

March 6, 1985

Gov. Martin Defends Tax Cut

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Community Calendar

Democrats To Elect Precinct Officers, Convention Delegates Thursday Night

Madison County Democrats will hold precinct elections Thursday night. All registered Democrats are eligible in the elections, which will be held at 8 p.m. at local polling places on March 7.

Each precinct will elect a panel of precinct officers, including chairmen and vice-chairmen, secretary, treasurer and four members of the precinct committee. The Thursday night meeting will also elect delegates to the April 13 county convention.

Precinct officers are elected to a two-year term.

The meeting will also hear from Democrats who wish to propose new strategies or offer resolutions regarding policy or organizational goals.

For more information on the precinct meetings, contact Madison County Democratic Party chairman Zeno Ponder at 649-3211.

Laurel VFD Tourney

The Laurel Volunteer Fire Department will sponsor a boys and girls basketball tournament beginning March 11th. All interested persons are invited to attend a meeting on March 8th at 6:30 p.m. at the fire hall to discuss rules and the playing schedule. Entrance fee will be \$35.00. The games will be played at the Laurel Elementary Gym. All interested teams are invited to attend and participate.

Hot Springs VFD Meets

A meeting of the Hot Springs Volunteer Fire Department has been scheduled for March 19, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, Hot Springs.

American Legion Meets

The American Legion Post 317 will hold their monthly meeting March 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Legion Hall on Back Street, Marshall. All members are urged to attend.

Mars Hill VFD Dinner

The Mars Hill Volunteer Fire Department will sponsor a ham and roast beef dinner on March 10 from 12 noon until 2 p.m. at the Mars Hill Elementary School. Adult \$3.50, children \$2.50.

News Record To Co-Sponsor Clean Streams Day April 27

April 27 has been designated as Clean Streams Day throughout Western North Carolina. The News Record will co-sponsor local clean-up activities on Madison County streams. Trash bags and disposal assistance will be provided and volunteers will receive a Clean Streams T-shirt donated by local soft drink bottlers.

The local clean-up effort is co-sponsored by the French Broad Rafting Co., Plowshares and the French Broad River Foundation.

T-shirts and trash bags will be available at The News Record on April 23 and 24.

For more information on Clean Streams Day, contact Louie Zeller at 656-2773, Sandy West at 649-3574 or Bob Koenig at 689-2001.

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY SINCE 1901

INCORRECT DATE

Correct Date March 6, 1985

25¢

Mars Hill Hires Policemen, Awards Sewer Contracts

The Mars Hill Board of Aldermen appointed two men to the town's police force and accepted bids on the sewer project during a Monday night meeting at Town Hall.

Named to the police force were Donald Shepherd, 28, and Richard Roberts, 22. Roberts, a former Hot Springs police officer, will not join the Mars Hill force until April 1. The two new officers will replace former assistant chief Tole Sizemore, who resigned in February, and William

Lisenbee, who was dismissed in January.

Upon the recommendation of project manager Don McPherson of McGuire-Beebe Engineering, the board awarded three construction contracts to Cooper Construction Co. The contracts with Cooper Construction call for building sewer lines and a waste treatment plant.

A fourth contract, for electrical work on the sewer project, was awarded to Hayes and Lunsford, Co.

of Asheville.

In all four contracts, the Mars Hill aldermen awarded the contracts to the lowest bidder.

When Mars Hill Mayor Bill Powell asked for a motion to accept the bids, alderman Art Wood said, "I've been waiting almost 30 years to make this motion," and moved to accept the contract bids. The motion was seconded by Dr. W. Otis Duck and passed without opposition.

The board considered a number of

other measures, but took no other action at the Monday night session. In other topics discussed at the hear, the aldermen agreed to meet with members of the town zoning board prior to their next meeting on April 1. Dr. Reese Steen of the zoning board asked for the meeting to get the aldermen's suggestions regarding re-writing of the town's zoning ordinances.

The board also shelved a proposal

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Commissioners Award \$8,000 To Team Madison

By ROBERT KOENIG

The Madison County Commissioners have given \$8,000 to Team Madison '85, a group of 26 Madison High School basketball players who will represent the county in European competition this summer.

Minutes of the county commissioners' February 4 meeting indicate the appropriation was made at the meeting on a motion made by Ervin Adams and seconded by Virginia Anderson.

This reporter, who attended the Feb. 4 session, has no record of the matter being discussed during the public session. The News Record first learned of the appropriation during a Feb. 26 check of the county's General Fund ledger. According to those records, a check in the amount of \$8,000 was written to Team Madison

'85 on January 31, 1985, four days before the appropriation was approved.

Questioned as to why the check was dated earlier than the vote to appropriate the funds, county finance officer David Caldwell said that the check was written on Feb. 4, but dated on Jan. 31 because the county's records for the month had not been closed out on Feb. 4.

The county commissioners approved the minutes of the Feb. 4 meeting at Monday's session without a reading of the record of the meeting. The commissioners routinely dispense with the reading of the previous month's minutes.

The record of the meeting, which was approved on Monday, referred to the appropriation as Item XII on the agenda. The minutes of the meeting

state:

"Commissioner Ervin Adams reported that the Madison High School girls' basketball team was still raising money toward the Europe trip. Commissioner Adams stated that he would like to see the county make a contribution toward this event.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ervin Adams, seconded by Commissioner Virginia H. Anderson, to contribute to Team Madison '85 in care of Madison High School \$8,000 and to amend the county budget. Said motion passed unanimously."

The minutes, signed by both David Caldwell and James T. Ledford, were approved Monday on a motion made by Adams.

The commissioner defended the expenditure during Monday's

meeting. Commission chairman James Ledford said, "I've gotten a lot of calls on this. I think we have to support the athletic programs. I was hoping the Board of Education would be able to provide assistance to the athletic department." Ledford asked for a statement from the county Board of Education on funds given to athletics in the schools.

Commission Virginia Anderson said, "I think it's a great honor for the school. I personally donated to it. To me, it's a privilege to be asked to participate."

Anderson also suggested that the commissioners consider providing matching funds for athletics in the schools separate from that provide in the school board's budget.

Grandview Road Redefined (Again)

By ROBERT KOENIG

With the wisdom of Solomon and a little help from the North Carolina Dept. of Transportation, the Madison County Board of Commissioners resolved the continuing controversy surrounding the naming of Grandview Rd. in the Alexander section of the county.

The county commissioners conducted a third public hearing on the matter Monday afternoon prior to their regular monthly session.

The controversy stemmed from a Postal Service plan to provide names for all roads on rural delivery routes. Early in 1984, the commissioners named State Road 1568 Grandview Rd. and designated State Rd. 1591 as

'North Grandview Rd.'

This first naming brought complaints from some residents and at a January hearing, the commissioners approved a second plan to re-designate State Road numbers rather than change the name of the portion of road their first order created. That January change brought further protests from area residents who had alternatively lived on what was designated as Almon Branch, Upper Panhandle Rd. and North Grandview Rd.

Both sides in the dispute were brought together for Monday's hearing. After hearing from both factions, the commissions adjourned into executive session and emerged

with a plan to satisfy both sides.

The commissioners approved a resolution designating all of State Road 1568 and 1591 as Grandview Rd. The resolution also calls for a portion of SR 1592, which links SR 1591 and 1568, to be redesignated as State Road 1591.

County attorney Larry Leake, who has handled negotiation with both groups, asked if the resolution met with everyone approval, and not a dissenting voice was heard.

In other business, the commissioners approved a resolution removing posted signs from the wall of the county court house. The posted signs will be kept in the office of the Madison County Register of Deeds.

The board also heard from Bob Gonia of the Tennessee Valley Authority regarding the Special Opportunities - Counties (SOC) program operated by TVA. Gonia explained that the SOC program provides financial assistance to the 50 poorest counties served by the TVA. The assistance, in the form of loans or grants, are used to bring new industry into an area or help existing businesses expand their operations.

Funding from the SOC program is currently being used in the county to develop a new mushroom industry in the Spring Creek section.

Gonia explained that the SOC does not make grants or loans directly to

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Marshall Landmark To Receive Unique Facelift

By ROBERT KOENIG

One of Marshall's oldest landmarks will be receiving a facelift in the next few weeks. The Carolina Glove Co., owners of the former Capitola Mill, have announced a refurbishing program that will give the 83-year old mill a fresh face.

Marshall Fisher, plant manager of the plant, has hired Sheldon Greene to repaint the building's exterior. Greene is bringing a different approach to the project.

Instead of painting the entire side of the building a battleship grey as

was first planned, Greene is restoring windows to the structure with his paintbrushes.

The windows of the mill were bricked up years ago, but Greene will paint windows over the cinder blocks to create an interesting effect. In the windows, Greene is busy painting seven-foot tall portraits of people who were part of the building's long history. The figures will be clearly visible from across the river.

The French Broad Electric Membership Cooperative has assisted in restoring the old building's facade. FBEMC is currently building a hydroelectric dam adjacent to the plant. FBEMC crews sandblasted the hand made brick to remove decades of dirt.

The unique paint job was first suggested to Fisher by Richard Kingston, the Marshall harpsichord maker who has spearheaded downtown renovation efforts.

Kingston suggested the different approach to Fisher when he learned of the plan to repaint the building. When Kingston brought Greene in, the Marshall native suggested the idea of people in the planned windows.

A similar approach to renovation has been used in New York with abandoned apartments in the South Bronx.

Greene, who operates the Sign Co. in Asheville, is working with a two-man crew on the project. Since work first began last Thursday, Greene reports, volunteers have come forward with offers to assist in the paint job. Work is expected to be completed about April 1.

Marshall Fisher said that restoring old buildings is a part of his company's philosophy. "The company's owners have many old buildings, and many of them have been restored. We're glad to help Marshall improve its downtown and we hope this project will stir other businesses to make improvements."

"So many buildings in Marshall and Mars Hill could do something like this. Revitalization is really just a matter of sprucing things up," Fisher added that the company plans to create a picnic area along the river adjacent to the plant when work on the dam project is completed.

Carolina Glove Co. has operated the Marshall plant for seven years, Fisher said. The plant presently employs approximately 100 workers.

Fisher said the painting plans call for windows to be painted on the structure's two bottom floors. A black band with 'Carolina Glove Co.' in white letters will occupy the top floor.

In the windows, visitors will be able to see people who first operated

the mill when it was opened shortly after the turn of the century. In some windows, women will be seen operating the mills. A foreman will be seen checking figures and in a second story window, the mill's manager will be seen with his feet on a desk. At

another ground floor window, two children will peer in to see the work being done.

Greene said the seven-foot tall figures will be clearly visible from Back Street and the bridge. Greene is



SHELDON GREENE, left, points out plans for renovating Carolina Glove Co. plant to plant manager Marshall Fisher as Marshall aldermen Jimmy Lunsford and John Dodson, Richard Kingston and Bob Thompson look on.



GREENE and assistant Everette Johnson, right, apply paint to the former Capitola Mill plant.