

Brigman Resigns

Bill Brigman, principal of Marshall Elementary School for the past three years, has resigned his position here and will return to the Red Oak Elementary School as principal next term. His resignation here becomes effective June 30.

Before assuming his position here in 1976, Brigman had served as principal of Red Oak School for seven years.

During his tenure at Red Oak the school received

numerous commendations and honors under his administration.

Before going to Red Oak, Brigman taught four years at French Broad Elementary School and three years at Weaverville Grammar School. At the latter school he coached basketball with a record of 54 wins and six losses.

Brigman was featured in an article in the January 1976 North Carolina School Food

Service bulletin. He was listed in "Personalities of the South" in 1971 and 1973. He is a member of the NEA, NCAE, and the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

While an undergraduate at ETU, he was a member of the Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity.

Brigman was one of three principals in the 19 WNC counties who was selected by the state Department of Public Instruction to attend a prin-

cipals' institute in Charlotte. The purpose of the 1977 institute was to train principals to be better instructional leaders of their respective schools.

Brigman was president of the Madison County Principals' Association in 1977-78. He was also instrumental in starting the breakfast program at Marshall Elementary School and started and organized a successful youth

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BILL BRIGMAN

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

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78th Year No. 22

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

THURSDAY, June 7, 1979

15¢ Per Copy

School Bond Decision Set For June 12

Madison County voters will have the opportunity to approve or reject a \$2,500,000 School Bond referendum June 12. Madison County election officials stated that the polls will open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m.

Countywide meetings have been held for several weeks with facts and figures discussed. It is now up to the voters to decide what will be done as to a new Marshall-Walnut Elementary School as well as school improvements at Spring Creek, Laurel, Hot Springs and Mars Hill.

The Board of Education at its meeting here Monday went on record as urging the voters to support the bond referendum to upgrade the coun-

ty school system, R.L. Edwards, superintendent, stated.

Facts And Figures

According to figures released the new Marshall-Walnut School cost is estimated at \$1,800,000. Costs for improvements to other elementary schools are as follows:

Spring Creek, \$350,000; Laurel, \$300,000; Hot Springs, \$300,000; Mars Hill, \$200,000; total for all schools, including Marshall-Walnut, \$2,950,000.

It was stated that \$450,000 is already on hand from flood disaster funds and previous 10 cent levy on taxes.

If bond issue is approved, the insured loan will

be scheduled for repayment over a period of 40 years. The first two installments will be for interest only. Each installment will be due June 1 with the first installment due the first June following the date of loan closing or delivery of the bond. In other words, the interest for the first two years (\$125,000 per year) will total \$250,000. The principal and the interest for the remaining 38 years at \$146,925 per year will total \$5,583,150. Total repayment will be \$5,833,150 on bond issue of \$2,500,000. Interest repayment will be \$3,333,150.

It was further announced that if FmHA makes the loan, the interest rate will be that charged by FmHA at the time of the loan approval

(most likely 5 percent, it was stated).

If the conditions set forth are not met within 10 months from the date hereof (Feb. 23) FmHA reserves the right to discontinue the processing of the application.

Other instructions involving interim financing, security, organization, accounting, audits and reports, insurance and bonding, construction contract documents and final plans and other conditions may be inspected in the county accountant's office in the courthouse here.

It was announced that the approximate increase in taxes would be 15 cents per \$100 property valuation.



STUDENTS SHOWN above won first place in one or more events in a field day held at Walnut Elementary School recently. Left to right, first row, are: Danell Talton, Mary Ann Griffey, Connie Tweed, Amy Johnston, Celena Baker, Bryan Buckner; second row: Tim Goldsmith, Thomas Cook, Mark Goldsmith, Jackie

Shelton, Andrew Cooper; third row: Keith Jones, Darrell Paris, Jimmy Paris, Frank Johnston; fourth row: Darrell Rigsby, Mark Plemmons, Rickey Joe Cody, Eugene Treadway, Roger Davis; not present for picture: Robin Frisby, Jason Chandler, Bryan Gahagan and Mark Meadows. (Photo by Jim Story)

Bluegrass / Festival Honors Bill Monroe

The first bluegrass festival held in this area ended Saturday night with the appearance of Bill Monroe's 40th anniversary of his return to this area. This special guest and his bluegrass boys featured the three-day event.

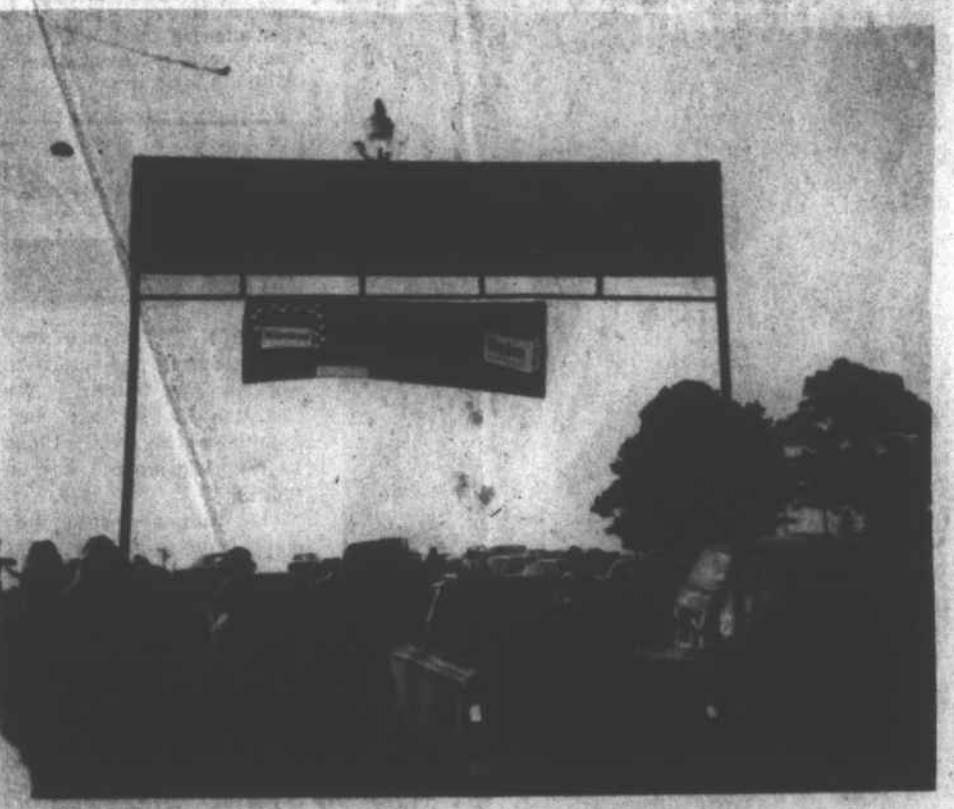
Steady rains prior to Friday afternoon resulted in hard work improving the grounds, but went off successfully. According to observers and security officers, there were no arrests on the vast property belonging to Zeno Ponder, no fights reported, and "no problems." One observer stated that the "conduct of the participants and the hundreds of spectators was excellent."

Ponder stated that a crowd of 7,000 was on hand Saturday night for Monroe's performance and celebration.

Ponder said Monroe was "real thrilled" with a 40-pound cake presented to him on the stage Saturday.

The audience made donations for pieces of the cake and the final third was sold at auction, with all proceeds going to the Buncombe County Heart Association. Ponder said \$380

was raised from the cake for the Heart Association. Also on hand was North Carolina Attorney General Rufus Edmisten. Many outstanding musicians participated in the festival and bluegrass fans were delighted with the event.



ENTRANCE to the Bluegrass Festival last week-end was a busy place as hundreds of Bluegrass were welcomed to the event. Shown above is part of the "welcoming committee." (Photo by Jim Story)

Sharing Lucky Foster Children Got Love From Ramseys

Clarence and Patty Ramsey have given out a lot of love in their lifetime together.

The couple has lived close to the land virtually all of their lives on a 300-acre farm nestled in the picturesque mountains of Madison County. And they've found that whatever they've had has become richer by sharing it with children.

That's why this summer represents a difficult and emotional transition for them. For the first time in over 40 years, there will be no children in their home.

After 21 years of keeping foster children for Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina, the Ramseys are retiring. Randy and Albert Sprinkle, the last of the 12 children they have served as foster parents, are graduating from high school. Randy left during the last week of May, while Albert is departing either at the beginning or the end of the summer.

"When Randy left, he told me 'I thank you for keeping us through all these years.' We both broke down and cried. My husband came in from the fields a few minutes later, and he had been crying, too."

For the Ramsey family, it's the end of an era spanning over two decades. Mrs. Ramsey recalled how the couple first became interested in foster work.

"Our daughter (the

ASC Warns Check All Pesticides

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service cautions burley tobacco producers that tobacco treated with toxaphene, endrin, DDT or TDE after being

Two Men Acquitted In Norton Shooting

A Madison County Superior Court jury found Fredrick Franklin and Selmer Shelton not guilty of the charge of murder in the death last summer of Quenton Norton in the Shelton Laurel community.

Prosecutors had sought a conviction of second degree murder in the shooting.

Testimony during the trial was that Norton had fired shots first at Franklin's wife, and that Franklin returned the fire at the Franklin home last June 28. Norton died July 10 from a rifle bullet wound. Evidence during the trial was that Norton had been drinking the day of the shooting.

Judge Clinton Johnson of Charlotte presided, and the term of court was concluded Friday afternoon.

Trailways To Expand Marshall Bus Service

Blue Ridge Trailways has acquired several routes from the former Continental Trailways Southeastern Division and began operation over five of them June 1. The two routes are from Asheville to Mars Hill, Erwin, Johnson City and Bristol, and from Asheville to Marshall and Greeneville, Tenn.

The Asheville-Johnson City-Bristol route will have expanded service. In the past, there has been no Saturday and Sunday service over the route; Blue Ridge will operate daily and will add a second trip between Asheville and Johnson City. The second trip will mean the area will have its first evening service in several years.

The Asheville-Greeneville route will be operated only on Wednesdays initially, but it is expected that additional service will be added as patronage increases. Continental Trailways had not operated the line for several years.

Blue Ridge Trailways will feature air conditioned, rest-room equipped coaches on all schedules. The Asheville-based company also offers a full range of chartered coach services as well as tours to various points in the United States.

K.J. Hobain Jr., the Blue Ridge Trailways president, has indicated that the time is right for a resurgence in bus travel. "Our faith that the energy situation will bring people back to using intercity

1979 Horse Show Deemed Success

The annual Marshall Lions Club Horse Show held on the island here last Saturday, was successful officials stated.

This year's show included 20 classes with an afternoon and night program which were enjoyed by many horse lovers.

"Wish to thank all those who participated and to the sponsors and others who worked to make this year's show successful," Lion officials stated.

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