

MHA Dinner Meeting Set

The annual dinner meeting of the Yancey County Mental Health Association will be held on Friday, May 14, at 6:30 p.m. The ladies of the Higgins Memorial United Methodist Church will prepare and serve the meal in the Fellowship Hall of the church. Guest speaker will be Mr. Carlos Young, Shelby, NC, who is a member of the North Carolina Board of Directors. Members of the local Board and the Association members are invited to attend the dinner.

The American Medical Association has called mental illness "the nation's most pressing health problem." Here are the startling facts to bear this out:

Mental illness strikes one person in every ten--a total of 20,000,000 Americans--children, teenagers, young adults,

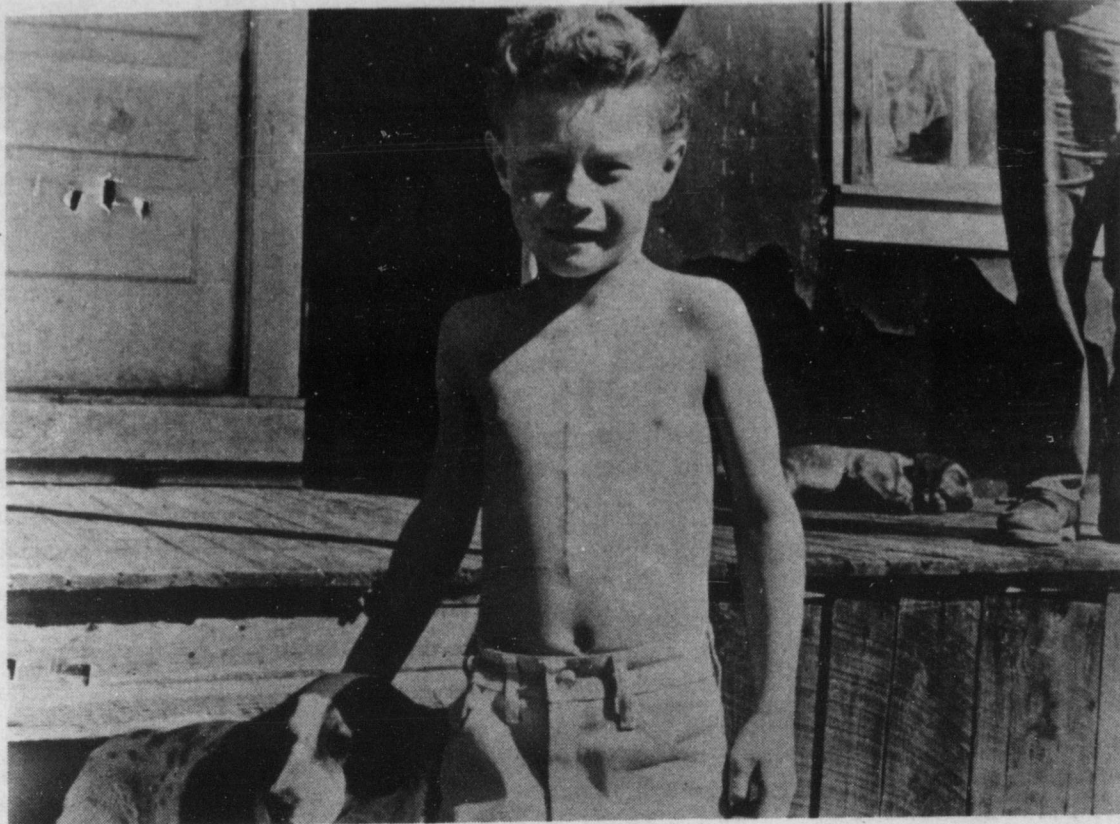
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Growers In Burley Contest

Five Yancey County Burley Tobacco growers have received placings and received checks as a result of entering the Burley Tobacco Contest during January-February of this year. The purpose of the contest is to recognize growers who follow production practices recommended by the N.S. State University. Those entering the contest filled out a questionnaire on practices from plant bed preparation through final marketing. Yield was only one of the 48 factors considered. The placings were as follows: Less than 0.5 acre category, Dock Cooper won first; Raymond Wilson won second; Leonard Chandler was third. Above 0.5 acre category was Hobart Banks, first; George Byrd, 2nd place.

Prize money was sponsored by Dellinger and Silver, Dayton Farm Supply, J.F. Robinson, Johnson and Co., Mack Miller & Son and O.C. Whitson.

The above winners were automatically considered in a state contest. Winners were announced at the Tobacco Banquet at the Battery Park Hotel Friday, April 23rd. Mr. Cooper and Mr. Banks received plaques in their categories as second place state winner. Both first place honors went to Madison County growers.



Little Randy Mitchell, Now Fully Recovered, Bears Long Scar From Heart Surgery

Heart Sounds Screening Method Proves Effective In Testing

When a little boy can show a 52-suture scar running from the base of the neck to just above the waist, he's really a big man.

Randy Mitchell of Burnsville will be 10 on June 5th.

He's shy, alert, reddish blond-haired, freckled, sunny-faced, wiry, and weighs 44 pounds. That's five pounds more than he weighed before his open heart operation October 30 at N.C. Baptist Hospital in Win-

ston-Salem. Randy had an "atrial septal defect, secundum"--in plain English, a hole (half-inch in circumference) between the upper two chambers of the heart.

The hole was a terrifying surprise to his parents-- even though they knew about the big computer screening program at school to find hidden heart disease and even though Randy had been called in later for a follow-up examination by a heart doctor.

The Heart Sounds Screening Program is administered by the North Carolina Heart Association of Chapel Hill with a skeletal paid staff and 100 to 200 volunteer aides and technicians in each of the mountain counties involved. It is

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Week Of Soil Stewardship

The opening of Soil Stewardship Week, May 16 to May 23, will be widely recognized from the pulpits of Yancey County churches this coming Sunday.

Most church bulletins will carry an insert expressing the general environmental concern with the urgent problems of pollution, erosion, and other widespread practices tending to degrade the earth's surface. The attempt is made to appeal to every individual to "Consider the earth; Consider it well!"

Soil Stewardship Week has

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Commissioners Study Budget Request From County Schools

The Board of County Commissioners is now in the midst of reviewing, revising and approving budget requests of the various governmental agencies dependent for support on Yancey County tax revenues.

The proposed budget for the county schools, which takes a good size bite of available county funds, is illustrative of the budgeting function of the county government. The

fiscal year for which the budget is now being prepared is from July 1, 1971 to June 30, 1972. The estimated current operating costs of the schools which must be borne by local tax revenues are as follows:

General Administration	\$16,946
Instructional service	21,860
Operation of Buildings	20,500
Maintenance of buildings	45,945
Fixed charges	11,690
Transportation	9,936
Total	\$126,877

The local funds for schools amount to less than a quarter of the total expenditures of the county. At the same time, the \$126,877 shown above is only a small fraction of the total cost of operating the Yancey County schools; the greater part of the cost of schools comes from State and Federal funds. The percentage breakdown between the three sources of school finances for the '69-'70 fiscal year (the most recent year available) was as follows:

State	74.9%
Federal	18.0%
Yancey County	7.1%

Although the County Commissioners are obliged to find

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Yancey Gets Road Money

Yancey County has been allocated \$54,000 for three secondary road projects, according to an announcement just released by the State Highway Commission. The three projects are:

Grade, drain, base and pave 1.30 mile of the Seven Mile Ridge Road (SR1167) to dead end) estimated to cost \$28,000.

Grade, drain, base and pave 0.8 mile of road from NC 197 to dead end, estimated to cost \$16,000.

Surveys and right-of-way acquisitions for secondary road plan, estimated to cost \$10,000.

Postal Rate To Increase

Postmaster Paul Buck said today that increases in most postage rates will take effect May 16, 1971 as the new United States Postal Service begins its task of achieving self sufficiency as required by the Postal Reorganization Act.

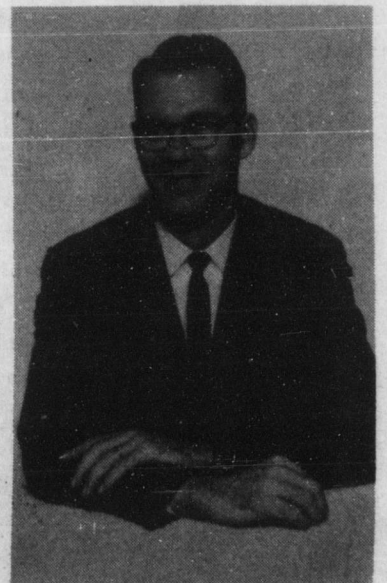
Mr. Buck explained that the new increases will raise first-class letter rates from 6 to 8 cents an ounce, and airmail letter rates from 10 to 11 cents per ounce. Post cards will go from 5 to 6 cents each and airmail post cards will go from 8 to 9 cents each.

The increases will be borne more by business than by individuals, the postmaster pointed out, since about 75 percent of first class and air mail is from commercial mailers.

In addition to first-class rates, second and third class will also go up on May 16. However, since the postal reform legislation contemplates that such increases be phased over a five year period--or ten years for nonprofit organizations--the increases to become effective May 16 will generally be only 1/5th of the total increase proposed by the Postal Service.

No changes are to be made

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Hazen Ledford
Vice President
of Local Bank

Edwin Duncan, Jr., president of The Northwestern Bank, has announced that Hazen Ledford is now executive vice president of The Northwestern Bank in Burnsville. Ledford was named cashier of the Bank in Bakersville in 1964 and vice president in 1971.

Mr. Ledford is secretary of

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