

Madison Teachers Sharpen Skills

All new personnel who will be working in the Primary Reading Program this year spent July 27-29 at Mars Hill Elementary School participating in a workshop.

Nancy Allen and Othella Ogle, teachers at Marshall School, were workshop leaders. They were assisted by Patsy Hoyle, Ruby Gayle Anderson and Wanda Edmonds. Norma Logan and Bob

Kimzey, early childhood consultants for the Department of Public Instruction, also served as consultants.

The following persons attended: Ruby Gayle Anderson, Pat Ball, Deborah Boone, Winnie Broglin, Jean Chandley, Virginia Cody, Emma Kate Davis, Fred C. Haynie, Kathy R. Johnson, Isabelle Maynard, Larry S.

Plemmons, Ricky Jo Rogers, Ollie Shelton, Betty Treadway, Katy L. Waldroup, Selma Wallin, Marilyn Wyatt, Teresa Thomas and Claire Gillispie.

On Aug. 1-2, the following teachers and aides at Marshall School attended a workshop sponsored by a federal project entitled "Games Children Play" which is funded for the schools in Atlanta, Ga. Ruthie Watts and Lucille Neely were the consultants. The following teachers and aides participated: Robena Adams, Helen Brigman, Nancy Allen, Donna Rice, Jean Chandley, Barbara Ray, Teresa Banks, Othella Ogle, and Betty Bradley.

All personnel working in the Title I ESEA Reading and Mathematics Program in the Madison County Schools attended a workshop on Aug. 8 and 9 at Madison High School.

Bobby Jean Rice, supervisor of Madison County Schools, was the consultant for the workshop. Those attending were: Sharon Baker, Elmer Chandler, Betty J. Ramsey, Elsberry Wyatt, Barbara Ramsey, Jane Grose, Barbara Hunter, Rozella Ramsey, Randy Ramsey, Betty Hussain, Ethel Kirkpatrick, Jeter Sherlin, Joann Rathbone, Diana Wills, Stella Ruth Wallin, Barbara Wallin, Lydia Clark, Johnnie Allen, Elaine Ball, Doris Flasher, Margaret Balding, Sue Ann Reese, Shelby Boyd, Faye Flynn, Bernice Wright, and Owen Fish.



A YARD-LONG TIGER MUSKIE was taken by a proud Vader Shelton, right, who runs Vader's Barber Shop on the Marshall By-Pass when he isn't fishing. Vader says the fish measured 37 inches in length and weighed 12 pounds. "I was using a Zebco 33 spinning rig with 20-pound line, he reports. "I had on a Bear

Creek minnow, not looking for anything in particular, when all of a sudden this monster hit. It took me 40 or 45 minutes to land it. I'm glad I did, though, 'cause these big muskies eat all the other fish in the river." Pictured at left, "holding the tiger by the tail," is Richard Freeman.

Sheriff Confiscates More Marijuana

Madison County Sheriff E.Y. Ponder has announced the confiscation of 64 large marijuana plants from an area along Holland Creek, near the Yancey County line, on Aug. 16.

Ponder arrested Hosey Revis of Route 2, Mars Hill, on

the charge of manufacturing a controlled substance. Revis was released on \$500 bond, and is to appear before the next session of the district court in Madison County on Sept. 8.

According to the sheriff, this is the first time Revis has been arrested in the county.

The plants were estimated to have a street value of some \$2,000.

Farm Tour

Several new farm enterprises have been started by Madison County farmers during the last two years. County people will have an opportunity to visit these farms during the afternoon of Aug. 30.

Stops on the tour will include a feeder pig operation on the Howard Higgins farm, a pick-your-own strawberry farm at Garrett Hensley's and Christmas tree, shrubbery, tomato and tobacco production at Jerry Shannons.

A new home built by the Billy Barrons will also be included on the tour.

The tour will leave from the Marshall Shopping Center at 12:30 p.m., and should end about 5:30 p.m.

If you would like to go on the county tour, please call the extension office at 649-2411.

Benefit

A benefit gospel singing will be held at Mount Heritage High School in Burnsville on Aug. 25 at 7:30 p.m. for Jeff Hedrick, a 19-year-old man who has been in a coma for two months.

Hedrick was gravely injured in mid-June in a motorcycle accident. He has no medical coverage, and the benefit is being held to raise funds to pay some of his hospital expenses.

The Easter Brothers of Mount Erie will be featured singers; other groups will also appear.

No admission will be charge. A free will offering will be taken for Hedrick.

A Note To Contributors

I have just two requests I would like to pass along to you, our readers. First, I would like to restate my invitation for letters and articles about issues and events of importance to the people of Madison County. That's what this space is for, and I hope it will be used.

Second, in the interest of "putting the paper to bed" in an orderly fashion (if that's not a contradiction), I would like to request that you try to have all copy and ads in the office by 3 p.m. Monday afternoon. We can still handle short articles until 10 a.m. Tuesday morning, but each one makes it more difficult to bring the paper back on time Tuesday night. Your cooperation will make me and Jean and Pop very happy. Thanks.

—A.A.

Heard And Seen . . .

By POP

Before leaving last Sunday for a week's vacation to Eastern North Carolina and Virginia to visit relatives and friends, I realized that I'd better get busy and write this week's column. Since I will be unable to hear and see anything for this issue, I decided to look back in file copies to see what was going on in August 1978, 1977, 1976 and 1975. I found the following articles of interest:

AUGUST 1978

Charles Clifford Bruce, 73, owner and operator of Mars Hill Pharmacy and trustee of Mars Hill College, was killed July 31 when a tractor overturned on him while he was loading hay at his farm in Mars Hill.

Don Edwards of Route 2, Marshall, was presented the "Million Mile Award" for his outstanding safety driving performance as a rural mail carrier.

Forty-five members and leaders of the Community Christian Youth Group from the Marshall-Walnut area enjoyed a trip to Atlanta, Ga.

Construction of Blackwell Hall continues at Mars Hill College.

French Broad Baptists hear missionaries from around the world.

Madison Patriots open football season at Rosman.

Roy "Sambo" Waldroup narrowly escapes injury on Highway 25-70.

AUGUST 1977

William "Bud" Ramsey of Route 1, Marshall, instantly killed while working on a power line near Weaverville.

James G. Wallin gets a check for writing the hymn "I Gave It All To Jesus."

Peggy Rice of Route 4, Marshall, wins 4-H Skill Driving Contest.

Hot Springs area Youth Conservation Camp successful.

SART premiers "Frankie Silver." Marshall wins Madison Summer Olympics - 800 people from all over county participated.

The Rev. Stanley Peek, pastor of Bull Creek Baptist Church, re-elected French Broad Association moderator.

Students escape injury in school bus mishap about 3 miles from Marshall.

AUGUST 1976

Two hundred sixty-two new subscribers added to News-Record's growing list of readers.

New Barnard Bridge contract awarded. Mrs. Lucille Burnette, veteran teacher, retires at Walnut.

Only 30 percent of Democrats and 20 percent of Republicans vote in primaries in county.

Hot Springs ABC store dispute erupts again.

Mass immunizations set for swine flu shots.

AUGUST 1975

County assumes direction of Operation Mainstream.

Tourists spend \$57,858 in Madison County last year.

Madison parents argue against Red Oak School assignments.

County first in WNC to adopt Land Use Ordinances.

William P. Powell resigns as county GOP chairman.

Sandy Mush retains present voting place.

Conservation of water in Marshall is urged.

County Board Announces Changes In Election Law

Madison County voters who have moved into a new precinct may file the change of address with the board of elections by mail under a new law passed by the 1979

General Assembly. The change of address law permits county boards of election to provide a form for voters to use for that purpose and one is available in Madison County. Address change requests by mail must be made within 21 days of a primary or election in order to be effective for that voting period.

Under the change of address law, a voter may file a report either in person or by first class mail with the county elections board, stating full name, former address, new address and the date of the move to the new address.

If the request is signed by the voter and otherwise in proper form, the county board shall immediately transfer the voter's registration to the new precinct and notify the voter in person or by mail of the new

voting place.

The law applies to all 100 counties in North Carolina, and is one of several explained in Asheville recently by state election officials at a seminar at the Inn on the Plaza.

One law extremely important at this time tightens up the procedures for registering prospective voters.

Entitled "An Act to Prevent Fraud and to Ensure the Legal Registration of Voters," the new law subjects violators of its provisions to felony prosecution under which they could be fined not less than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not less than six months, or both in the discretion of the court.

The new registration law requires only authorized registration officials to register voters. A registration official or any other individual who knowingly and willfully receives, completes, or signs an application to register from any voter contrary to the law will face a felony charge.

"Certain Acts Declared Felonies," makes it a felony to commit any of the acts specified. For example, a 'one stop' voter who qualifies for assistance can only be assisted by a member of the board, the supervisor, an employee of the board authorized by the board, a near relative of the voter or the voter's legal guardian. Under no circumstances can a hauler or companion assist a 'one stop' voter.

Also, the act strictly prohibits any owner, manager, director, employee or other person to make application or assist a voter in marking his ballot where the voter is a patient in any hospital, clinic, nursing home or rest home in this state.

This act also makes it a felony for any officer with a seat to execute the container-return envelope of any voter in a primary or election in which the officer is a candidate for nomination or election.

These laws go into effect Sept. 1.

The next election to be affected by these changes will be the county, state, and federal primaries on May 6, 1980. The general election will be held on Nov. 4, 1980.



DIGNITARIES ON HAND included Robert Goforth, past district commander of the 16th District and present chairman of the "Buddy Poppy" committee, and his wife, Irene, past district president of the auxiliary and currently chief of staff for the 16th District of the VFW Auxiliary.

VFW Holds Picnic

The Mars Hill VFW All State Post with a membership of 111 members held its first annual picnic Aug. 18, at Mars Hill Recreation Center.

The covered-dish affair was enjoyed by the enthusiastic crowd; hamburgers, hot dogs and soft drinks were furnished by the Post. Ladies of the auxiliary served at the tables. Senior Vice Commander Bud Edsall gave the invocation.

Highlights of the picnic included special recognition to visiting 16th district officer Robert F. Goforth and his wife Irene. Another recognition was to Comrade Woodard Riddle and Mrs. Riddle whose birthdays both are on the same day, Aug. 18. The "Happy Birthday" was sung by the crowd.

Mars Hill VFW Post 5483 meets on the second Tuesday of every month at Mars Hill Elementary School Cafeteria; all veterans who have served overseas during a conflict are invited to join the Post.



OFFICER AND WORK CREW for the picnic included, from the left: Chalmers Shelton, guard; Hubert Briggs, surgeon; Clyde Wyatt, member; James R. Phillips, quartermaster; "All State" commander of Mars Hill post, Clifford A. Bates; and Roy Shook, youth activities chairman and organizer of the senior division of the VFW Babe Ruth baseball team.

Editor's Column

The town of Marshall has begun a quick-tempo campaign to better itself economically, and more and more of the town's citizens are becoming excited and involved. Specifically, the town is eligible to win something called the Governor's Community of Excellence Award, and this would provide both a practical tool and a morale booster that could be more powerful than any the town has ever possessed.

To find out more about the Community of Excellence program, I managed to locate two of the most active prime movers in this campaign and hold them relatively still for more than an hour at a clandestine meeting place (Tweed's Bargain House). They were Marshall's Mayor Lawrence Ponder and Land-of-Sky Region B representative Becky Williams. Had we sat at City Hall, or any such obvious place, the visiting traffic would have swept us away.

"The overall object of this project," Ponder began, "is to improve the community economically. If we win this award, we have something to show industry people. We get a star by our name on the map at the Department of Commerce in Raleigh, and we get two signs to put up at either end of town saying we are a Community of Excellence.

"But those are just the symbols. What we really get is a tool to use to try to bring jobs to this community. We have the state's official support in saying this is a good place to bring a new industry. And that is what we need the most."

The reason I called this a "quick-tempo campaign" is that the judging comes soon - some time in the second half of September. The governor's program itself started as long ago as eight years under the Scott administration, and Marshall applied at that time for the award. But this effort was suspended with the change of administrations and only resumed a few months ago at the invitation of the Department of Commerce. The board of aldermen asked for technical assistance from the Land-of-Sky Regional Council, and the mayor formed a steering committee in July to set up other committees: a clean-up/fix-up committee, a reactivated town planning board, a recreation committee, and, most recently a development team committee (see Page 1).

Each of these committees is crucial to the effort, and each will make a presentation to the judges from Raleigh in September, explaining why Marshall is worthy of the award and what the town is doing in each area. "That will be our day," said Ponder of the September "judgment day." "We win or lose right there."

We were seated by the window at a table that was for sale, and ever so often passersby spotted us and came in for a chat or to do some business, so our talk tended to wander far and wide. During a lull in the visiting I asked about the most pressing needs of Marshall, and there was no hesitation.

"Jobs, jobs, jobs," said Ponder emphatically. "The tax base needs to be improved greatly. And the way to do this is by attracting new industry and new housing construction. We desperately need more local employment."

Becky Williams pointed out that there are limits to what a small town can do for itself. "This grant could do something for a town like Marshall that the people here aren't organized to do," she said. "There is no chamber of commerce here, for example. There is little focus on what the town as a whole needs, or what it can do. This program is already helping to achieve this focus. The involvement of all the local people in these committees makes for kind of a citizens' chamber of commerce. They are doing it themselves, and we are trying to help them do it."

"Of course, neither Lawrence nor I would say that just any industry would be good for the town, or the county. This isn't the place for a huge, polluting factory needing several thousand workers. We need someone who is small, who will employ men (male unemployment is crucial here now), who will fit in well with the local geography and the kind of community this is. It is a very special community, and I think that everyone of us working on this project wants it to stay that way."

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