

HAPPY NEW YEAR

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

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Photo by N. Hancock

WOLF LAUREL — This group of young people were not deterred by Wolf Laurel's ski slopes being closed on Christmas Day. Mark Cotter and Will Caldwell, along with a few younger friends, put a beginners slope to good use by trying out their sledding discs

while a snow making machine added to the slight accumulation which fell Christmas Eve. With nightly temperatures in the teens, the ski resort's slopes should be in good condition for New Year's weekend ski buffs.

Counties Play Musical Chairs

Reapportionment Scheduled For General Assembly

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — For the first time in 10 years, North Carolina politicians will meet in January to play their version of musical chairs, a game that could make or break some political fortunes.

The game is called reapportionment and it helps determine who goes to Raleigh or Washington as a legislator. Its purpose is to insure the residents of the coastal county of Tyrrell are as well represented as those in the urban county of Mecklenburg.

State House Speaker Liston Ramsy says preliminary census figures show eight state House districts have grown far out of balance since 1971. The worst is the 5th District, which includes Bertie County in the state's northeastern corner. The district has 23 percent fewer people than its two representatives require.

At the other extreme is the 42nd District, including Henderson County out west, which has grown so much that it has 19 percent more people than required for one representative.

Ramsy says the courts won't allow differences larger than 10 percent, but he notes that one district can't be changed without affecting another district.

"You can shift a county in the mountains that will have an effect on the coast," he says.

In addition to the number of representatives, the district lines also may affect the strength of political parties.

For example, take the west's 11th Congressional District near Asheville, where Republican Bill Hendon upset incumbent Lamar Gudger in the November election. Many Democrats would like to bring more Democratic votes into the district to prevent a repeat performance by Republicans.

One solution would be to move heavily Democratic Cleveland County from the 10th District to the 11th District. That district's borders have wobbled as Democratic legislators have tried to dislodge Republican Rep. Jim Broyhill of Lenoir over the past 18 years.

Hendon Makes Appointments

Congressman-elect William M. Hendon has appointed two Asheville natives to top positions on his Washington, D.C. office staff.

Donna Norton, for eight years executive assistant to an Indiana Republican congressman, will serve as executive assistant in charge of all office operations. Billy Pritchard, who recently resigned from the Asheville Citizen-Times after 10 years as a reporter, was named press secretary.

These were the first major appointments made by Hendon, a Republican who defeated two-term Democrat Rep. Lamar Gudger of Asheville Nov. 4 for the 11th District Congressional seat.

Hendon said he has been occupied with orientation programs and other transition matters in Washington and delayed announcement of staff appointments until adjournment of the 96th Congress. Other appointments should be announced soon, Hendon said.

Miss Norton is the daughter of Mr.

and Mrs. D.C. Norton. She has 13 years experience in the House of Representatives and spent the last eight years on the staff of Rep. Elwood Hillis, R-Ind.

Miss Norton is serving her second term as president of the Republican Women of Capitol Hill, a group of professional women serving in Congress, and is best known for her work with the elderly in organizing and developing the Congressional Senior Citizen Intern Program.

Her work in the elderly program recently earned her a Presidential Award from the Congressional Staff club. She will give up her role as program director in joining Hendon's staff but will remain in an advisory capacity.

She attended Asheville city schools and UNC-Asheville. She worked with the Asheville law firm of Riddle and Briggs before taking her first assignment in Washington as a staff aide to former U.S. Rep. Roy A. Taylor of

Black Mountain.

Pritchard is the son of Mr. and Mrs. T.W. Pritchard Jr. He attended Asheville city schools and Mars Hill College, where he earned a degree in English in 1967. He is veteran of the U.S. Army and served in Vietnam in 1968 and 1969 as a congressional correspondent in Saigon for the U.S. Military Assistance Command.

Pritchard joined the news staff of The Asheville Citizen-Times in 1970 and covered every major beat on the newspaper, most recently reporting on politics, the courts and state government.

"I have known Donna Norton and Billy Pritchard for many years and feel especially fortunate in having these highly-qualified people on my staff," said Hendon, who takes office Jan. 5. "In addition to their outstanding professional abilities, they are both natives and have close ties with our district."

Ramsy's Installation Expects Big Crowd

Liston Bryan Ramsy will move to a statewide constituency next month when he is formally elected House speaker in the 1981 General Assembly, and the people from his mountain district will be in Raleigh cheering the loudest.

Ramsy, veteran Democratic representative from Madison County, will attract a crowd from Western North Carolina when he takes over the gavel as speaker on Jan. 14.

A reception will be held for Ramsy at North Ridge Country Club in Raleigh.

Waynesville attorney Zeb Alley, who is making arrangements for the reception, said he is preparing for at least 800 people.

There could be that many from Madison County alone.

Zeno Ponder, longtime Ramsy ally, credits Sara Murray of Waynesville with the idea for a reception for the new House speaker.

"She was the first to mention it to me. She said two months before the Nov. 4 elections that people in Western North Carolina wanted to have a party for Liston," Ponder said.

Ponder said the drive to get a crowd to Raleigh for

Ramsy's induction as speaker of the House is a bipartisan effort with Republicans as well as Democrats taking part.

"And when he is formally elected on Jan. 14 by the other 119 members of the House, I'm confident there will be Republican legislators voting for him," Ponder said.

Ramsy, 61, has served in the House for 20 years and will become the first speaker in 80 years from the far western part of the state.

At least five buses will leave out of the mountains early on the morning of Jan. 14, with One Oak Plaza designated as the meeting point in Asheville.

There will also be buses leaving from Madison, Haywood and Jackson counties. The House district represented by Ramsy and Rep. Ernest B. Messer is made up of Haywood, Madison, Jackson and Swain counties.

Faça Cowan of Sylva is in charge of getting bus transportation for people who want to use them from his home county of Jackson, and T.A. Sandin has a similar responsibility for Swain.

The bus for Swain and Jackson counties will leave from Sylva at 6 a.m. on Jan. 14, Ponder said.

He and Weaver Chapman, who is handling transportation for Haywood County, said 75 motel rooms have been reserved at Days Inn in Raleigh, 50 more at the Ranch Motel there, and that still another 50 can be arranged at the Royal Villa if they are needed.

Dr. Wallace N. Hyde of Asheville and Molly Wilmot of Brevard are coordinating transportation from Buncombe and other surrounding counties, and anyone who wants to travel on a bus should contact one of those people.

"We are hopeful that sufficient funds can be obtained to offer free transportation to Raleigh," Ponder said.

He said the buses will depart for Raleigh at 6 a.m. on Jan. 14, and return the next day, leaving Raleigh at 9 a.m.

Jena Lee Buckner, Register of Deeds Office, 649-3131, will furnish any information as to the trip, costs, departure, ect.

Zeb Alley and Zeno H. Ponder, who are heading up the drive, will have to commit themselves on the number of rooms by making a substantial deposit not later than Jan. 1, 1981.

Madison To Receive Over 'Ten Grand'

Federal funding totaling \$445,683 has been awarded a variety of projects in the 11th Congressional District, according to a recent announcement of departing Congressman Lamar Gudger.

The largest single item in the funding was \$297,749 in U.S. Forest Service payments from National Forest receipts to 15 Western North Carolina counties. Madison County will receive \$10,997.37 as its share of the money.

The other 14 counties will receive the following amounts: Avery, \$5,623.43; Buncombe, \$7,106.84; Cherokee, \$37,081.36; Clay, \$28,652.09; Graham, \$50,180.76; Haywood, \$15,435.12; Henderson, \$3,915.89; Jackson, \$13,078.87; McDowell, \$14,985.03; Macon, \$68,025.24; Mitchell, \$3,962.53; Swain, \$9,554.41; Transylvania, \$21,063.29; and Yancey, \$8,086.95.

Draft Registration Begins Jan. 5

Post offices in Marshall and elsewhere around the nation will be the centers for Selective Service registration for men born in 1962 during the week of Jan. 5, 1981.

Men born in 1963, and later, should register within 30 days of their 18th birthday, according to Selective Service officials.

The new registrations are a continuance of the program begun last summer when men born in 1960 and 1961 filled in registration forms. The purpose of registration is to build a pool of names and addresses from which Selective Service could draw in an emergency.

"Registration directly improves our capability to respond," said Dr. Berard D. Rostker, director of the Selective Service System, "reducing lead time by at least four weeks."

"We think that provides a significant advantage, especially when matched with the very low cost of the registration effort," Rostker said. The registration so far has cost less than \$2 per registrant.

When the military draft was ended in 1972, registration continued for three more years. When the capabilities of Selective Service declined, a revitalization began in 1979 aimed at increasing the system's readiness level that included the registration and development of a training program for potential draft board members.

The registration law has come under attack in the courts on the legality of a male-only registration. President-elect Reagan as a candidate termed the registration law unnecessary, but has not said whether he would seek its repeal.

Under the law male citizens

and aliens residing in the United States born in 1960, 1961 or 1962 except those on student or similar visas or members of trade or diplomatic missions, and men now with the armed forces, must register. Men born in 1963 or later years are required to register within 30 days of their 18th birthdays.

To avoid lines at the post offices, men born in 1962 are en-

couraged to register on a day of the week keyed to the month of birth; on Monday, Jan. 5 for those born in January, February and March; on Tuesday, Jan. 6 for those born in April, May and June; on Wednesday, Jan. 7 for those born in July, August and September; and on Thursday, Jan. 8 for those born in October, November and December. Friday and Satur-

day may be used as "make-up" days for those unable to register on the suggested day.

Men born in 1960 and 1961 should already have registered this year. Those who have not are encouraged by Selective Service to do so as soon as possible at any of the 34,560 post offices throughout the nation.

Edwards, Wallace Elected To Regional Eight Posts



Betty Wallace



R. L. Edwards

"In choosing Dr. Wallace," he said, "we have elected a chairman who can take her place not only among top women educators in the state, but also among men."

Dr. Wallace responded, "I am gratified to have the chance to work with Mr. Edwards this year, but it would be presumptuous to think that I can adequately replace him as Chairman next year. He is the most competent and experienced Superintendent I know. All his colleagues have the highest regard for his leadership in the region and

in the state. The Superintendents' Council meets monthly to coordinate educational policies and programs in the region, and it represents the region at State Department of Public Instruction functions.

Two members of the Council serve on State Superintendent Craig Phillips' Sounding Board, an advisory council. Chairman Edwards is presently serving his second two-year term on the Sounding Board, in which he was also elected unanimously to the Region VIII Council.