



Ted Slagle, Assistant Social Services Worker, Accompanies Group To Asheville Zoo



One Thursday Outing Took Elderly Persons To New Sears Store In Asheville

Senior Citizens Find Those Who Care

(Cont'd from page 1)

up neglected, much as children are, but in a more subtle manner. To an elderly person who lives alone or in a nursing home, time can be a dreaded thing. But having something to look forward to and being able to get together with others in similar situations can be an antidote to loneliness and desolation.

On the recent trip to Johnson City, all of those in the van had been on at least one trip before. It wasn't long before the group became acquainted and began enjoying the trip. Some were talking, a few were singing. The conversation drifted away from the cooking and eating of ramps to love and marriage. Said one 84-year-old passenger, "I married for love the first time, this next time I'll marry for money."

"Often the trips get to be very heartwarming, sharing experiences. People open up," said Shephard. To some it means a lot just to get out and see the countryside. Some feel that they aren't able to get out, but the workers encourage as many as possible to go on at least one trip. Short trips are planned for those who are not in good health. Some may enjoy the trip and want to go again, others may never go again. "It is often difficult to change the attitude of someone who feels that he is useless, that he has been shelved," said Shephard.

Adult services worker Bob Selwyn recently accompanied a group of elderly to the new Sears Store in Asheville and afterwards to the Asheville Zoo. Selwyn talked and joked easily with those in the group. When he left the van to get cokes for everyone, a woman commented with affection, "Bob is a good boy." Another commented, "It's good to have somebody to take us old folks around to places."

Every Thursday the Social Services Dept. always plans for a full load, and if someone can't go, another eager passenger can usually be found to fill the empty space in the van.

The adult services workers estimate that there are probably hundreds of people in the

county who would benefit from and enjoy going on these trips. But the Department does not have the time or the staff to go out into the county and find passengers for Thursdays trip. But for those who do go, whether it is the elderly, the disabled, the social workers, or visitors—the experience is unforgettable.

Watching an elderly woman order a chili dog at a snack

bar or listening to another sing, "In the Good Old Summertime" as the blue van speeds along the highway is a real pleasure. But the real pleasure comes in hearing the anticipation in their voices as they eagerly talk about the next trip.

In Yancey County someone cares.

(A future article will deal with Yancey County facilities and means of caring for aged).

Mountain Scenic Moves

Mr. W. B. Wilkins, Chairman of the Mountain Scenic Planning and Development Commission, announced this week that the commission offices are now located on the second floor of the Taylor Hotel Building above NCNB in Spruce Pine.

Mountain Scenic is the local arm of the Appalachian Regional Commission. Through the efforts of Mountain Scenic, funds have been made available to the counties of Avery, Mitchell, Watauga and Yancey for a variety of projects. ARC funds together with federal funds and local funds, have provided almost \$8.5 million in total project costs for such things as watersheds, sewer systems, road construction, libraries, hospitals, vocational education, and

other projects. A complete breakdown of projects is shown in the chart below:

Mountain Scenic projects are funded by ARC on a matching basis with other federal, state and local government participation. These projects were approved only with close cooperation with local government officials of the towns and counties in the region. These officials were responsible for providing the local matching for obtaining ARC funds.

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Clean Sweep Continues

Mrs. Eloise Briggs, County Coordinator for the Clean Sweep Committee, urges community groups, whether it be churches, scouts, 4-H members, Homemakers, etc. to organize a clean up crew to undertake some project in their community for a countywide clean up on Monday, May 22.

When a group is organized, an adult leader should contact Pat Guyer at the County Extension office, phone 682-2113 and inform him of your project plans and the name of your community to help in coordinating county projects.

Ed Hunter, Superintendent of Schools, has announced that students will be dismissed from classes Monday, May 22 at 1:00 p. m. if there is an organized project with adult leadership in their community. Students should find out what organization is planning a clean up and contact those in charge for details. If a clean up group has not been organized in their particular community, they should encourage the formation of such a group for the May 22 project.

Some or all of the Dumpsters may be placed throughout the community by May 22, but if they have not been placed in your community by that time, arrangements should be made for vehicles to haul garbage collected to the sanitary landfill at Booneford.

All nine of the Extension Homemakers Clubs in Yancey County are participating in the Clean Sweep Program. Clubs which have already met have made plans, and those which have not met have assured Mrs. Jesse Lawhern that they will have a work program of some kind to clean up their own community.

Those with organized projects are: Arbuckle Club—Mrs. Herman Howell, president—which had a roadside cleanup on May 6 and will take part in the forthcoming project. Newdale Club—Mrs. Thurman Briggs, president—has been working on Micaville School grounds and landscaping. For Clean Sweep they will be working in their community. Pensacola Club—Mrs. Bobby Ray, president—is a new club. They will be cleaning up the Pensacola - Cattail area on May 22.

Other clubs which have not yet announced their projects are: Burnsville—Mrs. P. C. Colatta, President; Brush Creek Club—Mrs. Dempsey Hopson, president; Jacks Creek—Mrs. Harmie Briggs, president; Cane River Club—Mrs. David York, president; Bee Log Club—Mrs. Buck Phillips, president; Happy Homemakers Club in Burnsville—Mrs. John McLain, acting president.

Anyone wishing to help in these projects, especially school children, or coordinate other clean-up projects with those organized by the Homemakers Clubs, should contact the president of the club in their community for more complete information.

New C of C President

The directors of the Yancey County Chamber of Commerce last week elected Mack B. Ray to serve as president for the coming year and re-elected Olin Shepard as vice-president. Ray succeeds Claude Vess, who has just completed serving two terms as president of the organization devoted to developing Yancey County.

Ray, last month, ended two years as president of the Burnsville Men's Club, which were marked by substantial achievement and increase in club membership. He is now serving on the boards of the Yancey Hospital and Girls' Haven, and is involved in several other community and church activities.

At the recent directors meeting of the Chamber, Vess reported on a meeting of the Asheville Chamber of Commerce, which he had been invited to attend for a discussion of Yancey County and its problems. This invitation was part of a new program being stressed by the Asheville Chamber of working closely with other chambers of commerce in western North Carolina. Vess was given assurance that Asheville is anxious to promote progress wherever possible throughout the western part of the state, and that the staff of the Asheville Chamber is at Yancey County's disposal for rendering any possible assistance.

The two terms served by Vess as president of the chamber have been marked by such substantial achievements as the attainment of the N.C. Governor's Award, for accomplishment toward making the county attractive for new industry. The annual craft festival, the summer youth jamboree, and the chamber dinner meetings held every spring have all been highly successful. The chamber is lending its full support to the new solid waste disposal operation and was instrumental in getting assistance of the TVA in the disposal of the county's junk cars, which is to get underway early in July.

OPENING SPECIAL

May 15th - 20th

3 Piece Ranges Off On Lavender Tickets

REG.	SALE	REG.	SALE
5.55	2.22	11.11	7.77
6.66	3.33	12.12	8.88
7.77	4.44	13.13	9.99
8.88	5.55	14.14	11.11
9.99	6.66	15.15	12.12

New Merchandise Arriving Daily

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