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Application Deadline Is Feb. 15

New Burley Tobacco Grower Quotas Available

Madison County tobacco growers have until Feb. 15 to apply for new quotas for burley tobacco. William B. Zink, county executive director for the Madison County Agricultural Soil Conservation Service, made the announcement last week.

To be eligible for a new grower quota, a farmer must own a farm, have no interest in a farm which already has an established burley tobacco quota, derive at least half of his income from farming or farm products and have at least two years experience in

the past five years on a farm with a current tobacco quota. Zink said that any county farmer who is interested in applying should contact the ASCS office in Marshall before the Feb. 15 deadline.

In other tobacco news, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced that farmers who produced excess tobacco during last year's crop will be allowed to arrange for the tobacco to be processed and stored without having to carryover unprocessed tobacco.

The carryover program is

designed to permit tobacco producers who have marketed 110 percent of their farm's effective quota and have excess tobacco on hand to deliver the excess for processing and storage with the Burley Stabilization Corporation. The move will prevent insect infestation and quality deterioration.

Handling of the carryover tobacco has been limited to the Burley Stabilization Corp. in order to insulate the surplus tobacco from commercial trade channels. It cannot be marketed until the 1983

marketing season begins.

The Burley Stabilization Corp. will announce designated delivery points in tobacco-producing areas where producers may deliver their carryover crop. All tobacco to be processed must be weighed and graded by an inspector of the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service before being accepted for storage and later sale.

Carryover tobacco will not be eligible for penalty-free marketing until the start of the next marketing year on Oct. 1, 1983. At that time, the carryover tobacco will be sold

on a sealed bid basis to all purchasers of tobacco, both foreign and domestic. Carryover tobacco not bringing an acceptable price will be placed under loan in the regular inventory, by grades, at the 1983 loan rates.

Farmers who do not wish to participate in the carryover program may store unprocessed tobacco on their own farm, in warehouses or in commercial storage. Tobacco

stored in such a manner must retain its identity. It may not be commingled with tobacco

produced on another farm.

In order to qualify for the carryover program, the farm that produced the tobacco to be stored must have marketed within 200 pounds or less of the 110 percent of the 1982 effective farm quota. Farmers interested in bringing their carryover tobacco to the Burley

Stabilization Corp. must first obtain a written statement from the county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service stating total poundage marketed during the 1982 marketing season and 110 percent of the farm effective

quota. Both the statement and the 1982 marketing card must be presented at the time carryover tobacco is presented at the designated delivery points. The Burley Stabilization Corp. is expected to announce the locations of these designated delivery points in the next few days.

William Zink of the county ASCS office urges all farm operators to return their marketing cards now that all area burley markets have closed.

Zink said, "The primary purpose of the cards is to provide the producer a simple

way to officially account for the disposition of the tobacco he produces on the farm. Failure to timely return this card by the operator can result in a reduction of the farm quota for the following crop year, unless he can present proof of his entire marketing in some other manner."

Growers are required to return the cards immediately following the close of the local markets. The cards are needed by the local ASCS office in order to reconcile marketings reported by each local warehouse.

Victor Bechtol Is Acquitted In District Court

Victor Bechtol was found not guilty of charges of communicating threats in last Tuesday's session of District Court. Bechtol had entered a plea of not guilty to the charge. Judge Robert Lacey ordered warrants charging Bechtol with damage to property quashed.

The court released Bruce Massey, charged with forgery, after a probable cause hearing. Also dismissed were charges of larceny against Bobby Pittman and Cornelius Vanhout, trespassing charges against James C. Coates, a charge of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill and trespassing against Odis Shade and charges of unauthorized use of an auto against both Terry Lee Roberts and Vicky Lynn Anders.

The court accepted a voluntary dismissal in cases involving disturbing a public cemetery charges against Dellis Green and Guy Baldwin.

The court continued, until Feb. 15, larceny charges against Gary Ball. Also continued were assault charges against both Ricky Dixon and Nickey Adams.

Albert Rice, charged with shoplifting, was called and failed to appear. A case against Helen Parrott Jacob, also charged with shoplifting, was continued until the Jan. 28 session.

On Wednesday, the court heard a number of unrelated cases involving driving under the influence. The court accepted guilty pleas from Wayne Jerry Randall, Barry John Wells, and Terry Lynn

Gibson, all of Mars Hill.

Gibson had also been charged with no operator's license, but the charge was dropped. The court ordered each defendant to pay a \$100 fine, plus court costs, ordered each to attend Alcohol Drug Education School and pay the school's \$100 tuition fee, and sentenced each to serve from 30 to 45 days in jail. The jail sentence was suspended for 12 months.

Troy Lee Meadows, Edward LeRoy Banks, Robert Clyde Cogdill and Sam Miller, all charged with DUI, failed to appear for their hearing. Arrest warrants were issued for each.

The court also continued, at the defendants' request, DUI charges against Oakley Freeman, John Ingram and William Timothy Wilde.

The court sent on to Superior Court hit and run charges against William H. Stines. The court dismissed charges of leaving the scene of an accident and no liability insurance against Stines. Superior Court will conduct a probable cause hearing into charges of possession of a controlled substance against Robert Lee Johnson.

James Bruce Massey Jr., charged with drunk and disorderly conduct and assault on an officer, entered a plea of guilty and was sentenced to serve 30 days in the Madison County Jail.

The court also issued an arrest warrant for failing to appear for James Wagner, charged with drunk and disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

N. Buncombe Parents Protest School Board Decision

By ELIZABETH D. SQUIRE

Determined North Buncombe County residents put their money on the line Monday night, contributing \$1024.15 to a possible legal effort to overturn a Buncombe Co. school board vote to give number one building priority to Enka instead of North Buncombe.

At a meeting at North Buncombe High School to protest the county board's vote, an action committee was elected to:

- Approach the seller of the Enka High School site for an extension of a 1988 building start-up deadline for the Enka site.
- Spearhead an approach to the Buncombe County commissioners to overturn the school board's request to appropriate building money elsewhere.

Feeling has been running high since the school board voted last Thursday to build a new high school in Enka before it builds a new high school to replace North Buncombe.

"I looked forward to my children going to a new high school but now two of them are already in college," said

Helen Boone of Weaverville, reflecting the fact that community residents have been asking for a school for a long time.

"As a businessman in the community, I see the need for North Buncombe to have good vocational courses," said David Bradley of Beech, chairman of the North Buncombe Advisory Council.

A member of the high school staff said that large numbers of students are unable to get vocational courses they want to take at North Buncombe because there are not enough facilities or vocational teachers. At least 85 to 100 students are turned away from welding, home economics and woodworking, for example.

Judy Ball of Flat Creek said North Buncombe entirely lacks facilities for some vocational courses like cosmetology.

And perhaps the high dropout rate at North Buncombe is because so many students who want vocational courses are unable to get them, Bradley said.

Not only do North Buncombe schools lack space, but they are older than schools in

other parts of the county, said Rev. John Kelley of Hemphill, who chaired Monday's meeting. Kelley, pastor of the Hemphill and Beech United Presbyterian churches, said that figures from the office of the superintendent of schools show that while North Buncombe is the second fastest growing school district (after Roberson), the district has no new schools built since 1955 and the district includes six schools that are at least 55 years old.

A recent report to the North Buncombe Citizens for Better Schools from Jim Penley, chief of the Weaverville Fire Department, and Kirk Redmond, assistant chief, says that the Weaverville primary and middle schools "are not totally safe with respect to quick safe student evacuation," due to age and design.

In comparison to North Buncombe, Owen, Reynolds, Roberson, and Erwin, all have three schools built since 1955, Kelley said.

A new high school in North Buncombe would not only allow more space and facilities in the high school,

but since the old high school could become a middle school, the new school would mean more space throughout the system.

The school board voted to build a new school in Enka first because of a time limit on the use of a piece of property there, purchased at much less than the current value on the condition that a school be started on the property before 1985. Citizens in North Buncombe are saying that the school board was unwise to accept such a condition, which puts unfair pressure in favor

of a school in Enka at the expense of other districts, Enka and Erwin, Kelley said, are the two slowest-growing districts in Buncombe County.

"We are fed up with this end of the county being run over," said Roy Shepherd, of Flat Creek. "We need something in this end of the county for our children. What's been done in the past the parents have done."

The proposed suit would say that the North Buncombe School district has been discriminated against in comparison to other districts in the county.

FmHA Rates Drop

Interest rates for loan programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farmers Home Administration dropped on Jan. 17, according to FmHA State Director Larry W. Godwin.

"These lower interest rates, which apply to most loans made by the USDA farm credit agency, will be of great benefit to the rural economy and particularly for the nation's farmers who depend

heavily on credit," Godwin said.

It is the third such reduction since Oct. 1982 by the agency which makes farm, home and other loans to rural residents and communities who cannot get credit from private lenders.

Godwin said the reductions are possible because of a general move toward lower interest rates across all sectors of the economy and because of

lower costs of federal borrowing.

Interest rates for farm operating loans, used to finance annual costs of production, will drop from 11.5 to 10.25 percent.

Farm ownership rates will drop from 11.5 to 10.75 percent.

Interest rates for "limited resource" borrowers will drop from 8.3 percent for operating loans to 7.25 percent. Limited

resource farm ownership loans go from 5.75 to 5.25 percent.

The interest rate for actual loss loans due to natural disasters remains at 8 percent for those farmers unable to get credit from private lenders. For farmers who can obtain natural disaster loans elsewhere, but choose to deal with the Farmers Home Ad-

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E. Tennessee Cave Find Unlocks Indian Mysteries

By BORIS WEINTRAUB
National Geographic
News Service

First, slide down the entrance hole for about eight feet at a 45-degree angle. Take a good look at that slide; it's not just the only way in, it's the only way out.

Belly down, crawl a few feet to the first "room." Crawl through a tiny hole in a wall barely big enough for a human body, wade through an underground stream, walk bent-over beneath an overhanging rock ledge, squeeze through a second hole, and slither belly-down again to enter a room large enough to stand up in.

Now look up. There, incised on both walls of a long, narrow corridor that extends for about 100 yards, are drawings, hundreds of them. There are human stick figures and more

sophisticated human faces, pictures of birds and serpents and turtles, geometric designs and drawings that look like simple squiggles.

Those squiggles are meaningless to modern Americans, but they may have had some significance, to the earlier Americans who put all these glyphs here, Indians who lived in the vicinity of this east Tennessee cave from the 12th through the 16th centuries.

"Picture yourself as an Indian, barefoot and naked except for your loincloth, carrying cane torches and crawling in here for the purpose of putting these drawings here," says Bill Deane.

Deane is a professional photographer and a caving veteran who has been photographing the glyphs as part of a research team.

Charles H. Faulkner, a pro-

fessor of anthropology at the Univ. of Tennessee, is leader of the team, which is funded by the National Geographic Society. He says the cave is unique. Scientists know of no other cave that Indians entered solely to carry out ritual.

The medium, too, is unique. The glyphs were made using either a finger or a sharp stick, and incised in the soft, damp mud clinging to the cave walls. Because of the cave's dampness, the glyphs have been preserved over the centuries but were unknown until a U.S. Forest Service ranger who also is a spelunker found them in 1979.

"Some of the motifs in the cave are found on copper plates and shell pendants that date back to the 13th and 14th centuries," part of the Mississippi Period, says

Faulkner.

"The important thing about this site is that it gives us a much larger repertoire of Mississippian motifs that we have already. Until now, we've had artistic expression only on nonperishable items like shell or copper or bits of bone. This is the first time we've found these motifs on this medium, on clay."

Scientists have known for some time that prehistoric American Indians entered caves. But in other cases, they were seeking shelter or minerals. That applies, for example, to Kentucky's Mammoth Cave.

Preliminary archeological digging disclosed no evidence of mining in Mud Glyph Cave. There was no sign of tools or tool refurbishing, no pottery.

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The figure of a bird, possibly a great horned owl, is seen on the wall of a cave in east Tennessee. Scientists say draw-

ings in the cave made by prehistoric Indians date to between the 12th and 16th centuries.