

MADISON COUNTY LIBRARY
GENERAL DELIVERY
MARSHALL, NC 28753

Community Calendar

Marshbanks Family Reunion

The Marshbanks family reunion will be held on Oct. 13 at 3 p.m. in the lunchroom of Mars Hill Elementary School. All family and friends are invited to attend.

Alzheimer Group To Meet

The Alzheimer Support Group will meet on Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. in the Senior Citizens Center on Long Branch Rd. in Marshall.

Marshall Board Meets Monday

The Marshall Board of Aldermen will meet on Oct. 14 at 7:30 p.m. in Town Hall.

Countywide Toll-Free Service Is Approved

Madison County telephone customers will no longer have to pay long distance toll charges to call their neighbors beginning next spring. The North Carolina Utilities Commission has approved county-wide extended area service in an order dated July 26.

The order means that Marshall-area callers will be able to call neighbors in Hot Springs or Mars Hill at no extra charge.

The Utilities Commission ruling also authorizes Continental Telephone of N.C. to raise its monthly charges to residential and business customers. The announced increases are minimal however, ranging from \$2.35 per month for a trunk business line to 35 cents for a private residential line.

Approval of countywide toll-free service marks the end of a campaign by members of county community development clubs to obtain the service.

Toll-free service will be introduced in Madison County in early 1986, after completion of improvements to the Contel system in Hot Springs and Guntertown. Contel vice president Turner Rogers said that conversions to digital switching equipment in the two exchanges is scheduled for February of next year. Toll-free service will begin following completion of the conversion project, sometime before March 31, 1986.

Five Enter Mars Hill Race

Five previously indecided candidates entered the race for the Mars Hill Board of Aldermen last week. The candidates received a second chance when the filing period for the race was reopened following the resignation of aldermen Franklin Anderson.

Anderson resigned on Sept. 30 in order to accept an appointment to the Madison County Board of Education.

He had been unopposed in the Nov. 5 municipal election.

The filing period was reopened for five days last week. During the extra filing period, Grady Worley, Alvin Slagle, William E. Powell III, Augusta Jenkins and Worth Booth entered the race. The five join incumbents Arthur Wood and John L. Chandler in the race for the three seats on the town board.

12 File For Weaverville Council

The filing period for candidates in Weaverville's November 5 municipal elections closed last Friday with several late entries.

In the mayoral race, councilman Marshall J. "Buster" West will face Reese Lasher. In the race for the Town Council, there will be more losers than winners as 12 candidates

filed for the five posts on the board. Incumbents Glenn P. Brank, Kathleen Young, Harold E. Payne and L.A. Weaver are being challenged by Mary Trexler, David E. Bell, Henry Dendy, Bernard Koester, David Lankford, F. Denver Redmond, Millard L. Galloway and Katherine McLean.

Wreck Kills Tenn. Man

A 22-year old Tennessee man was killed Sunday morning in a single-car accident on U.S. 23 five miles north of Mars Hill. Police report that Randall Scott Allan of Johnson City died at 2:15 a.m. when he was thrown from the 1977 Datsun he was driving at the time.

It appeared that Allan was driving about 45 m.p.h. when he lost control of the car. The car flipped over, skidding some 116 feet to a stop across the road. Allan was not wearing a seat belt at the time of the crash, police said.

Unemployment Declines

Statewide unemployment declined in September, according to figures released last week by the North Carolina Employment Security Commission. The state's unemployment rate placed North Carolina among the 10 lowest at 6.2 percent.

down from August's reading of 6.5 percent. Nationally, unemployment stood at 7.1 percent during the month. July unemployment, with a rate of 7.8 percent, was lower among the 10 lowest states.

Marshall's Voting Records Examined

By ROBERT KOENIG

Concern for the state of Marshall's voter registration records prompted Marshall Mayor Betty Wild to call a special meeting of the town's Board of Aldermen last week. The board members and about 30 interested Marshall residents met with Marshall attorney Richard Miller on Wednesday night at Town Hall.

Miller advised the board members regarding the procedures for challenging voters after speaking by telephone with Alex Brock, chairman of the state Board of Elections.

One of the central questions Miller answered centered on the right of Marshall property owners to participate in the election. Miller said that the state election laws create a problem in municipal elections because of vague wording.

Miller cited the case of a teacher as an example. He said that if a teacher, or any other worker, was required to be away from Marshall for an extended period of time, he may be able to vote in the Nov. 5 municipal elections if he or she still maintains a home in Marshall or asserts plans to return to Marshall. Each voter in such a situation must be considered as a separate case, however, Miller warned.

"If you use your common sense, you can decide if people should be allowed to vote. That's why it's left up to the town's people and not lawyers and judges," Miller said. A final decision on each challenge must be made by the town's board of elections.

Challenges must have been entered prior to Monday to be considered before the Nov. 5 election, Miller said. Challenges can also be made at the polls on Election Day, however. Any such Election Day challenges will have to be considered on Nov. 5. Voters challenged at the polls will be issued a challenge ballot, which will then be sealed and identified. The ballot will be opened only if the challenge is overturned by the election judges or board of elections.

The town's voting records are duplicate copies of records maintained by the Madison County Board of Elections. Sharon Ray Lewis of the county board told the Marshall hearing, "There's a lot of dead wood on your books. The county has a lot of dead wood on its book, too: That's why we purge the rolls every four years. I'm sure there are still dead people on the rolls. They haven't been taken off the rolls because we haven't received a death certificate."

Mayor Wild cited an example of dead wood, saying that her daughter, Margaret, was still listed in the town books although she does not live in Marshall and has no intentions of returning to Marshall to live. The mayor added that she would have the name stricken from the rolls.

Miller cautioned against attempts to vote illegally, saying, "It's easier to grow marijuana in your back yard than to get away with voter fraud these days. There's a U.S. Attorney in Asheville who takes a dim view of

election fraud...The more noise we make, the more Mr. Brewer is going to look at us."

Miller told the hearing, "This shouldn't be a witch hunt. It should be done to protect people's right to a fair election."

The Marshall attorney recommended sending letters to any voter to be challenged, spelling out the grounds for the challenge. He said that letters returned as undeliverable by the U.S. Postal Service would

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Mayor Wild Challenges 61 Voters

By ROBERT KOENIG

Marshall Mayor Betty J. Wild has challenged the right to vote of some 61 people whose names appear in the town's polling records. The mayor challenged the voters after inspecting the town's polling book last week.

The challenges will have to be considered by the town Board of Elections. The challenges were made because, the mayor claims, the voters in question reside outside the town's corporate limits.

Letters informing the voters to be challenged were sent by mail on Friday afternoon. If the voters' letters are returned, the returned notice of challenge will be considered as prima facie evidence that the voter in ques-

tion no longer resides in town, according to Marshall attorney Richard Miller.

The town's Board of Elections must hold a hearing on the challenges within ten days. At that time, a decision will be made on whether or not the challenged voters will be allowed to vote in the Nov. 5 municipal elections.

Those voters challenged by Mrs. Wild include: Darrell Parris, James Knox Brigman, John Knox Brigman, Lane Ogle, Othella Ogle, Roland Simmons, Marie Simmons, Debbie Ann Kanarr, Bernie P. Kanarr, David W. Kanarr, Ralph D. Davis, Susan D. Davis, Pat F. Caldwell, Ralph E.

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Mars Hill May Face Lawsuit Over Spillway

By ROBERT KOENIG

Mars Hill aldermen held a lengthy meeting Monday night at which they discussed improvements to town streets, an impending lawsuit and problems with the continuing sewer project. The aldermen also heard from two developers seeking to build apartment housing.

Prior to the monthly meeting, the board held a public hearing with officials of the N.C. Dept. of Transportation. Transportation board member Ted Smith of Swannanoa told the aldermen that Mars Hill will receive some \$55,000 in repair work from the Dept. of Transportation.

Funding for the improvements will be provided by the state's Small Urban Fund for road improvements. The work will be performed by DOT crews within the town limits.

Improvements scheduled include extending the turning lane into town at the junction of Hwy. 213 and U.S. 19-23 and extension of a turning lane on Big Branch Rd. at the entrance to the Ingles Shopping Center.

Smith and the aldermen also discussed proposed improvements to Forest Street. The town recently took control of the street from the state. Mayor Dr. W.O. Duck said the town will begin paving a portion of Forest Street by using a portion of the town's Powell Bill funds.

The town will begin the project with an eye toward having the state resume responsibility for the road. Smith suggested that Mars Hill begin improvements to the street and obtain the necessary rights-of-way to meet state specifications.

Smith also suggested that Mars Hill could make better use of its limited Powell Bill funds by joining into a reimbursable agreement with DOT. By allowing DOT to let out paving projects for bid, Smith said, the town could receive a lower price from contractors. The Mars Hill projects would then be included in large paving contracts DOT awards each year.

Following the hearing on road improvements, the aldermen held their regular business session. The board

had been expected to appoint a replacement for former board member Franklin Anderson, who resigned last week to accept a position on the Madison County Board of Education.

Dr. Duck explained that the remaining two board members had decided that the appointment of a replacement to fill out the remaining two months of the term was unnecessary. Duck said the decision was made after consulting with Alex Brock, chairman of the state Board of Elections.

Duck told the meeting, "We do not feel it would be equitable to appoint someone who was not running for the office. On the other hand, it wouldn't be right to select one of the five candidates for the empty seat."

Town manager Dahryl Boone gave details of the town's continuing conflict with the N.C. Dept. of Natural Resources and Community Development (NRCD.)

Boone said that the town will soon be faced with a lawsuit if steps aren't

taken on the town's dam and spillway. NRCD officials contend that the spillway is unsafe and have been pressuring Mars Hill officials to make repairs. Costs of repairing the dam to meet NRCD requirements is estimated at \$300,000.

The town manager said that the case has been sent on to the Attorney General for action. Boone said that NRCD officials have indicated that a lawsuit will be filed if an engineering study on the spillway is not completed by December. He added that the town has filed a request for an urgent needs Community Development Block Grant to fund the repairs. The block grant application asks for \$300,000.

The aldermen approved hiring an engineer to begin the study of the project. Funds appropriated for water by the General Assembly in 1978 will be used to pay a portion of the estimated \$21,000 cost of the engineering study.

The aldermen also gave their approval to a proposed amendment to

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Mark Cody Receives Farming Award



MARK CODY, center, was presented with the Young Farmer of the Year semifinalist award during ceremonies held in Raleigh last week. Dr. Larry Sykes of Philip Morris, USA, left, and Madison County extension chairman Earl Wian, right, presented the award to Cody.

Mark Cody of Marshall has been honored in Raleigh as one of the regional winners and state semifinalists in the Outstanding Young Tobacco Farmer awards program. Cody received a cash award and a plaque Sept. 28 in ceremonies at the N. C. State Faculty Club.

Cody, 26, was one of 12 North Carolina farmers honored at the special recognition dinner on the North Carolina State University campus. He will be eligible to receive the state outstanding young grower award to be presented in November.

The awards program recognizes exceptional achievements in agriculture and community leadership. It is conducted by the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service. Philip Morris U. S. A. sponsors the program in all the cured and burley tobacco producing states.

On hand to honor the select farmers in Raleigh were Dr. Larry Sykes, director of agricultural programs for Philip Morris; Jim Burns, senior agricultural analyst for the company; and Dr. R. C. Wells, associate director of the Agricultural Extension Service.

Recognized with Cody was Wiley DuVall, extension agent who has tobacco program responsibilities in Madison County.

Cody, a repeat nominee in the awards program, grows tomatoes, Christmas trees and ornamentals in addition to burley tobacco. He is a director of the NCSEA Agricultural Foundation and a member of the county Agricultural Extension Advisory Board. He also serves on the Tobacco Growers Association. Cody is married to the former Pamela Norris and they have one child.