

# THE YANCEY JOURNAL

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## Only One-Third Voter Turnout For Yancey Primary Election

Approximately one-third of the registered voters in Yancey County turned out to vote in Saturday's primary election.

Yancey County Democrats gave former North Carolina Governor Terry Sanford 1146 votes, over Alabama Governor

George Wallace's 586. Senator Edmund Muskie received 103 votes; Sen. Henry Jackson, 34; and Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, 27. Yancey Republicans gave President Richard Nixon 600 votes and Sen. Paul McCloskey 9 votes.

In the Democratic Senatorial race, Senator Everett Jordan carried the county with 939

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### From The Editors Desk

By Carolyn Yuziuk

In the Democratic Primary, May 6, Yancey Countians gave their vote of confidence to the incumbent members of the Board of Education. Some did this directly by voting for the present School Board; some did it indirectly by not coming to the polls to vote. An estimated 66% of the registered voters in Yancey County did not vote at all in this very important Primary election.

Nomination of any one candidate--or even two--from the incumbent school board would have signified, perhaps, that these particular persons had done an outstanding job for the schools in Yancey County. Voting in of the whole Board has a much more ominous significance. It shows that Yancey Countians are afraid of change, are against progress, and are satisfied with a school board which--as a whole--has shown itself to be extremely reluctant to make decisions or take decisive action for the betterment of schools in this county. An example of this is the Burnsville Elementary School situation which deteriorated to a point where the school would not be allowed to open, before the Board finally saw fit to attend to the most basic housing needs of the students. And how many other schools in Yancey County are still operating under the most primitive conditions?

The apathy of many Yancey Countians regarding education is apparent--as is their ignorance of what sees our school system apart from other school systems throughout North Carolina.

In future issues of The Yancey Journal we will print statistics and facts, relative to our schools here in Yancey County, which are mostly shocking and unpleasant. Our purpose will be to try to get across to the people of Yancey County the urgent need for change and progress in our schools and the vital responsibility each parent must feel to work for better education for our children.

In addition, we will attempt to publish statements from each candidate for the Yancey County Board of Education so that voters in November will know exactly what the intentions of these men are--who will hold in their hands the future of education in Yancey County.

## Festival Planned

Something will be cooking in Burnsville on May 13--and the aroma may last longer than some people would care to have it around.

The Yancey County Jaycees are planning a Ramp Festival Saturday from 10:00 'till 8:00 in the lot below Banks Gulf Station.

The Jaycees have 12 bushels of the odoriferous mountain vegetable and will provide everything to go with the ramp--including country music and combread.

The menu will consist of baked bean, combread, potatoes, coffee, tea, and Pepsi. Music will be provided by local country and western groups and will begin around noon.

Everyone is invited to attend the Ramp Festival--at your own risk. The Jaycees will not be responsible for consequences suffered by anyone who partakes of the ramps.



Mayor Jim Anglin and Mrs. Ernest Briggs Launch Clean Sweep Campaign

## Forty Dumpsters Arrive For Yancey; To Reach Dump Locations By May 19

Last week a total of eighty dumpsters arrived for Mitchell and Yancey counties. Forty of these dumpsters will be placed in Yancey County and forty will be placed in Mitchell County. These dumpsters will be serviced twice weekly by a collection truck with a twenty-five cubic yard packer bed. This truck arrived on Monday, May 8th and is now in the process of being tagged and insured. The dumpsters will be placed in the counties by May 19, 1972 and

located at sites so as to serve the maximum number of houses with the number we now have.

This action is part of a federal program designed to improve solid waste collection and disposal in a six-county area. The dumpster program is financed in the amount of 80% federal funds and only 20% local matching funds. It is felt that it is a great step forward in cleaning up our streams, roadsides and back yards.

When these dumpsters are

set there will no longer be any reason for any person to dump along the roadside or in our streams. Everyone is offered four methods of refuse and garbage disposal. They are: use of collection service through a private garbage collector, use of City pick-up service, use of a dumpster, or use of the sanitary landfill located on the Booneford road. Open and indiscriminate trash dumping will no longer be tolerated. The highways will be patrolled.

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## County Urged To Join Clean Sweep

The Yancey County "Clean Sweep" Committee met Monday at 4:00 p.m. at the courthouse. Mrs. Ernest Briggs, the county coordinator of Governor Bob Scott's statewide anti-litter campaign, told Mayor Jim Anglin and representatives of the various citizens groups and civic clubs, that the total county population must become involved in giving our area a Clean Sweep in '72.

Governor Scott has proclaimed May as anti-litter month. Scott's Beautification Committee, made up of a representative from each county, is promoting the beginning of a "Clean Sweep" for North Carolina in the month of May.

At the Monday meeting, Mrs. Briggs appointed officers for the Clean Sweep Committee. Herb Allen will serve as chairman, Pat Guyer will be vice-chairman and Jody Higgins and Joe Denny will serve as secretaries to the committee.

The theme of the project, Mrs. Briggs said, is to "make peace with nature by pledging to clean up our own homes, grounds and businesses, and to help in whatever way we can to sweep clean all people-made pollution."

The purpose of the meeting was to get everybody involved in cleaning up Yancey

County. Mrs. Briggs told the committee that the program was not a replacement for the efforts that have already been made in the county by the Scouts, the schools, the Army Reserve, and by many other organizations and individuals. "Clean Sweep" will simply lend a helping hand to those already involved.

Keith Masters, Sanitarian with the Health Department, told the committee that new dumpsters should be located throughout the county within the next two weeks. He stressed that the sanitary landfill is open 5 1/2 days a week for Yancey and Mitchell County residents.

Masters also announced that on July 5, a special truck from the TVA will be available to our area for collecting junk automobiles.

The committee agreed on May 22 as a county-wide clean-up day. Each community must

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## PTA To Meet

The East Yancey PTA will meet Monday, May 15, at 7:30 p.m. in the school gym. A Fashion Show will be presented by the Home Economics Sewing Class and new officers will be elected for next year. Please plan to attend.

## Should a newspaper speak out on controversial subjects?

Our answer is "Yes."

A newspaper is a privately-owned institution--but it is oriented to the public. Regardless of the private ownership any American newspaper has a public responsibility. The responsibility includes the preaching of the American concepts, the right of the individual, honesty in government, dedication to the interests of all the people and the sponsorship of those things which are to the good of the people as a whole.

A NEWSPAPER HAS the obligation to seek to make its community a better place in which to live. Thus it is impossible to avoid controversial issues. The newspaper must encourage the things that are in the interest of the city, county, state and nation and conversely oppose those things which curtail these interests.

Despite the fact that a newspaper may be privately owned it should not uphold those things which exclusively serve its own interests. For example, a newspaper which opposes the aroused passions of the people in time of stress which will find that it can make itself momentarily unpopular through such opposition. When obstructionists seek to obstruct progress it follows that the promotion of progress creates the disenchantment of the obstructionists.

But there is a rewarding fact concerning this matter of controversy. It is generally recognized that a newspaper cannot promote the best interests of the people of this country through a policy of conformity. Conformity is the easy way for the moment but it does not

command respect in the long run. With time even the conformists recognize that the spineless acceptance of conformity is shortsighted, even wicked.

A RESPECTED NEWSPAPER usually is one that is willing to participate in controversy with the will to see the best interests of the city or county upheld. The great newspapers of the nation are the ones which are forth-right editorially. The newspapers which meekly go along with any proposition with the purpose of offending no one usually are regarded as weak newspapers.

Someone could ask, "What about the newspapers which have no commanding editorial policy but which make big profits from their large volume of advertising?" There are some American newspaper organizations in this category. But actually they are profit making organizations, not respected newspapers as such.

There are no great newspapers in Red China, Castro's Cuba or in the Soviet Union. The proof of this charge is easy. The basic concept of newspapers in totalitarian countries is not to inform the people. Freedom of information is not the goal in these countries. But in America the purpose of newspapers must be to keep the people informed and to provide some editorial guidance. No newspaper can do this if its staff is unwilling to: (1) Become involved in controversy; (2) Offend someone if it is necessary; (3) Refuse to use the editorial and news pages to serve personal goals for privileged interests.

—Sturgis (Mich.) Journal

## \$5 Million Hospital Plan Announced By Chairman

A five million dollar expansion and improvement project at Spruce Pine and Yancey Hospitals which will include the construction of a three floor addition, fifty-eight new beds, a four bed Intensive-Coronary Care Unit and new supporting facilities, plus a new Extended Care hospital to be built in Burnsville, was announced today by Mr. Milton Burleson, Chairman and Mr. James Anglin, Vice-Chairman of the Blue Ridge Hospital System.

The project which will bring the total capacity of the Spruce Pine Hospital to 108 beds, and will provide on a new 12-acre site, a 60 bed health facility in Burnsville will be financed by anticipated Hill-Burton grants, the Appalachian Regional Commission, Duke Endowment and other interested grantees with the remaining amount of \$1,000,000 to be raised locally in Mitchell, Yancey and other counties in the hospitals' service area through a public subscription campaign.

Plans for the building campaign and appointments of campaign organization leaders will be announced in the near future. The new Spruce Pine Hospital three floor, 58 bed addition, will be constructed on the southwest side of the existing building and the other supporting units on the northeast side. The expansion phase will include the Emergency Room, Operating Room, Laboratory, X-Ray department and Obstetrical Service area. Renovation and modernization

of the Physical Therapy, Inhalation Therapy, Dietary, Medical Records and Administrative departments will be implemented as part of the overall construction and expansion program for vital services.

Mr. James Anglin stated that a new 12-acre site already purchased in Burnsville, North Carolina, will be the location of the Extended Care facility which will include 50 Extended Care beds and 10 Acute Care beds plus an Emergency Room, Laboratory and X-ray departments.

Mr. Burleson said that the

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Spruce Pine Community Hospital View Projects Expansion And Improvements



Blue Ridge Hospital System Extended Care Facility Planned For Burnsville