

Answers To Your Questions About The Hospital System Facts About Blue Ridge Hospital System

What is the purpose of the Blue Ridge Hospital System Development Fund?
This capital fund endeavor will provide residents of Mitchell, Yancey, and surrounding counties an opportunity to invest in the health care of their families and loved ones. Its purpose is to help finance expansion of the Spruce Pine Hospital and replacement of the Burnsville facility so the people of this area can rely upon THEIR OWN hospitals rather than those in distant communities.

What is the Campaign Goal?
A challenge target of \$1 million has been established by the hospitals' Board of Trustees. What is the total cost of this urgent project?
Both the Marion, Virginia architectural and engineering firm of Echols-Sparger & Assoc. and the North Carolina Medical Care Commission have estimated the total cost of the vital endeavor between \$4.5 and \$5 million. This estimate is based on current construction and labor costs, however, so it is imperative that we move ahead quickly to avoid the spiraling effects of inflation.

What Funds will supplement those raised through public subscription?
Public investment through the capital campaign will provide roughly 20% of the revenue needed. The remaining funds will be provided through a government Hill-Burton grant, the Appalachian Regional Commission, Duke Endowment and other interested grantors.
Anyone desiring further information, call or write in care of this newspaper.

It is canning and freezing time and you will find all the latest information at your county Extension Office. You should not fail to go by and see the helpful material made available to you through your Yancey County Extension Service. You will find recipes, canning and freezing methods, meal planning ideas, as well as home planning and decorating material. All yours for the asking. We are sharing with you this week two recipes from the food section of the Atlanta Journal.

This Brown Date Bread spread with butter or cream cheese along with Macaroni Ham Salad would be a good summer time luncheon. The fluffy strawberry pie is also light and refreshing.

From The Yancey Extension Homemakers
food news & cues
By Mrs. Mary Gillespie

BROWN DATE BREAD
1 cup white flour
1 cup graham or whole wheat flour
1/2 cup sugar
1 tsp. soda
1 cup dates
1 cup warm water
1 egg
Combine dates, water and egg in blender. Set aside. Sift together the flours, sugar and soda. Combine with date mixture. Bake in greased, floured loaf pan, at 350 degrees for 1 hour.

FLUFFY STRAWBERRY PIE
This makes two pies. Have ready two baked or vanilla water crusts.
1 lg. can evaporated milk
1 pint sweetened strawberries fresh or frozen

1 cup sugar
1 box strawberry gelatin
Chill milk. Put strawberries, sugar and gelatin in the saucepan and bring to boil. Boil three minutes. Put in refrigerator until mixture begins to congeal. Whip milk stiff. Gradually fold congealed mixture into milk. Put in crust and let chill well before serving. Garnish with sliced lemons to serve.

Donald Carlisle, Executive Director of the Blue Ridge Hospital System has released the results of a study made recently by the North Carolina Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

other area full service hospitals, showing the cost of the highest semi-private room. This study also resulted in the finding that the rate at Spruce Pine was as low or lower on a comparable basis than all but one area full service hospital, and was only one dollar per day higher than that facility.

Blowing Rock	32.00
Boone Watauga Co.	31.00
Bryson City Swain Co.	38.00
Sylva, C. J. Harris	38.00
Tryon St. Lukes	34.00
Marion General	33.00
Morganton Grace	38.00

The study also indicated that hospital rates in Charlotte and Winston-Salem are substantially higher than these above, with rates on a similar room

running almost \$75.00 per day in one hospital studied. Mr. Carlisle indicated that success in the current development campaign should help to maintain hospital rates close to the present level, since room charges would not have to reflect debt service, and that overhead charges per bed could be reduced as the total number of beds is increased.

BOOK CORNER
BY Mrs. Gladys Coletta

Eye On Cuba
by Edwin Tetlow. 1966. Pp.285. Harcourt, Brace and World, Inc. New York.
"How like a Messiah Castro seemed in 1959 when he entered Havana during his first simple pilgrimage, in his love and concern for the people! He had become almost a god overnight, and the resulting power had not yet begun to corrupt him." So states Edwin Tetlow, New York correspondent for The Daily Telegraph of London, in his evaluation of the Cuban revolution in his book, Eye On Cuba.

had muffed his chance, and the new revolution was betrayed and finally obliterated. Such is the conclusion reached by the author, as he gives a colorful account of the changing scene in Cuba, from the gaiety and rejoicing in the first days of the revolution to the misery and sadness of the later years. Although disappointed that Castro has let them down, the masses still cling to him with a fervor beyond comprehension. Hope dies hard, and their idol, in their eyes at least, is above reproach.

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The study of hospital charges was compared to that in other area hospitals as well as statewide averages for charges in identical categories. The results showed that the average charge per stay was lower in every comparison at the Spruce Pine Hospital than the state-wide averages. Blue Cross Patients... State Average Charge per Stay was \$455.42. Spruce Pine Average was \$377.72. Medicaid Patients State Av. Charge Per Stay was \$686.38; Spruce Pine Average was \$469.70. Medicare Patients State Average Charge Per Stay was \$657.03; Spruce Pine Average was \$552.79. The study was forwarded to the Spruce Pine Hospital by Ted A. Graham, Manager, Utilization Review Department for the North Carolina Blue Cross and Blue Shield. The study also pointed out that the length of stay at the Spruce Pine Hospital is 5.1 days compared to 7.19 days for the State of North Carolina and 7.22 days for the nation as a whole. Comparative room rates were also made available for

DREAM
Last night I dreamed of a beautiful home,
Away out beyond the sea,
A wonderfully beautiful mansion prepared for my loved one and me.
It was built in a garden of roses,
The gate was standing ajar;
I thought I would enter my home and rest, for the way I had come was far.
My husband was standing at the little gate,
He was the first of our family to go;
His face was bright with a holy light, his voice was sweet and low.
"Tince", he said, "Come and see our home,
The home He prepared, you know,
It is filled with joy and peace and love, and there's never a thought of woe".
Then he took his songbook with a smile,
And sang more sweetly than ever before
Then he sang again "The Old Rugged Cross", I had yearned to hear him sing once more.
Then I said "I must be going back
To loved ones in their earthly home,"
He said, "Tell them I'll be keeping the house and watching until each one has come."
(In memory of my beloved husband on Fathers Day--Mrs. M. D. Bailey, Green Mountain.)

VA Questions And Answers

Q. What must a veteran or serviceman do to get a VA mobile home loan?
A. Four things. Get a Certificate of Eligibility from the nearest VA regional office. Find a mobile home he likes which meets VA standards. Arrange for rental or purchase of a mobile home lot. Apply to a private lender for a loan.
Q. I'm in school under the GI Bill. Am I allowed to change my program of studies?
A. Yes, VA allows each veteran one change of program. One additional change may be approved if it is found through VA counseling that the proposed change is more suitable to the veteran's aptitudes, interests and abilities.
Q. What can I do about my compensation check since I plan to travel this summer and will not have a forwarding address?
A. VA will send your check to your bank for deposit if you submit a VA change of address form or a letter over your signature. You should also obtain two power of attorney forms from VA. One should be given to your bank as evidence of its right to receive and deposit the checks to your account, and the other should be retained by you.
Q. I'm a 74 year old veteran on VA pension rolls. Is it true, as I have heard, that I will not receive an income questionnaire this November?
A. It's true. You will receive information with your November pension check explaining that pensioners 72 years old and older who have been on the rolls during two consecutive yrs. are exempt from filing the questionnaires.

Although the aura of a Messiah has never left Castro throughout the years, Mr. Tetlow admits that his halo is wearing thin. The stumbling hero of 1959, with his wonderfully intimated but impractical plans, perceived too late that his revolution was being stolen from him. Khrushchev had picked up Castro's tottering revolution only because he intended to use Cuba coldly and callously as a military tool, and cared only for Castro as long as he was handy and useful. Castro

HISTORICAL BRIEFS
MONTGOMERY WARD & CO. CHICAGO

If this tranquil scene looks like a Norman Rockwell painting, that's because it is. The famous artist of Americana brushed this setting in 1925 when Montgomery Ward, now celebrating its 100th birthday, was only a "youthful" 53 years old.

Stamp Corner
By George Cheren
Excellent reproductions of many portraits and paintings used as the basis of U.S. Stamps are available at nominal cost in postcard and assorted sizes; from the Smithsonian Institute, the National Gallery, and other museums and art galleries.
The stamp collection of the U.S. is kept in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., and may be viewed by visitors.
The American Philatelic Society, with over 25,000 members, is raising funds for a permanent Philatelic Museum. The Cardinal Spellman collection forms the basis of a Museum named after him.
"Postage stamps of the U.S.", is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. This illustrated and highly informative 250 page loose leaf edition, costs \$2.00.
This column will try to answer your questions.
Literally hundreds of thousands of stamps of the world are available at 1¢ and 2¢ each in good condition.
Auction sales of stamps are a great source for buying individual stamps, envelopes, collections and philatelic material generally. Some are called "Mail Auctions". Bids are received by mail and the item goes to the highest bidder. Many times, but by no means always, the highest bid is lowered by the dealer, to a price slightly above the second highest bid. Anyone using this method of acquiring stamps, should know his dealer, for some are more reliable than others.
Stamps cancelled by the P.O. Department are called "Pre-cancels". Usually the name of the city or town is printed across the stamp. Christmas stamps have been pre-cancelled for the past two years on an experimental basis.
Pre-cancels are used today, but have been available in large quantities only. Now these stamps are available in small quantities for collectors in many more Post Offices.
Since many philatelists collect these stamps, and some try to get them from as many different cities and towns as possible; pre-cancels from small towns and Post Offices become desirable. Those interested might inquire if the stamps are available at their own local Post Office. These stamps offer an opportunity for swapping among the many members of local and national pre-cancel societies. Caution is needed, and, as usual, plate # blocks offer the best opportunity.
For stamp information write "Fidelity", Box 667, Yancey Journal, Burnsville, N.C. 28714.

To These Farewell

MRS. DOLLIE HIGGINS
Mrs. Dollie Higgins, 83, of the Jacks Creek Community died Friday morning at the home of a son, Murphy Higgins in Burnsville after a long illness. She was the widow of Gus Higgins who died in 1938. Surviving in addition to Murphy Higgins are four other sons, Joe, Lee and Luther H. Higgins of Asheville and Shelby Higgins of Newport News, Va.; three daughters, Mrs. Jim Hensley of Searoga, New York, Mrs. Clarence Hensley and Miss Margie Higgins of Mars Hill Rt. 2; four sisters, Mrs. Laura Hensley of Burnsville Rt. 1 and Mrs. Lizzie Hensley of South Carolina, Mrs. Myra Tipton and Mrs. Minnie Silver of Flag Pond, Tennessee; one brother, Joe Silver of Asheville; 25 grandchildren and several great grandchildren also survive. Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Sunday in the chapel of Holcombe Brothers Funeral Home. Rev. Richard Buchanan and Rev. Frank Phillips officiated and burial was in the Higgins Cemetery.

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