

Burnsville Voters Turn Out En Masse; Incumbent Town Board Re-Elected

In a hotly fought election the voters of Burnsville on Tuesday gave the present town board a decisive vote of con-

fidence. Mayor James Anglin and Commissioners P.C. Coletta and Bob Helmle were all reelected by substantial mar-

gins. In the contest for mayor, Anglin received 293 votes, as against 206 for his opponent,

Carl Carter. In the race for the two positions as commissioners on the town board, Coletta received 322 votes;

Helmle received 264 votes, Ferril McCurry got 225, and Cecil Shaw followed with 176. The turnout at the polls was heavy with the 508 ballots cast approximating 85 per cent of the town's registered voters. Only three times in recent years have more votes been cast in a town election. These three occasions were the hotly fought regular election in 1963, and the two elections on the question of opening an ABC store.

In winning the Tuesday election the present town board campaigned largely on the basis of their record of sound, businesslike conduct of the town affairs. They also stressed the fact that the town is in the midst of an expensive and complicated project of improving the town's water system, and that "changing horses in mid stream" could be an expensive mistake. They employed both advertisements in the Yancey Record and considerable time on station WKYK to get the issues before the voters.

The opposition, on the other hand conducted their campaign almost exclusively by word of mouth. In these person-to-person contacts, it is understood they relied heavily on the contention that "it's time for a change". The voters of Burnsville clearly did not accept this view.

Bennett Accepts Appointment

Mark Bennett last Friday, after delaying three weeks following his appointment to the vacancy on the Yancey County Board of Education, accepted the position and was sworn in by Arnold Higgins, Clerk of the Court.

Bennett participated in a routine meeting of the school board Friday night. He stated that in the interval following his appointment he had reviewed the school problems and reached a decision to serve.

At the school board meeting, which was attended by all five members, the pending matter of reaching a decision regarding the employment of a school superintendent was not brought up.

Girls Team Gets Award

By Ernie Howard

The Beacon Manufacturers Award for the most outstanding girls team in Western North Carolina, was presented to the East Yancey Lady Panthers on May 1, 1971 at the University of North Carolina in Asheville. This award goes each year to a school in Division II, which is 2A and 3A schools.

This award was presented by Gene Ochsenreiter, president of the Mountain Amateur Club and by the Asheville Jaycees. This is the award in western North Carolina for a girl's basketball team.

The other four finalists were Edneyville, Marion High, Erwin and Owen.

East Yancey's Marcia Banks was one of the finalists for the Robertson "Y" Award. This award is given each year for the most outstanding high school female athlete in Division II. The winner was Sue Carswell from Old Fork. Congratulations to these outstanding teams and players for their accomplishments during the year.

Mental Health Day Luncheon

Observance of Mental Health Day will be on Friday, May 7, in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church in Burnsville. This will be a buffet luncheon meeting held from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The public is invited.

At this meeting information will be given about the work of the local Mental Health Association. The guest speaker will be Mrs. Helen Jones of Raleigh, N.C. Mrs. Jones is the associate director of the North Carolina Mental Health Association for the western region.

All persons interested in the progress of the Mental Health Association in Yancey County are invited.



East Yancey Pantherettes Receive Beacon Award As Outstanding Girls Team in WNC

Pensacola Organizes Fire Department; Fund-Raising Bluegrass Festival Slated

A group of Pensacola citizens met Monday night at Mountain Wilderness to organize a Volunteer Fire Department to serve the Pensacola area. The group made the decision to charter the organization this week and elected officers as follows: President, Jerry Wilson; Vice-Presidents, Ron Eubanks and Frank Hensley; Secretary-Treasurer, Jeannie Eubanks.

One of the first official acts of the Pensacola Volunteer Fire Department after its charter will be to sponsor a Bluegrass Festival to raise money to get the department off to a good start.

The Bluegrass Festival, which will be held at the recreation hall at Mountain Wilderness, will feature Jim and Jess and the Virginia Boys from "Grand Ole Opry" and other well-known musicians and singers. An amateur bluegrass band contest will highlight the festival and the sponsors are hoping to attract bands from as far away as Charlotte. Bands will compete for a first prize of \$100.00, and

a second prize of \$50.00 will be offered.

The Bluegrass Festival is planned for May 28 and 29, Friday and Saturday, with the following schedule of events: From 6 p.m. until midnight on Friday the bluegrass band contest will be held. Admission will be \$1.50 per person; Saturday, May 29, there will be a special show with guest stars at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Recognition Day

The Yancey County Commissioners meeting on May 3rd have proclaimed the 25th of May as a day of recognition for contributions that Senior Citizens have made to the growth of Yancey County. The Commissioners resolution highlighted the following facts:

"We want to commend our senior citizens for their contributions to the growth of Yancey County... We want to show appreciation for the important part they still play in Commu-

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sharp, and the winners of the band contest will play. Admission is \$3.00 per person for that day. All proceeds from the Festival will go towards helping the Pensacola Volunteer Fire Department.

Bluegrass Bands wishing to enter the competition should call 682-2700 before May 21.

A meeting will be held on Friday night, May 7, at 8 p.m. at Mountain Wilderness Rec. Hall to make further arrangements for the festival and other plans concerning the charter of the Fire Department. All interested citizens are urged to attend.

Farmers Vote

Burley tobacco growers in Yancey County voted Tuesday on whether to have farm poundage quotas and price support for the 1971 crop. The result was overwhelming in favor of the marketing quotas. All persons engaged in the production of 1970-crop burley tobacco were eligible to vote in this referendum.