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Westco Files New Rate Plan

Westco Telephone Company has filed a new rate plan that would raise residential rates an average of \$1.70 per month, and business rates an average of \$4.15 per month. These are average figures; the actual amount will depend upon the customer's particular rate group and grade of service. Together, these increases would produce approximately \$500,000 in additional annual revenues.

In conjunction with the filing, the company has requested immediate, emergency rate relief, which, if approved by the North Carolina Utilities Commission, would increase the individual customer's basic local service rate by no more than 20 percent.

Company president Norman L. Gum said, "This emergency relief is necessary because of the critical economic condition of the company. The funds would be collected under bond, subject to refund, with interest, should the Utilities Commission ultimately grant us an increase that's less than the amount requested on an emergency basis."

Gum pointed out that these are proposed increases, and may or may not be the ones that finally go into effect. "The North Carolina Utilities Commission will review both our request for emergency rate relief and our proposed new rate structure."

He also said that the need for the increase is tied directly to the company's ability to provide adequate service and meet future growth requirements.

Questions and answers about the need for higher rates at Westco are printed elsewhere in this issue of the Journal.



REV. KENNETH MASHBURN

Moving To Parsonage

The Rev. Kenneth Mashburn, who was recently elected pastor of the Cane River Baptist Church, is moving to the parsonage this week.

Rev. Mashburn is a native of Buncombe County, a graduate of Owen High School and Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute. He was graduated from Fruitland on May 31 and ordained at the Emma Baptist Church of West Asheville on Sunday evening, June 2, where he and Mrs. Mashburn were members.

He is married to the former Miss Glenda Satterwhite who is a graduate of Lee Edwards High School and the Western Academy of Hair Design.

They have two daughters, Dana, age 4, and Amy, age 2.

He wishes to invite everyone to attend Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. and the worship services at 11:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Offices Close

All County Offices in the Courthouse in Burnsville will be closed all day Saturday from now on by order of the Board of County Commissioners, Yancey County.

Burnsville Youths Receive Physical Fitness Award

Brian Young and Eddie Burns received the Presidential Physical Fitness Award at the Burnsville Elementary School on Monday, June 3, 1974.

The Presidential Physical

Fitness Award Program was established in March of 1966. It honors boys and girls who demonstrate exceptional physical achievement. It was originally designed to motivate



Toe River Boys Are Coming Again!

The Toe River Valley Boys are coming to Maxwell's again! Because of the tremendous success of their last visit to Maxwell Home Furnishings on the Banks Family Square, Burnsville, Don Phillips, Manager, is bringing the group back for more of "The Best

in Country and Western Music". See and hear them on Saturday, June 8, at 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. while Maxwell conducts a gigantic Spring Stock Sale of fine furniture.

Bloodmobile Visit Set; Red Cross Cites 'Blood Scandal'

By Ashton Chapman
Earl Van Horn of Altamont and Spruce Pine, the Chapter Chairman of the Mayland Red Cross Chapter which serves Mitchell, Avery and Yancey Counties, calls attention to an important poster recently distributed by the American National Red Cross.

Reprinted, with permission, from the Reader's Digest, the poster reads:

THE BLOOD SCANDAL.

"Let this sink in. These days a blood transfusion that's given to save a life can cause a death.

"Because. Though there are many reputable commercial blood banks, blood from commercial sources is, unhappily, ten times more likely to be the cause of hepatitis than is blood from the American Red Cross and other community blood banks that depend upon volunteer blood donors.

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96 Donors At Plant

By Ashton Chapman
When the bloodmobile from the Red Cross Blood Center in Asheville made its regularly scheduled visit to the Spruce Pine plant of Henredon Furniture Industries, Inc. on May 23, a total of 96 workers each contributed a pint of life-saving blood. The majority of those donors are residents of Mitchell, Avery and Yancey Counties.

The Mayland Red Cross Chapter, which maintains headquarters in Trinity Episcopal Church, Spruce Pine, serve these three counties. Earl Van Horn of Altamont and Spruce Pine, Chapter Chairman, and other Chapter officers join in expressing their deep appreciation to these 96 donors; also to the 15 workers whose offer to give blood had to be declined at this time for medical reasons.

Twenty-one of the 96 donors were making their first-time contribution of blood to the Red Cross. It is anticipated that each one of these will continue to donate blood on each subsequent visit of the bloodmobile.

A door prize, a handsome table, was contributed by Henredon Furniture Industries. This was won by Glenn Renfro.

Thanks are extended to all who volunteer their services to make the bloodmobile visit run smoothly.

"Shocking? Of course.

"So, you ask, why doesn't all blood in American hospitals come from volunteer donors?"

"Answer:

"A mere three per cent of all Americans are donating one hundred per cent of all the blood that's freely given in America. It's not enough!"

"So, you see, if you're healthy, fit our easy criteria for donors, and yet don't give blood regularly—well, you're part of the blood scandal in America.

"By default.

"One more thing: if you think the Red Cross 'gets money' for the blood you donate, you're wrong. The only charge that's ever made is to

help meet the cost of processing the blood.

"So call the Mayland Red Cross Chapter's headquarters in Spruce Pine (Phone No. 765-2422) then roll up your sleeves. Please.

"To keep people you know alive and well."

Mr. Van Horn emphasizes that the Red Cross is "People like you, helping people like you."

The next visit to Burnsville of the bloodmobile from the Asheville Red Cross Regional Blood Center will be on Wednesday, June 26. The sponsors will be the Yancey County Rescue Squad. A quota of 100 pints has been set.

FHA Program Initiated Here

James T. Johnson, State Director, Farmers Home Administration announced today that the agency has initiated a program to further encourage the use of existing housing and provide better homes for low-income rural families through low interest home improvement loans.

The agency can now provide "interest credit" to reduce the effective interest rate on loans made to rehabilitate or repair a dwelling that a borrower already owns, and either lives in or will live in once it is brought up to standard.

Loans of up to \$7,000 will be made for repairs that will improve and modernize substandard dwellings, so as to provide adequate homes in rural areas. Terms for repayment of the loan may be as long as 25 years.

To be eligible for a FmHA home improvement loan with interest credit, the housing must be located in rural country side or a rural town of not more than 10,000 people. The loans are designed especially for low-income families.

Under this program, interest credits can reduce the effective interest rate paid by the borrower to 1 percent if the adjusted family income is less than \$3,000. If the adjusted family income is more than \$3,000 but less than \$5,000, the interest rate will be 2 percent. If the adjusted family income is between \$5,000 and \$7,000 interest will be 3 percent.

The policy of making interest credit and repair and rehabilitation loans is another method of utilizing the existing supply of housing to improve living conditions for low-income rural people.

Additional information about this loan program may be obtained from the agency's 73 county offices throughout North Carolina. The local office is in Burnsville. Telephone Number 682-2319.

Special Music And Comedy

A Double Header is coming June 7 at 8:00 p.m. to the East Yancey High School Gym.

Carl Story and The Rambling Mountaineers, plus Little Joe Franklin and The Linville River Boys, plus Mason Fruit Jar, a comedian will be entertaining at East Yancey this Friday. The first group above is from the Grand Ole Opry of Nashville. Little Joe Franklin is one time announcer for Station WTOE of Spruce Pine and is presently Master of Ceremonies at Carowinds of Charlotte. Comedian Mason Fruit Jar is the best in the south.

All this is coming under the sponsorship of the Yancey County Rescue Squad. See any member of the squad for advance tickets which cost \$1.50 for children under 14 and \$2.00 for adults. Tickets will be on sale at the gym door June 7.

The Rescue Squad urges everyone to come on out and enjoy the evening with good clean entertainment. In doing so you will be helping them to buy equipment they so badly need.

Chicken Barbecue

The Newdale Volunteer Fire Department will have a Chicken Barbecue on Saturday, June 8 at the Newdale Fire House. Serving time beginning at 11 o'clock. Plates feature 1/4 Chicken, vegetables, dessert for only \$2.00. 1/2 Chicken sold separately, \$1.25. Eat it there or take it with you. All proceeds go to the Newdale Volunteer Fire Department.

Softball Night Set

Yancey County Softball Night will be Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday of each week. There will be two games of softball played each night. The first game begins at 7:00 p.m. "Sweet Pete says everyone go out to the game!"



Burnsville Kindergarten Graduation

Commencement Exercises at Burnsville Kindergarten were held on Monday, June 3, with proud parents and friends attending. The Teachers were Miss Rhonda Peterson, Mrs. Mary Buchanan, Mrs. Betty Ruth McCurry and Mrs. Betty Stiles and through their guidance and efforts, the kindergartners presented a fine program of music and drama before the presentation of diplomas by Mr. Larry Howell, Principal. Those who graduated included Tonya Burnette, Angela Evans, Amy Fox, Rhonda Gillespie, Kathy McCanness, Karen McDowell, Angie Presnell, Leticia Presnell, Lisa

Smith, Kim Souther, Chris Bailey, Anita Bodford, Patricia Fox, Marisa Presnell, Michelle Styles, Christine Tschudy, Shannah Warren, Ricky Croni, Chris Fender, Todd Fox, Joey Mandala, Buddy McCurry, Timothy Pate, Steve Robinson, Gordon Silver, Dennis Tipton, Billy Bailey, Dean Ballard, Doug Bennett, Gene Byrd, Billy Ray Edge, Jr., Timmy Edwards, Billy Evans, Roger Honeycutt, Tim Hughes, John Robinson, Terry Smith, R. C. Styles, Harold Young, Jr.