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On the Inside . . .

Photographer
Scott Lunsford Goes
On A Rabbit Chase
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In Madison-Buncombe School Attendance Case

Trial Over Quickly, Solution Reached

A day and a half of legal negotiations between attorneys brought a speedy end to the Madison-Buncombe school attendance dispute in a special session of Superior Court here which began Sept. 29.

A compromise solution to the dispute was reached by attorney Larry B. Leake representing the Madison County School Board, and Ronald K. Payne and Jack Westall, Jr., attorneys for the 51 students living in the Sandy Mush and Red Oak communities along the Madison-Buncombe County line.

In the complicated judgment handed down by Judge John Jolly, all 51 Madison County students will be allowed

to finish the current school year at the Buncombe County schools they attend, but many of the students will be required to return to Madison County schools next fall.

According to the judgment, certain conditions will allow some of the students to finish the highest grade level offered at the Buncombe school they now attend. If a student is currently in at least his second year at a school, he may finish at that school, then return to the Madison County school system.

For example, a third-grader in his second or third year at a Buncombe elementary school will be allowed to finish the sixth grade at that school,

then will be required to begin the seventh grade at a Madison school.

If a student is finishing the last year at an elementary, middle or high school, then that student must attend Madison schools next fall, regardless of the number of years the student has been attending Buncombe schools.

For example, a student in at least his second year and now in the sixth grade at a Buncombe elementary school must attend a Madison school next year, despite the earlier argument from some parents that their children should continue their school years with their friends they had made in previous years.

School board attorney Larry Leake said the key to the settlement was where each child was in school last year. "Each child will be allowed to complete the school in which he was enrolled last year," he said.

Leake said all children in kindergarten and the first grade this year will begin attending Madison schools next fall.

Leake stated the parents and their attorneys agreed during the negotiations that "the children were properly subject to assignment to Madison County schools, that the Madison schools pro-

vided a fit and proper place for education, and that there were adequate means of transportation from the communities to Madison schools."

During previous hearings on the attendance matter, parents of the students contended through their attorneys that school bus routes in the two counties made it easier and safer for their children to attend Buncombe schools. They also claimed that it was in the best interests of their children to attend Buncombe schools because winter weather disrupted schooling more in Madison than Buncombe, and because their children's social and community activities were centered in

Buncombe County.

The compromise solution was reached after many hours of private consultation between Judge Jolly and lawyers for both the students and the Madison County School Board.

Prospective jurors were sworn in for the trial, but a jury was never selected since the settlement was reached in private session.

After the trial, Madison County school superintendent R.L. Edwards said he was satisfied with the settlement.

"It was something that should have been decided five years ago," Edwards said.



Photo by N. Hancock

COUNTY COMMISSION Chairman Ervin Adams and commissioner James Ledford signed contracts Friday night providing

county senior citizens program with transportation, energy and food services for fiscal year 1981.

Commissioners Get CETA Funds For Rescue Service

The Madison County Commissioners announced to an audience comprised mostly of county ambulance service personnel that seven ambulance service CETA employees would be retained at their present jobs beginning Monday, Oct. 6.

CETA funding for the seven employees was on the brink of running out, but the commissioners made a special trip to Raleigh to see what they could do to get the funds reinstated in order to retain the workers, according to Commissioner Virginia Anderson of Hot Springs.

The announcement came shortly after the commis-

sioners approved the hiring of Taylor Barnhill as the new CETA coordinator for the county. The Commissioners retired to executive session with Barnhill, and returned to the meeting stating the seven ambulance employees and all CETA workers in the Day Care facility, along with the Aging Services Coordinator, would report to work as usual on Monday.

Ambulance Service personnel turned out in force at the meeting to "find out what the commissioners were going to do about the seven employees and the service."

According to a spokesman for the ambulance service, CETA employees working for the service have been disgruntled over what they term "job insecurity" associated with the CETA program. The spokesman said they have not been pleased with "last minute efforts" to

secure funds for their positions.

Barnhill said Friday night he didn't know how long the reinstated CETA funds for the employees would last, but he would know later in the week when he received the budget from Raleigh.

In related ambulance service business, Mildred West, acting Ambulance Supervisor, reported to the commissioners on ambulance service rendered during the month of September.

In the town of Marshall, the service made a total of 41 runs. Four calls were to wrecks, six to heart attacks and stroke victims, and 31 others including general emergencies and broken bones.

The Mars Hill unit answered 31 calls; four to wrecks, 12 heart attacks and serious emergencies and 15 other. The Hot Springs unit answered 16

calls; 5 heart attacks and 11 others.

In other business, the Board of Commissioners:

- Approved the hiring of Luanne Hunt Roberts as Acting Director of the Day Care Center.

- Listened to residents of Panhandle Road (SR 1592), and agreed to send a letter to the highway maintenance department calling for the regrading of 1.6 miles of the road.

- Approved a motion to allow tax listers to list taxes in the voting precincts for this year. A discussion followed about the feasibility of listing by mail for next year, and the commissioners stated they need to prepare early for a mail listing operation.

- Signed contracts for fiscal year 1981 to secure funds for providing transportation, energy assistance, food and food services and medical

transportation for the elderly over 60.

- Commissioner James Ledford made a motion to set up the Madison County Industrial Commission, reactivating the commission for the coming year. Ledford was asked about the progress being made on negotiations to obtain the construction of a multi-million dollar American Greeting Cards Company plant and warehouse for Marshall, and he said, "We are doing all we can to encourage it."

American Greeting Cards has been looking at a 10 acre building site off the Marshall by-pass, and Ralph White, spokesman for the Cleveland, Ohio company, said in a phone conversation the company "is very much interested in locating in Marshall, and a decision should be reached in a week or so" regarding the purchase of the site.

Truck, Cargo Destroyed In Wreck

A tractor-trailer rig and its cargo were virtually demolished in a single vehicle accident on Highway 25-70 last week one-half mile north of Marshall.

The 1980 Ford tractor drove off the road at 1:15 a.m. on Sept. 29, hit an embankment and rolled onto its side in Walnut Creek doing an estimated \$75,000 damage to the truck and the cargo, according to Highway Patrol Officer T.E. Dudley.

The trailer was loaded with military furniture and personal effects on a trip from Texas to Norfolk, Va.

The driver, Harry Richard Jorgenson, 45, of Jenison, Mich. suffered only a broken nose in the accident. A companion in the truck, Donna Hale Dyer, 19, of Brevard, received a sprained neck, according to the Highway Patrol report. Both persons were taken to Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville where they were treated and released.



Photo by N. Hancock

OVERTURNED TRUCK resulted in \$75,000 damage to the vehicle and cargo in early morning mishap on Highway 25-70 one-half mile north of Marshall. No serious injuries were reported in the accident.

driver) to be unable to see the road.

Dudley said he charged Jorgenson with "reckless driving after consuming a sufficient amount of alcoholic beverage to impair his judgement."

Highway Patrol personnel were on duty at the scene of the accident for nearly 10 hours, and wrecker crews spent most of the next day removing the vehicle and cargo from the ravine. Approximately 20 to 25 gallons of

fuel oil from the tractor spilled into Walnut Creek as a result of the overturned truck, and the Environmental Protection Agency was notified to inspect the pollution damage to the creek, according to Dudley.

One-Stop Voting

During the month of October, the office of the Board of Elections will be open five days a week Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m., until 4:30 p.m., for the purpose of voters wishing to fill out an application and vote his ballots at the same time.

This applies only to voters who expect to be absent from the county during the entire period the polls are open on election day and will be unable to vote in person, or voters due

to sickness or physical disability will not be able to vote in person on election day.

The deadline for voting one-stop will be 5:00 p.m., on October 30, 1980.

Also, the Board will meet on Tuesday and Friday of each week during the month of October for the purpose of examining absentee applications.

The Board's office is located in the Ramsey Office Building on Main Street in Marshall.

Notice is hereby given that the General Election will be held on November 4, 1980. The polling places will be open for voting beginning at 6:30 a.m. and closing at 7:00 p.m.

Senate Candidate Campaigns In Madison For State Seat

By NICHOLAS HANCOCK

Her campaign slogan is "A woman's place is in the House (and the Senate), but Mary Jane Hollyday is not a staunch ERA advocate or an avid womens liberationist.

Mrs. Hollyday, Republican candidate for N.C. Senate, campaigned in Madison County last week meeting voters and sharing her views on some of the issues in the upcoming November 4 election.

"I'm not a politician. I'm not concerned about a career as a politician, but I am concerned about good government and the issues that confront the people of this senatorial district and the state of North Carolina," she said in an interview.

The wife of Murray Hollyday, and an Asheville native, Mrs. Hollyday said there has never been a woman to represent this area in the N.C. Senate. The 26th Senatorial District consists of Buncombe, Madison, McDowell and Yancey counties.

"First of all, I am an American," Mrs. Hollyday said. "Of course, we have to choose a political party in order to run for public office, but once elected, I'm not going to be concerned what party someone belongs to," she said indicating her concern is with people, not just Republicans or Democrats.

Mrs. Hollyday said her main concern with government in North Carolina is fiscal responsibility; that she is

upset about wasteful spending and mismanagement of funds under the present administration and legislature.

With the Hunt administration proposing an additional tax on gasoline, Mrs. Hollyday questions, "Why are we being punished to conserve?"

On fiscal responsibility in education, Mrs. Hollyday stated, "too much of the taxpayers' money has gone into building rather than actual education." She maintains there is "more talk than action" regarding upgrading the educational process in North Carolina, and in her opinion, competency and other testing "are geared to make the system look good, rather than to educate our children."

Schools and education were the subjects that spawned Mrs. Hollyday's interest in getting involved in local government and politics. She made a name for herself in Asheville when she almost single-handedly took on the school board to correct substandard facilities at one of the schools. She became what she calls a "school board watcher," attending all open board meetings to keep abreast of the actions and decisions concerning Buncombe County education.

Mrs. Hollyday's husband is a partner in Hollyday and Bahn, an accounting firm, and the Hollydays have three children and two grandchildren.

On the subject of abortion,



Mary Jane Hollyday

the Senate hopeful said she is "pro-family" in her thinking, and "will protect the family in any North Carolina legislation."

Her reply to a question about the Equal Rights

Amendment for women was, "I don't need it." Mrs. Hollyday said she feels women can do most anything they want, if they will work at it. She said:

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