



James Byrd Presents Scholarship Awards To Carroll Buchanan And Richard Price

Awards Given, New Directors Elected At Annual Chamber Of Commerce Dinner

The annual dinner meeting of the Yancey County Chamber of Commerce, held at the East Yancey High School Cafeteria last Tuesday night, was attended by more than one hundred and fifty people.

Following an invocation by Reverend Don Elly, the guests sat down to a sumptuous roast beef dinner prepared and served by Mrs. Max Hughes and Mrs. Mack Ray, Home Economics teachers, and the students in the Home Economics Department at East Yancey.

The president of the Yancey County Chamber of Commerce, Claude Vess, gave a brief resume of the Chamber's accomplishments during the past year, and then introduced

Watch 'Donkey Basketball'

The "Donkey Basketball" game, featuring the "Jumping Jacks" vs. "Mule Skinners" will be held at 8:00 p. m. on April 26 at Burnsville Elementary School and on April 27 at Harris High Gym in Spruce Pine. Doors open at 7:00 p. m.

Join the fun and watch a rollicking game between the Sissy's and the Tinderfoots; the Jacks vs. Skinners.

Admission for adults is \$1.00, for children, 75¢. The game is sponsored by N. C. Radio Patrol Mitchell and Yancey, and Newdale Volunteer Fire Department.

James Byrd, who presented a scholarship award of \$200 to a student from each high school.

Scholarship winner from East Yancey is Carroll Reed Buchanan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lealon Buchanan of Route 2, Burnsville. Carroll is planning to attend Berea College in Berea, Kentucky, and major in history and art.

Richard Anthony Price from Cane River High School won the second scholarship award of \$200. Richard is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Duke Allen Price. He plans to attend Mars Hill College and study engineering.

Sportsmanship trophies were presented by Cane River coach Jimmy Neil to Betty Jane Ball, a sophomore at Cane River High School and Bruce Honeycutt, a Cane River senior.

Harold Bennett Jr., coach at East Yancey High School, presented Sportsmanship trophies to Sharon Laws, a sophomore at East Yancey and Gerald Blacklock, senior.

Seven new directors were elected Tuesday night to serve a three year term of office in the Yancey County Chamber of Commerce. They included: J. C. Styles, Ben Lee Hensley, Phillip Thomas, Roy Ray, Bill Bailey, Earl Young, Mrs. Mary Ellen Ray.

The Program Committee, consisting of Olen Shepherd, Mrs. Mary Ellen Ray, Ardell Sink, Charles Gillespie, Rev.

Don Elly, Bill Banks and Charlie Hensley, rounded out the program with a series of slides of Yancey County.

A display set up in the gymnasium by various clubs and agencies in Yancey County, showing services that they render to the county, added a special highlight to the evening.

Festival Of Friendship

May 25th has been set for Yancey County's first Festival of Friendship. The Festival of Friendship is a day long celebration honoring Senior Citizens and the part they play in our County's life. It will feature singing, picnicking, arts and crafts and good old time enjoyment.

A Steering Committee headed by Miss Blair Farlow, Yancey County Social Service, is planning the day of activities. Most of the events will take place on the square from 10:00 a. m. until 3:00 p. m.

This event involves not only the department of Social Services, but also all interested civic and church groups are being asked to contribute time and talent. Anyone wishing to know more about the Festival may call 682-2134. Volunteers for transportation, refreshments, crafts are needed.

Forest Service Spokesman Says Fire Danger Extreme

By Carolyn Yuziuk

People in this district have been very cooperative during the present fire danger, according to Blaine Ray, Radio Dispatcher for the Toecane Ranger District of the U. S. Forest Service. "We appreciate this cooperation because the fire danger is extreme," he stated in a telephone conversation on Monday. He cited the caution and vigilance of the people of this area as being responsible for our "luck" so far and urged everyone to keep up the "good work".

Last Monday the "build-up" index was 45 out of a possible 100. The "build-up" index is arrived at by considering how many days have passed since the last rain, how dry the woods are and current wind direction and velocity. According to Ray, the index reading that day indicated that it was about half as dry as it could possibly be.

The Forest Service also records a "spread index" which goes from 1 to 5, depending on how fast a fire could be expected to spread. 1 indicates a low spread index, 2 is moderate, 3 is high, 4 is very high and 5 is extreme. Monday's "spread index" for this district was 4, or very high. According to Ray, only the drop in wind velocity to 5 mph, helped to keep the spread index from soaring to number 5, or "extreme" on Monday.

"We take weather readings at 1:00 p. m. daily," Raysaid, "from which we determine the fire danger for that day and try to predict the readings for the next day." He stated that according to predictions for Tuesday, the wind velocity would remain about the same which is very fortunate. If the wind velocity should rise con-

Gospel Sing

A Gospel Singing will be held at Brummitt Creek Free Will Baptist Church on Sunday evening, April 25, 2:00 p. m. A large number of singers from North Carolina and Tennessee is expected. If you sing you are invited to come and sing. If you can't sing but love to hear good singing, you are invited to come and listen!

siderably, the fire danger would be greatly increased.

The Toecane Ranger District is comprised of 63,254 acres of forest land located in Yancey, Mitchell and part of Buncombe County.

No crews are out fighting fires at present, although a crew of six men was sent to Arkansas last week, from this and surrounding districts, to help fight a forest fire raging there. Two of the men, Gail Effler and Leon Murphy, were from Yancey County in the Toecane District.

Beta Club Convention

By Janice Hunter

The members of the Cane River and East Yancey Beta Clubs were among the 3,000 Betas from all over North Carolina to attend the state convention in Asheville last weekend.

Friday morning was spent touring the Vance Birthplace, the Hadley Corporation, and the Asheville Citizen - Times. Also, a thirty minute program was enjoyed at the National Weather Service. Most of the afternoon was spent exploring the Biltmore House and Gardens.

After a short song session and speech by the former Beta president, Jack Simpson, campaign speeches and skits were given by the candidates for this year's offices. On Saturday night 7 members went back to Asheville, with two guests, to enjoy the Beta Ball when the Outcasts played.

The Beta members from Cane River who attended the convention were: Ronnie Randolph, John Renfro, George Renfro, Dennis Whitson, Tim Higgins, Kenny Hedrick, and Mrs. Phyllis Bailey, chaperone.

Beta members from East Yancey who attended were Johnny Blair, Jim Norris, Benny Wyatt, Marilyn Laughrum, Forrest Westall, Pat Warren Janice Hunter, Cathy Dayton, Miranda Whitson, Debra Wyatt, Janice Young, Diana Styles, Gary Robinson, Cynthia Williams and Benny George, with their sponsor, Mrs. Mack Ray.