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## Older Americans Day



BONNET LADIES — Rhoda Shook, 90, (left) and Bertie Burnette, 88, both of Route 3, Mars Hill (Laurel), enjoyed the activities and luncheon held at Madison High School

last Wednesday in observance of Older Americans Day. Mrs. Shook made both the bonnets the ladies were wearing.



BOB ORR, assistant to Congressman Bill Hendon, speaks with participants at the luncheon. Orr said in his address senior

citizens have many contributions to make to our society and culture.

## On Big Branch Road

### Frost To Open Veterinary Clinic

Lawrence Y. (Larry) Frost, 1948 graduate of Mars Hill College, is moving to Madison County from Hampton, Virginia to start a large and small animal veterinary practice to be located on Big Branch Road, Mars Hill. Frost is well-known for his active role with the Mars Hill College Alumni Association.

After graduating with an A.A. degree from Mars Hill, Frost attended Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama, and graduated with a D.V.M. degree in 1953.

He started his first practice in Rowan County, North Carolina in June, 1955, then moved to Hampton, Virginia where he built a clinic and began a large and small animal practice in December, 1963.

He sold his clinic and retired in March, 1981, before deciding to return to Mars Hill.

One-time center for the Lions' basketball team, Dr. Frost has a special interest in athletics. He is a patron of the Mars Hill College Golden "M" Club and provides the fresh seafood for the club's annual kickoff dinner.

Frost has also been active in the college Alumni. He served as Vice-President and President of the Association from 1976 to 1978. He was "Alumnus of the Year" in 1980 and attended numerous alumni chapter meetings. He organized the Alumni Chapter in Hampton, Virginia.

In addition, Frost has been very active in a number of Veterinary Associations. He is a seventeen-year charter member of the Auburn University Council of Veterinary Medicine. During that time a new school of



Larry Frost

veterinary medicine was built.

He has been a member of the American Veterinary Medicine Association for thirty years, and is an affiliate member of the Animal Hospital Association of America.

Since 1963, he has been a member of the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association and has been active in local and state Veterinary Medical Associations of Virginia.

He is a 32nd degree Mason, a member of the Hampton Baptist Church and past member of the Kiwanis Club. He also served three years in the Army Corps of Engineers during World War II.

Dr. Frost is married to the former Helen Mullis of Harmony, North Carolina. She is also an Alumnus of Mars Hill College. They are the parents of three children.

Frost's clinic will be located in the new building behind the Philco Hardware Warehouse on Big Branch Road (Highway 215) between Mars Hill and U.S. 19-32.

The clinic is set to open on or before September 1.

## School Personnel Mostly Democrats

By NICHOLAS HANCOCK  
Editor

Responding to a parent's statements that the Madison County Board of Education is politically biased in its hiring practices, board chairman Bobby Ponder declined to name any Republican school personnel hired by the board but he said "some of the best personnel we have are Republicans who were personally hired by me."

Ponder's statement came at Monday's board meeting where he told the parent, Mr. Glen McGee, that he could "go and check yourself" concerning how many Republicans were hired by the all-Democrat board.

Using the 1980-81 Directory for Madison County Schools, The News Record checked the names of the listed personnel with voter registration cards at the Madison County Board of Elections office.

Of the 244 names listed in the personnel directory, 209 were registered as Democrats, 11 were registered as

Republicans, and 5 were unaffiliated. Eighteen names could not be verified indicating those persons had not registered, or they were registered at their place of residence in another county. One name had no affiliation information marked on the card.

Voter registration records showed as of Oct. 6, 1980, the deadline for registering before the election, there were 7,165 Democrats, 3,121 Republicans and 391 Independents (unaffiliated) registered in the county.

Of the total 10,677 registered voters, 67 percent are Democrats, 29 percent are Republicans and 4 percent are unaffiliated.

Of the 225 verified school personnel names checked for party affiliation, 86 percent are Democrats, 4.5 percent are Republicans and 2 percent registered as unaffiliated. The 18 names not verified amounted to 7.5 percent of the total 244 names.

Categorized by schools, last year's directory listed 63 administrative and instructional employees at Madison

High School. Voter registration cards show 52 were Democrats, 5 were Republicans and one was unaffiliated. Five names could not be verified.

Mars Hill Elementary School listed 64 employees: 52 Democrats, four Republicans and two unaffiliated. Four could not be verified.

Marshall Elementary School listed 38 employees: 33 Democrats, no Republicans and one unaffiliated. Four could not be verified.

Walnut Elementary School listed 14 employees, 13 Democrats, no Republicans and one unverified name.

Hot Springs Elementary School listed 17 employees: 13 Democrats, 1 Republican, 1 unaffiliated and 2 which could not be verified.

Laurel Elementary School listed 22 employees: 20 Democrats, no Republicans and 2 unverified names.

Spring Creek Elementary School listed 13 employees: 12 Democrats, no Republicans and 1 unverified name.

## EMC Electric Rates To Increase By 15%

Members of French Broad EMC will begin paying higher rates on their electricity bills after Sept. 1 unless the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) delays the wholesale rate increase now being requested by Carolina Power & Light company.

FBEMC manager Charles Tolley said the increase the cooperative must pay CP&L amounts to approximately 17 percent, and to recover the cost the cooperative must increase its overall base rates by about 15 percent. To do this, the EMC board of directors approved new rate schedules for its customers at its July 28 meeting.

The average residential con-

sumer using 600 KWH per month will see his bill increase from \$36.45 to \$41.25, Tolley said. That amounts to a 13.17 percent increase. Members using less than 600 KWH per month will see a smaller increase, and those using more than 600 KWH per month will see a higher increase.

Tolley said the new rates for residential service will be \$5.25 per month for the basic facilities charge, 6 cents per KWH for the first 1,000 KWH, and 5.4 cents per KWH for any usage over 1,000 KWH.

General Service rates for North Carolina consumer-members will be \$5.25 per month for the basic facilities charge, 6.7 cents per KWH for the first 1,000 KWH, and 5.4

cents per KWH for any usage over 1,000 KWH.

The rate for a 175 watt security light will increase from \$5.60 to \$6.50 per month and the rate for the 400 watt light will increase from \$8.75 to \$10 per month.

Tolley said if the effective date of CP&L's increase is delayed, the cooperative will postpone any increase until the wholesale rate increase goes into effect. He said FBEMC may not know until Aug. 15 or 20 whether or not CP&L's request has been delayed. The increase could be delayed for as much as five months, he said.

"The Secretary of Energy has said publicly that in order to keep utility companies from

going bankrupt they are going to have to have bigger increases quicker. With that kind of attitude at the top, I don't know how that will ride down to the FERC level on this rate case," Tolley said.

"Tolley said the new rate figures do not include the Purchase Power and Fuel Adjustment charges which fluctuate each month and are passed on to members according to CP&L's charges. He said these charges are high now because CP&L's Brunswick nuclear plant is shut down again.

Tolley reminded all FBEMC members to conserve all the energy they can to help keep their electricity bills from being so high.

## Secondary Road Funds Approved

RALEIGH — The North Carolina Board of Transportation, at its monthly meeting here today, approved \$30.7 million on a county-by-county basis for secondary road construction improvements during the next 12 months. This appropriation was allocated by the 1981 General Assembly.

According to State Transportation Secretary W.R. "Bill" Roberson Jr., "Without the 1981 General Assembly's passage of Governor Jim Hunt's 'Good Roads' program, this funding to improve our secondary roads system would not have been available. We are, indeed, appreciative of the General Assembly's decision, enabling

us to improve and maintain an all-weather secondary road network."

The amount of funding for each county was determined by a formula established by the state legislature. According to the formula, every county receives a percentage of the total funds based on the unpaved secondary roads in the county in relationship to the total mileage of unpaved secondary roads in the state.

Board members will be meeting with the 100 county boards of commissioners in public meetings across the state to review and approve projects to utilize these funds. According to Secretary

Roberson as of January 1, 1981 Madison County has 306 miles of unpaved secondary roads. The total unpaved secondary system statewide contains 18,907 miles.

Madison County's share of the secondary road allocation approved by the board today is \$497,426.

Robinson noted that North Carolina's secondary road system is composed of 59,568 miles. He said, "These roads, many of which were the old and narrow farm-to-market roads, have become vital home-to-work routes for our citizens."

The funds allocated will be used for improvements to the secondary road system such

as new paving, widening existing paved roads, improving unpaved roadways to an "all weather condition," replacing small bridges and strengthening paved roads to relieve present weight restrictions.

## CP&L To Undergo Audit

The North Carolina Utilities Commission today issued an order instituting an audit of Carolina Power & Light Company's management. The order states "recent outages at CP&L's Brunswick Plant indicate that the audit should focus on plant performance and power product at all CP&L facilities."

The order did not specify the details of the audit which will be set forth in a later order.

Commission officials have expressed concern over plant outages at CP&L's Brunswick Plant near Wilmington, and today's order formally initiates an audit procedure which will encompass a review of the operations at Brunswick, as well as CP&L's other power plants.

The commission expects the full audit to be completed in 12 months.

## Hendon Backs Tourism Bill

WASHINGTON — Western North Carolina Congressman Bill Hendon voted this week in favor of a bill designed to promote tourism, the second largest employer in both North and South Carolina and the 11th Congressional District.

Hendon, a member of the Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus, said the bill, which passed the House Tuesday in a 231-98 vote, authorizes \$5.5 million for a new U.S. Travel and Tourism Ad-

ministration, replacing the old U.S. Travel Service.

"I voted for this bill because of its significance to Western North Carolina, where the travel industry generated \$144 million in Buncombe County, alone, in 1979, and is expected to bring in more than \$130 million this year," Hendon said.

The travel industry supports more than 300,000 jobs in North Carolina and generates more than \$1.7 billion a year in

the state, Hendon said.

The newly created independent federal travel agency, which will also fund nine new overseas offices in the promotion of travel in the United States, will be headed by an under secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

"Travel and tourism mean jobs for Western North Carolina," Hendon said. "I want to do everything I can to promote this industry that is so vital to our district."