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Contracts Signed For New High School

Contracts were signed September 28 for the construction of the new Mountain Heritage High School. Contractors moved in and work began on Monday, September 30. Construction time is twenty-one months, with the expected completion date for the new high school set for July, 1976. Low bidders for the construction contracts were—General Construction: Juno Construction Company—\$2,414,400.; Heating and Air Conditioning: Twentieth Century Company—\$574,953.; Electrical: Hayes and Lunsford Company—\$388,969.; Plumbing: Wells and West, Inc.—\$216,140.; Carpet: Ertman's Carpet Company—\$44,500.; Food Service Equipment: Asheville Showcase and Fixture—\$43,534. Total expenditure for these contracts will be \$3,682,496. Pictured are Edgar Hunter, Yancey School Superintendent (left), and James Padgett, Architect, looking on as Board of Education Chairman Claude Vess signs contracts for the construction of Mountain Heritage High School.

High School Students Volunteer Blood

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile didn't quite reach its goal of 100 pints last Wednesday when it visited Burnsville, but it received unexpected and very welcome donations of blood from Yancey high school students.

More than twenty students and faculty from Cane River High School boarded a school bus bound for the Armory where the bloodmobile was operating. Although several students had to be turned down for various reasons such as not having had lunch and being too thin, a total of ten students and seven faculty members donated a pint of blood each.

Several students from East Yancey High School volunteered to give a pint of blood, but some were bus drivers and were not allowed to donate prior to driving the students home. Two of these drivers made their rounds, dropped the students off, and then came back to give their blood. Two faculty mem-

Mayberry Attends Workshop

Pat Mayberry, Supervisor for Mitchell and Yancey County School Food Service, attended the N.C. School Food Service Fall Workshop which was presented by the School Food Service Division of the N.C. Dept. of Public Instruction on September 23 through 27. The Workshop was held at the Downtowner Motor Inn in Winston Salem, N.C.

Objectives of the workshop were to teach skills in quantity food production, to promote interest in a variety of methods to encourage students in secondary schools to participate in School Food Service Programs, and to clarify instructions for implementing full cost accounting in School Food Service.

bers from East Yancey also donated.

Members of the Red Cross Unit and Yancey County Rescue Squad which sponsored this bloodmobile visit were impressed with the cooperation from both schools. "An example of good citizenship as shown by the young people in Yancey County should be noted," said a spokesman for the Red Cross. If more adults would follow their example we would have no trouble reaching and exceeding our goal on each visit of the bloodmobile to this county.

Register Before Deadline

The Board of Elections office will be open on Saturday, October 5, 1974 for all those who have not yet registered to vote in the upcoming general election November 5. Registration deadline is October 7, 1974 at 5:00 p.m.

The Board of Elections office has regular hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and anyone who has not registered to vote is urged to come by before the deadline this coming Monday.

Voters may register with precinct registrars at their home precinct. The same deadline applies, which is October 7 at 5:00 p.m. Call the Board of Elections office at 682-3950 for the name of the registrar in your precinct.

Applications for Absentee Ballots may be obtained until October 30 from the Board of Elections office during regular office hours. Applications in the case of sudden illness after the October 30 deadline can be obtained until 10 a.m. November 4, 1974.

Suspect Arrested

Yancey County Sheriff Kermit Banks arrested a third suspect on September 30 in connection with the August 6 break-in at Dr. E. R. Ohle's office in Celso.

Robert Jennings Waters of Old Fort, North Carolina, arrested Monday by Sheriff Banks, had been arrested earlier the same day on Drug charges in McDowell County. He is 23 years old.

Waters was released under \$1500 bond for his appearance in District Court on October 16.

Two persons arrested in the same case on August 6 by Sheriff Banks and Chief Deputy Erwin Higgins have had preliminary hearings and have been bound over to Superior Court. They are Albert Julian Fender, age 18, from Asheville and Herman Lee Penland, age 17, from Burnsville.

Banks said that a fourth person is still being sought in connection with the break-in.

Scholarship Awarded By Glen Raven

Mary Adkins, a senior Elementary Education major at Warren Wilson College has been awarded a substantial scholarship by Glen Raven Mills.

Miss Adkins, the daughter of Mrs. Ruth H. Adkins of Route 1, Relief, is a 1971 graduate of Cane River High School. Miss Adkins has maintained a 2.93 average in three years of college and has an excellent record in Warren Wilson's On Campus Cooperative Work Program.

She fulfilled her Warren Wilson Service Project requirement in January 1974 by serving as Nurse's Aide in the Oteen Veterans Hospital.

Miss Adkins will student teach in the spring of 1975 in the Buncombe County School System.

Power Of People Stops Pollution

BY JIM TURNER

Outdoor Conservation Editor, Johnson City Press-Chronicle (Reprinted from the JOHNSON CITY PRESS-CHRONICLE, Sunday, September 29, 1974 edition.)

Western North Carolinians have proved that when people are aroused by pollution, they can do something about it.

For a long time, pollution of the North Toe River—which is known as the Nolichucky River in Tennessee—has been a major problem which has aroused the ire of North Carolinians and Tennesseans.

Tennesseans took little action in the matter but citizens of Western North Carolina, primarily from Mitchell County, sought and obtained action to improve the river's quality.

The procedure by which the quality of the river is to be improved required that it be classified as "trout water", which requires a dramatic reduction in the amount of pollutants being discharged into the river, chiefly by plants which process ore from feldspar, mica and kaolin mines.

Officials of the companies have disputed the charge (accounts of their side of the issue have been reported in previous editions of the PRESS-CHRONICLE) But the companies have been ordered by both the federal Environmental Protection Agency and by the North Carolina Division of Environmental Management to reduce their discharges.

The fight to clean up the river is being led by the Toe River Valley Improvement Association, an organization which originally was formed for the specific purpose of cleaning up the river.

According to Harold Saylor, the group's secretary, an official of the North Carolina agency said one of the major factors contributing to reclassification of the river was the tremendous number of requests from citizens of Mitchell, Yancey and Avery counties.

From what this writer has learned of the situation—in the course of preparing several news stories—this citizen action was the major factor, a factor without which the clean-up action likely would not have been taken for many years, if at all.

According to A.D. Harrell, president of the association which spearheaded the campaign, it got its impetus from Saylor himself after Saylor selected the condition of the river to be the subject of the thesis which he wrote for his master's degree a couple of years ago.

Inasmuch as active environmentalists are sometimes accused of being "liberal do-gooders and left-wingers," it is noteworthy that most of the officials of the association which led the fight probably are political conservatives and probably would so describe themselves.

At least one of them, a man close to the age of retirement, told this reporter of his reluctance in becoming a part of the campaign. But, he said, he saw no alternative except to allow the continued degrading of the river.

According to Saylor, whose profession is environmental health, the expected reduction in the amount of silt and sediment will allow the normal ecology of the river to return, thereby permitting a habitat which is suitable for the reproduction of trout and other fish. It has not produced trout and bass for a long time, North Carolina anglers have told me.

Some of the mining companies also use fluoride in their refining process and too much of this, the pollution control agencies say, has been discharged into the river.

Fluoride, which is added to water as a tooth-decay preventative, is a poison when used in too-great amounts. The amounts that have been discharged in the past exceed the standards set by the U.S. Public Health Service, authorities say.

The companies have been told to reduce their fluoride discharges into the river, from which the Town of Jonesboro gets its water.

From the standpoint of environmental health, it's an important achievement. But what could be more important is the lesson it teaches: that people do have the power—if they have the will to exercise it.

1974 UF Honor Roll Points Out Progress

The first publication of the 1974 United Appeal Honor Roll is shown below. The source of the information is Mrs. Ruby Smith, Treasurer of the Yancey United Fund, who is keeping track of progress being made in the campaign. She recognizes that the list may not be complete, owing to slowness of reports to reach her.

Just as the reporter from the JOURNAL was about to ask Mrs. Smith, in her office, how the campaign was going, one of the volunteer workers, J. H. Cooper, appeared at the door and dropped on the desk checks and pledge cards totaling \$765. That, in itself, answered the question—the volunteer workers are definitely on the job.

UF SPONSORS
(Contributors of \$500 or more)
Mohasco Mill
Mr. and Mrs. Mack B. Ray
Dr. Garland Wampler

UF PATRONS
(Contributors of \$200 to \$500)
Mrs. David and Carolyn Cort
Bob Helme
Maxwell Home Furnishings
Northwestern Bank
Pollard's Drug Store
Dr. Fergus Pope
Styles & Co. & Styles Auto Sup.

CENTURY CLUB
(Contributors of \$100 to \$200)
Burnsville Furn. & Hardware
Edward L. Greer
Johnson & Company
Hazen Ledford
Riddle Fuel Oil Company
Yancey Builders Supply

Holiday Set For Students

Students in Yancey County Schools will enjoy a holiday on Friday, October 4 along with students from seventeen other western North Carolina counties when schools will be closed in order that teachers may attend the Western District meeting of the North Carolina Education Association in Asheville.

Trout Supper By Boosters

East Yancey Boosters Club will sponsor a Trout Supper featuring smoked file of trout, on Friday, October 4 from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the East Yancey High School lunchroom.



Rack Held By Tractor Is Loaded From Row



Tractor Takes Rack To Barn And Lifts It



Rack Slid Into Channels For Storage

One-Man Tobacco System

As fall approaches, Yancey County farmers are busy getting their tobacco harvested and hung into barns. At least one tobacco producer is doing it an easier way. Warren and Grover Westall of Price's Creek are working as a team with the N.C. Experiment Station, the Extension Service, TVA and industry people to search out ways of handling tobacco with less labor. "One man can handle his crop alone with a rack system" says Warren Westall.

Pictured above from top, the rack is held by the tractor front-end loader and loaded from the stick row. When filled, it is driven to the barn, as shown in center picture and lifted with the loader to the proper height. It is then slid into channels on each side that give support as shown in bottom photo. The racks containing the tobacco work much like sliding a rack into a cookstove oven. The Westalls are also experimenting with other systems. One of them is designed for use by a horse farmer or someone who has land too steep for a tractor.