

# THE YANCEY RECORD

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## Bill Passed To Extend Blue Ridge Parkway

WASHINGTON — The U. S. House of Representatives Wednesday, January 24th, passed Congressman Roy A. Taylor's bill to extend the Blue Ridge Parkway.

"I am extremely delighted," declared Rep. Taylor. "This is something I have worked for since the time I first came to Congress. It has been one of my long-range goals and one of the reasons that I worked for years to become Chairman of the National Parks Subcommittee."

The extension will start at Beech Gap west of Mount Pisgah and go to a point north of Atlanta. When completed, it will bring parkway travel within easy reach of millions of new visitors, which Taylor said, "will mean a great boost to Western North Carolina's tourist business."

The bill authorizes \$87 million for construction. No special appropriation will be required since the money will be derived on a pay-as-you-go basis from regular annual national parkway construction funds. Annual appropriations now being used to complete the present Blue Ridge Parkway would continue and be applied to the construction of the extension.

The States of North Carolina and Georgia are ready to acquire the necessary land without delay. "I am hopeful that the Senate will act promptly to pass the bill so that it may soon be signed into law by the President," Taylor said.

## Heart Fund Drive Underway

Heart Fund Chairman G. D. McClure has announced the beginning of Yancey's Heart Fund Drive this week.

The goal for Yancey County for the Heart Fund is \$1,200.

As part of the kick-off, Chairman McClure announced that Radio Station WKYK is offering prizes for the most song titles submitted with the word "Heart" as part of the title. The first prize is a transistor radio, second prize will be three LP records, and the third prize will be ten 45rpm records. Letters containing the song titles must be received not later than Saturday, February 3, at Station WKYK. Winners will be announced Sunday at 4:05 p. m.

Lee Childress, manager of Station WKYK and Benefits Chairman of the Heart Fund drive here, has sentenced one of his announcers to "jail". Childress says announcer Jimmy Douglas is being sentenced to jail because he disobeyed an order and played rock-n-roll records on a good listening program. Douglas will be "jailed" in a wooden jail beside the Chamber of Commerce building on the square Saturday morning and will remain there until he is bailed out with Heart Fund money. The bail has been set at \$100. Announcer Douglas

## Tri-County News Wins Award

First place award for the best spot news story of 1967 for a weekly in North Carolina was given to The Tri-County News Thursday evening, Jan. 18.

Governor Moore was on hand to make the presentations of the North Carolina Press Association annual awards in Chapel Hill.

Stories and news photographs were judged by "Out-of-State" editors.

It was the first such award that The Tri-County News has received.

The award was granted for a story on the proposed newspaper that was to have been printed for the poor people in the Watauga, Avery, Mitchell and Yancey County area.

THE TRI-COUNTY NEWS, a weekly published at Spruce Pine, N. C., covers news of Mitchell, Avery, and Yancey Counties. Joe D. Distl is Editor and Publisher; Mrs. S. T. Henry is News Director. Mrs. Linda Ledford is Society Editor.

One of the outstanding features of the TRI-COUNTY NEWS is a PROGRESS-HISTORY edition, inaugurated last year. The 1968 edition expected to be even bigger and better than last year is scheduled for February 29.

will report from "Jail" from time to time over Station WKYK concerning the fund drive.

Heart balloons will be sold by Cadette Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts each Saturday during February. Balloons will be sold in Burnsville, at J. F. Robinson's Store at Cane River, Profit's Store at Bald Creek, and Clayton Whitson's Store at Ramseytown.

According to Scout Master Phil Verdon, Boy Scouts will conduct a car wash for the drive Saturday, February 10, at a location to be announced later.

At Burnsville Elementary School on Saturday, February 17, at 7:30 p. m. there will be a program of Gospel, Country, and rock-n-roll music. Singing and music will be furnished by local groups including Higgins Quartet, Honeycutt Brothers, The Grapes of Wrath, and others. Other entertainment will be provided by Lucille Hensley's Den 2 Cub Scouts. This group, which is known as the "Chimpanzees", is composed of Joey Hensley, Bobby Holcombe, James Whitson and Terry Childress. Also to be on the program is Miss Yancey, Bobbi Fox. Bill Banks will assist as master of ceremonies. Admission will be one dollar for adults, and fifty cents for children.

## EMC Gives Books To Schools

—More than 70 new books were recently given to the schools of Yancey, Madison, Buncombe, and Unicoi Counties. Two books were given to each elem., and high school in the entire service area of French Broad EMC. A Giant Step, by Clyde Ellis, President of the National Rural Electrical Association tells the story of rural electrification yesterday and today.

—Thirty-three employees of the Marshall division of French Broad Electric are presently enrolled in a defensive driving school being taught by Mr. Thomas of Micaville, and Mr. Alexander of Asheville. The two hour sessions are held every Wednesday morning in the Marshall office. Following the completion of the course in the Marshall division the course will be given to the 35 employees in the Burnsville, Yancey and Mitchell County division.

—Soon we will announce a new young couple program, a gold medalation home award program, and a new leadership and development program — These new programs are being directed under the expanding member service division of French Broad Electric Membership Corporation; your member owned, tax paying electric utility.

## Gardner For Governor Chairman Named

Chairmen have been named in each of the sixteen counties in the Eleventh District to head the James Gardner for Governor Campaign.

Orville Coward of Sylva and Mrs. Eugene P. Foster of Asheville, Co-Chairmen of the 11th District Gardner for Governor Committee announce the following chairmen to complete the District:

Cherokee County, Leonard Ramsey and Casteel J. Floyd; Claude L. Orr in Graham County; Robert Fritz and Troy Hargrove, Haywood County; and Henderson County, Richard Davis.

Also named were: D. C. Hughes in Jackson County; William C. Chambers and Mrs. Rush Blanton, McDowell County; Sheriff Brownlow Moffitt and Sam C. Gouge in Mitchell; Polk County, James Rutledge; Bruce Hoyle, Rutherford County; and Mrs. Taj Hanna and William White in Transylvania.

Previously, Coward and Mrs. Foster has announced Dr. Lewis Rathbun and Dan Judd in Buncombe; Sheriff Donald Banks in Yancey; Norman Clappett in Swain; Ruel White, Clay County; and Cecil Parker, Macon County; and Ralph Briggs, Madison County.

## N.C. And Tenn. Tourism Assoc. Plans Membership Drive

If you have ever driven from Elizabethton, Tennessee to Northwestern North Carolina or vice versa, you have encountered the rigors of driving on a mountainous, crooked, and dangerous road, Route 19-E.

Several years ago there was an attempt by the people of this area to get help via Appalachian funds to get a new road, but because of conflicting interest, the proposed route was approved for Tennessee instead of North Carolina.

November 2, 1967 found rejuvenated interest in a highway to extend from Elizabethton to Mars Hill, N. C., by a group of interested people from the two states.

This group became known as the North Carolina - Tennessee Highway & Tourism Development Association. At this time the membership has grown from 23 people to approximately 100.

A meeting of this group was held in Spruce Pine on December 6, 1967 and had as guests Mr. John R. Hampton, North Carolina's Representative to the Appalachian Regional Commission, and Mr. Hilton Curry, Tennessee's Representative to the Appalachian Regional Commission.

Both Mr. Hampton and Mr. Curry praised the efforts of the group. Mr. Hampton strongly recommended that the group increase in number and invite each and every citizen of the involved North Carolina and Tennessee counties to become members of the organization. He also suggested that the membership fee be set at \$1.00, and then all members present followed him in "starting the ball rolling" by giving one dollar.

Mr. Hampton recommended this fee to provide funds for publicizing this work and, if necessary, to pay an economist to make a study of the area to show the need for such a road.

A recommendation for the road has been sent in to the Appalachian Regional Commission.

The need for such a road is evident, but it would be purely speculation to name the many advantages this road would bring about.

However, to think about this, it would be very obvious to anyone that it would increase the tourism, improve trucking and shipment to and from this area.

These two factors could help bring new industry, new jobs, new businesses, increased employment, and an overall boost to the economy.

The Appalachian Regional Commission could help this area tremendously with such a project as THIS ROAD.

This area is steeped in history of being a pioneer and self-starting region, as evidenced by the founding of the first independent government in 1772. This government, known as the Watauga Council, was established 4 years prior to the Declaration of Independence and many of the people involved still have relatives in this mountainous area.

It is the contention of this group that if every citizen would take an active interest in this project that this road could and will be built.

There are many steps along the way to such a corridor, such as obtaining approval of both North Carolina and Tennessee, matching funds, etc., but if en-

ough people show an interest the obstacles could be overcome. The North Carolina - Tennessee Highway and Tourism Development Association is inviting you to become a member and help write your name in the history of this area by becoming a member.

Please enter my name as a member of the North Carolina - Tennessee Highway and Tourism Development Association.

NAME

ADDRESS

Enclosed is my dollar for membership.

Please type or print the above information. If you live in Avery, Mitchell, Yancey or Madison County, just clip out this coupon and mail it to your local Chamber of Commerce.

This newspaper will keep its readers posted on the total number of members for each county and the progress that is made on this project.

## Heavner Promoted To Captain

Hq. USAF has announced the award of a regular commission to First Lieutenant Lester R. Heavner, Jr., and his promotion to the rank of Captain.

Captain Heavner entered the Air Force as a reserve officer in 1962. During this tour of duty which terminated in 1965, Captain Heavner served with the 401st Tactical Fighter Wing and the 613th Tactical Fighter Squadron as the Tactical Air Targets Officer. The Captain is a veteran of the Cuban Crisis and the Vietnam War. In 1965 Captain Heavner left the Air Force for a period of two years during which he was employed by Carolina Power & Light Company in Hazelwood, N. C. The Captain voluntarily returned to active duty in July 1967 and was temporarily assigned to the 336th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina. Presently he is assigned to Vance Air Force Base Oklahoma as a pilot.

Captain Heavner's awards and decorations consist of the Air Force Commendation Medal, Vietnamese Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Award Forces Expeditionary Medal.

Captain Heavner, the son of Mrs. Robbie Hensley Heavner, is a former resident of Yancey County. Captain Heavner and his wife, the former Lillian Joanna Powell of Mt. Holly, North Carolina, reside with their two children, Lillian Karen age 3 and Sharen Dee age 1, at 1605 Pawnee, Enid, Oklahoma.