

The Smoky Mountain Times

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Around Town

The local one-cent sale tax returns have been completed. Swain County's share for the month of April totals \$4,725.48. This money is to go to the city and county treasurers with the majority of the county's share being earmarked for better education.

If there is any doubt about this county needing industry, take a look at the 1970 census. The official 1960 census counted 8,378 people in Swain County whereas, the 1970 census counted only 7,091 people, a drop of 1,296 people in a 10 year period. Even though the '70 count is not official, it is not too far from accurate. What's the matter? No jobs. It has been estimated that 90% of the annual graduating class at Swain High School has had to leave the county in the last five years. Jobs are a must, let's get behind the local organizations and support them in seeking industry for our county.

Dent's Cafe, second place in the Swain County Softball League, has invited Freill & Robinson, co-leaders in the Canton league, to play a double header here Thursday night. The Canton team beat Howard's Amoco Monday night 11 to 4 to move into the league lead with a 4-1 record. They were last year's upper-state representatives and the Thursday night contest here should be a real thriller. Dent's has lost only two games in the Swain league and should be up for Thursday night's game. With visitors coming to town let's get out and support the home team and above all remember good sportsmanship. BE NICE. JUST BE NICE. THAT'S ALL.

Taxation experts of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States said that the average American Taxpayer started working for himself on May 9 this year. Up until that date, they figure, he worked just to pay his federal, state, and local taxes. Further they calculate, Mr. Average works two hours and 49 minutes out of an eight-hour day to pay all of his tax bills.

The North Carolina State Highway Patrol reported that they were on the road for a total of 208 hours, during which time 15 charges were made. One for drunk-driving, four for speeding, six for pedestrian violations and four for other violations. There was one accident reported for this week beginning May 18 and running through May 24.

4-H'ers Need Your Help

Did you notice that the streets and road banks looked better this past weekend? The 4-H club clean up campaign and pick up day had a successful conclusion. During a two hour period on Friday afternoon, the 4-H'ers of Bryson City picked up 4022 bottles and cans in Bryson City, plus lots of other trash and litter.

The help of all persons is needed to keep Bryson City streets free of trash and litter. The 4-H clubs hope that the campaign will not have been in vain. Let's keep our town looking nice for our visitors. We are sure some people did not get the message, because one area that was cleaned up on Friday, contained on Monday, two beer cans and other assorted trash and paper. Also, in the parking area of one of our public buildings were found several beer cans on Monday morning. Citizens of Bryson City, we in the 4-H club program appeal to you to help keep the streets and roadsides of Bryson City and Swain County clean.



Whittier Dance Team To Perform

The 5th. grade Square Dance Team at Whittier Elementary School (pictured above) has been honored with an invitation to perform for "Shindig on the Green" in Asheville, Saturday, June 27th. The square dance team has made several appearances in other schools and clubs during the year. Members pictured above are (Front, L to R): Roan Garland,

Tony Lambert, Kenny Hyatt, Harold McLean, Topper Pledger, Mike Hoyle, Oscar Bales, Ricky Wood, Dale Conner and Ricky Lambert. (Back, L to R): Mary Bradley, Judy Lambert, Susan Kitchin, Norma Ownby, Cindy Maxwell, Robin Davis, Henrietta Lambert, Jackie Dugan, Kathy Martin and Mary A. Nation.

McConnell Manslaughter Case Is Being Heard In Federal Court This Week

The Spring term of Federal Court opened in Bryson City Monday morning under the able hands of Judge Wilson Warlick. The regular criminal term of the United States District Court for the Western District of North Carolina is expected to run through Friday.

A number of cases have been disposed of, most of them dealing with non tax paid whiskey. The only major case to be heard is that of a 14 year old Cherokee girl charged with manslaughter. The case was called Tuesday afternoon after the noon recess and ended abruptly around 4:40 p.m., when Judge Warlick recessed court until 9:30 a.m. Wednesday morning, when the court reporter, Mrs. Doris Cummings, received a message that her husband had been taken to an Asheville hospital.

A jury of three women and nine men will hear the closing point of the Government's case and the pony-tailed, 9th grader's defense Wednesday. In seating the jury, the defense questioned each member as to whether or not they had any children. Eleven of the twelve jurors said they had children of their own and three of them have fourteen year old children.

As the government began its case, Cherokee Policeman, Joe Long, testified that he was called to the home of Glen McConnell at 8:25 a.m. September 15, 1969.

Long testified that upon arriving at the scene, he found the dead man in the front bedroom of the home with a small calibre bullet wound in his side. He quoted the girl as saying, "I had to do it. He was stomping mama."

Long said that Mrs. Velma Jean McConnell verified the girl's statement that she was being stomped and showed him a blouse which had black marks on it.

In addition to Long's testimony, Judge Warlick allowed an F.B.I. Agent to read a statement the young girl had made on the morning of the shooting. The statement said the father came home shortly after 8 a.m. and started a fuss with Mrs. McConnell in the kitchen of the home. Mrs. McConnell left the room and went into the front bedroom. The father followed her into the bedroom and began to slap and kick her.

The daughter followed and plead with her father to stop. When he refused, she went into another room of the house and got a .22 calibre rifle. She she returned, her mother was on the floor and the father was still tomping and kicking her. The report says the girl then fired one shot from the rifle and then her mother called the police.

The F.B.I. Agent told the court that the statement was made free and voluntarily and that both the girl's mother and an uncle had allowed him to question the girl. At this point the case was continued until Wednesday morning.

Other cases heard Monday and Tuesday morning were: Beaufort C. Messer, charged with traffic offenses in State Court; removal to U.S. Court. Case settled in civil court. Prayer for judgment continued to October in criminal act.

Joseph Wilnota, charged with, Count 1, Second degree murder and Count 2, Manslaughter. Continued for defendant. He is to undergo a medical examination.

George Edward Ledford, charged with assault with a dangerous weapon. Placed on probation for 18 months.

Jack C. Davis, charged with operating a motor vehicle in Great Smoky National Park without valid operator's license and failure to stop for signal of authorized officer. Fined \$100.00.

A juvenile, charged with assault with a dangerous weapon and juvenile delinquency. Found not guilty by court.

James Ronnie Williams, charged with possession of still, mash, and non tax paid whiskey. Four counts. Suspended to three years probation. Must pay a fine and tax of \$400.00.

David Harold Brown, charged with possession of still, mash, and non tax paid whiskey. Four counts. Suspended to three years probation. Must pay a fine and tax of \$400.00.

Theodore Brannon Shuey, charged with interstate transportation of stolen motor vehicles. Case continued until next term of court.

Ted Henry Treadaway, charged with assault with a deadly weapon, two counts. Case continued to next term of court.

Roy Wilbur Hornbuckle, charged with forcible trespass. Case dismissed. Probation revoked in Bryson City case No. 5039. Defendant to serve one year.

Beatrice Sue Standingdeer, charged with assault with a deadly weapon. Given a sentence of one year and one day imprisonment. Suspended to two years probation.

A juvenile, charged with interstate transportation of stolen motor vehicle and juvenile delinquency. Sentenced to 30 months probation.

A juvenile, charged with interstate transportation of stolen motor vehicle and juvenile delinquency. Case dismissed.

A juvenile charged with assault with a deadly weapon and juvenile delinquency. Sentenced to one year. Suspended to two years probation.

Earl Frank Galloway, charged with possession of non tax paid whiskey. Fined court cost, \$500.00 and tax.

Jamey Perry Cruse, charged with possession of still, mash and non tax paid whiskey. Four counts. Sentenced to two years. Suspended to three years probation. Fined \$200.00.

Donald Patterson, charged with possession of still, mash, and non tax paid whiskey. Four counts. Sentenced to two years. Suspended to three years probation. Fined \$200.00.



Junk Car Number 11

Bryson City Jaycees are pictured above dumping car No. 11 into an old mine shaft on the outskirts of town. The Jaycees are doing a clean-up-old car project in connection

with clean-up, paint up, fix-up month. If you have an old car in the city limits you want move give them a call. IT'S all FREE!

Five County, People Owned Power Corporation Officially Organized

County Commissioners from five western North Carolina counties met in Bryson City Monday afternoon in what might well be one of the most important meetings ever held west of the Balsam. County officials from Jackson, Macon, Graham, Cherokee and Swain Counties met in the basement of the Northwestern Bank building here in Bryson City and chartered what is to be known as the Rainbow Power Corporation.

The Co-op has been formed by the five counties west of the Balsam with long-range plans to buy the existing Nantahala Power Company and furnish the counties with a people-owned electricity.

The group that included three county commissioners and the county manager from Macon County, one county commissioner and a State of Franklin Health Council member from Cherokee, the chairman and one county commissioner from Graham, two county commissioners from Jackson, one county commissioner and one planning board member from Swain and two attorneys, as well as news media representatives and interested citizens, met in the director's room of the Northwestern Bank building and formulated by-laws by which the organization would be run and elected temporary officers Monday.

Four of the five counties have adopted resolutions whole-heartedly endorsing the new corporation that is to be financed by Rainbow Power, Inc. The corporation plans to sell tax free bonds to the general public and the entire operation, including a general survey, bond selling, buying and taking over a major power company, is expected to take two years.

Macon County is the only exception and it is expected that Macon will join the group within the next two or three weeks. According to a board representative, the charter for the power co-op has already been issued and was received last Friday.

One of the first orders of business was to elect a temporary slate of officers that included George Sloan, Chairman of the Jackson County Board of

Commissioners, President, Odell Shuler, Chairman of the Swain County Board of Commissioners, Vice-President, Ned Tucker, Sylvia Board of Commissioners, Secretary-Treasurer, and two directors, one from Cherokee County and one from Graham County. The president and vice-president completes the four man board of directors.

The members present Monday adopted a resolution formally organizing Rainbow Power, Inc. as a corporation as of Monday, May 25, 1970, and as the first order of business clearly set forth principles and policies by which the corporation would be guided and governed, the resolution stated that the sole and purely public purpose of the Rainbow Power, Inc. is to provide a permanent, dependable, reliable supply of electric power on a non-profit basis at the lowest possible rates to the Western North Carolina region now being served by Nantahala Power and Light Company.

The immediate goal of the co-op is to secure financial and moral support from the counties effected.

Under the organizational set-up, four directors will serve on the Rainbow Power's board from each of the five counties

Actors-Dancers

Try-Outs Set

TRYOUTS for several speaking roles and for actors in the crowd scenes of "UNTO THESE HILLS" will be held on Saturday morning, May 30, in the MOUNTAINSIDE THEATRE from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

TRYOUTS FOR DANCER UNDERSTUDIES IN THE SHOW will be held on the same date, and those interested in dancing are asked to come at 9:00 A.M. so that the dance tryouts can be continued later in the morning (10:00 A.M.) at the REHEARSAL HALL BUILDING in the dormitory area backstage, if necessary.

BUT EVERYONE SHOULD COME FIRST TO THE THEATRE, for general information and for record keeping.

Baccalaureate Sermon Sunday

The 1970 Baccalaureate Sermon for Swain County High School will be at 8:00 P.M. June 30 in the school auditorium. Rev. Joseph Morris, pastor of the United Methodist Church of Bryson City, will preach the sermon.

Rev. Jack Hyde, pastor of the Deep Creek Baptist Church, will give the invocation and benediction.

James L. Coggins, chairman of the Swain County School Board, will present the traditional Testaments to the candidates for graduation. The Swain County High School Chorus will sing "He's Everything to Me." Pianist for both graduation programs will be Debbie Davis.

A class of 94 seniors will graduate in ceremonies Friday, June 5 at 8:00 P.M. in the auditorium. Rev. Cleo Wainwright will give the invocation and benediction.

Awards will be presented by Clifford W. Frizzell, principal

of Swain County High School. Diplomas will be given by T.L. Woodard, superintendent of Swain County Schools. The Chorus will sing "You'll Never Walk Alone" and "The Halls of Ivy."

The four honor speakers will have as their theme "Pollution A Threat to Our World." Lynn Wright will speak on "The Pollution of Nature"; Janet Walker on "The Pollution of Man"; Debbie Breedlove on "The Destiny of our Polluted World"; and Debbie Hipps on "The Responsibility of the Individual."

Mascots are Robin Wilson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Odell Wilson, and Billy Hall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hall.

Marshals are: Georgianna Mitchell, Chief, D.D. Wood, Roseanna Jenkins, Judy Heffer, Roseanna Taylor, Karen Watson, Karen Marcus, and Max Witt.

WEATHER

Wednesday, May 20—Fair. Low 52 degrees. High 82 degrees.
Thursday, May 21—Fair. Low 54 degrees, high 82 degrees.
Friday, May 22—Clear. Low 60 degrees, high 84 degrees.
Saturday, May 23—Partly cloudy and warm. Low 62 degrees, high 90 degrees.
Sunday, May 24—Clear. Low 64 degrees, high 84 degrees.
Monday, May 25—Fair. Low 60 degrees, high 86 degrees.
Tuesday, May 26—Fair. Low 62 degrees, high 79 degrees.

effect and the four directors will be designated by the individual board of commissioners. Initially two directors from each county will be appointed to serve one year terms and two directors will be appointed to serve two year terms, thus staggering the appointments so that at least two old board members will be in office at all times.

Rainbow's purchasing plans to do include Nantahala's generating facilities, but instead they plan to purchase their power through TVA.

An offer has not yet been submitted to Nantahala for the purchase of its distributing facilities. However, after Macon County has been given ample time to join the co-op, an initial officer will be made to Nantahala.

Two firm commitments will accompany the initial order. They are:

1. Nantahala's present employees and personnel will be assured of continued employment by Rainbow - in the same jobs they now hold or in even better jobs, at the same rates of pay, vacation, holidays, and all other fringe benefits, or at better rates of pay and improved benefits. Rainbow will assure the continuation of existing retirement and pension benefits. We will need these fine people to manage and operate Rainbow. They are our friends and neighbors and Rainbow would be sorely taxed to find better personnel anywhere to do the good job these people are already doing.

2. Franklin will continue to be the location of the principal business office from which Rainbow will manage and operate the electric system. Indeed, no change of any

consequence is anticipated with regard to the existing location of Nantahala's offices, physical facilities or other properties.

The group unanimously agreed that it is absolutely necessary to acquire the power system serving this region if we are to receive abundant dependable electrical power, and, as a closing statement of the meeting, the group earnestly solicited the full support and cooperation of the entire public and pledged that the corporation's every decision would be consistent with the public objectives stated within this resolution.

Piano Recital Set Sunday

The piano students of Debbie Davis, Virginia Grizzle, and Frances Bowden will be presented in their spring recital on Sunday afternoon, May 31 at 3:00 o'clock at the Baptist Church, Bryson City. The theme will be "Masters of Melody".

Students performing are: Robin and Lori Riley, Nicky and Tammy Nichols, Vivi Ann Wood, Rick and Cheryl Dimsdale, Jenny and Donald Womick, Carolann Breedlove, Sheron and Max Bowden, Celeste and Nanette Crisp, Judy and James Douthitt, Michael Proctor, Beverly Gibby, Debbie and Becky Cunningham, Martha Crisp, Terry Dugan, Beth Arvey, Ann Almond, Jamie Fox, Connie Sherrill, Linda Wiggins, Debbie Thomas, Jody Rentz, Beth Rickman, Tina Stephenson, and Marsha Garland. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Swain Hospital Receives Two Year Accreditation

Swain County Hospital has received accreditation for a period of two years.

The following letter has been received by the hospital:

The Board of Commissioners of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals has approved the recommendation that your hospital be accredited for a period of two years or until a subsequent survey is conducted. This is the result of the evaluation of the hospital survey conducted on the date and by the field representative indicated below.

Your hospital is entitled to a Certificate of Accreditation. The Commission wishes to

commend you for maintaining standards deserving of accreditation and for your constant effort to improve the quality of patient care. Please be assured of our interest and of our willingness to be of all possible help to you.

This is the third year the hospital has received accreditation by the Joint Commission after complete surveys of the physical plant, medical records, hospital policies and staff qualifications and performance, both medical and hospital, in all departments. Standards as set up by the Joint Commission must be attained by the hospital.

Your Last Chance To Become Statistic

This is your last chance to become a Memorial Day Statistic while the holiday still falls at random - But please pass it up and don't become one of the 18 persons the N.C. State Motor Club estimates may die in 800 traffic accidents on North Carolina's streets and highways during the weekend.

Starting next year, the General Assembly has decreed that Memorial Day will fall on the last Monday in May, but this year the state will count its holiday highway toll from 6 p.m. Friday, May 29, through midnight Sunday, May 31, for a period of 54 hours since the holiday falls on Saturday.

Last year the three-day period claimed 26 lives and injured 579 others in 1,127 accidents, and the national toll of nearly 600 set a new record for the Memorial Day holiday. Leading causes of accidents in the state were: speeding, 261; failure to yield right of way, 154; failure to see if movement could be made in

safety, 110; and driving left of center, 109.

Motor Club President Thomas B. Watkins, pointing out that North Carolina's traffic deaths again are rushing behind the 1969 pace, urged drivers to use the utmost caution in avoiding the additional traffic hazards created by highways congested with motor vehicles headed toward the beaches and the mountains.

WCU Alumni To Meet

The Swain County Chapter of Western Carolina University Alumni Association will meet Tuesday, June 2, at Steed's. The dinner meeting will be at 6:30, and the business meeting at 7:30. It is important that everyone attend because final approval will be made concerning the scholarship fund.