 3415, Washington, D.C., 20013. The comments will be available for public inspection in the Office of the Acting Director, Room 3741, South Building, during regular business hours, 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Many See President During Asheville Stop

Many Madison County Democrats attended President Carter's visit to Asheville last Friday where he spoke at the fundraising event in the interest of John Ingram, Democratic candidate for U.S. senate, and Congressman Lamar Coburn.

The main feature of President Carter's visit was the \$50 per plate dinner served at Billings Estate. This dinner was attended by the following Democrats from Madison County: Stan H. Frazier, Marshall; Mr. and Mrs. Wayne McQueen of Marshall; Vernon Anderson, Marshall; and...