

THE YANCEY RECORD

"Dedicated To The Progress Of Yancey County"

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Assassination Chills Yancey

Beautiful Day Will Live In Infamy

It was virtually the same in Yancey County as elsewhere across the country. The housewives were the first to know that President Kennedy had been shot. Most were busy at their household duties, listening to radio or to "soap opera" on TV, when the news first flashed around the land. Within minutes practically the entire county was informed as these women called husbands and friends to spread the numbing alarm. In Burnsville people gathered about cars with radios to keep abreast of developments. Many shoppers cut their chore in half to hurry home to watch and listen to the news. Normal activities came to a standstill all across the county. "My place was packed with people," said one local businessman, who has a radio in his establishment. "I don't think anyone could really believe it when the announcement was made that the President was dead. And then they begin to slip away, one-by-one. Pretty soon the place was empty, and it stayed that way the rest of the day." The dawn of Friday, Nov. 22, was unusually bright for a November day in Yancey County. As the sun rose, it burnt away the traces of fog clinging to the peaks and by mid-morning the sky was cloudless. In contrast to a week before, when it snowed, several persons were walking about town in shirt-sleeves, completely comfortable in the warmth. But shortly after noon a chill struck and a pall of gloom descended. It has not yet completely lifted. One businessman said Saturday was the lowest day from a trade standpoint in a long, long time. On Sunday, all the churches recorded an increase in attendance. But no one stirred in the afternoon. Most people stayed home, although it was another cloudless, beautiful day. Monday, declared a national day of mourning by President Lyndon B. Johnson, turned Burnsville into a ghost town. A few people turned out for memorial services at churches across the county. There were a few signs of a return to normalcy Tuesday and Wednesday, but a depressive atmosphere still prevailed.



A Kill To Remember

C. E. (Speedy) Bailey of Green Mountain killed his first buck deer last week, and it was one that he'll be proud to remember. The deer weighed 163-pounds field dressed (meaning that prior to dressing it weighed well over 200) and it had a marvelous eight-

point rack. Bailey made the kill in Flattop Mountain Refuge, checking in at the Poplar Station. Unofficially, it is the largest deer ever to be brought out of that station. Pictured with Bailey (center) are McCoy and Clessen Letterman (right).

Nickels Program Okayed

Yancey Roundup: Yancey County farm people approved the "Nickels for Know-How" Program Nov. 19 by a vote of 417-64.

Nickels for Know-How is a program by which farm people contribute to agricultural research and education in North Carolina. They contribute a nickel per ton on the feed and fertilizer they buy to North Carolina State to support in research, teaching and extension. The plan was first adopted by a favorable vote in November, 1951. The plan was again approved in 1954, 1957, and 1960. By law, a vote on the plan must be held every three years. Thus, this month, another Nickels referendum was held at 2,500 polling places throughout North Carolina.

Series E and H Bond sales in North Carolina during October amounted to \$3,856,357, an increase of 13.9 per cent over the same month a year ago.

Bond sales during October in Yancey County were \$52,598 ac-

ording to Mr. G. L. Hensley of Burnsville, Yancey County Volunteer Savings Bond Chairman. For the year, sales totaled \$67,615 which is 51.2 per cent of the County's quota for this year.

The monthly meeting of the East Yancey High School Parent-Teacher Association, Dec. 2, has been postponed indefinitely.

Luther Ayers of Rt. 2, Burnsville, and Thad Ray of Star Route, Burnsville, are the only candidates for the post of supervisor of the Yancey County Soil and Water Conservation District.

According to District Chairman George King, the election will be held in accordance with state law, Dec. 7. The polling place will be Devton's Farm Supply.

A revival is now in progress at Burnsville's Church of God of Prophecy. The Rev. D. L. Johnson of High Point, evangelist, is conducting the services.

UF Drive Continues

BY FR. DON KAPLE
United Fund Chairman

The United Fund Drive is entering its final phase.

Glen Raven Mill and Burnsville Mill of Mohasco have unofficially reported returns from employees. The reports indicate that the employees of the Mohasco Mill have doubled their contributions of previous years.

We have reached approximately 71 percent of our goal which is about \$200 more than was finally attained last year. However, we still have more than \$2200 to go.

"I can see no reason why we should not accomplish our goal. I would like to urge everyone who has not yet made their contribution to do so this week. Send your contributions to United Fund, Box 163, Burnsville."

100 PERCENT HONOR ROLE
B. B. Penland & Son
Burnsville Mill of Mohasco, Inc.
Glen Raven Mill
Pensacola School
Clearmont School
S. Toe School
Bee Log School
Yancey Hospital
Central Barber Shop
Yancey Barber Shop
Ray Bros. Food Center
Pollard's Drug Store

DEMOCRATS TO MEET

The Democratic Women's Club of Yancey County will hold its monthly meeting Dec. 5 at 7:30 in the courthouse at Burnsville.



"ASK NOT WHAT YOUR COUNTRY CAN DO FOR YOU, ASK WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR COUNTRY."

A Poem For JFK

BY FR. DON KAPLE

Three shots rang out!
A nation gasped,
'Oh no!'
And held in her lap
His wounded head
And wept:
'Speak to us!
'Speak to us!'
He replied from the dead:
'Is so
God is the Judge of my life.
History the test of the work I
have done
These few short years.
But now my voice is a shout,
My tongue is legion,
Weep not for me.
For I have joined the ranks of
martyrs
Who have given their lives.
Many have gone before me,
More will follow after me,
Before the battle is won.
But we hold these truths to be
self-evident
That all men are created equal
And endowed by their Creator
With certain inalienable rights.
We believe in Liberty and Justice
for all;
Equality of opportunity for All
And for that conviction
We die.
'What shall you fear?
Rocks and bombs, tanks and
guns?
Oh no!
Fear hatred.
My assassin's name was hated.
Fear injustice, the food of
tyranny
Fear apathy and lack of cour-
age;
Greed, both moral and phy-
sical;
Violence,
Intolerance,
Prejudice and greed.
These are your enemies—the ene-
mies of Democracy.
'Yes, now the drums are
muffled;
The battle is empty.
For I have fallen in battle.
But the fight is not lost.
The struggle continues.
And we shall miss your ready
smile,
Your eloquence and charm,
Your energy and courage.
But we are grateful.
We shall never forget you.
You have taught us again the
meaning of America.
We kneel and kiss your coffin.'

East Yancey, C. River Set Cage Schedules

East Yancey and Cane River High Schools open their basketball seasons Tuesday night (Dec. 3) away from home against Mitchell County opponents.

East Yancey meets Bakersville and Cane River faces Tipton Hill.

Both games are Appalachian Conference contests.

The schedules:

CANE RIVER
Dec. 3—at Tipton Hill; 6—Mars Hill; 10—at Spruce Pine; 13—East Yancey; 17—at Bakersville.
Jan. 3—Hot Springs; 7—at Blue Ridge (Hendersonville); 10—at East Yancey; 14—Marshall; 17—at Mars Hill; 21—Spruce Pine; 24—Blue Ridge; 28—Bakersville; 31—Hot Springs.

EAST YANCEY
Dec. 3—at Bakersville; 6—Spruce Pine; 10—at Mars Hill; 13—at Cane River; 17—Crossnore; 20—Newland.
Jan. 3—at Marshall; 10—Cane River; 14—at Tipton Hill; 17—Cranberry; 21—Marshall; 24—at Cranberry; 28—Tipton Hill; 31—Mars Hill.

Feb. 7—at Cane River; 11—at Crossnore; 14—at Spruce Pine; 18—at Newland; 21—Bakersville.

(Editor's Note: A complete roundup on both the boys and the girls teams of each school will be carried in next week's issue of The Record.)

On The Road Without A Radio: A Hunger For The Facts

BY TOM HIGGINS
Record Editor

Where were you when it happened?

How did you hear it? Virtually every American has been asked—or has asked—these two questions in the past week.

It, of course, was the news of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in Dallas, Tex., last Friday.

My wife Caroline and I, along with our two-year-old son, Chippy, were motoring to Durham Friday for the annual Duke-North Carolina football game, which was to be played Saturday.

In mid-afternoon we stopped at a drive-in restaurant near Hickory for lunch.

I went inside to pick up some gum, and happened to overhear someone say: "The governor is still alive too." Not wishing to be rude, I did not interrupt to ask the person what he was talking about.

Returning to the car, I told Caroline what I had overheard and said that I feared Governor Terry

MRS. BLACK PASSES
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Black died recently in Concord Hospital in Concord, N. C., after a long illness.

She was the wife of William E. Black, who was druggist at the Yancey Pharmacy in Burnsville for several years before moving to a pharmacy in Concord. The Blacks resided in Burnsville.

Sanford had been in an accident.

We do not have a radio on our car, so we sat speculating about what could have happened.

"Oh, President Kennedy's in Dallas," said Caroline. "Remember what happened to Stevenson (Adlai) down there? I hope they haven't done something to the President."

Just seconds later the curb-hop delivered our order and confirmed my wife's fears. "The President and Texas' governor have been shot," she said. "They're both still alive, but they're in critical condition."

The sandwiches that the waitress brought—which had been so eagerly anticipated—suddenly did not appear so delicious at all.

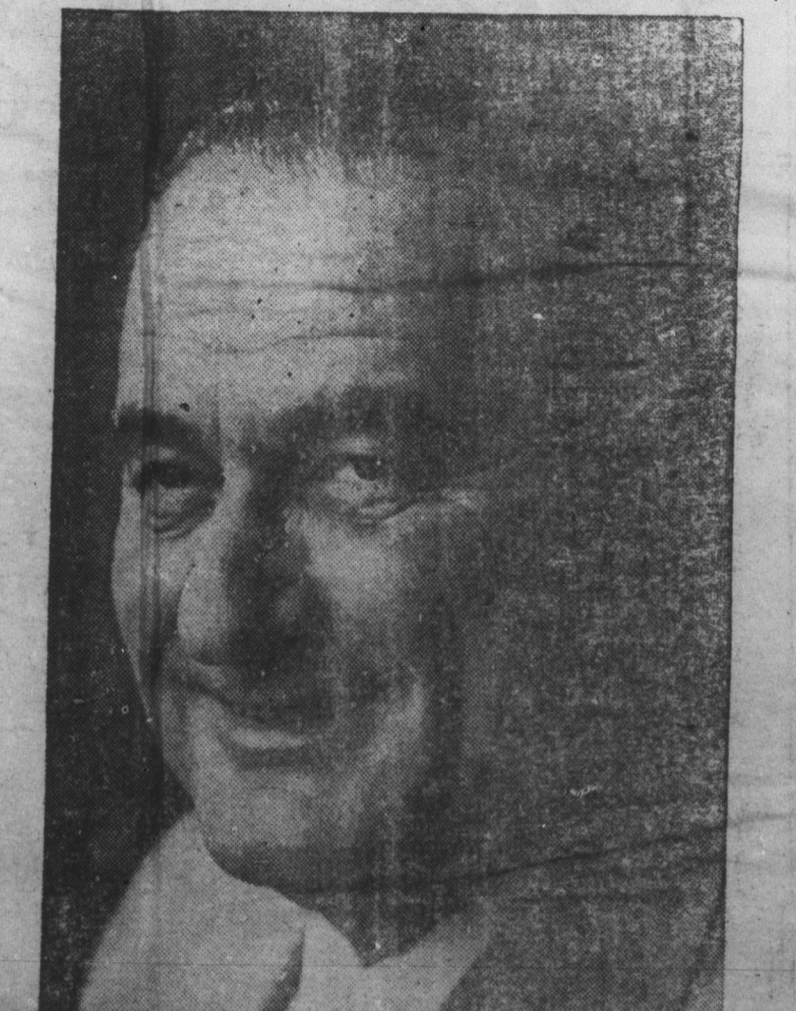
Our hunger now was for facts, not food.

Shortly, a car parked beside us and the occupants were obviously listening to the radio. We lowered our windows to try and hear. Reports were still skimpy, but said that the President was still alive.

We decided to eat en route and hurry to Winston-Salem, where we planned to spend the night, so that we could listen to radio or watch news of the incident on TV. All along our route there was evidence of the drama gripping the country.

Occupants of those cars with radios bent forward to listen. At service stations and restaurants people were knotted around cars, listening to the news.

Upon reaching Mocksville we decided to stop and inquire about the latest developments. Many other motorists apparently had the same idea, for there was little parking room at the service station where we pulled in. I went inside the station and one look told me I did not have to ask the big question. There were about a dozen men in the little room and all ap-



LYNDON B. JOHNSON: "I WILL DO MY BEST... I ASK YOUR HELP—AND GOD'S."

peared to be dazed. A grizzled attendant approached me, and I asked him, "Have you heard?" he asked, tears streaming down his cheeks, "President Kennedy is dead."

Although the reports we had heard in Hickory were reassuring, the news was still astounding.

Having been associated with newspapers for years and knowing reports had been based on rumor and later proved false, I tried to convince myself this was such a base.

"So did my wife," she said. "It must not be so," she said. "Think of all he came through in the Pacific when his boat sank. A man like that seems charmed. He just can't be dead."

But upon arrival in Winston-Salem we learned that the youngest U. S. President, the hero of PT-109, was indeed gone.

I can't remember a more somber weekend, especially in a city the size of Winston-Salem.

People in the streets went about their business very seriously. It seemed extremely odd to see someone even smile.

En route to Burnsville Sunday via Boone there seemed an ominous, eerie atmosphere along U. S. 401. Then realization came.

Although it was a beautiful cloudless day—a day perfect for visiting the mountains to which No. 421 leads—there was hardly any traffic on the road, a highway normally heavy-travelled every day of the year. In America was grieving its leader.

Local Airman In Honor Guard

Notes on the assassination of President Kennedy:

Gerard Murdock, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Murdock of Burnsville, was among the last few thousand to see President Kennedy alive.

Young Murdock, an Airman 1st Class who entered the Air Force in August, was a member of the honor guard which greeted the President Nov. 21 upon his arrival in Texas at Lackland AFB near San Antonio.

M. B. Higgins and Stanton Higgins of Burnsville journeyed to Washington Sunday to witness the funeral of President Kennedy. They returned home Wednesday. Both visited relatives while in the capital area.