

# THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

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Civic ballet honors  
retired Mars Hill teacher  
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## School Bond? We'll Know June 12

Sharon L. Ray, supervisor of elections in Madison County, furnished the following statement in regard to the \$2.5 million school bond referendum:

The following question will be submitted to the voters of Madison County by way of a School Bond Referendum to be conducted by the Madison County Board of Elections on

June 12: "Shall the order authorizing the issuance of two million, five hundred thousand dollars, (\$2,500,000) in bonds for capital improvements to the Madison

County School System be approved?"  
In order to vote in the June 12 School Bond Referendum, a person must be registered or transferred by 5 p.m. on

May 14. The office of the Madison County Board of Elections, located on Main Street in Marshall, open Monday, Wednesday and Friday of each week from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Telephone 649-3731.

You may register to vote in Madison County if you are: 1) a citizen of the United States, 2) a person 18 years of age, or will become 18 by the date of the election, 3) a legal resident of the state of North Carolina and Madison County for 30 days by the date of the election, 4) a person convicted of a felony whose citizenship rights have been restored.

Registration is free, permanent and continuous. You need to register, transfer, or re-register only if you: 1) have not registered in

Madison County before, 2) have moved to a different voting precinct since you registered, 3) wish to change your party affiliation, 4) have changed your name, and 5) have been removed from the active registration records for failure to vote in four consecutive years.

There are three officials in each precinct also authorized to register voters. You may obtain the names and phone numbers of those officials in your precinct by calling the Board of Elections' office. One may also register with any member of the Madison County Board of Elections.

### ABSENTEE VOTING

If you are registered in Madison County and are unable to vote in person on election day due to illness,

physical disability, or absence from the county you may apply for an absentee ballot for the School Bond Referendum from the Madison County Board of Elections.

The Board of Elections will begin receiving applications for absentee ballots on April 13. You may apply for an absentee ballot during normal office hours (Monday, Wednesday and Friday — 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) from April 13 through 5 p.m. on June 6.

One-stop absentee voting allows a voter to go to the Board of Elections Office fill out an application, receive an absentee ballot, then vote in the office. Those finding it inconvenient to travel to the Elections office may request,

or have a near relative (spouse, parent, brother, sister, child, grandchild, or grandparent) request, in writing, an application for an absentee ballot by writing the Madison County Board of Elections at P.O. Box 142, Marshall 28753. If you are a near relative, designated by you, may also go to the office in person and apply for an absentee ballot.

Persons needing to vote by absentee ballot in the June 12 Madison County School Bond Referendum are reminded that making early application should insure against technical error.  
For further information regarding absentee voting, call the office of the Madison County Board of Elections at 649-3731.

### Jim Baker To Represent Law School

The Walter F. George School of Law of Mercer University in Macon, Ga., has announced that Jim Baker has been selected as one of three students to represent the law school in the 1979 American Bar Association Appellate Advocacy Competition. The competition will be held in Nashville, Tenn., beginning March 27 and consists of students arguing hypothetical cases before a panel of judges in the same manner actual cases are heard by courts on appeal. Selection to the teams is based on performance in oral and written advocacy during the students' first two years in Law School and is designed to recognize outstanding achievement and provide further experience in oral advocacy.

Jim has also been named to the Law School's Moot Court Board for the academic year 1979-80. The Board is composed of law students who have excelled in their writing and oral capabilities in their first year of law school as well as in the Appellate Practice program conducted for second year students. The Moot Court Board administers all Moot Court Activities and represents the law school at various competitions.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Leonard Baker of R-4, Marshall, Jim is a 1977 graduate of Mars Hill College and a second year student at Walter F. George School of Law.



JIM BAKER



MR. AND MRS. P.I. PRESSLEY and family of the Rollins section of Marshall, whose mobile home was washed away in the November, 1977, flood, are a great deal safer now with a new and attractive mobile home atop a high foundation (shown above). This type of block foundation

affords them a full basement. The upper end of the foundation is pointed much like a boat which will "split" the water in case of another flood. The French Broad River can be seen at extreme right. Cost of foundation was approximately \$5,000. (Photo by Jim Story)

## French Broad EMC Annual Meeting Set

Preliminary plans are underway for French Broad EMC's Annual Membership Meeting on April 21, at the Madison High School in Marshall.

An Arts and Craft Show is planned for the third consecutive year. It will open at 10 a.m. and will be open until the business session begins at 1 p.m. Several entries have already been received and more are expected. Those already entered are: Mable C. Wallin, oil paintings; Paula Parker, water color paintings; Lionel Filias, stained

glass; Frances M. Grigg, tote bags; Dewey Phillips, gourds and walking sticks; Mrs. Johnnie Allen, pocket books, basket hangers and picture frames; Eileen P. Meadows, barnwood plaques, oils on canvas and clothespin dolls; Clifton Norton, macrame hangers, tables and towel racks; Suzi's Ceramics and Crafts; Madison High School Woodworking Class; Country Boutique and Laurel Mountain Crafts with an assortment of craft items. A special attraction this year will be a Pearl Dive with Gordon and

Helen Claus. If you would like to enter this show and display or sell your craft product, please contact Ernestine Plemmons at 649-2061 to reserve space. This space will be provided free of charge and there is no entry fee.

Entertainment this year will be provided by the Carolina Cut-Ups, a group of young talented blue grass musicians from Weaverville, and the Singing Patriots, a gospel singing group from Asheville. Each will provide a 30 minute program between 11:45 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.

Member registration will begin at 10 a.m. and close at 1 p.m. The Business Session will begin at 1 p.m. with reports from the manager and officers, and three directors will be elected.

All French Broad EMC members are encouraged to attend this Annual Meeting and exercise your rights as a member.

## Wade Huey On Board N. C. Baptist Homes

The Board of Trustees of the North Carolina Baptist Homes, Inc. met recently in their first of two annual meetings at their administrative offices on Reynolds Park Road, Winston-Salem. This body is comprised of twenty trustees from throughout North Carolina and are elected by the Baptist State Convention one fourth of whom are elected annually for a term of office of four years. The five newly trustees seated on the Board in Winston-Salem are: Dr. Mack Thompson of Warsaw, Wade Huey of Marshall, Garland Johnson of Elkin, Rev. Crate Jones of Durham and W.H. Anderson of Waynesville. Dr. Thompson, Mr. Huey, and Mr. Jones were elected for their first term of service, while Mr. Johnson and Mr. Anderson have served on the body previously.

officers for the coming year were presented by the nominating committee and elected by the full board: W.H. Anderson, Waynesville, president; the Rev. E. Gordon Conklin, Greenville, vice president; Mrs. Owen Herring, Winston-Salem, secretary.

The Baptist Homes is an agency of the N.C. Baptist State Convention whose primary purpose is to build and operate Homes for the care of aging people and are under the direction of the Rev. William A. Poole, Executive Director, of Winston-Salem, and are presently operating six Homes throughout the state, one each in Albemarle, Asheville, Hamilton, Yanceyville, and two in Winston-Salem, with a skilled Nursing Facility for all six Homes in Winston-Salem.

The trustee presently serving this agency from this area is Wade Huey of Marshall.

## Tony Webb, County Forest Ranger, Is Enjoying Work

By JIM STORY

Jimmy Antonio (Tony) Webb, Madison County forest ranger, stated last week that he is enjoying his work in Madison County and appreciates the cooperation he is receiving from other rangers and especially the fine response of the public in protecting private forest land as well as developing woodland.

Webb, who succeeded Charles Craine, who retired after 30 years of dedicated service to the state and Madison County, commented about Craine, saying, "Charles was one of the most knowledgeable fire control

men in Western North Carolina. During his 20 years with the forest services he developed one of the finest county forest fire control organizations found anywhere."

Webb further stated that he felt it an honor to succeed Craine, who had laid such a fine foundation in forestry preservation and development in Madison County.

Webb graduated from Marshall High School in 1975. He attended Wayne Community College in Goldsboro where he received an associate of science degree in forest management. He also attended Raywood Technical Institute in Clyde for two

years and graduated with an associate degree in forest products.

Prior to working as Madison County forest ranger, Tony held a summer job with the National Park Service and he worked as a crewman for the state forest service at their tanker base in Edenton. More recently, Tony worked with Blalock Lumber Co. in Asheville.

"I'm enjoying working with the people in Madison County," Tony said recently. According to Webb, the North Carolina Forest Service is responsible for protecting and developing the privately owned forest land in the state. Tony explained, "Protecting

the forest involves controlling wildfires as well as working to control outbreaks of insects and diseases that destroy our woodland."

"Wildfires have taken their toll in Madison County. During the past five years (1974-78) the county had 195 fires which burned a total of 1,337 acres of private land. That is an average of 39 fires and 267 acres per year," Tony said. He explained that according to statistics, 65 percent of the fires were intentionally set, 25 percent were a result of careless debris burning, and the remaining 10 percent were caused by smoking, railroad and miscellaneous other causes.

"Aside from protecting private forest land," Webb said, "the N.C. Forest Service also works with landowners to develop and improve their woodland." Upon request Tony and a forester from the district office in Asheville will accompany a landowner to examine his tract of timber. "Depending upon the landowner's objectives and desires, Tony stated, "we will jointly determine when and what steps must be taken to achieve the landowner's objectives." Tony explained that certain forest improvements "We really like the landowner" with a written (Continued on Page 5)

## GOP Gathering

### Madison Approves County Organization Plan

The Madison County Republican Convention was held in the courthouse here Saturday.

Larry Justus, chairman of the 11th District Republican Party, spoke to the delegates. He stressed the need for good government on all levels and a strong two-party system. A county plan of organization was approved and party officers were elected for the next two years. They were: Chairman, Dr. Larry N. Stern; Vice Chairman, Mrs. Pat Roberts; Secretary, Mrs. Fay Ball; Treasurer, C.N. Willis.

Members of the county executive committee were elected and these included all precinct chairmen. Delegates to the 11th Congressional District Convention to be held at 2:00 p.m. in Franklin, April 23, and the state convention to be held May 18 and 19 in Raleigh were elected as follows: Mike Chapman, Mrs. Ella Vee Willis, B.B. Coffey, Mrs. Fay Ball, C.N. Willis, Dr. Larry Stern, Mrs. Frances C. Ramsey, Joe Morgan, Bill Powell, Clyde

Roberts, Bruce Briggs, and Mrs. Loy R. Roberts. These alternates were elected: Dedrick Brown, Mrs. Edith Lunsford, Gayle Briggs, Mrs. Cecelia Powell, Roger Swann, Roy Norton, Phillip Ball, Darrell Norton, Gary Sprinkle, Bill Mitchell, Jim Craine, and Sherman

Ramsey. Judicial, Senatorial, and Legislative District Committees were elected. The Madison County GOP Executive Committee will appoint a Study Committee soon to discern the factual situation relative to the forthcoming School Bond Issue to

be voted on in the county, in April.

Justus has appointed Joe L. Morgan of Madison County to the Resolutions Committee for the 11th District Convention to be held in Franklin at which Gov. Lamar Alexander of Tennessee will be the keynote speaker.

## County To Participate In Foster Children Plan

Madison County has been selected to participate in a pilot project to implement a permanency planning program for foster children. Durham, Cabarrus, Lenoir, Onslow, Randolph, Scotland and Surry counties were also selected to participate in the project by the Division of Social Services of the N.C. Department of Human Resources.

"Far too many children in the United States today are adrift in the sea of foster care. North Carolina is not immune to this problem, as many children in this state are in need of permanent, secure homes," Robert H. Ward, director of the Division said.

Over 10,000 children live in foster homes throughout North Carolina during the year. The average length of stay in foster care is over two years, with these children usually living in an average of 2.7 foster homes during their minority. Statistics indicate that children who are not

returned to their natural family within two years will probably never return.

"The results of a permanency planning demonstration project in Oregon was so successful that Portland State University, who had done the research component of the demonstration project, was awarded a new three-year grant from the Office of Child Development to share their knowledge with other states. North Carolina has been accepted as a participating state in this project and will receive training and technical assistance from the Portland State staff," Ward said.

Ward also said that North Carolina, because of limited staff and money, decided to select eight county departments of social services to participate in a pilot project. Ward sent a letter to all 100 county social services departments asking for volunteers. "We were very pleased that 21 counties volunteered to participate.

The counties selected will be required to use the permanency planning model and have their participating staff members take special training arranged by the Division of Social Services. In addition, staffing and supervisory patterns are established by the state. Every county in the project must also have adequate legal and supportive services available.

"We are indeed enthusiastic and excited about this new initiative to provide permanent homes for these children where they will be loved and have the security of knowing that they will remain there. Our first priority for a permanent home is for the child to be returned to an improved home situation with the natural parents. If this is not possible, the second choice is an adoptive placement. If neither of these is possible, we must find a permanent home for children who must remain in foster care," Ward concluded.