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New Central High School Plans Rate Top Priority

The Board of Education and the County Commissioners of Yancey County met with the Executive Committee of the Republican and Democrat parties at the Courthouse Monday evening.

The purpose of the meeting was to acquaint this group with the plans of the Board of Education to build a central high school for Yancey County.

M of D Fund Raising Set

Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet nor gloom of night can stay the U.S. Mail in the weeks ahead from helping children afflicted with birth defects in Yancey County and the rest of the nation, said Mark Bennett, Jr., March of Dimes director for fund raising.

Bennett, a senior at Western Carolina University and preparing for a medical career, attended the State March of Dimes Volunteer meeting in Winston-Salem last week. Volunteers from across the state heard progress reports from Dr. Robert Hickman of the University of North Carolina, Dr. Archie Johnson, Director of the Intensive Care Nursery at Baptist Hospital and Dr. Fergus Pope of Appalachian State University where he is director of Regional and Community Services.

"The March of Dimes has made a grant to the counties of region D, which includes Yancey County. Money in this grant is for professional services to these counties and each county must provide local funds for items needed in the Pre-Natal Clinics to be established. This is the reason we are asking the citizens of Yancey to help us raise money for this purpose. We are mailing about 4,000 letters this week and are asking that our people give generously so that we can provide services that are needed. Anyone wishing to give may send their contributions to The Northwestern Bank, Burnsville."

There are many services that the March of Dimes can provide and as we get our organization completed, we can implement them here.

"We have more than twice the national average in infant deaths in this area and the Dimes organization is trying to help. Won't you help us stop this heartbreak that comes to so many families," Bennett asked.

Church Of God Holds Revival

The Church of God of Prophecy on Meadow Road will be having a weekend revival March 16 and 17 with the Rev. Bobby Snow of High Point. Services will be held each night at 7:30. Pastor Rev. David Russell invites the public to attend.

Oscar Deyton, Chairman of the County Commissioners, briefly addressed the group, followed by Claude Vess, Chairman of the Board of Education, who explained that the Board had chosen a new central high school for Yancey County as an item of top priority.

Edgar Hunter, Superintendent of Schools, then explained the reasons for the need of a new school, pointing out specifically the need for vocational facilities and the dropout rate for Yancey County, which is considerably above the state average.

He also explained the proposed budget for the project, which would involve a bond issue of \$1,500,000.00. Deyton pointed out that this bond referendum would be only asking for authorization of this amount, and would not necessarily mean that the total would be spent.

Several of those present expressed the opinion that Yancey County should have the best if a new high school is to be built. The County Commissioners and the Board of Education emphasized that with the revenue from the one cent sales tax and revenue sharing, it would not be necessary to raise taxes to retire these bonds.

The group was advised that the Board of Education presently has under option two tracts of land approximately one quarter mile east of Riverside on Highway 19 -- the T.K. Riddle farm and the Marvin Higgins farm.

Architects have already been studying both sites and are expected to recommend a position on one of these within the next few weeks.

The Board of Education plans to meet with other groups to acquaint them with and seek suggestions regarding plans for a new central high school. A bond referendum is planned for early spring.

AM Students In Auto Wreck

Eight persons from Arthur Morgan School were injured last Wednesday when the station wagon in which they were riding rolled off Interstate 90 near Lawrence, Pennsylvania.

The vehicle was completely demolished in the accident, which occurred about 4:40 p.m. about a half mile west of the New York State line in Pennsylvania.

State Troopers investigating the accident identified the injured as Raymond Morris, 28, driver of the station wagon; his wife, Sally, 27; their eight week old son, Chris; and students Scott Van Goo, 14; Paul Hogue, 14; Karen Benfey, 12; Mike Solomon, 13; and Joseph Schummaus, 13.

They were taken to Hamot Emergency Hospital in Erie, Pennsylvania, treated for cuts and bruises and released.

They were westbound on the highway on a windy day when the accident occurred. The group was on a trip from Arthur Morgan School in Celo.



EY Student Council Entertains

The weekend of March 9, 10, 11 the Student Council of East Yancey entertained Mary Ann Fields. Mary Ann is from the Grandfather Home for Children in Banner Elk. The group stayed with Mrs. Rann Truitt, Student Council member, the weekend.

Community Events

Miss Susan Chapman, organist at Burnsville's First Baptist Church, will present an organ recital in the church sanctuary on Sunday, March 18 at 3 p.m. The program, opening with Maurice Duruflé's "Choral Variations" on the theme of "Veni Creator," will include Walther's "Concerto in B minor," Mozart's "Andante in F," Bach's "Prelude and Fugue in G major," and will end with Franck's majestic and powerful "Choral in A minor."

A junior organ major at Mars Hill College, Miss Chapman is a student of organist-composer Donna Nagey Robertson.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

Local organizations and agencies are invited and encouraged to participate in the arrangement of displays at the Annual Dinner Meeting of the Yancey County Chamber of Commerce which will be held on Friday, April 13th at 6:30 p.m. at East Yancey High School.

Participation in this event gives an opportunity to bring to the attention of the public the activities and accomplishments of the various organizations in the county.

Please call Mrs. J. O. Shepard, 682-2283, if you wish to reserve space for an exhibit in the East Yancey gymnasium, and ask for further details.

Much interest has been shown in past years in this phase of the Annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce.

Micaville PTA will meet at 7:30 on Monday night, March 19. The program will be a movie entitled "A Penland Summer" and a representative of Penland Crafts School will speak.

To help support their Scouting activities, the Burnsville Senior Girl Scouts are hosting a spaghetti dinner on Sunday, March 18th, from 12 noon until 1:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall of the Burnsville First Baptist Church. Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$1.25. All Brownies and Girl Scouts are admitted for \$1.00. Do your good Girl Scout deed for the day by supporting this Scouting activity.

Shootings End With 1 Dead

Two separate shootings near Burnsville on Saturday, March 10 resulted in the death of one man, according to Yancey County Sheriff Kermit Banks.

The body of Clingman Roosevelt Robinson, 70, was found near his home on Highway 197 north of Burnsville about 3:30 p.m. Saturday. He apparently died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound, according to Sheriff Banks.

His body was found by his son-in-law, Dale Gauge, his daughter and wife.

In the other shooting, Leville Wayne Smith, 30, Route 3, Burnsville, was taken to Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville with a wound in his left leg. Sheriff Banks said that the wounded man's father, Leville Barton Smith, 50, a service station operator by older man in the Bald Creek section of Yancey County about 7 p.m. Saturday.

The elder Smith has been charged in the shooting. He was arrested shortly after the shooting on a charge of living under the influence of alcohol, Sheriff Banks said.

Licensing For Pesticide Sale And Use Required

All Pesticide Dealers and Applicators are reminded to submit application for licensing as soon as possible in order to be in compliance with the N.C. Pesticide Law of 1971.

All Pesticide Dealers who sell any "Restricted-Use Pesticides" directly to the user must be licensed during 1973. The "Restricted-Use Pesticide" list contains sixty-two pesticides which the N.C. Pesticide Board has determined to be so toxic or persistent that additional restrictions are necessary.

All Pesticide applicators who engage in the business of applying any pesticide upon the lands of another must also be licensed. Farmers are exempt from the licensing requirement when applying pesticide for his own use or the accommodation of his neighbors. However, a person is considered a Pesticide Applicator if any pesticide application equipment is used by him more than fifty percent of the time on another person's property or he is known within the community as one who will, for a fee, apply pesticides to the lands of another.

During 1973 Dealers and Applicators will be licensed based on their experience and/or training and payment of \$25.00 fee. However, prior to January 1, 1974 all dealers and applicators must demonstrate by written examination their knowledge of their profession if they wish to be licensed.

All Dealers and Applicators who are licensed during 1973 will be notified of the various locations that will offer the training necessary for passing the examinations. Therefore, it is imperative that all individuals operating in one of the professions be licensed during 1973 if they wish to be properly notified of arrangements pertaining to training and testing.

In addition, any unlicensed person found guilty of operating in either of the professions is subject to a fine of up to \$1,000 and/or imprisonment of up to sixty days. The Pesticide Branch of the N.C. Department of Agriculture states that its inspection force will be in operation to assure the compliance with licensing requirements during 1973.

Applications for licensing as a Dealer or Applicator may be obtained by writing the N.C. Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Branch, Raleigh, N.C. 27611, or contact your County Extension Office.

Girls Haven Property Sale

The foreclosure sale of the Girls Haven property on Mine Fork Road was finally completed last Friday, with the property bringing \$61,000. The purchasers were Mr. and Mrs. Billie Young.

The sale has covered a period of several weeks during which three separate auctions were held at the Courthouse by attorney Dover Fouts. Upset bids were twice filed, requiring this lengthy procedure. The price finally reached will yield Girls Haven about \$13,000 over and above the debt on the property.

Girls Haven Director, A. D. Peacock expresses confidence that this sale is not the end of the project for establishing a home for teenage girls, comparable to the successful Boys Home at Lake Waccamaw. He expects that Girls Haven will relocate in the vicinity of Greensboro, where he says two sites for the building of the home have been offered as donations.

Yancey Railroad Denied Federal Disaster Loan

The Yancey Railroad was dealt a severe blow last week when its president, Bill Banks, was informed by the Small Business Administration that the railroad's application for a disaster loan had been rejected. The reason for the denial was that the declining trend in the railroad's revenue makes it questionable whether the loan could be repaid.

The application for a \$149,000.00 loan was made under the Federal disaster relief program, for which those experiencing storm damage last June in Yancey County were eligible. The Yancey Railroad suffered severe damage to the

bridges and roadbed along its 12 miles of line. Although emergency repairs have been made so that service could be resumed, extensive work remains to be done.

The condition of the roadbed and bridges since the storm has permitted operation of trains only at very slow speed, and the railroad has not had the financial resources to restore the property to the condition before the storm.

The rejection of the loan, together with the present unprofitability of the road confront the railroad's directors with a difficult problem. They recognize an obligation to protect the interest of the 58 Yancey County stockholders who own the road, and at the same time are strongly motivated to keep the railroad in operation in the interest of the county's economy. A half dozen businesses of rail service.

Prisoners Recaptured

ed from a road gang in the Cat-tail Creek section of Pensacola around noon Friday, were apprehended by the Burnsville Sheriff's Department in the Mt. Mitchell section at approximately 2:00 p.m. the following day.

The prisoners, who escaped from the Baker's Creek unit of the North Carolina Department of Corrections, offered no resistance when they were flushed out by the National Forest Service Rangers and apprehended by the Sheriff's Department.

The three men were identified by the Dept. of Corrections as James David Roberts, Robert Larry Dunn, and Raymond Gibson.

Following the escape, authorities of the N.C. Department of Corrections and the Yancey County Sheriff's Department immediately began a search of the area and warned residents of the Pensacola section to remove the keys from their cars and keep the doors to their homes locked.

Bloodhounds were used to aid the search efforts for the three escapees on Friday. By Saturday morning the search area had been extended to include the Celo section of Yancey County.

Returns Filed For Elderly

Yancey County area Senior Citizens are offered the chance to have their 1972 tax returns filed for them, free of charge, by W.A.M.Y. Community Action. Each citizen is urged to bring his own tax package if he received one from the Internal Revenue Service.

For further information, call 682-2610 from 8 a.m. until 12 noon and 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. weekdays.

give to the March of Dimes

Prior to the closing of the Feldspar Corporation plant at Bowditch two years ago, the railroad operated profitably and paid dividends to stockholders. The closing of that plant reduced the railroad's traffic by about a half, and since then the road has been losing about a thousand dollars a month. The storm damage last June simply added to the gloomy outlook for the road.

The board of directors have under consideration the possible abandonment of rail service, as well as possible alternatives that can keep the line in operation. Abandonment of service is understood to require authorization by the Interstate Commerce Commission, and this may take two years or more to obtain.

Pest Control Business Fraud

The Better Business Bureau of Western North Carolina has issued a warning to home owners of an unlawful pest control operation in the area.

A spokesman for the BBB has warned local citizens to beware of a fraudulent termite control outfit which has been working in this area. There has been at least one Yancey home visited and the Better Business Bureau should be consulted with the company's credentials before a termite control man is engaged to work in your home.

Warrants charging two Asheville men with operating a pest control service without a license from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture have been issued. Named in the warrants are Alan W. Vaughn, 23, and John G. McHone, 24.

Jimmy T. Perry, inspector for the Dept. of Agriculture, Pest Control Division, who signed the warrants said the action stemmed from complaints filed by the BBB.