

Inspector Cites Poor Maintenance At Recreation Center

—Story On P.10

Community Calendar

Pool Hours To Change

The Marshall Recreation Center swimming pool will be open from 3:30 until 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays beginning on Aug. 19.

Democrats Plan Aug. 30 Breakfast

The Madison County Democratic Party is sponsoring a breakfast at Madison H.S. on Aug. 30 from 7:30 until 8:30 a.m.

Republican Party Picnic Planned

The Madison County Republican party picnic will be held August 23 beginning at 5 p.m. at the Old Mill Wheel Cafe.

Youth Soccer Meeting Scheduled

An organizational meeting for the Youth Soccer Program in Madison County is scheduled for 3 p.m. in the student union at Mars Hill College on Thursday, August 14.

Weaverville Council Meets Monday

The Weaverville Town Council meets on Aug. 18 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Ponder-Ramsey Reunion Sunday

The annual Ponder-Ramsey family reunion will be held Sunday at noon at Zenina Lake. Lunch will be catered by Lawrence Ponder and served at 12:30 p.m.

Franklin and Wallin Reunion

The Franklin and Wallin family reunion will be held August 17 beginning at 6 p.m. at Ricker's Cafeteria in Greeneville, Tenn.

Worley Family Reunion Planned

The Worley family reunion will be held August 30 beginning at noon at the home of Raymond and Margaret Wilde on Walnut Creek Road.



MADISON COUNTY FARMERS RECEIVED some 42 tons of donated hay from Kentucky last week. Truckload of the donated feed was distributed Friday afternoon in Marshall to more than 20 local farmers.

Drought Not Drying Marijuana Crop

RALEIGH—The drought currently plaguing most North Carolina farmers has had little impact on the state's marijuana growers according to the director of the State Bureau of Investigation.

The recent discovery of more than 70,000 marijuana plants in a Transylvania County corn field is an indication that marijuana growing continues despite the dry conditions.

SBI director Robert Morgan reports that most seizures this year have been smaller, well-tended and irrigated plots. Until the big raid in Transylvania County last week, the SBI reported confiscating some 50,000 plants with an estimated street value totalling \$80 million.

Locally, Madison County sheriff's deputies have seized several hundred plants in raids. The largest local seizures have been conducted in the Hot Springs area near the Tennessee border.

The SBI keeps a marijuana spotting plane in the air throughout the growing season. Morgan said that many local law enforcement agencies and National Guard units are also taking to the skies in search of the illicit plants.

"Anytime we can capture drugs before they get on the streets, we save the people of this state a lot of problems," Morgan said. "Most of the marijuana we encounter on the streets in North Carolina has been grown in North Carolina."

Statewide, 50 people have been arrested on charges of manufacturing a controlled substance and related drug charges as a result of SBI seizures.

Morgan announced that rewards of up to \$1,000 are being paid for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons growing marijuana in North Carolina. The amount of the reward is determined by the amount of marijuana confiscated and the significance of information provided by informants.

Testimony Begins In Rios Murder Trial

By ROBERT KOENIG

HENDERSONVILLE—Testimony in the first degree murder trial of Jimmy Dean Rios enters its second week today as the prosecution continues to present its case against the 24-year old Arkansas native.

Rios is charged with murdering State Trooper Bobby Lee Coggins at a scenic overlook near Hot Springs last September 14. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty in the case.

Testimony began last Thursday after attorneys agreed on a jury of six men, six women and two male alternates.

In his opening remarks to the jury, District Attorney Tom Rusher said that much of the evidence against Rios was circumstantial, but that the state would prove that Rios took part in Trooper Coggins' murder.

Earlier this year, a Buncombe County jury found Bray guilty of the Coggins murder. He received a life sentence for the murder and an additional 93 years on lesser charges including breaking, entering and larceny.

During the opening day of testimony, the state called Lee Phillips of Newport, Tenn. as the first witness. Phillips was driving along Hwy. 209 shortly after the shooting and is believed to be the first person to reach Coggins following the fatal shooting.

Phillips told the court he attempted to contact authorities by using the radio in the slain trooper's patrol car. Phillips said he pulled into the overlook after a passenger in his car said he thought he saw blood on the trooper sitting at the wheel.

Phillips said he reached the Highway Patrol dispatcher in Asheville and reported the shooting, but was unable to pinpoint the exact location. Minutes later, Phillips was able to flag down a passing motorist, Roger Purlin of Meadow Fork. Purlin was called to testify on Monday.

Terry told the court that he was on duty in the Mars Hill area at the time the shooting was first reported. He was on his way to meet Coggins to deliver his paycheck to him when troubling reports first came over his radio.

He said that he checked Coggins as soon as he arrived, and believed that he was already dead. Terry also noticed that Coggins' .357 Magnum service revolver was missing. Rios was found to be carrying a .357 Magnum at the time of his capture last Sept. 17th.

On Friday, prosecutors called the state's chief medical examiner, Dr. Paige Hudson, to testify. Hudson told the court that Trooper Coggins was shot three times in the head at close range. Two of the shots were from a .25-caliber handgun and the third shot was delivered by a .357 Magnum.

On Friday, prosecutors called the state's chief medical examiner, Dr. Paige Hudson, to testify. Hudson told the court that Trooper Coggins was shot three times in the head at close range. Two of the shots were from a .25-caliber handgun and the third shot was delivered by a .357 Magnum.

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Fire Inspection Cites Safety Hazards In County Schools

By WILLIAM LEE

A recent report by fire safety inspectors for the state Board of Education has found Madison County schools in serious violation of state and federal fire, safety, and electrical codes.

The violations, first reported last year, have severely limited the insurance coverage provided through the state board of education, and prompted the Madison County Board of Education to begin making necessary repairs.

The repairs and improvements called for run the gamut from servicing and replacing fire extinguishers to removal of flammable or hazardous material from boiler rooms. In some instances complete electrical rewiring is called for.

HOT SPRINGS

1-- Replaster of metal lath in boiler room, and access hole under the building should be sealed with solid masonry.

2-- Install exit signs over each exit. 3-- Rehang all inoperative exit doors and make sure they swing outward rather than inward.

4-- Rewire the electrical wiring in the boiler room to conform to National Electrical Code.

LAUREL SCHOOL

1-- The main distribution panel should be grounded to a cold water pipe.

2-- Replace worn out electrical lines to freezers and ice cream box.

3-- There are several cracks located in the fire wall between the 1951 and 1956 additions, both in the classroom side and lunchroom side. These cracks must be evaluated by a structural engineer to ascertain the integrity of fire wall and load bearing capabilities.

4-- All exit doors hung to swing outward, and exit signs placed over each door.

5-- Electrical service in the Agriculture Building must be grounded to a cold water pipe and to a driven rod.

6-- The main distribution panel in the Ag Bldg. should be reworked so the wiring conforms to National Electrical Code. At the present time the neutral conductor is not run through the same conduit as the hot conductors.

7-- The entire Laurel School Bldg. should be rewired and all wiring must be installed in compliance with the National Electrical Code and placed in conduit.

MADISON HIGH

1-- The emergency stand-by generator is inoperative due to the fuel tank being left empty. Such a vital piece of equipment should be maintained. Installatio of larger underground fuel tank is suggested.

2-- Remove all storage and combustible material from all Mechanical Rooms.

3-- Repair or replace inoperative fire doors between the gymnasium and classroom section.

4-- Install ventilation fan in science labs, and run vent to outside of building.

5-- Remove all storage from the Electrical Equipment Rooms containing the step-down transformers. A severe fire hazard at these locations is noted, due to the extreme amount of heat produced by the transformers.

6-- The shop area is in need of more exitways, with a minimum of two exits per modular.

7-- Non-combustible walls should be installed between the shop modulars.

8-- Repair all inoperative emergency lights connected to the emergency circuit (which is connected to the stand-by generator).

9-- Remove wood-frame storage room from beneath the internal fire stairwell. State law and fire codes prohibit any storage or combustible construction in any internal fire stairwell. All fire stairwells must be airtight and maintain a two-hour fire resistive rating.

10-- Repair the inoperative fire doors at both top and bottom of internal fair stairwell. Replace missing electrical exit lights which have been removed from the interior of stairwell.

MARSHALL PRIMARY

1-- Repair all inoperative exit lights to include AC and DC circuits.

MARS HILL SCHOOL

1-- Repair fire alarm system in cafeteria, inoperative at this time.

2-- Television antennae need to be properly ground and lightning arrester installed.

3-- Repair floor locking device on fire doors in cafeteria. Currently loose, they prevent fire doors from closing.

4-- Clean area beneath main building of all old desks and other combustible material being stored.

5-- Repair all inoperative exit lights. Remove all tables, desks, etc. from exit corridor at front entrance.

6-- Repair all holes in boiler room and seal with solid masonry construction.

7-- Remove door stops from fire doors between Library and classroom section.

8-- Add three more fire extinguishers along corridor so all fire extinguishers are no more than 75 feet apart. Replace inoperative smoke detector and automatic closing device on fire doors between 1978 and 1957 sections.

9-- Repair all inoperative battery emergency lights throughout building. At time of inspection it was noted that the electrical breaker for the emergency panel was off, rendering all battery packs inoperative after approximately two hours.

10-- Remove newly installed bookshelves behind fire doors between Library and classroom section. Fire doors are unable to open far enough for self-closing device to cock in the stand-by position.

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School Personnel Changes Kept To Minimum For 86-87

By WILLIAM LEE

The Madison County Board of Education met at length with its school principals last Wednesday, discussing personnel needs and basic state education guidelines for the upcoming school year.

With projected school enrollment figures down this year over last, the school board kept to a minimum any hiring of new teachers, or teachers' aides. At the end of the first ten-day period of school the board will be able to submit its actual enrollment to the state board of education for changes in its number of teachers for the 1986-87 year.

Only Hot Springs School is losing an instructor for the upcoming year. Allen Stines is being transferred from Hot Springs to Walnut School, where one teacher position was gained.

Elmer Chandler has been transferred from Madison High to Marshall Elementary, to replace Melanie Blankenship as Title I personnel at that school. Blankenship has been transferred to Mars Hill School as an instructor.

At Madison High School, three full-

time and one part-time positions were filled. Joe Walker was hired as machine shop instructor in the vocational education department, while Diane Franklin was hired as a teacher's aide, and Cathy Suttles hired as special education aide. A half-time position was filled by Stewart Jolley.

A teacher's aide position was left open at Marshall Primary for Tina Ricker, should the position become available after the ten-day enrollment figures are submitted to the state.

In other personnel matters, the board approved the appointment of Ruby Stanton as lunchroom manager at Mars Hill School, and accepted the resignation of Kenneth Parker, custodian at Madison High. The resignation of J.D. Wallin, teacher at Madison was also accepted, and Pam Oddy was granted a maternity leave.

The principals were all given copies at the meeting of the state's basic education program by Bobbie Jean Riek, curriculum coordinator for Madison County schools. The booklet offered basic curriculum

guidelines for each of its four grade spans—K-3, 4-6, 7-8 and 9-12—plus other education services, programs and policies that shall be placed in effect in the 1987-88 school year.

The school board also approved its insurance policy for the upcoming year on its schools and other buildings. The insurance, provided through the state board of education's controller's office, covers all school board property for a total of \$16,970,818. The premium will cost \$9,811 per year.

The policy was based on a fire and safety report conducted in April that found a number of fire and safety violations in the county schools (See separate story on school fire and safety violations).

The policy allowed for only nine buildings to be insured at replacement value, all others at cash value or an assigned value by the state. The board turned down a lesser policy that would have insured all the buildings at only cash or assigned value for a total of \$18,000,000 a premium of \$4,200 per year.

Board member Gerald Young, in

making the motion that the board accept the more extensive coverage, said the premium difference was negligible in light of the added coverage to those nine buildings.

The nine buildings the state is willing to cover in full, at replacement cost, are: the Hot Springs classroom and cafeteria building; the Hot Springs gymnasium; the Laurel School classroom building; Madison High School; the Madison High greenhouse; the building at Mars Hill School which formerly housed its junior high classes; Marshall Elementary's classroom building; Marshall Primary School; and the Spring Creek cafeteria building.

In other business, the school board accepted the bid submitted by Pet Foods and Biltmore Dairy for its lunchroom dairy products for the upcoming year. Only Pet-Biltmore and Coble Dairy submitted bids.

Lunch program supervisor Debbie Pender also submitted price changes for school meals this year. The price changes were approved by the board.

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