

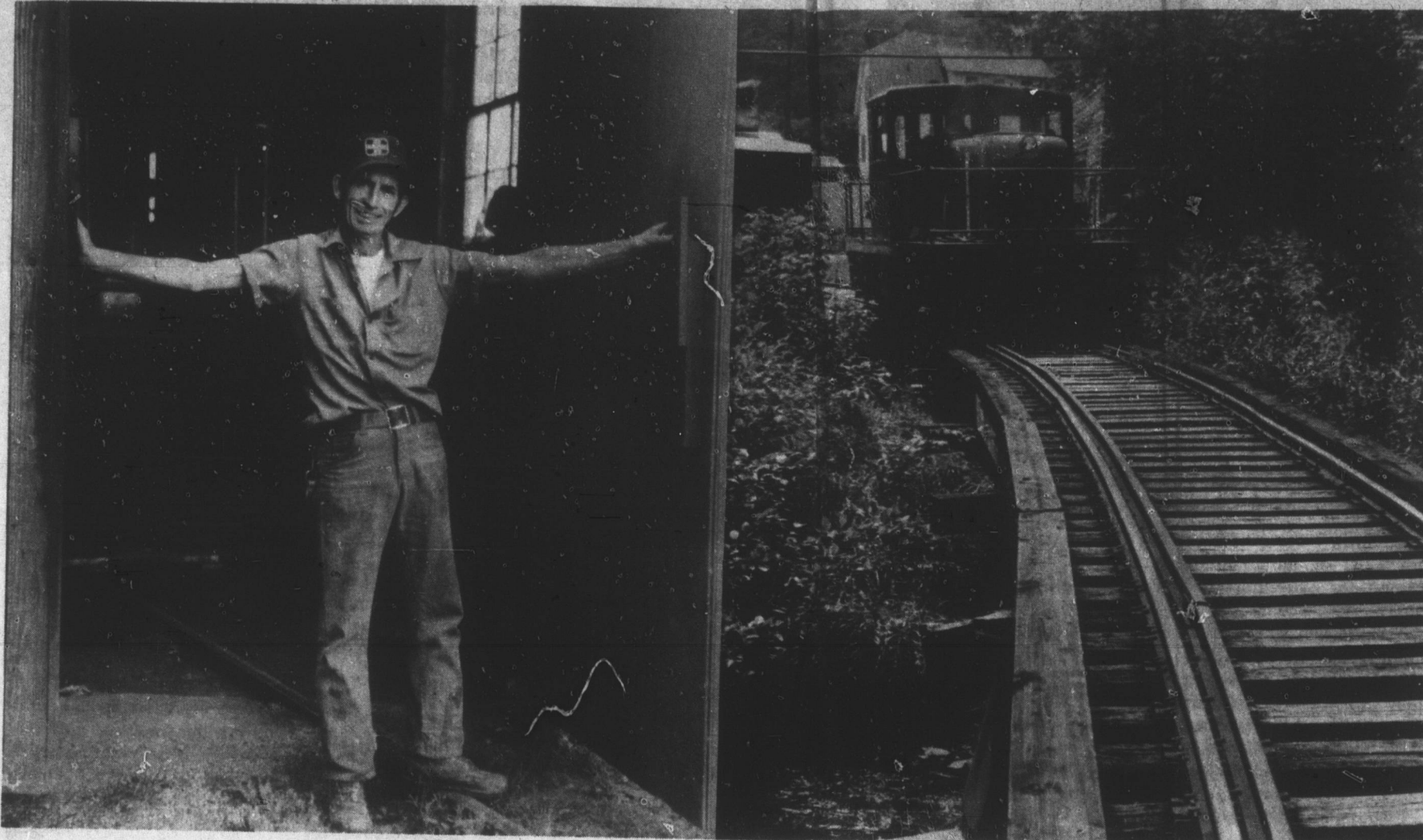
# THE YANCEY JOURNAL

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BURNSVILLE, N.C. 28714

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1975

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## Yancey Railroad Opens Door To Adventure With Excursion Train

Photo by Westveer

A once-a-year opportunity to take a Yancey Railroad Color Excursion along the South Toe, is being offered by the Spruce Pine Junior Women's Club, which is chartering the train for this event. Open observation cars of the "South Toe Rambler" will enable passengers to take photographs of the sparkling Toe River through the colorful autumn foliage, and there will be unlimited photo stops for leaf-lovers and railroad buffs. The "Rambler" travels from Burnsville

to Kona and back, after stopping for a picnic on the island at Kona in the confluence of the North and South Toe Rivers. The train will depart from the Burnsville Station at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 18, and will return around 6:00 or 6:30 p.m. Reservations must be made in advance; send \$4.00 for each ticket to Carol Westveer, Spruce Pine Junior Women's Club, Box 444, Spruce Pine, N.C. 28777, and a packet of information will be sent upon request. Mrs. Westveer can also be reached by calling 765-7242.

## Westco Proposes Increase:

## Rate Hike Sought

Declining earnings, a trend that has already hurt its ability to compete for expansion capital, has been cited as the reason Westco Telephone Company must again seek a general rate increase.

According to Westco President Norman Gum, "It's true that we just had an increase, but it simply was not enough to offset the continuing drop in our level of earnings. We filed for that increase in May, 1974, using year-end 1973 financial data. We received our answer in May of this year, but then we granted only 60 percent of what we knew was needed to improve our company's economic health."

"We're like any other business that has been caught up in the present cycle of inflation. Our costs, like those of the retailer or manufacturer, have increased and we must again offset the effects with a compensating increase in what we charge for service. The increase we're asking for would add no more than from \$2.65 to \$5.20 a month to basic residential rates, and no more than \$12.95 per month to business individual line rates."

existing phone in place; and other related changes for supplemental services and equipment.

"The combined increase would generate approximately \$1.2 million in additional annual revenue."

"Today's harsh reality is that the company's net income has actually declined by some 25 percent when compared to year-end 1973," Gum pointed out, "and this is a trend that cannot be allowed to continue if we are to protect the integrity of our company and its service to the customer. It's already severely impaired our ability to attract outside investment capital that historically is used by our industry to finance expansion."

He said the company is unable to meet most of the standard economic tests used by investors in measuring the safety of investment opportunities. "Our only alternative has been to use funds generated from within the company as much as possible, but this has provided us with only a minimum of dollars and we therefore have had to cut back our construction program accordingly," Gum added.

Westco's annual construction expenditure has fallen from \$2.6 million in 1974 to the estimated \$1.8 million for 1975.

"That's a particularly disturbing curve to us because the demand for improved service is still there. We have done a lot over the past few years to meet customer needs, including major improvements in long distance service and the elimination of multi-party lines, but there's still more to do, and we know it. Yet we can only go as far and as fast as our available dollars will let us."

In discussing his company's drop in net income, he said it is tied directly to a corresponding rise in company expenses. For example, the company's total operating expenses rose by an average of more than 2 percent a month from December, 1973.

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## Three Candidates For Town Board

The Burnsville town election to be held on November 4 will apparently be a quiet affair. The three candidates who have filed for positions on the three-man town board are Bob Helmle, for mayor, and David McIntosh and Charlie Hensley for the two positions as commissioners.

Since the deadline for filing has passed, only these three names will appear on the ballots. Write-in votes

may be cast, but the likelihood of serious competition for any of the three offices seems remote.

Bob Helmle served previously as mayor for three terms between 1961 and 1967, and since then has been a member of the town board. David McIntosh is proprietor of David's Limited, and Charlie Hensley holds an administrative position with the school board. These two younger men have both been active in community affairs. Both have served as president of the Jaycees, and McIntosh has served additionally on the board of the Yancey County Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor James Anglin, who has served four terms and Pete Coletta, with sixteen years on the town board, both declined to run for re-election.

## Shepard On Board

Mayor James A. Anglin announces the appointment of Mrs. Alma Shepard to the Burnsville Board of Elections. This Board, which will conduct the Town election on November 4, is now made up of the following: Chairman--Gene Higgins, Secretary--Linda Edge, Member--Alma Shepard.

## Public Hearing Planned

Two public hearings concerning the HUD Community Development Act plans for Year II are scheduled by the Town of Burnsville and Yancey County. The first public hearing will be held on Tuesday night, October 14, and the second public hearing will be held on Thursday night, October 16. Both public hearings will begin at 7:30 p.m. and both will be held in the courtroom of the Yancey County Courthouse.

Every resident of the Town or County who wishes to express his or her views concerning the plan for Year II is urged to attend.

## For Senior Citizens Out Reach Effort

## SCORE Volunteers Needed

Telephone hotline volunteers are now needed by the Yancey County Committee on Aging in order to put SCORE into operation. SCORE (Senior Citizen Outreach Effort) will at first be a County-wide communication system (hot-line telephone) for senior citizens. The purpose of the hot-line telephone will be to put senior citizens with needs directly in touch with volunteers or service agencies who can meet those needs.

The hot-line volunteers will man the hot-line telephone, insuring that no call of need will be unanswered. The hot-line will initially be in operation from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday above Pollard's Drug Store. If you would like to help in this volunteer effort and can give a few hours one day each week for this service, please call Rev. Don Turman (675-4110), chairman, Yancey County Committee on Aging.



Rev. Funderburk

## Revival Planned By Methodists

Revival services will be held each evening at 7:30 p.m., October 12-16, at Celo United Methodist Church. Rev. Donald K. Funderburk, pastor of Bethlehem United Methodist Church of Advance, North Carolina, will be the visiting evangelist.

Rev. Funderburk is a native of Matthews, N.C. and a graduate of Brevard College, Lenoir Rhyne College, and Candler School of Theology, Emory University. He has served churches in the Statesville and Thomasville Districts of the United Methodist Church.

The public is invited to attend these services.

## Finances Reported By Chamber Board

At the October Yancey Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors monthly meeting, Ben Floyd, Chamber President, released the financial statistical report of the 1975 Mt. Mitchell Crafts Fair and Youth Jamboree. The report's figures clearly showed this to be the Chamber's most successful financial year with the Fair and the Jamboree.

The total receipts from the Craftsman's registration, 10% of their sales and the concession were \$4,139.13. The expenses for the Crafts Fair totaled \$735.79 bringing the net profit for the Crafts Fair to \$3,403.34.

The receipts for the chicken barbecue totaled \$3,853.80. The expenses for

the chicken barbecue totaled \$1,787.13 bringing the net profit to \$2,066.67. The total net profit for the Fair and the chicken barbecue totaled \$4,872.97.

The receipts for the Youth Jamboree totaled \$1,147.05. The expenses for this activity totaled \$448.78 bringing the net profit for the 1975 Yancey Jamboree to \$698.27.

The profits earned from the Fair, chicken barbecue and Jamboree are spent by the Yancey Chamber of Commerce in industrial promotion, tourism publicity, the town facelift project, educational scholarships and other civic community projects for Yancey County.

## Rummage Sale Set By STVFD

The South Toe Volunteer Fire Department is holding a Rummage and White Elephant Sale at the South Toe Elementary School on Saturday, October 11, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Anyone wishing to donate baked goods or articles to be sold can contact Florence Yaffe at 675-5214 and she will be glad to arrange to have them picked up.

## Math Teachers To Meet

The North Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics will hold its annual conference in Western North Carolina for the first time. On October 17 and 18 there will be 76 sessions on all phases of Mathematics at the UNC-A campus in Asheville. Any teacher of a mathematics class, kindergarten through college will find many sessions of interest during the conference. This is a rare opportunity for teachers of this area and their support will determine any future meeting this far west. The Western North Carolina officers indicated to the NCTM Board of Directors that teachers from Murphy and all points in the western part of the state have just as much right to a convenient conference as any teacher in the state.

The state certification committee has made it possible for teachers to receive one unit credit toward renewal of certificate for attending the [Cont'd on page 2]

## United Way Donors Make Honor Roll

The first publication of the 1975 United Way 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 the progress being made in the campaign. She recognizes that the list may not be complete, owing to slowness of reports to reach her.

**UNITED WAY SPONSORS**  
[Contributors of \$500 or more]  
Mr. and Mrs. Mack B. Ray

**UNITED WAY PATRONS**  
[Contributors of \$200 to \$500]  
Deytos Farm Supply  
Pollard's Drug Store  
Dr. Garland Wampler  
Blue Bell Employees  
Bob Helmle

**CENTURY CLUB**  
[Contributors of \$100 to \$200]  
Yancey Builders Supply  
Burnsville Furniture & Hdwr

Fortner Insurance  
Drs. David and Carolyn Cort  
Edward L. Greer  
Art Asher  
Hazen Ledford  
Dr. R.K. Ransom  
Wm. O. Cullom  
Mrs. Grace Grassmuck  
Blue Ridge Hardware  
Mr. and Mrs. John Martin  
Milton Weiss

A happy note in the campaign was furnished by receipt through the mail of a hundred dollar check from a newcomer in the community, Wm. O. Cullom, who recently purchased property in the county. This gift is specially appreciated since it is learned that the donor also contributes to a United Way campaign at his home in Florida. In fact, Mr. Cullom is serving as a chairman of a drive in the Miami area.



## Senior Citizens Visit Fair

Twenty-eight senior citizens from Yancey County recently participated in an all-day trip to the WNC Fair at Hendersonville, sponsored by the local Community Action Cc. First stop was at Kentucky Fried Chicken of Hendersonville for lunch, with fast and efficient service and a 15% discount for the group thanks to Mr. Penley, Manager. At the fairgrounds, there were many crafts and exhibits on

display, a large section being devoted to Hendersonville Apple Growers and the Bicentennial. The senior citizens then visited a nearby apple orchard. To see such great enjoyment as was exhibited by this group, coupled with the beautiful fall day, made it a perfect outing for the bus drivers, True Elliott and Sabra Phillips. More all-day trips are being planned. If you are interested, please call 682-2610.