

Recreation And Tourism Are Topics At Meeting; Consultant Notes Impact On Local Economies

Representatives of public and private agencies who have a contribution to make in recreation and tourism in Western North Carolina met in Boone, N.C., on November 11, 1971. Discussed at the meeting was the use of recreational enterprises for both individuals and groups. The meeting sponsored by USDA's Farmers Home Administration, and the Agricultural Extension Service, was attended by Wilbur G. Howard, FHA Supervisor and Ned W. Jester, Soil Conservation Service Technician from Yancey County, who are vitally interested in the recreational industry in the area.

It was stated that farmers in Western North Carolina have already cashed in on the tourist dollar by providing much needed recreational facilities in conjunction with their farming operation, or in some cases have turned their entire farm to recreational use. Community leaders and interested individuals heard of the variety of assistance available to them in developing recreational enterprises. Some of the assistance mentioned was credit, engineering, consultation on site planning, traffic flow, complimentary facilities in the region, management and operation, and other technical assistance. Mr. Jack H. Frauson, Recreation Consultant of the

Recreation Division of the North Carolina Department of Natural and Economic Resources, explained to the group that tourism in North Carolina is big business, accounting for over \$800 million in the state economy last year. Of this figure, \$500 million is brought into North Carolina from out of state visitors and \$300 million is spent by North Carolinians. "Tourism in the western counties has a special impact on local economies because of the natural attractions that draw tourists to the region. As a group, farmers thus far have not shared proportionately in these tourist dollars," Frauson said.

It was learned that much assistance is available to individuals planning recreational enterprises. Technical services are available from the N.C. Recreation Commission, the Department of Local Affairs and the Department of Conservation and Development, as well as USDA's Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, and Agricultural Extension Service. Financial assistance can be obtained from the Farmers Home Administration in instances where credit is not available from other sources on reasonable rates and terms. Local utility companies also

share an interest in recreational enterprises and offer planning assistance to its customers.

Recreation as a farm business offers an attractive and profitable alternative to area farmers who continue to feel the pinch of prices and costs of traditional farming enterprises.

Western North Carolina enjoys a good base on which

to expand its recreation and tourism economy. The meeting was intended to assist with this continued development.

The agencies participating in the meeting not included above were Forest Service, Regional Planning and Economic Development Commissions, Paris Service, and Tennessee Valley Authority.



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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1971

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STATE JAYCEE PRESIDENT VISITS—On Tuesday, November 23, Mr. Avery Nye, President of the North Carolina Jaycees met with the Yancey County Jaycees while making a tour of all Jaycee Chapters in North Carolina. While in Burnsville, Nye talked with members of the Yancey County Jaycees on how they can benefit their community, club and state organization. Nye was joined on his trip by Tom Simpson, Area Vice President and Jim Hastings, National Director. Shown above, members of Yancey County Jaycees pose with state and national officials. Local Jaycees expressed appreciation for the visit by these men.

"Thanksgiving Means Many Nice Things"

By Vicky Crowder
To Dad, Thanksgiving is a time for getting together with relatives for a really big meal and for settling back in his favorite chair and watching some big football games, (if he can get everybody quiet long enough!) It's a day of rest and relaxation, like Christmas, without the Christmas bills! At least that's what it would be if he could watch his football games without everyone making a racket and running back and forth in front of him. It's for giving thanks that all the crops are in safely and that he's got a day off from work.

Beauty Contest

By Charles Robinson
A beauty contest for boys will be held at the Community Building in Burnsville, Saturday, December 4th at 7:30 p.m. and the admission is \$1.00. Proceeds go to the Girl Scouts.
Mr. Kenny Sparks, Mrs. Kate Zuber, Miss Gwen Harris, Charlie Hensley, Debbie Thomas and Sandra Norris will be the judges.
Joe Denny is Master of Ceremonies. Harrison Tyner is Director. Clifton Webb is in charge of costume, and music will be by Charlie Boone.

The contestants are Ernie Howard, Charles McCurry, Gene Metcalf, Eddie Wooten, Robert Westall, Johnny Blair, Jeff Bailey, Johnny Miller, Len Warren, Kenny Shade, Steve McClure, Greg Bryant, Donnie Laws, Jeff Harding, Mike Moore, Todd Bailey and Eddie Thomas.

Awards will be given for costume, talent, legs and congeniality. There will be four runners up and a winner.

Sheree Banks will be in charge of group singing with Bryan Butner on drums and Charlie Boone on piano.

Call Thomas and Juliana Young are in charge of the activities.

a time for cooking her favorite recipes and showing off her talents to the relatives who always come for Thanksgiving dinner. It's a time for indulging in food and gossip. To her, Thanksgiving is a time for giving thanks that everything is canned or frozen and that as soon as Christmas is over she can rest till spring. It's thankfulness that everyone is able to get together again this year.

"Coming off my diet, just this once!" is what Thanksgiving means to the girl-teenager of the family. It means getting drafted into the kitchen to help prepare for the biggest meal of the year. It's thankfulness for two days out of school. Thanksgiving is the time that the sudden realization comes that Thanksgiving really is a time to be thankful. It is also the sudden realization that Christmas is less than a month away and she's flat broke.

"Food!" spelled in capitals, is what Thanksgiving means to the young man of the family. It is helping Dad get everybody quiet so they can watch the football games. Thanksgiving is a time to be thankful that he's here instead of overseas someplace.

To the young kids of the family it's being smothered by aunts that they haven't seen in "ages". Thanksgiving is being able to eat all they want and getting to eat in the den away from Mom's supervision, because there's not enough room at the table. It is pride because they learned all about the first Thanksgiving at school. Thanksgiving means that Christmas is only days away.

To people all over America, Thanksgiving is a time for thanking God that they are in a country where they have so many things. It's a time for remembering all the little things that we have to be thankful for that people in other places don't have, like a warm bed, a cup of hot coffee, freedom to go where we want, do what we want. These are the little things that we take for granted that we should have thanked God for this past Thanksgiving Day, 1971.

Yancey Health Dept.

Health Department Schedule for December, 1971
Wednesday, December 1 Eye Clinic, by appointment
Thursday, December 2 Mental Health, by appointment
Monday, December 6 Nurse Screening 12:30 - 3:00
Thursday, December 9 Family Planning 8:30 - 12:00
Monday, December 13 Nurse Screening 12:30 - 3:00
Thursday, December 16 X-Ray Clinic 10:00 - 11:00
Monday, December 20 Child Health 12:30 by appt.
Wednesday, December 22 Orthopedic Clinic at Newland
Immunization Clinic every Monday morning 8:00 - 12:00

Girls Haven Fund-Raising Project Termed Successful

The big fund raising project for the benefit of Girls Haven held on November 13 was a definite success. The payment of \$5,000 due on December 1 on the presently acquired property on the Mine Fork Road was comfortably covered by the receipts of the pancake supper, the drawing of door prizes and other activities of the memorable evening.

Since the fund raising involved the sale of tickets throughout the State, some time elapsed before the full results of the occasion were known. Widespread participation of Jaycees, Jayettes and Lions helped greatly to swell the receipts. The Girls Haven directors are particularly gratified by the evidence of the broad support throughout the state for the new home for girls.

Thanksgiving For Elderly

Braced against the snowy weather, many elderly individuals attended a special Thanksgiving dinner especially prepared for them. The Department of Social Services feels that since Christmas is a time primarily focused on children, that Thanksgiving should be a time to share attention with the elderly.

Last week approximately 30 older people enjoyed the traditional dinner at the First Presbyterian Church and then another 27 plates were delivered to homes where homebound individuals were planning to spend Thanksgiving alone.

Donations may be given to the above, or left at Pollard Drug Store with Charles Gillespie or Forest McCall, druggist. If you know of deserving and needy families anywhere in Yancey County, please advise any of the above.

Draft Spokesman Says May Drop Deferments

Young men who wish to drop draft deferments in favor of 1-A classification may still do so. Local boards will continue to grant these requests even though the young men continue to meet the conditions for which the deferments were granted. Six categories are included: 1-S, high school students; 2-A, occupational deferments or vocational/technical students; 2-C, agricultural deferments; 2-D, divinity students; 2-S, undergraduate college students; and 3-A, hardship deferments.

This policy was instituted in late 1970 and was of particular interest to young men with random sequence (lottery) numbers above the highest RSN called for induction. By dropping their deferments at the end of the year, they became part of that year's prime selection group. On January 1, they were placed in a second priority position. Because of this, they are not subject to induction until the manpower supply in the first priority selection group is exhausted; a development likely only if a major national emergency occurs.

The policy was reaffirmed in a Local Board Memorandum sent this week by Draft Director Curtis W. Tarr to all 4,000 local draft boards. Registrants who desire to take advantage of the policy in 1971 must have been born in 1951 or earlier, have RSN's of 126 or above, and not be a member of the extended priority selection group. They must submit their request in writing. To be considered as part of the 1971 prime selection group, the requests must be post-marked no later than December 31.

Notice

The W. A. M. Y. Office is now located upstairs over Pollards Drug Store.

Commenting on the continuation of the policy which allows the dropping of deferments, Dr. Tarr said: "Young men holding lottery numbers of RSN 126 and above can effectively limit their vulnerability to the draft by being classified into 1-A by the year's end. Since the law allows young men to apply for deferments, we believe those young men granted deferments should be able to drop them if they desire."

Water System Improvements Contracted; Work To Begin Soon On Project

The project for improving the Burnsville water system, after four years of planning, and negotiating with Federal agencies for financial assistance, has finally reached the stage where contractors will shortly be starting work.

According to Mayor Anglin, the Town Board this week is in the process of awarding contracts for improvements, the total cost of which will be \$470,000.

The funds for financing the project will come from

different sources. Two outright grants are being received—one from the Appalachian Regional Commission for \$138,600, and the other from the Farmers Home Administration for \$43,400. A loan from the latter Federal Agency, bearing five percent interest, will provide \$230,000, and the Town will provide about \$60,000 from the savings it has accumulated to help pay for the project.

The water system improvements will consist of the addition of a 2,000,000 gallon reservoir, the rebuilding of the two intake dams at the head of Boles Creek; the rebuilding of the filter plant to meet modern health standards, the addition of a pumping station, and extensive additions to the town's system of water mains. The new reservoir, which will be of prestressed concrete, cannot be constructed before good weather next spring. Other work can be started this winter, as weather permits.

The principal contractor being awarded the work is the Brown Construction Company of Concord. This is the same firm which built the Burnsville sewage treatment plant several years ago. Taylor and Murphy of Asheville received the contract for laying the water mains; Raines Electric Company of Hendersonville will do the electrical work.

The water project over the past several years has encountered a long series of frustrating delays, the last resulting from a large overrun in the bids submitted by the contractors. The low bids added up to more than \$125,000 above the amount estimated by the Town's engineers, and placed the project far beyond the Town's capability to finance it. The Town Board appealed to the Federal agencies to increase their grant contributions to help cover the overrun. As a result, they raised the amount of their grants by \$71,000. With this additional assistance, the Town Board believes that the project can be financed without imposing an excessive burden on the town's finances.

Community Awards Luncheon Set For Dec. 11

Several hundred rural and civic leaders from the 18 Western North Carolina counties will be on hand at the Asheville City Auditorium at noon on Saturday, December 11 for the announcement of the winners of the Western North Carolina Community Development Program for 1971.

The occasion will be the annual awards luncheon of the Asheville Agricultural Development Council honoring the rural communities in the area that have made the greatest progress during the year.

Featured speaker at the affair will be Melvin Graham of Matthews, N.C., brother of famed evangelist Billy Graham, who was originally scheduled as the speaker. Melvin Graham, a Mecklenburg County farmer and a recognized speaker in

his own right, agreed to pinch-hit when Billy Graham cancelled to make an "important government mission."

Over \$5,000 in awards will be presented to the organized community groups, winners in various counties were presented several thousand dollars in awards earlier this fall by local sponsors.

Representing Yancey County in contention for top area awards are Arbuckle, Division "A" (less than 75 families); and White Oak Creek, the county representative in the final judging of the youth program.

The WNC Community Development Program is sponsored by the Asheville Agricultural Development Council and the agricultural agencies in each county.

Boy Scouts Hike In Freezing Weather

On November 20, twenty-two Boy Scouts from Troop 502, Burnsville arrived at Beauty Spot Gap on the Unaka Mountain and began a 14 mile hike. They hiked to Cherry Gap battling winds in below freezing weather. In places the trees were covered with frozen fog which made the boys aware of how cold it was. Each boy was carrying about a twenty pound pack, a few even heavier.

They hiked the first 6 miles on Saturday afternoon and camped overnight at Cherry Gap. The boys erected lean-tos with large pieces of plastic. During the night, high winds tore down part of the shelters and they awoke to find their sleeping bags surrounded by an inch of snow. By 9:30 a.m. they were back on the trail battling

ling winds as high as 25 miles an hour as they crossed over ridges along the trail.

The boys crossed Iron Mountain and on to Greasy Creek Gap near Buladean completing their 14-mile hike. The hike was made on the Appalachian Trail.

Boys making the hike were John Blair, Mark Bledsoe, Danny Bledsoe, Larry Banks, Richard Banks, Randy Thomas, Kenny Deyton, Ernie Howard, Danny Hughes, Mike Sink, Gerald Styles, Jimmy Wilson, Robert Pittman, Danny Laws, Jeff Hardin, Jeff Bailey, Mike Bailey, Mike Grindstaff, Tony Byrd, Allen Presnell, Steve Parsley, Doyle Bradford and Doug McLain. Adults accompanying the boys were Forrest McCall, Clifford Peterson and Johnny McLain.

Alcoholism Education

Last spring interest was aroused in beginning a program for alcoholism education and related services. Funds are now available and the Yancey County Mental Health Association has invited members of the medical profession, law enforcement, social agencies, schools and churches to a meeting at the Courthouse next Tuesday at 3:00 p.m.

Alcoholics can be helped to recover and plans will be made to make full use of community resources to lessen losses caused by alcoholism.

Nationwide "Civil Air Patrol Sunday" Set

Civil Air Patrol members across the nation, attired in CAP uniforms, are expected to attend church services on the first Sunday in December in observance of the 30th anniversary of the organization and of the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor.

CAP's national commander, Air Force Brig. Gen. Richard N. Ellis, designated that Sunday, December 5th, as "Civil Air Patrol Sunday

throughout the country." The observance will be the first such in CAP history.

Civil Air Patrol was founded December 1, 1941, one week before Pearl Harbor. During World War II, CAP volunteers served in civilian defense efforts flying millions of miles in small, light aircraft on coastal patrol duty, border patrol, air search and rescue, and a variety of flying missions in the war effort.

Statistics released at the Civil Air Patrol National Headquarters at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, indicate that, as of September 19, thirteen lives have been saved so far in 1971 through CAP search and rescue activities. The "Mountain Wilderness" CAP Squadron, a newly formed unit based in Yancey County, has participated in several of the CAP missions in 1971.

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