

Senior Citizens Month Being Observed Here

The Watauga County Department of Public Welfare is cooperating in the observance of Senior Citizens Month, stated County Director of Public Welfare Dave P. Mast today. President Johnson has designated May as the month for special emphasis on the needs of aged persons in the state.

Services available for older persons in the County through public welfare include money grants to needy people who meet eligibility requirements under law. In addition there are many non-financial services available to needy aged persons, Mast said. These services are in addition to public welfare services available to children and the disabled.

In April there were 224 persons in Watauga receiving old age assistance. The average monthly grant was \$66.37. Public welfare also has a program of medical services for medically indigent aged persons.

Family care homes and homes for the aged in North Carolina are licensed by the State Board of Public Welfare. County departments of public welfare assist persons in selecting the appropriate type of home to meet their needs. There are five licensed homes in Watauga County.

Public welfare assists older persons in finding the home most suitable to their needs. Other public welfare services include counseling on a wide range of problems, rehabilitative services to help older people retain or regain as much independence in living as possible, referral of aged persons to other community resources, and co-operation with other State agencies in improving services to older people.

Americans Worry Most

London—A well-known British psychiatrist called Americans "the most worried people in the world." Dr. Joshua Bierer said prosperity and women were at the root of most Americans' troubles.



ASTC STUDENT CLAIMS LITERARY AWARD—Miss Pamela Lee Jones, center, a freshman from Franklinville, was named winner of the literary award at the Spring Fine Arts Festival at Appalachian State Teachers College. At left is Mrs. Charleen Whisnant of Charlotte, editor of The Red Clay Reader, who was judge and who lectured at the Festival. At right is Miss Ruby Akers, member of the English faculty of the college and advisor. Miss Jones won the award for a poem "Reflections On A Concrete Wall," published in Singing Light, the college's literary annual.

Mrs. Rabb To Address SAHA

Mrs. Miriam G. Rabb, travel editor of the Travel and Promotion Division of the State Department of Conservation and Development, will speak in Boone, on Monday, May 16. Dr. I. G. Greer, former faculty member of Appalachian State Teachers College, is president of the association and will preside at the session which is scheduled for 6:30 p. m. at the Daniel Boone Hotel. Mrs. Rabb joined the staff of C & D in 1953 and since that time has occupied a prominent role in preparing news and feature material promoting the state's travel opportunities. Mrs. Rabb was publicity director for "Horn in the West" in its first two seasons. France confirms U. S. denied her nuclear fuel.

Says Many New North Carolina Writers Are Publishing Books

"There is a lively literary movement in North Carolina, an atmosphere of creative tension," a prominent literary editor claims.

Speaking at the Fine Arts Festival at Appalachian State Teachers College, Charleen Whisnant, editor of the Red Clay Reader, the largest publication in the South, said that North Carolina has never before had a whole group of first-rate writers breathing and working simultaneously.

Briefly tracing the literary history of North Carolina, Mrs. Whisnant referred to the "new writers, the whole crop of talent that seems to have sprung up in this state in the last couple of growing seasons," in a lecture here on Monday, May 2. "There are," she said, "more than a dozen new North Carolina writers who are all in their late twenties or early thirties, most of whom have already published books with major New York publishers, and several of whom have brought out a second novel this year."

The new writers, Mrs. Whisnant, who lives in Charlotte, noted, "are poetic and fluent, with little emphasis on plot, in a fine blend of hipness and stability." Southern writers, she contended, "have an obsession with the family. Everyone is concerned with what grandfather was like, and Uncle Joe and Aunt Harriet stories—the family is the crux of the matter," she said.

Editor Whisnant called the Southern writer "the last fortress of the value of the family," and attributed this obsession as "an attempt to find identity."

"The writer is concerned," she continued, "with who is he." Contemporary Southern poets, Mrs. Whisnant contended, speak with "straight talk and a hot heart," replacing both earlier writers' and poets' interest "more in intellectual games of language than a passionate expression of reality."

"Writing has not always been considered a respectable occupation in North Carolina," the editor of the largest literary publication in the South pointed out. Further, she stated, nobody paid much attention to North Carolina writers until 1900. The sudden appearance of Thomas Dixon, Paul Green, Carl Sandberg, O. Henry and Thomas Wolfe, according to Mrs. Whisnant, placed North Carolina writings in national prominence. In the last two "growing seasons," the "major crop" of the younger generation includes Reynolds Price, Heather Ross Miller, Anne Tyler, Fred Chappell and Romulus Linney, she said.

Noting that "perhaps someday we can get Ovid and Chaucer intravenously," Mrs. Whisnant said that "unlike many who believe that books will soon be replaced, I think it is by microfilm that writing is more important today than it ever has been."

The most urgent need of our time is adequate communication, she continued. "If we can never express to one another the truth of ourselves, the peculiarities, our needs, and our aspirations, then we can begin to construct our peace and fulfillment," she said.

Further, she said, "Art is the most effective medium of communication, taking up where medicine leaves off. Medicine tells us that man thrives best when he is washed, aired, sunned and sustained by a certain number of calories. Art tells us the nature of that man."

"Good writers will give us insight into ourselves and help us to see the truth of our conditions," she concluded. "Good writers in North Carolina will not be confined in their influence. They will sustain our religion, keep our memory fresh, and revitalize us in this world."

Local Red Cross Official Cites Blood Needs In War

Blood for defense needs, especially in Viet Nam, is now being collected through the American National Red Cross, it is announced by Jerry Adams, Blood Program Chairman for the Watauga County chapter. "At the present time, Red Cross is not being asked to furnish whole blood for these battle areas, but for certain blood fractions made from the plasma," Adams said, mentioning particularly gamma globulin, used to prevent hepatitis, and serum albumin, used to treat shock caused by wounds.

"The American Red Cross has been asked by the Department of Defense to collect 250,000 units of blood for these fractions. In our community, this means we will have to increase our overall blood collections by about 10 per cent for the year, or 550 pints," Adams said. "We are most anxious to meet these blood needs for defense," he continued, "and at the same time provide enough blood to take care of the continuing needs of our people in Watauga County. For this reason, we request that all who give blood do so without specifically requesting that it be used for defense."

Mr. Adams said that the Red Cross will now be able to take blood from those people who have had infectious hepatitis (jaundice), penicillin shots and for many other reasons which have caused them to be rejected in the past. He explained that the plasma from these donors could be used in making blood fractions needed for defense.

"College students have been the top honor group, and more than 40,000 units have come from them. In doing this, they have set an outstanding example of community service. With the need for these blood fractions continuing, every individual, civic and business organization should be guided by their example when the next Red Cross blood collection takes place May 13 at First Baptist Church in Boone," Adams concluded.

There are parking facilities behind the church.

Marriage Licenses
Marriage license were issued to the following:
Walter Davis Sessums and Anne Singleton Beers, both residing in Annandale, Va.
William Ray Foran of Abingdon, Va. and Greta Sue Fletcher of Grundy, Va.

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