

# THE NEWS RECORD

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Ebbs Chapel Sing

Ebbs Chapel Volunteer Fire Dept. will sponsor a gospel singing this afternoon (Wednesday) at 2 o'clock at Upper Laurel Community Center. Special singers will include the Kingsmen. Food and other refreshments will be served. Lawn chairs should be brought.

### American Legion

American Legion Post 317's meeting has been postponed until August.

### Child-Find

A child-find program will be held today from 1 to 7 p.m. at Upper Laurel Day Care Center.

### Annual Rodeo

The Marshall Volunteer Fire Dept. reminds people of the area about the annual Rodeo, to be held today and tomorrow, July 3 and 4, on the Island at Marshall. Features will include calf-roping, saddle bronc riding, barrel racing and bull-riding, and a fireworks display will be included.

### Delbert and Silver Reunion

The George Delbert and Sudie Silver family reunion will be held July 7 at 11 a.m. in the Mars Hill Elementary School cafeteria. All friends and relatives are invited.

## Mars Hill Library Hosts 3rd Forum On Peace, Patriotism

By PAULINE CHEEK

The Mars Hill Town Library on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock will again be the scene of a lively discussion of issues related to peacemaking and patriotism.

To stimulate audience participation, Rev. Marie Bean, campus minister for Mars Hill College, will focus on the church and peacemaking and will report on her trip last year to Nicaragua.

The public is urged to attend the event, which is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library and the North Carolina Humanities Committee.

Sunday's forum is the third in a series designed as part of a statewide consideration of Church, State and the First Amendment. In February 1986 there will be a symposium on the subject sponsored by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to which representatives from each county will be invited. Anyone interested in further information or in attending may leave name and address at one of the county's branch libraries.

Dr. Gene Rainey, chairman of the political science department at the University of North Carolina at Asheville, introduced the Mars Hill series with an overview titled "Politics, Religion and International Affairs." The current electronic religion, he said, is not a substitute for the mainline church but a supplement to it. Calling attention to the fact that development of the present "religion of the heart" has coincided with the emergence of a new type of civil religion and a resurgence of the will to use force in foreign affairs, Rainey said "we have polarized on moral issues. Liberation theology, which asks 'who makes the poor?' confronts the U.S. with two issues: whether religion can solve the problems of the world and whether we can bring peace to the world when we do not have peace within ourselves."

Dr. William Latimer, professor of political science at Western Carolina University, led the second Mars Hill forum. Identifying himself as a hawk, he accused the U.S. of having a "self-interest" and of needing to recover its will-power. The government has a moral imperative to intervene, Latimer said, that requires the use of force. He said that the Vietnam war was a mistake and that the current situation in the Middle East is a result of the Vietnam war.

policy, can do in manipulating public opinion.

In the mid-1960s, Latimer asserted, the U.S. enjoyed a superiority that would enable it to make the first strike, but it has now lost that advantage.

"Peace idiots who travel" and other "useful idiots," he maintained, are conducting a "disinformation campaign" and constitute a threat from within.

During the ensuing discussion, the dominant view expressed was that the question is not military but moral.

Among participants were some hikers on the Appalachian Trail who happened to be passing through the area and came to the library as a way of finding out about local people.

## Mars Hill Plans \$1,200 Fireworks

At dark on July 4th, the Mars Hill Lions Club plans to display \$1,200 worth of fireworks—largest such display the club has ever had.

The fireworks display will be the culmination of the club's celebration of the holiday starting at 6 p.m. on the 4th with hot dogs, hamburgers and barbecued chicken.

## GOP Gets Control Of Board

As part of a move by the State Board of Elections to place Republicans majorities on the 100 county boards, Madison County will have a new Board of Elections effective July 16.

Republicans on the new board will be William P. Powell of Mars Hill and Gregory Alan Sprinkle of Marshall. The Democrat on the board will be Tom H. Ponder Jr. of Marshall.

# THE NEWS RECORD

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Relaxing Saturday after acquittal Friday, Jim Adams and his family were off to see friends in Bluff.

## Jury Finds Jim Adams Not Guilty

By ELIZABETH SQUIRE

A Madison County jury Friday found James Arthur Adams innocent of first-degree murder and common-law obstruction of the justice in the 1970 death of Nancy Morgan.

Adams planned to delay his return to his home in Venice, Fla., and spend most of this week visiting with friends in the Bluff area, where he was a Vista volunteer — and became a murder suspect — 15 years ago. Without those friends, Adams said after his acquittal, preparations for his trial and the trial itself would have been "totally unbearable."

Adams had been charged last year with the 1970 murder of Morgan, a fellow Vista volunteer whose nude body was found hog-tied with parachute cord in such a way that she strangled. The body was found on Wednesday, June 17, 1970, in the back seat of Morgan's car, abandoned in a wood road off U. S. 25-70 at Tanyard Gap. Adams was also charged with common-law obstruction of justice, a charge arising from the alleged removal of the body from the scene of the crime.

When the prosecution rested on Wednesday, the third day of the trial, Judge Robert D. Lewis agreed to drop a charge of common-law rape. Adams' attorney, Joe Huff, petitioned the judge on the grounds that District Attorney Tom Rusher had not presented evidence that rape occurred.

Members of the jury said after the verdict that they did not find sufficient evidence to convict Adams of any of the charges.

"It seems at times that Johnny Waldroup, not Jim Adams, was on trial here," said Asst. District Attorney James Baker toward the end of the trial. Witnesses for both the prosecution and the defense said that Waldroup had a reputation for not telling the truth. Yet much of the trial testimony concerned the truth or untruth of Waldroup's eyewitness account of the murder. The prosecution asked the jury to believe that account.

The defense based part of its case on the truth of Waldroup's reported charges that someone was trying to make him "swear a bunch of lies — and send my soul to hell."

The time of Nancy Morgan's death, either the night of June 14-15, 1970, as alleged by Waldroup, or after Tuesday, June 16, when defense witnesses said they saw her alive, was a major element in the testimony.

Waldroup's account of the crime was not made to Sheriff E. Y. Ponder until December 1983, the sheriff testified.

But Waldroup came to Mrs. Horace Shuteley the afternoon after Morgan's body was found on Wednesday morning. Mrs. Shuteley said Waldroup, a cousin, was "upset, almost crazy" because he'd seen the killing of a girl through a window at Adams' house, she testified. She told special agent Charles Chambers at the time.

Chambers testified that he first talked to Waldroup, who said in 1970 that he was "running his mouth" and had said more than he really knew. At about the time of the original in-

terview, met Waldroup at a skating rink, O'Dell said. Waldroup told him someone was trying to accuse him of a murder in North Carolina, "trying to pack it on him," O'Dell said. Waldroup told O'Dell of having looked in a window and seen a tied body on a couch, then how "they" forced him to drive one car to take the body to the top of a mountain, O'Dell said.

Warren Gillespie of Alexander testified that "maybe two years ago," Waldroup called Gillespie from jail and told him something was "eating him up." Gillespie visited Waldroup, who said he had seen the woman tied up, saw her move, went in to cut her loose, and someone had smashed his nose. Adams and another man were there, and they had forced him to take part as two cars were driven to a place where the body was left in a little-used road. Waldroup said Adams had thrown something into the woods, then left. Gillespie testified. Adams was afraid to tell because nobody would believe him, Gillespie said. He had advised Waldroup to tell and get it off his conscience, Gillespie said.

Sheriff Ponder said that in December 1983 Waldroup told him about seeing the body and being made to help dispose of it. The sheriff reported further details, for example, that Waldroup said that Cleatis Waldroup, Johnny's brother, and a friend, Ralph had told Johnny at about 11:30 on Sunday evening, June 14, that there was a party going on at Adams' house. The sheriff also said

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## County Phones Knocked Out

Because of a construction mishap in Mars Hill, all local phone service in Mars Hill and Marshall plus all long distance service in Madison County were knocked out from Wednesday evening until late Thursday afternoon.

"It was a mess," said Tom Doyle, state service manager for Continental Telephone, who warned that continued repair work over the next several days "could possibly, on occasion, result" in an interruption for individual customers for short periods. "We thank our customers for their patience and understandings," said Doyle.

Doyle said the problem was caused when Cooper Construction Co. of Hendersonville, contractor for the Mars Hill municipal sewer project, "cut Continental Telephone Co.'s underground duct system" at the corner of South Main Street and Route 213 in Mars Hill. The duct system, he added, contained the fiber optic local service facility for Mars Hill and Marshall, the long distance cable connecting Madison County with the rest of the world, and a 300-pair local Mars Hill service cable. Local service continued to operate in Hot Springs and Guntertown, Doyle said.

Another Continental official estimated the cost of repairs at \$30,000 to \$35,000 and said Cooper Construction would be billed for it.

The phone service interruption brought many headaches to fire, police and ambulance services around the county and played a role in a major murder trial underway last week at the Madison County courthouse (see other story, this issue).

A defense attorney, Joseph Huff of Marshall, said the phone interruption kept him from making calls toward the end of the trial of James A. Adams on a charge of murdering Vista worker Nancy Morgan in 1970. Huff said he had wanted to summon several more witnesses but could not because of the phone problem. Adams was acquitted.

Continental crews were called in from the company's eastern five-county service area after the underground duct service was severed at about 8:45 p.m. Wednesday. Long distance service was restored by 10:45 Thursday morning (but, of course, required a dial tone local customers weren't able to get); local and toll service for Marshall customers and those Mars Hill customers not served by the local 300-pair cable were back by 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon, with all customers back working by 4:30 that afternoon.

The mishap affected long-distance

service for 666 phones in Hot Springs and 472 in Guntertown, along with all service for 2,544 customers in Mars Hill and 1,671 customers in Marshall.

## Bar Group Opposes Court Idea

The Madison County Bar Assn. on Monday unanimously opposed a plan being discussed in judicial circles whereby Madison would be withdrawn from the 24th Judicial District and joined with Buncombe County in the 28th District.

Members of the bar group, the resolution states, "feel that no good purpose or advantage would be served by this proposal," and that the present district alignment "has served the people of Madison County and the cause of justice well."

Madison County is now joined in a single district with four similarly-sized counties — Yancey, Mitchell, Avery and Watauga.

Any change in the districting would have to be made by the General Assembly. Combining Madison and Buncombe into a single district apparently has some support from legislative leaders.

The county bar association's resolution, sent to the General Assembly to say the group "strongly opposes" the change, was signed by Charles E. Mashburn, president of the bar group, and Stephen E. Huff, its secretary.

## Child Hurt By Car

Jesse Moore, 3, who was badly injured two weeks ago when he was struck by a car on Bear Creek Road, was reportedly improving this week at Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville.

The child, a grandson of Floyd Moore of Bear Creek, was struck by a car driven by Robert A. Lee. Highway patrol troopers investigated but made no arrest.

Ambulance service personnel report that a call about the accident indicated it occurred in the Walnut Creek area, but the ambulance was unable to locate the child. The child was taken in the car to the Marshall Town Hall, from whence the car was directed to the Marshall-Walnut clinic. When the ambulance arrived there, medical personnel at the clinic had stabilized the child's condition, and a doctor on the clinic staff accompanied the ambulance to the hospital.

Injuries included a skull fracture and wounds on the left side of the child's body, as well as internal injuries.

## Nagle Joins News Record As Ad Rep.

Wayne Nagle of Walnut, a transplanted Floridian and native Pennsylvanian, has joined The News Record as an advertising representative.

Nagle, who has been in the printing business since 1956, retired two years ago as general manager for Drummond Business Forms in Jacksonville, Fla.

By then, he had met Rev. Sam Haupt, a Jacksonville pastor who has a place on Upper Bush Creek, and accepted the owner's invitation to visit the county first of several such visits.

And when the time came to make arrangements for the sale of the News Record, Nagle was in Jacksonville.

Before located in Jacksonville, he

## County OKs 5¢ Tax Hike

The Madison County Board of Commissioners gave final approval Friday to the county's 1985-86 budget, which calls for a 5-cent tax increase to 90 cents per \$100 of valuation.

Total expenditures planned by the county for the upcoming year total \$7,533,481, of which \$1,764,000 will be raised by local property taxes and \$5,769,481 from other sources.

Earlier in the month, the commissioners gave tentative approval to a tax increase; county finance officer David Caldwell then prepared an itemized budget that was unveiled at a public hearing on June 10. The commissioners' action Friday placed the final stamp on the new budget and tax rate.

The Board of Commissioners, at its regular monthly meeting Monday afternoon, reappointed Paul Burwell, personnel manager of Micro-Sys, Inc., and Paula Davis, director of the county's Department of Social Services, to serve new terms on the Land of the Sky Regional Council's Private Industry Council.

The commissioners also received word that a \$100,000 loan from the Tennessee Valley Authority is expected to be received by the county. The loan is for the purchase of industrial park land near up-

funds available in support of other industries.

The board also received a report Monday from the Madison County ambulance service that it made 88 ambulance runs in June, down from 97 runs in May; and that total billings in June were \$4,054 and total collections \$4,541.53, of which \$385.20 represented delinquent accounts.

## Daycamps Set Summer Fun

Any Madison County youth or adult is invited to one of four 4-H Summer Fun Day camps on July 9-12, starting each day at 10 a.m.

Activities include a hike, crafts, games, and other fun activities, including and nutrition information.

Locations:

—Thursday, July 9, intersection of Walnut and Marshall.

—Friday, July 10, Upper Bush Creek.

—Saturday, July 11, Upper Bush Creek.

—Sunday, July 12, Upper Bush Creek.