

New Association Formed To Coordinate County Agencies

A new organization to be concerned with the many projects, programs and proposals for improving life in Yancey County appears to be in the making. Tentatively named "Yancey County Coordinating Association, Inc.", the organization will have the legal capability of administering funds under the various Federal grant programs.

At a lively meeting held last Friday at the Courthouse, attended by representatives of various agencies in the county, the need for still another organization in the field of county improvement was thrashed out. A first reaction of some of those attending was that the county is already over-organized in the field of community improvement. We already have civic clubs, chamber of commerce, Mountain Seismic Commission, community clubs and councils and RAD (Rural Area Development) and others.

A number of these numerous existing organizations, it was pointed out, have much the same purpose as the proposed new association, RAD in particular, comes close

in its objectives to the new organization. Advocates of the new association brought out that the present multiplicity of agencies actually creates a need for an active coordinating group. An important function of the new agency will be to keep abreast of the various projects and activities of the various projects and activities of the other groups. A number of instances were cited of failure of communications between organizations, resulting in duplication of effort.

A further important function of the Coordinating Association will be its administrative capability, and its ability to handle funds. At the present time about a

million dollars of Federal money is available for the establishment of day-care centers in fourteen western North Carolina counties. The new organization will enable Yancey County to participate in this program. Without such an organization meeting the requirements for handling the money, Yancey County may be left out.

An additional service of the new organization is that it may serve as a "county council" for WAMY. Such a council is a requirement under OEO, and if the new association can make possible the discontinuation of this separate group, it will serve a useful purpose through reducing the complexity of the present system of agencies.

Miss Wanda Edwards is acting as temporary chairman of the organizing committee. Others participating at the meeting were Wm. Bledsoe, E. F. Hunter, Shirley Ann McAllister, Randall Peacock, Don Elly, Bob Helmle, Mrs. Arthur Genton, Claude Williams and H. C. Moretz. The last two are officials of WAMY, who contributed information relative to the formation of a similar association in Avery County, to which they lent assistance.

A second organization meeting will be held in room #3 of the Courthouse Friday, February 4, at 3:00 p.m. All interested persons, both representing existing organizations and interested citizens are urged to attend.

Promises Don't Build Roads

By Carolyn Yuzuk

Fair weather promises made by office-seeking politicians do not build roads in Yancey County--and we who live here will do well to remember that fact as Election time is rolling around again.

In the May 28, 1970 edition of The Yancey Record, the front page headline boldly states, "Road Project Top Priority". Representative Ernest Messer, Chairman of the North Carolina Highway Commission Lauch Faircloth, Representative Liston Ramsey and District Commissioner Noville Hawkins are pictured with that headline and the accompanying story states that Faircloth pledged "top priority will be given to this area's road construction project--the link of highway from the Cane River bridge to the Madison County line--when the budget for the year beginning July 1st (1970) is set up." The top priority rating, we were told, means that the project "has the approval of the Highway Commission and is slated for 'first consideration' when the new budget is drawn up."

That was May, 1970--almost two years ago. Since that time there have been a number of accidents and at least two fatalities on the stretch of highway involved. These accidents would almost surely have been avoided had the new 9-mile stretch of road been constructed.

The road from Cane River to the Madison County line is a dangerous, death-dealing menace. Yet these politicians--who can see fit to alter the districting of our County on the say-so of one or two men who claim to represent the majority of Yancey Countians--cannot see fit to keep their campaign pledges.

In the following letter to The Yancey Record, Dover Fouts, Yancey County attorney, also remembers the campaign commitments:

"Dear Editor:
It is my recollection that during the campaign prior to the last election you had in your paper a picture of some of the candidates and high democratic officials with comments to the effect that they had crossed the narrow bridges in Yancey County to the Madison County line.

"Almost two years have passed and I wonder if it is about time for another picture and writup to appear with more suggestions as to the nine mile stretch of road to the County line. Some of the officials will say that three bridges were built on 19W, and they are fine. However, I think you should know that the County is probably still paying on the Bridge Bonds issued to build the original bridges, and those bonds along with other highway indebtedness, the State Highway Commission would not assume.

"It might be best that you not have anything in your paper about bridges because they might build some bridges in place of the one-way bridges and feel that that was sufficient. "I admit that the present road is better than the mud of fifty years ago."

Dover R. Fouts
We agree. The present road is better than the mud of fifty years ago. And the promises are better, too. Who knows what pledges the politicians will make during the upcoming campaign!

It is time politicians stopped taking Yancey County for granted. It is far past time for them to make the effort to find out what people here really want and desperately need, whether it be schools, roads or new industries, rather than casually accepting a second-hand report from political self-seekers who have their own axe to grind.

Entertainment Planned For Republican Dinner, Rally

of North Carolina Mountain Music."
Jim Holshouser, Republican Candidate for Governor, will be the featured speaker at the GOP dinner and is expected to again participate in the after dinner cake auction.

Other guests invited include Frank Rouse, newly elected State GOP Chairman; Jess Ledbetter, 11th District Chairman, and other members of the North Carolina Republican Central Committee. As usual, it is expected that surrounding counties will be well represented at the GOP dinner.



4-H LEADER TRAINING--Yancey County 4-H leaders took part in two leader training sessions January 18th and 20th at the county courthouse. The sessions were conducted by Mr. Dick W. Smith, 4-H Specialist at N. C. State University. Leaders discussed "What is a Leader Like", "Functions of a Leader", ways to improve parent involvement and enthusiasm at the first session. At the second session a slide presentation entitled "Working With Youth" was seen and leadership qualities were discussed. Additional training has been planned and it is hoped that more leaders will take advantage of future opportunities.



Local Men Re-elected Directors Of Agriculture Council; Represent Yancey

Paul Laughrum and John Ramsay have been re-elected directors of the Asheville Agricultural Development Council for 1972 representing Yancey County. The election took place at the annual meeting of the 18-county area development association in Asheville last week. Charles L. Russell of Transylvania County, public relations supervisor of the Olin Corporation was elected president of the organization.

The Agricultural Council was organized 22 years ago as a "partnership for progress" between the rural people, the agricultural agencies, business and industry in Western North Carolina. Purpose is to promote farm and rural development projects. A major project is sponsoring the WNC Community Development Program annually in cooperation with agricultural agencies and local sponsors in each county.

In a report for the past year, Karle Lehman of Asheville, outgoing president of the organization stated that, "Interest and support of the Agricultural Council and the Community Development Program are at a high level. Although the total number

of communities participating was lower in 1971, enthusiasm and spirit were extremely high and a great number of improvement projects were carried out. The outlook for expansion of the Community Development Program in 1972 is encouraging and area awards have been increased to a record total of \$6,450."

In addition, local sponsors in the various counties are expected to offer approximately \$12,000 in awards. Among youth projects sponsored by the Agricultural Council during the year were sponsorship of the FFA

Political Season Begins With Filing By Candidates

The political season opened officially in Yancey County on this past Tuesday when several candidates filed with the Board of Elections for the May 6th Primary. Grace M. Ayers was the first to file, seeking re-election as Registrar of Deeds. O. W. Deyton, Frank Fox and James W. Proffitt have all filed for the Board of County Commissioners. Election officials remind

Forestry Contest, WNC Horticultural Scholarship, Horticultural Contest, WNC Junior Dairy Show, livestock judging awards, etc. Lehman stated that nearly \$70 thousand had been invested through the organization in 1971 in agricultural promotion.

Lehman also pointed out that the multi-million dollar agricultural industry of the 18 western counties showed progress last year. Cash farm receipts are estimated in excess of \$97 million, the second highest total on record.

Song Service

The Zion Baptist Church of Green Mountain will have a song service on Saturday night, January 29 at 7:30. Several groups will join in the singing. Frank Phillips, pastor, invites all singers and the public to attend.

Competes For Award

James Andrew Norris of Burnsville is among twenty-two high school senior men from 13 counties in this area who will be interviewed by the District X Morehead Selection Committee at the Battery Park Inn, Asheville, Friday, January 28.

District X is composed of Buncombe, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Swain, Transylvania and Yancey counties.

Six finalists will be chosen from District X. These young men will visit Chapel Hill March 3-6 for interviews with the Central Morehead Selection Committee. Each of the state's 10 Morehead Awards District Committees will select six finalists and the 60 North Carolina finalists will join 52 nominees from 26 private preparatory schools throughout the east for interviews at the Morehead Planetarium the same weekend.

The Morehead Foundation Board of Trustees makes the final selection of Scholarship winners. Hugh G. Chatham of Elkin is Chairman. Members are Alan T. Dicson of Charlotte; Frank Borden Hanes of Winston Salem, Richard T. Chatham Jr. of Elkin and Dr. Robert Cluett of York University in Toronto, Canada.

Morehead Awards provide all-expense paid undergraduate educations at WNC--Chapel Hill. The value of the award for N.C. residents is \$2,250 per year or \$9,000 for four years of study.

The late John Motley Morehead, a UNC graduate and native North Carolinian, established the Awards in 1951. An engineer and founder of Union Carbide, Morehead lived in Rye, N. Y., until his death in 1965.

Sales Tax Dec. Report

A report of local 1% Sales and Use Tax collections by county for the month of December showed Yancey County comparing favorably with amounts collected in surrounding counties for the same period.

Yancey County's net collection was \$11,041.22, while Mitchell County collected \$12,422.26 during December.

Avery County collected \$11,778.36 in Sales & Use Tax during December, while Madison County trailed with \$6,937.56 in net collections.

The 1% Sales and Use Tax statement is issued monthly by G. A. Jones, Jr., Commissioner, State of North Carolina Department of Revenue in Raleigh.

Wool, Lamb Reports Due

Producers who file applications and 1971 marketing reports on wool and unshorn lambs by January 31 at the Yancey County ASCS Office will receive payments early in April under the National Wool Act. So reports Wayne Ray, Chairman of the Yancey County ASC Committee.

Applications should cover only wool and unshorn lambs sold during the marketing year which ended December 31. Marketings after that date will be eligible for payments to be made in 1972.

"The County ASCS Office will provide information on the items that should be included with producers' applications, and will give assistance as needed," Mr. Ray said. Wool producers are eligible to receive payments regardless of the quantity sold in 1971.

"As with all ASCS programs, the wool program is administered without regard to race, color, creed, sex, religion, or national origin of participants," Mr. Raysaid.

The payment rate for 1971 marketing will be announced early in April following announcement of the national average price received and is expected to be well above last years rate which was 102.8 percent.

Aircraft Ground School Started By MAY Tech

An aircraft ground school for those interested in obtaining a pilots license will be conducted at the Pensacola School beginning Monday night, January 31st at 7:30 p.m.

The course, which is being given by Mayland Technical Institute in cooperation with the Mountain Wilderness Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol, is open to anyone wishing to attend. There is no charge for the course and the only expense involved

will be for personal items necessary for taking the course.

All those interested in signing up for the school should contact either Mayland Technical Institute at 765-7351 or the Civil Air Patrol at 682-3244.

The aircraft ground school is in preparation for passing the written examination prior to flight training. The flight training can be set up for interested persons following completion of the school.

NC Highway Patrol Will Enforce New 'Load' Law

Motor vehicles hauling rock, gravel, stone or other similar substance must secure their load to prevent any of the load from dropping, shifting, leaking, or otherwise escaping onto the highway.

Assistant Motor Vehicle Commissioner J. M. Penny announced today that the Highway Patrol and enforcement officers of the License and Theft Division of the Department are enforcing a law which became effective on January 1, 1972.

According to Penny, the

law provides that "trucks, trailers, or other vehicles when loaded with rock, gravel, stone, or other similar substance which could blow, leak, sift or drop shall not be driven or moved on any highway unless the height of the load against all four walls does not extend above a horizontal line six inches below their tops when loaded at the loading point, or if so loaded, unless the load shall be securely covered by tarpaulin or some other suitable covering..."

Vehicles that do not properly secure their load in rainy instances contribute to accidents and cause damage to other vehicles such as broken or pitted windshields.

Our enforcement personnel will definitely increase their surveillance in an effort to cause compliance with law.

Gospel Singing

A Gospel Singing will be held this coming Sunday afternoon at 2:30 at the Window United Methodist Church. The following groups will be there: The Gospel Notes from Asheville; The Harmonettes from Weaverville; The Little Ivy Trio from Mars Hill; and other singers.

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy an afternoon of good singing. Window United Methodist Church is located next to East Yancey High School.

Lions Meet

Wanda F. Edwards will speak to the Lions Club on Thursday night, January 27, at 7:00 p.m. at the Amberjack Restaurant. All members are urged to attend.

Revival

There will be a Revival at the West Burnsville Church of God beginning January 26, at 7:30 p.m.

Evangelist will be Brenda Allison. Pastor, Kermit Kennedy invites everyone to attend.

4-H Meeting

The Bee Log 4-H Club will meet for its monthly meeting on Monday, February 7, after school. You all come!