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The Skyland Post

ASHE COUNTY IS . . .
Leading Livestock and Dairy
County in North Carolina.
Population: 22,664

VOLUME 22, NO. 8

\$2.50 a Year in Ashe County

THURSDAY, FEB. 23, 1950

WEST JEFFERSON, N. C.

\$3.00 a Year Out of County

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

More Communities Approve School Consolidation

County Schools Will Take Part In Spelling Bee

Finals Are To Be Held In Winston - Salem On April 21

Ashe county schools, along with others in Northwest North Carolina and Virginia will again participate in the annual spelling bee sponsored by the Winston - Salem Journal.

This is the tenth annual event of its kind and the finals are to be held in Winston - Salem on April 29.

That will be the date on which the system winners sit down to take a series of written tests there to determine the newspaper representatives in the national bee in Washington in May.

Just to make things more interesting, bee officials announced they would have a big surprise on tap for the competing students and systems this year. It will be disclosed late this week.

For the past two years, Betsy Barr has represented the county schools in the finals and has made an excellent showing.

In addition to Ashe county schools others which have been entered in the contest include:

Winston - Salem City, Forsyth county, Alleghany county, Asheboro City, Burke county, Wilkes county, Watauga county, Yadkin county, Surry county, Stokes county, Statesville City, Mount Airy City, Greensboro City, Davidson county, Hickory City, Lexington City.

Newton - Conover City, High Point City, Davie county, Patrick county (Va.), Carrol county (Va.), Caldwell county, Catawba county, Chatham county, Orange county, Montgomery county and Elkin city.

Ashe Go-Getters Named By Legion

Joseph M. Graybeal Elected As Member Of Legion's Crusaders Of 1950

Seven Ashe county legionnaires have been named Go-Getters by the North Carolina Department of the American Legion and will attend the Go-Getter dinner to be held at Hickory on March 23.

Membership in the Go-Getter club is limited to only those legionnaires who get the membership of ten legionnaires during the membership campaign.

Named from Ashe Post 171 were James T. Capps, Larry P. Colvard, Joseph M. Graybeal, Leonard H. Shepherd, Hoyle Stinger and P. G. Wright. Thomas I. Goss, Lansing Post 275, was the seventh member named to the group.

Joseph M. Graybeal was named to the Crusaders of 1950 and to receive this recognition he enrolled more than thirty members for Ashe Post 171.

Ashe Post 171 was given a quota of 95 members for 1950 and at the present time the membership is 117. Lansing Post 275 has a quota of 39 members and has 28 members enrolled.

SERVICE SUNDAY AT JEFFERSON CHURCH

Rev. G. C. Burkett will conduct a service Sunday night, 7:30 p. m., at the Jefferson Presbyterian church.

To Open Flower And Gift Shop

Announcement was made this week that Mrs. Mary Griggs Grant had purchased the Village Gift Shop and would operate it as well as a flower shop in the Village Gift Shop building in Jefferson.

Mrs. Grant's sister, Mrs. Edith Laughon will operate the shop which will feature the complete line of unusual gifts carried by the Village Gift Shop as well as flowers of all kinds. Mrs. Grant has formerly operated a flower business on a limited scale, but will now carry complete lines of these.

Big Road Program Is Planned For County In Summer

ROTARY SPEAKER



Col. A. L. Fletcher, who will speak to the Jeffersons Rotary Club this evening.

Development Of Tourist Trade To Be Discussed

Col. A. L. Fletcher Will Speak To Rotary Club This Evening

Dr. James Rhodes, who is in charge of the Rotary club program this evening, announced it would be devoted to the possibilities of the tourist business, with Col. A. L. Fletcher, of Raleigh and Ashe county, as the guest speaker.

Colonel Fletcher, a veteran of three wars, has won national recognition in many fields, particularly for his distinguished service to veterans and in the administration of the selective service system.

As a native of this county, who has spent many years elsewhere, he can view the possibilities as compared to those elsewhere.

L. P. Colvard is chairman of the club's tourist and advertising committee with Dr. James Rhodes, Millard Graybeal and Jim Owen.

Last Thursday night Dana Tugman, county agent, and Earl Graybeal, real estate agent, were

Last Rites Today For Clint Burkett

The funeral service for Clint Burkett, 64, West Jefferson, will be held this afternoon at two o'clock at the Beaver Creek Primitive Baptist church with interment in the Burkett cemetery.

Revs. Hoyt Wood and Rexford Campbell will officiate at the service for Mr. Burkett who died of a heart attack Tuesday at his home.

He is survived by his wife and one sister, Mrs. Charles H. Donnelly, of Idaho.

Audiometer Added To Health Dept. For Testing Hearing

Ashe county school children will soon be able to have their hearing tested by an Audiometer, instrument to test hearing, according to an announcement made this week by the local health department.

An audiometer has been made available for use in the Alleghany - Ashe - Watauga District Health Department to test the hearing of the school children in the three counties and the program will be initiated at an early date and carried on as part of the North Carolina school health program.

A conference on the use of the audiometer was held at the district health department in the Ashe county hospital last Thurs-

Commissioner Goforth Reviews Needs And Possibilities Of Work

Ashe county people can look forward to an expanded road improvement program this summer, according to information released to this paper this week.

In answer to an inquiry from the editor of this paper concerning the recent mass meeting when the courthouse was filled to overflowing, Commissioner Goforth had this to say:

"Concerning my reaction to the meeting we had there, it is, I believe, the way I have felt toward your county for some time. Only, of course, the large crowd and their demands brought this to me more forcibly. My feeling toward Ashe, as I think I have expressed before, is that it is in my opinion, the hardest county in the State to do the job that should be done. Mr. Walker concurs in this as we talked it over coming down the mountain, and he has spent, as you know, most of his professional career in the Asheville area, which is also a hard territory to serve.

"No county in the State values its land more than do the people of your county, and justly so, I think, because it is very productive and the level land is scarce. Ashe surely is one of the five top counties in the State in cash return from the farms. It is a hard county in which to get the proper right - of - way and working

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Lions' Governor Spoke At Meeting

Governor Cashion Praised Local Club On The Work Done In County

Paul Cashion, governor of the 31A district of Lions International, of North Wilkesboro, spoke to the West Jefferson Lions Club at their meeting Tuesday night.

Governor Cashion talked to the group on Lionism and brought out the point that Lions was the largest of the civic organizations in the world and that at the present time averaged adding three new clubs each day to its membership.

He stated that the state convention would be held in Charlotte in June and the international convention in Chicago, Ill., in July and stressed the fact that he wanted representatives of the club at each of these conventions.

"I want to congratulate this club for the work that you have done thus far and on the good start you have made in Ashe county," Governor Cashion told members of the club.

He was introduced by Rev. Rexford Campbell, secretary of the West Jefferson club.

Visitors at the Tuesday night meeting were H. R. Vannoy and Lion Shoun Kerbaugh, of North Wilkesboro.

Age And Youth Review Early Transportation In U. S.



"Broncho Charlie" Miller, former dispatch rider, ranch hand, Texas ranger and Indian fighter, who hit 100 years recently, spins a wild west tale for Russell Messer, 4, and Fred Erro, 8, and explains details of a Wells Fargo express model which he carved. The colorful figure of a bygone era lives at Tomkins Square House in New York. The Community Service society, which maintains the home for elderly persons, marked Charlie's anniversary by naming him chairman of its children's fund for 1950.

County Short On March Of Dimes Fund Drive Quota

Final Reports Should Be Made To Miss Jennie Clyde Worth This Week

According to the latest tabulation of funds collected in the Ashe county March of Dimes campaign less than \$3000.00 has been raised on the \$7000.00 quota that was assigned to the county.

Mrs. Thomas S. Johnston, drive chairman, stated that final reports would be completed this week end when all the coin collectors in the county would be collected and report from all workers made.

She urged that all volunteer workers turn in their funds and reports so that the total amount raised in Ashe county could be made known as soon as possible.

The drive chairman stated that she wished to express her appreciation to all individuals, firms and organizations that have assisted her in the campaign for funds for this worthy cause.

Any Ashe citizens who wish to make a final contribution are asked to send their contribution at once to Miss Jennie Clyde Worth, county treasurer, Jefferson so that they may be counted in the final report of funds raised in the county.

Presbyterians To Hold Services

Rev. W. R. Smith, Jr., home missions secretary of the Winston - Salem Presbytery, will conduct services at the West Jefferson Presbyterian church Sunday morning at eleven o'clock.

Mr. Smith will also preach at the Obids Presbyterian church, Sunday afternoon at two - thirty o'clock.

The public is cordially invited to hear Mr. Smith at either of the two churches.

Citizens Visit Cancer Center

Four Ashe county citizens were examined at the Wilkes - Alleghany Cancer Center Tuesday, when a total of 18 examinations were made, Dr. Hubbard, director, announced yesterday.

The clinics are held each Tuesday morning at the Wilkes county courthouse with registration from 9:00 to 10:00 a. m.

The center is staffed by members of the Wilkes - Alleghany county Medical Society with Dr. Tubbard as director.

Warrensville Road Subject Of Letter To Governor Scott; Immediate Action Is Sought

Red Cross Drive Opens March 6; Quota Is \$2000

James Owen Is Fund Drive Chairman; Cooperation Of All Is Asked

Ashe county's Annual Red Cross Fund Drive, along with others throughout the nation will be held during the month of March, when a local quota of \$2000 is to be sought.

James Owen, drive chairman, announced yesterday that a number of advance gift letters were being mailed out and urged that those receiving these letters mail in their contribution at once.

Following the advance plea, solicitations will be conducted and other features will be carried out in order to raise the county's quota within the month of March, the officials said.

A meeting of the Ashe board of directors was held Tuesday when it was decided that the drive would officially open on March 6 and would continue through March 25.

Attention is called to the wide range of service that is being rendered by the Red Cross, both at home and abroad.

Miss Frances Thomas, chapter chairman, has asked the cooperation of everyone in making this drive a success because the

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Virgil L. Stanley Writes Governor On Warrensville Road Problems

In a letter directed to Governor Kerr Scott, a copy of which was turned over to this paper requesting that it be published, the dire need of the Warrensville road is cited.

The text of the letter is as follows:

"Dear Governor Scott: I wish to call to your attention a Highway in Ashe county, No. 88, which has been blocked and under construction by the National Construction Company, of Asheville, North Carolina. Also, that this Company has moved its equipment away from the county.

"This highway has been obstructed for six months and impossible to travel at all times. This being one of the most important highways in Ashe county, our only outlet to Virginia and Tennessee, and serving a greater portion of Ashe county citizens and out-of-state travelers, we, as tax payers, feel that you will do something about it.

"Our school is half over and we have not been able to operate a school bus over this road. We are forced to transport our children twenty - eight miles, at our own expense, to school each day over a detour that endangers their lives and our own as well. This detour is a very narrow, crooked and rough road and in instances of high water, it is impossible to travel over it. The traffic on

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Tri-County Cage Tournament To Open At Boone Wednesday

The annual Tri-County basketball tournament will begin at the ASTC gymnasium in Boone on Wednesday, March 1, and will continue through March 4, according to an announcement made this week by R. W. Watkins, director of the Tri - County Association.

Mr. Watkins announced that the top-played next Wednesday afternoon and run with alternate boys and girls elimination games until 10:00 p. m., each night. Finals are scheduled for Saturday night with the first game starting at 7:00 p. m.

Ashe county leads the list of counties participating with nine schools sending boys and girls teams. Teams entered are Jeffer-

son, West Jefferson, Todd, Fleetwood, Nathan's Creek, Riverview, Virginia - Carolina, Lansing and Healing Springs from Ashe county; Blowing Rock, Cove Creek, Appalachian and Bethel from Watauga county and Crossnore from Avery county.

Mr. Watkins said that the top-seeded teams in the girl's division are the defending champion Virginia - Carolina high school and Appalachian high school. Tops in the boy's bracket are Jefferson and Appalachian high schools. Blowing Rock won the boy's championship last year.

Tournament pairing will be made at a meeting of conference officials at Boone, Saturday morning.

Helton, Lansing And Riverview Are Included

More Schools Express Approval of Plans Already Submitted To Board

More and more Ashe county communities are asking for action on the school building program in the county and are sending in petitions to both the State and county boards of education, stating their views.

The majority of schools asking for action in special petitions, express approval of the plans submitted to the State Board of Education, by the county board.

The plans include a proposed consolidation of four of the county's high schools, Jefferson, West Jefferson, Fleetwood and Todd at a location in the Beaver Creek section as well as other badly needed improvements in other schools of the county. The petition from the Fleetwood school asks for immediate action.

A similar document from the West Jefferson school board in regard to the plans requests that "every effort be used in securing immediate approval of the plans," so that work can start at an early date.

Riverview, Lansing and Helton school committeemen approve the plans and ask that work be started "at the earliest possible date so that additional school rooms may be ready by September 1950 - to take care of a situation that will be more critical at that time."

GLENDALE TAKES STAND
Glendale Springs, which is a section of the Jefferson district, has presented a petition signed by a large number of citizens asking that this community be considered separately from "the section (Continued on page 4)

Layman's Day To Be Observed Sun.

Methodists Of County Join In With Others As Lay Leaders Are Honored

Ashe county Methodist churches, along with others throughout North Carolina, will observe Layman's Day next Sunday, February 6, when lay leaders will have charge of the programs.

These services are held in cooperation with the board of lay activities of the Western North Carolina Conference of the Methodist church and "A Layman's Faith" is the topic chosen for the theme of the services.

Robert Davis, superintendent of the Sunday school of the West Jefferson Methodist church, will speak at that church Sunday morning at eleven o'clock. Rev. Hoyt Wood, pastor, announced this week.

Rev. C. C. Murray, pastor of the Jefferson charge and Todd Gentry, charge lay leader, announced the following schedule for this group of churches:

J. Lester Segraves, Bethany, 11:00 a. m.; W. B. Oliver, Jefferson, 11:00 a. m.; Thomas Shull Johnston, Orion, 11:00 a. m., and Joe Neal, Zion, 7:00 p. m.

Rev. W. A. Kerr, Rev. J. E. Green and Rev. Ernest Stephens had not announced plans for lay services at their churches yesterday afternoon.

Funds Sought For Boy Scouts

Gale McMillan, special treasurer for the Boy Scout National Jamboree fund, announced yesterday that any contributions people wanted to send him would be appreciated.

"We have chosen boys to attend this big event on their merits and some additional funds are needed to help them defray expenses of the trip," Treasurer McMillan said.

Eight Ashe county boys have been chosen to attend. Some of them will defray their own expenses, it was explained.

Some contributions have already been received toward raising necessary funds, but more money is needed, McMillan said.