

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

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77th Year, No. 40

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE COUNTY SEAT AT MARSHALL, N.C.

THURSDAY, October 12, 1978

15¢ Per Copy

\$2.5 Million Federal Loan Sought For New School

The county of Madison has applied to the Farmers Home Administration for a loan in the amount of \$2,500,000 to construct a new elementary school to house Marshall-Walnut Elementary schools and to provide other badly needed capital improvements to the four other elementary schools in the county, Larry

Leake, county attorney, stated this week.

If the county is successful in its efforts to obtain the \$2,500,000 from the Farmers Home Administration, it will result in a great savings to the taxpayers of the county. The county will be able to obtain the money in question at an interest rate of from 1 to 1 1/2 percent cheaper than the county could obtain on the Open Bond Market and instead of the repayment period being 20 years as would be required on the Open Bond

Market, the FHA repayment period would probably be either 30 or 40 years, therefore reducing greatly the amount of monies which the county would have to allocate to bond repayment in each fiscal year. Tax savings to each property owner if the FHA approves the loan as opposed to financing through the Open Market would probably be in the area of 40 percent, Leake stated.

As the county is not going to be in a position to advise the electorate by Nov. 7 whether the FHA loan has been ap-

proved, the referendum at which the people decide whether the \$2,500,000 issue should occur will not be held until the Farmers Home Administration notifies the county of whether it will be willing to purchase the bonds upon their issue. After the Farmers Home

Administration has made its decision, then the county can properly advise the taxpayers as to the costs of any such bond issue, Leake continued.

Regardless of the decision made by the FHA, before any

funds can be borrowed, the electorate will still have to approve same at a bond referendum. There will be no delay in the start of the school improvements in question, when and if the bond issue is approved, as if the bond issue had been approved at the Nov. 7 election, then the county in its efforts to secure the cheapest funding source would have still sought funding from the Farmers Home Administration, and no bond would have issued until action was taken by the Farmers

Home Administration, Leake explained.

A spokesman for the board of county commissioners stated that the board felt that it would be improper to have the referendum before the people could properly and accurately be advised as to the costs of the bond issue. To go ahead and have the referendum at this time would be the same as buying a "pig in a poke," Leake commented. It is anticipated that the bond referendum will be held in January or February

Water Supply Adequate

The Marshall water supply at the present is adequate with both reservoirs normal for this time of year, town officials announced Tuesday morning.

"Although we have plenty of water at present, the public is asked to be as conservative as possible," one of the aldermen stated.

Many towns in Western North Carolina have serious shortages of water, including Weaverville, Woodfin, Robbinsville, Sylva and Black Mountain.

Election Board

Chairman Pat Franklin Wants New Lawyer

Patricia Franklin, one of two state-appointed members of the Madison County Board of Elections, was elected chairman at the organization meeting of the county board here Friday morning of last week.

Mrs. Franklin immediately launched a move to replace Asheville attorney Larry B. Leake as legal counsel for the elections board.

Leake is attorney for Madison County and state president of the North Carolina Young Democrat Clubs.

Mrs. Franklin said she feels Leake should be replaced as elections board counsel since he also represents the Madison County board of commissioners and the school board and those offices are up for re-election Nov. 7.

"And in view of the fact that Mr. Leake is president of the state Young Democrat Clubs and is very busy in that capacity, and in view of the fact that he represents two boards in this county that are up for re-election, I would like to suggest to this board of commissioners to hire an attorney for us," Mrs. Franklin said.

Oscar McDevitt, Leake's uncle who was elected secretary to the board, opposed the move. He said he does not see the need to spend taxpayers' money to hire a lawyer if Leake is available to represent the board.

Mrs. Franklin said that in view of the alleged irregularities that occurred in the last election and the turmoil that the previous board had to contend with, "I feel that it is very important that this board protect itself and that we have an attorney present at our meetings to instruct us on the law and advise us on the law."

She said the board's lawyer should attend the instructional meetings for precinct officials and be with the board on election night.

William B. Zink Jr., Republican member who was also appointed to the Madison board of the state Board of

Elections in a shakeup following the May 2 primaries, agreed with Mrs. Franklin that a lawyer is needed by the elections board.

Zink and Mrs. Franklin were appointed by the state Board of Elections to replace Harold Ammons, Democratic member, and L. Roger Swann, Republican member. They were sworn in Thursday of last week by Clerk of Court Judson Edwards.

McDevitt, who replaced Marvin Ball on the board earlier, nominated Mrs. Franklin as chairman Friday.

There was a brief battle between McDevitt and Zink for the post as secretary, with

Mrs. Franklin voting for McDevitt.

"Before going further in the meeting, I would like to say a few words which I hope reflects the spirit of this new board," Mrs. Franklin said, following her election as chairman.

"First, none of us actively sought this office and we have become replacement members of the board after a long period of turmoil with only a few short weeks to prepare for the general election," she said.

"And while we fully realize that there has been controversy involving the elec-

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PATRICIA FRANKLIN

Hall To Be Dedicated Sunday

Blackwell Hall, Mars Hill College's \$1.5 million administration building, will be formally opened Oct. 15, as the school celebrates its annual Homecoming and Alumni Day activities.

The three-story, completely air-conditioned building will allow the major administrative offices of the college to be housed under one roof for the first time in the school's history. The 11 a.m. ceremony will begin on a patriotic note with the presentation of a new American flag and a flagpole

for the newly landscaped center quadrangle. The flag and flagpole are a gift from the Woodmen of the World. E.H. Ponder, area manager, and units 1 and 1107 from Asheville will make the presentation.

The building will be named for Dr. and Mrs. Hoyt Blackwell. Dr. Blackwell is president emeritus of the college having served nearly 40 years on the faculty administration of the college. His presidency spanned the years from 1938 to 1966 and was responsible for half of the

campus's major buildings. A native of South Carolina, Dr. Blackwell is a veteran of World War I, a member of Mars Hill's Class of 1922, and holds additional degrees from Wake Forest and Southern Seminary.

Others participating in the ceremony will include Dr. Fred B. Bentley, the current president of Mars Hill; Dr. W. Otis Duck, Mars Hill physician and chairman of the Board of Trustees; Harold Austell of Greenville, S.C., chairman of the Board of Advisors; and Dr. James Kassariss of Hendersonville, co-president of the Alumni Association. The college band, under the direction of Ray Babelay, and the college choir, directed by William Roberts, will also participate in the ceremony, which will be held at the middle floor entrance of the new building.

Other events surrounding the building's dedication include an exhibition of 80 woodblock color prints by famed Japanese artist Ando Hiroshige. Valued at \$15,000 the 19th century art works were given to the college by Dr. Burt P. Johnson of Cary, who will be on hand to discuss and answer questions about the artist and his work. The prints may be viewed in the first floor conference center of the new building from 8:30 a.m. through 2:30 p.m.

An additional highlight of the weekend will be the luncheon in the college cafeteria honoring the Alumni and Alumni of the Year. This year the college will honor Walter Glenn Watts of Statesville and Mrs. Jeanne Hoffman.

Watts, a member of the Class of '33 at Mars Hill, recently

retired as president of Watts Heating and Plumbing in Statesville. He has served on the Board of Trustees for four terms and has donated his services to the college to help conserve energy by upgrading the plumbing and heating systems of the school. Watts also holds a degree from Wake Forest, and is a member of the Kiwanis Club, the Masons, and the Shriners. He is active in the Western Avenue Baptist Church where he was served as a deacon, chairman of the trustees, and as a leader in the Sunday school department. He is married to the former Mabel Shaver, a member of the Class of '33, and they have three daughters, two of which are also Mars Hill alumnae.

Mrs. Hoffman, a member of the Class of '60, is the wife of academic vice president Dr. Richard L. Hoffman. A native of Greenville, S.C., she also holds a master's degree from Western Carolina University. An activist with experience in a fleet of civic, governmental and political agencies, she is currently executive director of the council on Appalachian Women Inc., which she helped found. She has taught in the Buncombe County school system, Asheville-Buncombe Technical Institute, and Mars Hill College. She was named Outstanding Young Woman in America in 1975, and remains active in numerous local, state, regional and national organizations as a member, elected and appointed official. The Hoffman family, which includes two sons, are all members of Mars Hill Baptist Church.

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Felicia Bishop Crowned Madison High Queen

Felicia Bishop, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bishop of Marshall, was crowned 1978 homecoming queen of Madison High School Friday night at halftime of the Mitchell-Madison football game.

David Wyatt, principal, crowned the queen.

The colorful ceremony was held in cold, brisk weather before a large crowd of shivering fans.

The queen and her court entered the field on late model automobiles which were furnished by Pioneer Ford,

Mountaineer Ford, Eric English, Morris Frisby, Teddy Cody, Kermit Cody, Dr. Bobby Jean Rice, Sheila Ramsey and Maxine Gosnell.

Flowers for the event were furnished by Shady Side Florist.

Each member of the court and the queen were flanked by student escorts.

Members of the queen's court included Laurie Melvin, Shannon Joyner, Paula Shelton, Beverly Bruce, Pam Anderson, Nan Ramsey, Linda Ray and Sandy Deitz. Donna Marie Anderson, 1977 homecoming queen, also participated in the event.

The Madison High Marching Band, under the direction of William Stell, furnished music for the occasion.



ELEAINE BRADY

Firearms Ordinance Enforced

Mayor Ponder and the board of aldermen this week announced that the firearms ordinance here would be strictly enforced on the killing of all wildlife within the city limits.

Citizens are reminded that Marshall is a bird and wildlife sanctuary.

"It has been reported that many squirrels have been shot and this should be stopped," the town officials stated.

Also cooperating with the officials in enforcing this ordinance is the N.C. Wildlife Commission.

Anyone being reported for these violations will be investigated and if found guilty, will be prosecuted.

District Court Now In Progress

The October term of District Court for the trial of criminal cases started here Wednesday morning with Judge Robert H. Lacey presiding.

The calendar has a total of 120 cases scheduled for the

term, most of them for violations of driving laws. There are 77 cases of speeding to head the list. Driving under the influence and breaking, passing and larceny cases are also on the calendar.

Tweed apparently lost control of the vehicle. The Datsun left the road on the left side of the highway, then crossed to the right shoulder and crashed into a rock wall, overturning several times.

A native and lifelong resident of Madison County, she was a 1975 graduate of Madison High School and attended Mars Hill College. She was employed by Shadowline Corp. and was a daughter of Beatrice Corn Brady of Marshall and the late Robert Earl Brady Sr.

FUNERAL SATURDAY
Services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday in Bull Creek Baptist Church, of which she was a member. The Rev. Stanley Peek officiated. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Surviving in addition to her mother are a son, Jeremy Lee Brady of the home; three sisters, Nadine Fisher and Lynn Davis of Marshall and Elizabeth Buckner of Mars Hill; and five brothers, Robert Earl Brady Jr. of Mount City, Mo., Riley, Lawrence, James and Farrell Brady of Marshall.

Coyne Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



DAVID EDWARDS of Weaverville and Chris Harris of Salisbury rehearse a scene from Mars Hill College's production of "South Pacific." The Pulitzer Prize

winning musical, directed by C. Robert Jones, will open Thursday evening in the college's Owen Theatre.