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Quality Education Is Top Citizen Priority

Citizens in Madison County ranked "good quality education for our children" as their top goal for the state's future, in response to the North Carolina 2000 citizen questionnaire distributed in the county and across the state in March.

Ranked second by local citizens was "enough good job," and third, "keeping agriculture strong."

The questionnaire was part of the NC 2000 long-range planning project. It was done to get citizens thinking about their own agendas for North

Carolina's future, to give state officials a sense of local priorities, and to get citizens participating in the discussion of where we are headed as a state.

The questionnaire was sponsored by the Commission on the Future of North Carolina, which directs the project, and NC 2000 county committees. It was distributed to citizens through libraries, schools, banks, and civic clubs and reprinted in many newspapers.

Questionnaire results were

released by Governor Jim Hunt, who initiated the NC 2000 project in 1981 and by UNC President William Friday, chairman of the Commission on the Future.

"We received 112,000 replies, which I think is refreshing evidence that people do care enough about their state to volunteer their answers to the questionnaire and spend 20 cents to send them in," said Hunt.

Statewide, North Carolinians listed as their chief priorities for the future:

- Good quality education for our children
- Enough good jobs
- Adequate protection from crime
- Fair system of taxes
- Adequate affordable housing

The questionnaire presented 22 areas of future concern and asked citizens to list the 10 they thought were most important. Citizens were then asked to indicate the areas in which improvement is most needed and the areas which should be preserved as they

are.

Citizens said the most important area to improve was job availability. At the same time, they said they did not want to see the state backslide in maintaining farmland or agriculture and that they did not want the quality of the environment to deteriorate.

Similar questions were asked in a scientific survey, conducted as part of the annual spring survey of the Office of State Budget. According to Hunt the results were substantially the same, including the

number one goal of good quality education.

Friday said that the results from both surveys would be considered by the Commission as they study all the information they have received and formulate their recommendations. "The results of this survey will help us ensure that people from all of North Carolina will be heard," said Friday.

"The role of local governments will be increasingly important in the coming years, and it's important that local

leaders have this feedback from their citizens as they make decisions about local schools, industries, taxes and other issues," said Hunt.

Friday said that the Commission on the Future would be focusing its attention over the next several months on the development of recommendations. On December 6-7, the Commission will host a state conference in Raleigh to give citizens the opportunity to review preliminary recommendations from the Commission.



Photo by Bob Koenig

Dr. Schroeder and Dr. Coverdale

Health Program Adds 2 Physicians

The Hot Springs Health Program received a boost this past week with the addition of two new physicians to the program's staff. The new doctors are a husband and wife team, Dr. Louis Schroeder and Dr. Janice Coverdale.

Dr. Schroeder specializes in internal medicine while his wife, Dr. Coverdale, is a pediatrician.

Both doctors are graduates of the University of Louisville Medical School. Dr. Schroeder did his undergraduate work at the University of Louisville while Dr. Coverdale is a graduate of Center College in Danville, Ky.

The couple come to Madison County from a practice in Berea, Ky.

Dr. Coverdale explains that she uses her maiden name in her practice in order to avoid confusion with her patients. She says she is sometimes referred to as "Mrs. Dr. Schroeder" and that her husband is sometimes referred to by his patients as "Mr. Dr. Coverdale."

Madison County's new doctors have wasted no time in becoming members of the community. Less than a week after their arrival, the couple purchased a home in the Stackhouse section.

Both doctors admit to excitement at practicing

medicine here in the mountains. Dr. Schroeder said, "We've always been interested in rural medicine. The prospect of having support from the community and working with excellent people attracted us to Madison County."

The proximity of Asheville was also a factor in the doctor's decision. Dr. Schroeder said, "Asheville has a medical community well out of proportion to the size of the city. Things change so quickly in medicine these days, it's necessary to keep up with the changes or you're lost."

The new doctors will be (Continued on Page 3)

Three Madison County residents died this weekend in separate accidents. One man died Saturday morning from a self-inflicted wound and two men died in traffic accidents.

On Friday evening, Ralph Ponder of Rt. 2 Marshall suffered a gunshot wound to the head in the family's home. Ponder was rushed to

Memorial Mission Hospital where he remained in critical condition until he died on Saturday at 10:35 a.m.

Ponder, 26, was a native of Madison County and the son of Zeno Ponder of Marshall. A graduate of North Carolina State University, he was employed by the N.C. Department of Transporta-

tion.

Early Sunday morning, a single-car crash of U.S. 25-70 claimed the life of 19-year old Daniel Alan Quinn of Walnut Creek Rd., Marshall. State Highway Patrol Trooper M.L. Brock reported that the compact car Quinn was driving left the road before striking a guardrail and overturning

several times. Both Quinn and a passenger in the vehicle, Roger Meadows, 18, also of Walnut Creek Rd., were transported by ambulance to Memorial Mission Hospital.

Quinn was pronounced dead in the hospital emergency room at 4 a.m. Meadows suffered a broken pelvis in the accident. He is reported to be in satisfactory condition.

The Highway Patrol also reported that Frank Allen, 41, of Madison County was found dead by a passing motorist on U.S. 301 in Fayetteville Sunday.

The Fayetteville Highway Patrol reported Monday that the death is under investigation. Further details are being withheld pending an autopsy report.

Saturday Night Shooting Mars Rock Festival

A shooting incident Saturday night at the Mountain Rock 'N' Roll Festival left one Charlotte man hospitalized and another in the Marshall jail over the weekend.

The sheriff's department reported that the shooting took place at approximately 7 p.m. on the festival grounds. Richard Clayton

Stanley, 24, of 3707 Avalon Dr., Charlotte was shot once with a pistol by an assailant who then fled the festival grounds.

Eyewitnesses on the scene were able to get the license plate number of the vehicle the assailant fled in and reported the plate to Sheriff E.Y. Ponder. The vehicle was traced to a Brian MacIntosh of Charlotte. A warrant for MacIntosh and a female companion was sworn out by the sheriff's department.

The Charlotte police were notified and they apprehended both MacIntosh and the companion, Susan Beal, at her home, 121 1/2 E. 36th St. in Charlotte, early Sunday morning. Sheriff E.Y. Ponder went to Charlotte

and returned the suspects Sunday afternoon.

MacIntosh is being held in jail charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill. Bond had not been set as of Monday. Susan Beal was charged with abetting a criminal and was also held pending bond as of Monday.

Connie Lee Yates, a compa-

nion of the shooting victim, was also taken in by police as a state witness and released on \$1000 bond.

The shooting victim is in Memorial Mission Hospital where he is reported to be in satisfactory condition. He was removed from the hospital's intensive care ward on Monday.

Hot Springs Trio Pleads Guilty

Three Hot Springs men charged last month with assault with a deadly weapon and damage to property pleaded guilty to the damage charge last Thursday.

Michael Holt, 19, Dean McCarter, 26, and Tim Ramsey, 20, all of Hot Springs, pleaded guilty to the charge of damage to property in a plea-bargaining agreement. The men had also been charged with assaulting Dan Pieper of Portland, Ore. and Steve Parmenter of Los Altos, Cal. in an incident at

the Jesuit Parish in Hot Springs in May.

The presiding judge, Alexander Lyerly, sentenced each of the defendants to two years in prison and suspended their sentences on condition. He also ordered each of the three defendants to pay court costs and pay \$125 each to the Jesuit Order to pay for damages. He also ordered Dean McCarter to pay for the costs of his court-appointed attorney and ordered all three men to remain off the Jesuit property unless given written permis-

sion.

At a probable cause hearing held Thursday in the criminal session of general court, the murder charge against Billy Ramsey was sent on to the grand jury by presiding Judge Alexander Lyerly. Ramsey is charged

in the June 29 death of Kenneth Harris of Asheville.

Linda Waller, who was with Ramsey and Harris when the incident took place, testified at the hearing. She told the court that, on the night Harris died she, Ramsey and the victim had

been drinking beer and shooting pool at several places in Buncombe County. Waller testified that she and the two men left her Madison County home after drinking vodka. They first stopped at Peabody's and bought some (Continued on Page 3)

CETA Means Summer Jobs

CETA may be just another acronym for a government program to many of us, but to many Madison High School students, CETA means jobs, a chance to earn and learn during the summer vacation.

The Comprehensive Employment and Training Act provides assistance to Americans in finding work. The Madison County CETA programs have two projects in operation, the Summer Youth Employment Program and the Orientation and Motivation Programs.

The 1982 Summer Youth

Program provides jobs for 63 county teenagers at 23 job sites throughout the county. The teenagers work 40 hours a week. Some of the workers, students at Madison High School, also attend classes in math and reading in addition to working with the CETA crew.

The summer jobs program began on June 7 and continues until July 31. The teenage CETA crews work in a variety of positions throughout the county. Many are working at their school, cleaning and painting in preparation for the

opening day of classes on Aug. 11. Among the projects they have completed this summer was the refinishing of the Madison High gym floor. Other CETA workers assist at the Marshall Day Care Center and the Department of Social Services offices.

The teenage participants have also attended two workshops on the labor market and have been informed about possible job openings in the future. These teenagers have been exposed to various types of work ranging from nutrition sites aids to

mechanic assistants.

The Orientation and Motivation Program is for adults from low-income families who have not completed high school. Participants attend classes five hours a day for eight weeks. At the end of the program, they are given the opportunity to take the Government Equivalency Diploma examination at Asheville-Buncombe Technical College.

During class time, participants are informed of other county agencies which can be of service to them.

The teenaged CETA workers have earned high marks from the county workers they assist. One teacher at the Day Care Center said, "The CETA kids are a big help. They're good with the children and they give us the chance to give extra attention to the children that need it."

For further information on CETA, contact Sandra Wallin Ford, coordinator of the Madison County CETA program at 669-2222.



Photo by Bob Koenig

CETA MEANS WORK to many county high school students like Audrey Anderson shown here caring for six-month old Tiphonie Shelton at the Marshall Day Care Center. The program provides jobs throughout the county for teenagers on summer vacation.

Day Care