

...A Talk With President Bentley

(Continued From Page 1) but also in six general areas of competence. These areas have such titles as culture, esthetics, the sciences, and synoptics (religion, philosophy, and so on). The student must take enough courses in each area to make him or her competent enough to pass a general examination in that entire area. Most colleges simply require students to pass specific courses. This requirement does not always guarantee that a student is really competent. It simply means that he or she was successful at getting a passing grade.

In addition to encouraging Madison County students to enroll at Mars Hill, the college also reaches out to young and old students alike through its

Continuing Education Program. This program, also begun under Dr. Bentley, first enrolled 24 students when it began six years ago; now there are nearly 600. Classes have been conducted in Laurel, Hot Springs, Spring Creek, and Marshall, as well as Mars Hill, in such subjects as personal finance, basic accounting, business administration, allied health fields, photography, religion, and Appalachian music and history.

The college also has made a commitment to help local artists sell what they make. "One of our earliest attempts to do something in the community," said Bentley, "was to send a student into the mountains looking for craft-people. She wanted to help

them market what they made. She expected to find maybe 15 or 20; she came up with no fewer than 123 practicing craftspeople. They all shared one need: an outlet for their goods. So she helped them set that up, along with some money raised by the Opportunity Corp. and the college. All these people organized themselves and founded the Country Boutique. There was an old, rotting log cabin up by my house, and we had it moved down to the campus, and there it sits today, providing a retail outlet for these people."

I asked Dr. Bentley what he would like to see the college do next, and his answer came quickly. "This is something I haven't even told the faculty about yet," he said. "and it will be up to them to work it

out as they think best. But I would like to see the college equip people to work and help in Third World Countries just as they do here at home. We have developed a good deal of expertise in training students to understand the problems of Appalachia.

"Please don't misunderstand," he said. "This doesn't mean we'll lessen our efforts to help our own area; far from it. I see it as a broadening of our mission. We might have multi-disciplinary packages. Say a student has an interest in forestry. We might develop that interest, and add courses in Spanish and Latin American history and tropical ecology, and we would have someone uniquely trained to manage forests or teach forestry in Peru or Ecuador.

"Well, this will take some years to work out. For the more immediate future, we're going to be getting cable TV here in Mars Hill, probably within a few weeks. The college is going to have access to one of the stations, and we're very excited about that. We'll be able to offer all kinds of programs - maybe even some in Spanish."

It turns out that the receiver for the cable system will be located on Little Mountain, right behind the president's house, and I asked if there was any connection between that fine location and the college's access to a station. A broad grin spread across Dr. Bentley's face. "Well," he said, "let's just say that I needed a mountain and I needed a TV station."

Farmer

"We get him the seedlings. TVA provides the fertilizer. In return, he provides us with information about the potentials for growth of each variety."

Shannon is comparing three sources of trees - those grown out of state, in state nurseries, and on Roan Mountain. He is also comparing the effect of different fertilizers on container-grown ornamentals such as purple and white rhododendron.

The traditional problem with Christmas trees has been the lack of good quality seedlings at a reasonable price.

Shannon's "experimental farm" and other like it in Madison County will hopefully provide the expertise needed to overcome the shortage, says County Agent Gary Easley.

Does the Madison County "experimenter" mind being a trail blazer?

Not a bit. "I know I need to diversify," says Shannon, who is also working with Agent Ealey on producing rhododendron cutbacks. "I hope to get into the Christmas tree and ornamental business more each year."

Shannon's partnership with TVA and the Extension Service will pay off, says Ealey. "He has already got buyers for his trees and shrubs."

"It's a long way to payday," says Bredsoe. "But it's sure worth it when you get there."

Shannon says he plans to continue to plant fir and hemlocks, as well as ornamental cut-backs, each year so that when payday does come, it will be a recurring event!

WNCHSA Committee Meeting

The Western North Carolina Health Systems Agency (WNCHSA) Resource Development Committee (RDC) and Plan Development Committee (PDC) will meet jointly on Aug. 29 and Sept. 12 at 7 p.m. at the S & W Cafeteria in Asheville.

The purpose of these joint meetings is to continue the formulation of the Agency's draft 1980-81 five year plan, the Health Systems Plan (HSP), and one year plan, the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP).

Utilizing among other things, the input obtained from the series of health care provider meetings held from May through July of this year,

the committees plan to review draft HSP goals, objectives and priorities in detail and establish HSP recommended actions at the Aug. 29 meeting. Scheduled for the Sept. 12 meeting is the establishment of a set of AIP objectives and recommended actions.

The WNCHSA Governing Body will review and approve the draft 1980-81 HSP and AIP on Oct. 24. Drafts of the Plans will be sent to public libraries, and interested persons in October and public hearings will be set for late November. The establishment of the final 1980-81 HSP and AIP will be at the WNCHSA Governing Body meeting on Dec. 12.

All meetings of the Western North Carolina Health Systems Agency are open to the public and the public is invited to attend.

School Menus

BREAKFAST
Monday, Aug. 27: cinnamon toast, sliced peaches, milk.

LUNCH
Monday, Aug. 27: Fish sticks w/cheese wedge, corn, slaw, cornbread, applesauce, milk.

BREAKFAST
Tuesday, Aug. 28: waffles w/syrup, juice, milk.

LUNCH
Tuesday, Aug. 28: barbecue on bun, french fries, sliced tomatoes, pudding, milk.

BREAKFAST
Wednesday, Aug. 29: cereal, juice, milk.

LUNCH
Wednesday, Aug. 29: chicken pot pie, tossed salad, school made cookies, milk.

BREAKFAST
Thursday, Aug. 30: ham biscuits, apple, milk.

LUNCH
Thursday, Aug. 30: western baked beans, carrot & cabbage slaw, harvard beets, applesauce, cornbread, milk.

BREAKFAST
Friday, Aug. 31: doughnuts, juice and milk.

LUNCH
Friday, Aug. 31: hamburger on buns, lettuce, tomato, onions, pickles, browned whole white potatoes, chocolate cake and milk.

Reunion

The 42nd annual reunion of the descendants of Billy and Sally Ramsey will be held Aug. 26 at the elementary school on the island at Marshall. All relatives are urged to be present. Lunch will be served at 1 p.m.

Immunizations For Children Required By New State Law

The new state immunization law that went into effect July 1 is designed to eliminate the possibility of serious out-

Changes In Food Stamp Policy

Effective July 1, 1979, when a household files an application for food stamps, the county food stamp eligibility worker will determine at the interview if any unemployed member who is required to register for full-time work has quit his/her most recent job without "good cause" within the 60-day period prior to the date of the application.

If the household member is the primary wage earner, that is the member between age 18 and 59 who contributes the greatest amount of earned financial support to the household, has voluntarily quit his/her job without good cause, the household will be denied benefits for two calendar months beginning with the month the worker quit.

There has also been a change in the method of determining if a household member has committed fraud, and the penalties involved.

If there is documented evidence to prove that a currently participating household member has committed fraud and the county department believes the household should be disqualified, a local administrative hearing must be held. The county director or another designated impartial person will act as the hearing officer. If the individual is found to have committed fraud at this hearing, they will be ineligible to participate for a period of three months.

Individuals found guilty of criminal or civil fraud by a court shall be ineligible for not less than six months and not more than 24 months, as determined by the court. The county department will disqualify only the individual responsible for the fraud, not the entire household.

In legal terms, fraud includes any action by an individual to knowingly, willfully and with deceitful intent: Make a false statement to the county department, either orally or in writing, to obtain benefits to which the household is not entitled; conceal information to obtain benefits to which the household is not entitled; alter authorization cards (ATPs) to obtain benefits to which the household is not entitled; use coupons to buy expensive or conspicuous nonfood items such as alcohol or cartons of cigarettes; use or possess improperly obtained coupons or authorization cards.

Shupe To Be Ordained

Ordination services will be held for Thomas E. Shupe at First Baptist Church on Aug. 26 at 7 p.m. Shupe is the youth pastor at First Baptist Church in Marshall. The public is invited to attend.

breaks of childhood diseases among school populations, according to Edward A. Morton, Madison County health director.

"We are looking at maybe 200,000 students in all grades across the state who are not fully protected against polio, measles, rubella (German measles), diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus," he said.

Beginning students for years have been required to get this protection. Measles vaccine, however, was not required until 1971 and rubella in 1977, so there are many junior and senior high school students moving up through the grades without full protection.

"Since 1973, elementary schools demanded immunization records of all

kindergarten and first grade youngsters, so our lower grades are in good shape except for transfers," said Morton. "Many times school records from distant states do not arrive with immunizations records attached."

The new law says that all students must present proof of immunization against all six diseases to school officials on or before the start of school for the 1980-81 year, or be expelled. Parents should receive notification this fall from the school if their child needs one or more shots.

"The coming school year, 1979-80, will be a good time for those who need protection to get it, either from a family doctor or free of charge at the local health department," said Morton.

Roberts Family Reunion

The family of James and Polly Roberts met at The Old Mill home of Roy and Odessa Roberts Aug. 10 for camping and getting acquainted with the younger generation.

On Aug. 12 they met at 10 a.m. in the pavillion for Sunday School, with Donnie Roberts teaching a wonderful lesson on Christian living. At noon everyone enjoyed a bountiful meal.

Members attending were Roy and Odessa Roberts;

Sheridan, Ruby, Nelda, Ju Ju and Beth Shelton; Jeanette Roberts Nix; Donnia and Julian Roberts; Jennifer and Warren Nix; Faye Roberts; Pierce Mallie and Eloise Roberts; Emmittie and Maude Payne; Billie, Sue, Roger, Rhea and John Payne; Jessie Roberts; Jimmy, Joan and Baby Roberts; O'Neil, Minnie, Lola and Michelle Roberts.

Also, Woodrow and Mabel Roberts Ramsey; Dennis, Janie, Monica and Keith Ramsey; Ed, Connie Sue and Edwina Stines; Bert and Virginia Roberts; Charles, Jerrie, Doug and Stephen McDevitt; Johnny, Linda, Malina and Tracy Brown; Kenneth, Eunice and Kenny Roberts; Arlan and Donna Elkins; Toby and Sheila Roberts; Leta Roberts Fowler; Stevie and Gayle Henderson and Steve Fowler; Lloyd, Dale, Devin, and Karen Roberts; and Bob and Mary Coop.

Wastewater Workshop

What can I do about a failing septic tank? Are there other alternatives for treating wastewater? If so, what are the costs and installation factors?

These questions and others will be answered in a workshop on alternative wastewater treatment systems in Madison County on Aug. 28. The workshop is co-sponsored by the Land-of-Sky Regional Council and the Madison County Health Department.

The workshop will be in the Blackwell Building on the Mars Hill College Campus from 7 to 9 p.m.

Dr. Bobby Carille, soil science extension specialist with North Carolina State University, will discuss the potential for using alternative wastewater treatment systems in Western North Carolina. Particular emphasis will be placed on identifying problem areas in the county where alternative systems can be solutions, and determining which systems are best suited for these areas. Dr. Carille has served as technical advisor for several experimental waste treatment projects in the Raleigh area. Bob Reuben, also an extension specialist with NCSU, will give a presentation on water conservation and how it can affect waste treatment systems. Local sanitarians will also participate on the program.

Local government officials, septic tank installers, building contractors, developers and interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

There is no charge for the workshops. For more information contact the Madison County Health Department (669-3531) or the Land of Sky Regional Council (264-8121).

SENIOR CITIZEN'S CORNER
HELPFUL IDEAS FOR SUCCESSFUL RETIREMENT

Surprising Survey? Perhaps surprisingly, a recently released study indicates that 90 percent of Americans in nursing homes are satisfied with their environment.

The survey, conducted by the Census Bureau, measured the reaction of residents and their families to such factors as lodging, food, social relationships and activities to determine the quality of care provided.

Next-of-kin were also asked to evaluate the level of care provided to their relatives. A total of 91.5 per cent believed that the care met the resident's needs and only 1.6 per cent reported that there was a lack of personal attention to the nursing home resident. Approximately 3.5 per cent contended there was inadequate treatment, 0.2 per cent, inadequate facilities, and 3 per cent pointed out other reasons for dissatisfaction.

The survey is available from the Government Printing Office for \$6.00 and the Superintendent of Document number is C 3.186:23/69.

A Request For Names of Farm Tenants

The annual election of ASCS community committee members will be held in late November. All land owners, tenants, and sharecroppers are eligible voters in electing these committee members. W.B. Zink, Madison County executive director of ASCS, encourages all farm owners and operators to report the names and addresses of their tenants and sharecroppers to the ASCS Office so they may be placed on the eligible voter list.

"The ASCS office maintains

a mailing list of all land owners and farm operators," said Zink, "but with tenants and sharecroppers moving from farm to farm, their eligibility to vote must be established each year. The only way that we can obtain these names and addresses is for the land owners or farm operators to report their tenants and sharecroppers to the ASCS Office each year."

Zink also said that a Burley Tobacco Referendum will be held in the spring of 1980 and the eligible voter list used for

the community committee election will be used for that referendum.

"Any time a farm owner or operator visits the ASCS Office," he said, "from now until the November community committee election is held, they are encouraged to report the names and addresses of all tenants and sharecroppers on their farm. This will enable the ASCS Office to get community committee election ballots and burley referendum ballots to as many eligible voters as possible."

Youth Involvement Day

If you are a high school student in Madison County and would like to run state government for a day, now is your chance.

Approximately 125 students in grades 10-12 across the state will have an opportunity to serve as governor, lieutenant governor, state attorney general and other state officials during Youth Involvement Day activities in Raleigh Oct. 9-10.

"This experience gives our young people a first hand look at the daily operations of state government," said Gov. Jim Hunt. "State officials also learn from them about their concerns and recommendations for young people's programs."

The cost per student is \$22, which covers a banquet, a disco dance, lodging and breakfast.

For registration and information, contact Pam Kohl at 919/733-5966, or write to Youth Involvement Office, Suite 115, Howard Bldg., 112 West Lane St., Raleigh 27611. The deadline for registration is Sept. 19.

Youth Involvement Day is sponsored by the state Youth Council component of the N.C. Department of Administration's Youth Involvement Office.

A group of lions is known as a pride.

Brown Given Auto Dealers Post

Fletcher Brown of Houston Bros., AMC Inc. in Marshall, will serve as 1979-80 Madison County area chairman for the North Carolina Automobile Dealers Association. Announcement of his appointment was made recently by NCADA president, W.H. Anderson of Waynesville.

During his term, he will act as liaison between new car and truck dealers in the area and the state and national dealer associations.

Use Of Wood As Fuel Grows 15% A Year

Wood now provides Americans with half as much energy as nuclear power does, according to the Department of Energy. Since the 1973-74 oil embargo, the use of wood as fuel has expanded nearly 15 percent a year. Between 1972 and 1977, the number of wood-burning stoves in use has increased from 250,000 to 3,000,000. One-fifth of the homes in Northern New England rely on wood as their primary heat source.

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trucks. 60 times more efficient than planes, and even more efficient than barges. So it's easy to see that trucks can't carry freight anywhere near as far as railroads can per gallon of fuel. What does this mean for the future? Well, it means that trucks will be used less and less for long hauls.

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