

THE YANCEY JOURNAL

VOL. 3, NO. 52

BURNSVILLE, N.C. 28714

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1974

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Local Men Attend Tree Lighting Event

Rep. Roy A. Taylor and Senator Sam J. Ervin Monday evening touched a button to officially light the U.S. Capitol Christmas tree. And there to celebrate the event at the nation's capitol were Johnny McLain, district U.S. Forest Service ranger from Burnsville, and Mayor Don Brewer of Bakersville, a town whose citizens played a part in getting the tree to Washington.

The 41-foot Frazier fir came from Roan Mountain in Taylor's congressional district

Graduate From MDTA Project

On Friday, December 20, Mayland Technical Institute will graduate students from its first M.D.T.A. Project. The project has been machine woodworking operators. The purpose of the program was to help students learn to identify and work with various types of tools and machinery to learn to make furniture of various types, both in industry and methods of finishing and to spend two hours each day in academic work improving their education.

Two members of the class, Betty Hollifield and Eddie

and was described by him during a brief ceremony as "a gift from the people of North Carolina to the people of the nation".

"Today, we have our problems," said Taylor, citing inflation, recession and the energy shortages.

"But we can be thankful that as we enter into the Christmas season that America is at peace with other nations of the world," he said.

This marks the 11th year a Christmas tree has been placed on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol. It is separate from the national Christmas tree near the White House which was lighted the next day, Tuesday, December 17.

"These ceremonial Christmas trees in Washington symbolize our nation's hope for peace in the world," said Rep. Taylor.



Hi ho
TEMPERATURE
FROM THE
UPPER PORCH
YANCEY COUNTY
COUNTRY STORE

Hi 64°
Low 15°

Getting Out Of Debt Can Be Major Problem For Consumer Says Bureau

It's pay day, and just in time. You get out your checkbook and start writing checks. There's the mortgage payment, the utility bills, the furniture payment, the department store bills, the payment on the color tv, the car payment, the charge card accounts. Suddenly there isn't enough for the insurance payment; that is, if your family is going to eat this month.

So you start juggling. You might figure out which bill you can let slide until next month. But that will mean late charges or a double payment next time. And if something unexpected happens—if your kid breaks his leg again—you will be up to your neck in debt.

This predicament is becoming more and more common. According to the National Foundation for Consumer Credit, a non-profit credit counseling agency, five or six out of a hundred families are in serious financial trouble.

Inflation is just one of the culprits. Easy credit is another. Credit can be very easy to get, but not so easy to pay for.

BUYING ON CREDIT
Before you buy something else on credit, the Better Business Bureau suggests you ask yourself a few questions:

* Can you make the pay-



Brush Creek Homemakers Prepare Fruit Baskets

Christmas means different things to different people. Since the spirit of giving is at the heart of Christmas, 15 members of the Brush Creek Extension Homemakers Club show their concern for 30 elderly or homebound citizens of the Community by taking each of them a fruit basket each Christmas. Pictured

above preparing the baskets are Joy Letterman, Nelle Johnson, Lydia Deyton, Floy Whitson and Ora Lee Hopson. Other members assisting with the project are Lucy Gortney, Louise Blair, Lucille Lyle, Florence Hughes, Gladys Garland, Betty Hart and Geneva Harrell.

Medical Examiner Warns: Minibikes And Motorcycles Dangerous For Untrained Rider

"Would you give your teenage kid a loaded gun and expect him not to use it?"

The question was raised recently as a result of a three-year study into accidents and deaths from minibikes and motorcycles by Dr. Page Hudson, the state's chief medical examiner. The report revealed a 20 percent increase in the number of deaths among unlicensed

teenage riders of minibikes and motorcycles.

Of the 89 minibike and motorcycle deaths in 1973, 17 of the victims were unlicensed riders ranging in age from 10 to 15 years. A total of 10 were riding minibikes. And what alarms Hudson is the fact that 14 were killed on public streets, or where they were not supposed to be.

Although statistics for

1974 are not in yet, Hudson expects total deaths: from two wheel motorbikes to rise above 100 this year.

"There has been no dramatic improvement in the number of motor bike deaths as a result of the law that requires a rider to wear a helmet," Hudson said. "The most common cause of death is still what we call closed head injuries. The impact to

the head is so severe death results from the trauma. Broken necks and crushed chests follow close behind," he said.

"It is unlawful to ride an unlicensed minibike on public streets," Hudson said. "So, kids ride wherever there is room to maneuver. Most minibike fatalities occur when the rider pops out from woods, driveways or beside

the street."

Are minibikes and motorcycles as dangerous as people think? Hudson said statistics speak for themselves.

"Minibikes and motorcycles in the hands of unlicensed, untrained riders are as dangerous as a loaded gun," Hudson stressed. "If kids are allowed to own them they should be properly schooled in safety precautions. And that goes for adults, too."

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Order Trees Now For Planting Season

Bacchus Hensley, Yancey County Forest Ranger, advises that tree planting season runs from now through the first part of May 1975. Planting trees is a good conservation measure and can be very profitable to the landowner. Abandoned pastures, old fields, and cutover woodland are areas which are well suited for planting trees.

Tree seedlings can be ordered from the County Forest Ranger, County Agent, or A.S.C.S. Office. The North Carolina Forest Service will be operating a tree planting crew which will be available to plant trees for landowners.

The cost for this planting service will range from \$35.50 per acre to \$46.00, depending on the number of trees planted and the condition of the land. This price includes both trees and labor to plant them. Cost share assistance is available through the A.S.C.S. Office at the rate of 75% of the total cost.

Landowners interested in

ordering trees or having trees planted should contact Forest Ranger Hensley for additional information or for an inspection of the planting site.

Ranger Hensley can be contacted by phone at county headquarters (682-2133) or at home (682-6346).

Tech. Students Named To Dean's List

The following students at Mayland Technical Institute, based on their academic standing, have been named to the Deans List for the Fall Quarter:

BSNS. ADMINISTRATION
Ida Blankenship, Wallace Boone, Joseph Bowman, Jim Buchanan, Glenn Briggs, George Brittain, Quentin Buchanan, Franklin Byrd, Randy Duncan, Joe Gillespie, David Greene, Gary Guinn, John Gyselinck, Gerald Henline, Drewed Hensley, Dale Hicks, Lloyd Honeycutt, Joe McGuire, Ronald McIntosh, Kevin Peterson, James Phillips, Gerald Pittman, Kenneth Ray, Benny Sparks, Katherine Stinson, Bobby Sullins, Eugene Sutphin, Ted Tipton, Edith Vance, Allen Winebarger, Derwin Woody, Sammy Young.

SECRETARIAL
Glenna Burleson, Twila Howell, Teresa Huskins, Martha Jaynes, Patricia McCurry, Nancy Pitman, Joyce Proffitt, Gail Robinson, Nancy Tipton.

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Betty Hollifield

Buchanan, whose pictures appear with the article, got their GED High School Certificates while in training.



Eddie Buchanan

The class has made furniture for Mayland Tech. public schools in the area and other non-profit agencies. The training has been co-sponsored in conjunction with the local Employment Security Commission office in Spruce Pine.

Persons graduating from the program will include David H. McGee, Roger Carpenter, Alice Holtsclaw, Ruth Sparks, Betty Hollifield, Reece King, Carol Upton, and Eddie Buchanan.

Notices

The Burnsville office of French Broad Electric Membership Corporation will be closed Wednesday and Thursday, December 25 and 26 for the Christmas Holidays.

THE YANCEY JOURNAL will be closed December 23 through 27 for the Christmas holidays.

Burnsville Veterinary Clinic will be closed December 21-30, 1974.

Dr. Webb's office will be closed December 25, 26, 27 and January 1.

give to the March of Dimes



Chrismon Tree Displayed

A tree of religious significance—a Chrismon tree—has been created by the ladies of the Bald Creek Methodist Church, who are displaying it instead of the traditional Christmas tree this year. The Chrismon tree uses symbolic decorations rather than tinsel and shiny ornaments. This one is adorned with beautiful gold and pearl decorations in shapes of religious significance such as stars, crosses, angels, doves and flowers that represent Christ. The ladies of the church worked many hours creating these works of art and then held open house on Thursday, December 19, to give the public a chance to observe the lovely and lavish "Chrismon tree".