

Letters To The Editor

Immunization Law

To the Editor:
There is widespread misunderstanding about the North Carolina Immunization Law, and I will be grateful for the opportunity to give your readers the straight information.

For many years, the state immunization law has required documentation of immunizations for children before they can attend school. The first such law was enacted in 1911. Although many parents keep accurate records of their children's shots by maintaining the immunization records given to them by their physician or clinic, some parents are caught short when

the time arrives for their child to enter school because they have either lost the shot record or were never given one. It is usually a simple matter of checking back with the physician or clinic where the immunizations were administered.

Sometimes, however, there are real problems such as a physician having died or retired or a clinic or physician — particularly those out-of-state — not wishing to be bothered with retrieving old records. In those situations, the parent is best advised to sit down with the child's present physician or someone in the present clinic and review

what shots the child has received.

The reason the law requires school officials to accept only health care provider records of immunization rather than a parent's word is that many parents simply do not know which shots their children have received. To many individuals "measles" means both measles and rubella ("German measles"), two entirely different diseases caused by two different viruses and prevented by two different vaccines. "Baby shots" is another unclear term with different meanings to different people. To place school officials in the position of having to sort out a child's immunization record from a parent's recollections is simply an unfair imposition of a medical task upon an educator.

The 1979 General Assembly made several changes in the immunization law. One of the more important changes is the requirement that every child attending a school (through the 12th grade), or licensed day-care center in this state, must be properly immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, measles and rubella (German measles). The unimmunized child in school who contracts one of these diseases (with the exception of tetanus) poses a threat to the remainder of the student body if there are other non-immunized children in the student body.

Every summer a heavy burden is placed on the public

health departments across the state as many parents wait until the last minute to have their children protected. Many schools will have to extend the school year to make up for snow days, so the rush at clinics and doctors' offices is likely to be worse this summer.

Parents of beginning students should get the necessary shots now, before school is out for the year. Older students who need immunization would be wise to get it before the summer push starts.

J. N. MACCORMACK,
M.D., M.P.H.
Communicable Disease
Control Branch
N.C. Department of
Human Resources
Raleigh

Library Week

Editor, The News-Record:
I would like to take the occasion of National Library Week, April 13-19, to commend you on your coverage of our window displays and activities. May I also remind your readers, especially the citizens of Madison County, they are all welcome to register and become users of our main library, its branches and the book deposits.

LUCILLE ROBERTS
County Librarian



CAMPAIGNERS FOR CARL STEWART JR., candidate for lieutenant governor, met on March 19 at Mars Hill College to prepare for the visit of Donna Stewart, wife of the candidate, on April 8. Left to right above are Sally Hunt, college coordinator of the Stewart campaign; Sharon Fakkema and Durrill Taylor, Mars Hill College students; and Cathy Rieger, county coordinator for Stewart. Ms. Hunt and Ms. Rieger came from Raleigh to spend the day on campus, consulting with Jeanne Hoffman, Stewart's county campaign manager, and other supporters.

Marines Assign Schellberg

Marine Master Sgt. Peter M. Schellberg, whose wife, Virginia, is the daughter of Ret. Cmdr. and Mrs. Arthur S. Morris of Serpentine St., Hot Springs, has reported for duty at El Toro Marine Corps Air Station, Santa Ana, Calif. He joined the Marine Corps in September 1959.

Correction

In the April 3 edition of The News-Record it was incorrectly stated that Mrs. Andrea Lawson was cited for contempt of court, following a brief struggle between her and Margaret Warren while court was in session in Marshall. In fact, Mrs. Lawson had no part in starting the disturbance and was not cited for contempt. Witnesses testified that she was set upon by Mrs. Warren, who was cited for contempt and found in contempt the following week in district criminal court by Judge James O. Israel Jr. In addition, the newspaper said that Clifford Warren went to the

courtroom for help, when in fact Frank Lawson, Mrs. Lawson's husband and an Asheville policeman, was the person who sought help. The News-Record regrets these inaccuracies and any embarrassment they might have caused Mrs. Lawson.

Less than 15 percent of the total land area in China can be used for farming because the rest of the soil is too poor, too high or already exhausted. Most of the cultivated land is in eastern China. Industrial plants are also located in the farming area.

The News-Record

NON-PARTISAN IN POLITICS (USPS 388-440)

ALAN H. ANDERSON, Editor
JAMES I. STORY, Editorial Consultant
And Columnist
JULIA WILLIAMS, Advertising Manager
Published Weekly By
Madison County Publishing Co. Inc.
BOX 369 MARSHALL, N.C. 28753
PHONE: (704) 649-2741

Subscription Rates In Madison And Buncombe County	Subscription Rates Outside Madison Co.
---	---

12 Mos.	\$4.00	12 Mos.	\$8.00
6 Mos.	\$3.00	6 Mos.	\$6.00
		3 Mos.	\$4.00

(PLUS 4 percent N.C. Sales Tax)
Second Class Privileges Authorized
At Marshall, N.C. 28753

Children & Litter

Editor, The News Record:

We live in one of the most beautiful areas of the world! Yet one can hardly appreciate the fact, for our roads and streams are so disgracefully littered with trash. It is high time we did something to correct it!

There seems to be little way to enforce the "no litter law" among the older generation but we can reach the children! Our schools can teach them to respect nature and to care for the land. Our school bus drivers can provide trash con-

tainers to eliminate the hundreds of wrappers, cans and cigarette butts that fly from the bus windows each day.

In all these "clean-up" campaigns, no stress seems to be made on the need to stop littering. It's up to each one of us to want to preserve the beauty of our county. What better place is there to start emphasizing this than in our schools. Then, hopefully, it will eventually be taught in the home.

POLLY GOTT

Marshall

Heard and Seen

By POP

Roy Lee Henderson, 79, of Route 4, Marshall, died last Saturday in an Asheville hospital following a lengthy illness. He was generally known as "Hop" Henderson, and was most frequently seen walking along the highway between Marshall and Walnut. Seldom did "Hop" miss coming to Marshall daily, depending on some one to pick him up either coming to town or returning to his home. He was a friendly person and was most appreciative of those who would stop and offer him a ride. Having picked him up numerous times, I found him to be an interesting conversationalist but also a well-read person who kept up with local, state and national events. We will miss "Hop" - a friend for many years.

I've often seen fishermen thrilled and excited about catching "a big one," but two of the most excited young fishermen seen in a long time were David Dowdy, 17, of the Bear Creek section and Wayne Freeman, 18, of Redmon. They landed a 37" long Muskie which weighed 12½ pounds Sunday morning while fishing at the Redmon Dam. They were anxious to get the picture in this issue "so we can kid Vader Shelton," David said. They found their way up to my home early Sunday afternoon and I took a picture of the Muskie and David. (Picture elsewhere in this issue).

Although the baseball season has just started, I doubt if there will be a longer game on TV this season than was played last Saturday when the L.A. Dodgers and the Houston Astros battled for 17 innings before the Dodgers won, 6-5. The game started shortly after 4 p.m. and lasted until about 10:30 p.m. And would you believe that I watched the entire game except during the Lawrence Welk show - and I even switched back to channel 4 during commercials.

With spring definitely here (I hope) the youth programs, featuring softball, are underway. The lights on the Island are seen almost nightly as youngsters enjoy playing. I wonder if the adults will organize and start playing softball? Since there is little or no baseball being played, attention has drifted to softball... for boys and girls. Here's hoping that the programs planned will be clean competition and "smoothly" run. Let's not have any serious arguments or hard feelings this season.

Connor Home Razed

The home of Clarence Connor and family was destroyed by fire on April 12.

The Marshall Volunteer Fire Department was notified at 11:30 a.m., according to spokesman Jimmy Ramsey. Firemen responded quickly with the two small trucks, but when they reached the scene the house had been destroyed by the flames.

The cause of the fire has not been determined. Apparently, Mr. Connor was not at home when it started, though some of his children may have been there.

There were no injuries. This was the fourth fire reported at the Connor residence during the last three weeks. Previously, there had been a fire in a chair in the basement of the one-story house, and in a trailer parked near the house.

Also, on April 11, an automobile was destroyed by a fire on Walnut Mountain Road. A call came in at about 10 p.m. but when Marshall firemen reached the scene the owner of the car had left.

Mr. Connor has seven children, aged 2 to 13. Anyone wishing to contribute clothing to replace what was lost in the fire is urged to leave it at the Department of Social Services in Marshall.

Also, a collection is being taken to buy a trailer for the family to live in. Anyone who can donate toward this purchase is asked to stop by the Wachovia Bank, which will handle the money. The children are temporarily staying with neighbors.

The Pilgrim Fathers, aboard the Mayflower, sighted Cape Cod, in what was later to become Massachusetts, in 1620. The 102 Puritans — 74 men and 28 women — had sailed from Plymouth, England, on Sept. 6 seeking freedom of worship. They landed at Plymouth Rock on Dec. 16.

Save At First Union, And Kiss Your Jelly Jars Goodbye.

Start Your Collection Of Elegant French Lead Crystal. Free.

Save with First Union, and you can replace your jelly jars with a beautiful collection of imported lead crystal. And your first matched pair of stemware or tumblers is free. This set of lovely 24% lead crystal includes six exquisite pieces: stemmed water, wine, cordial, and parfait, plus 10 oz. and 13 oz. tumblers.

There are five different ways to get your first matched pair free. (1) Open a Statement Savings account with at least \$50. (2) Add \$50, or more, to either an existing Statement Savings or Golden Passbook Savings account. (3) Open a new Golden Passbook account with at least \$100. (4) Purchase a high yield Certificate of Deposit for \$500, or more. (5) Open a new checking account with at least \$250.

You can add more to your collection, at very attractive prices. For every \$50 you add to savings, you can add another pair of crystal for the special low price of \$6.95, plus tax for stemware; or \$5.95 a pair, plus tax for tumblers.

And the more money you save, the more crystal you can collect. With a savings deposit of \$5000 or the purchase of a savings certificate of \$5000 or more, you can buy a six pair set. That's 12 dazzling pieces, for just \$35, plus tax. And with a \$10,000 savings deposit, or the purchase of a certificate for \$10,000, or more, you can buy a six pair set for just \$30, plus tax.

So don't delay. Start your French lead crystal collection today. Say hello to First Union Savings. And kiss your jelly jars goodbye.

Free offer good for a limited time. Available at any First Union Office. Limit one gift per family. No limit on purchases at \$6.95 per pair plus tax for stemware, or \$5.95 per pair plus tax for tumblers with purchase of a Certificate of Deposit. Member FDIC.

PONDER ASSOCIATES
LEONARD PONDER
HOME 649-3181



ATTENTION!!!

FARM AND HOME OWNERS
Let the Professionals help you with all your Real Estate Needs.

PONDER ASSOCIATES

LIST YOUR PROPERTY NOW
Marshall Highway WITH "THE POOR BOYS" 645-7161

PONDER ASSOCIATES
MARSHALL KANNER
HOME 645-5432