

# THE YANCEY JOURNAL

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## Yancey Citizens Protest Increase

BY WORTH CROW  
SCORE Task Force Chairman

Last Thursday morning, February 12, over a dozen Yancey County citizens, many of whom were senior citizens, journeyed to the Buncombe County Courthouse in Asheville. Reason for the journey was to personally express concern for the 41-60% phone

rate increase proposed by Westco as this will affect all Yancey County citizens, especially senior citizens. Some of the concerns expressed by the Yancey citizens speaking were as follows:

What effect will a 41-60% phone rate per month increase have on senior citizens with low level fixed incomes (especially after a rate increase last year).

Will higher phone rates merely cause more senior citizens to disconnect from existing phone service, thus putting a greater burden on the fewer remaining subscribers. To make up the revenues lost, rates will again increase, thus causing more people to consider disconnecting--and on and on and on...

Will phone service end up being only for those who can afford to pay and for those who can't afford not to pay.

Senior citizens who heavily depend on phone service may be forced to cut back on other necessities such as food, etc.

The telephone is a communication necessity for senior citizens as (1) security due to related health concerns, (2) companionship for loneliness or living alone, (3) communication with family and senior citizen 'Hotline' due to lack of mobility.

Senior citizen volunteer "Hotline" and SCORE (Senior Citizen Outreach Effort) program is highly dependent on telephone communication with all Senior Citizens.

If you, too, are concerned for the effect these proposed phone rate increases will have on Yancey Senior Citizens, call the Senior Citizen "Hotline" (682-6011) and voice your concern.



Toe River Arts Council Officers

The elected officers of the Toe River Arts Council are Susan Larson, President; Ronald Propst, Vice-President; Joyce Johnson, Secretary and George Parker, Treasurer (pictured 1. to r.). In addition to the officers, the twelve person board of directors includes from Yancey County Eloise Briggs, Theresa Coletta, Annie Hassell, Mary Helmle, and Julia Norris and from Mitchell County Milton Burleson, Vohamie Johnson and Kathy Miller.

The purpose of the arts council is to promote arts activities in the two counties. In keeping with this purpose, the council will sponsor a play, *Appalachia Sounding*, on March 25 at 8:00 p.m. in the Harris High School Auditorium in Spruce Pine. They are also planning a five-week summer program of classes in the arts for children. Anyone interested in joining the Toe River Arts Council may call 682-2463 in Yancey County or 765-2652 in Mitchell County. Photo by Ann Parks Hawthorne

## For Wild And Scenic River Class:

# South Toe River Studied

The U.S. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation needs additional public input for a Wild and Scenic River Nomination Study. The study seeks to select certain Appalachian streams for possible Wild and Scenic River designation. Such streams could

be preserved in a natural state.

Forty-one streams are under consideration. One of those being considered is the South Toe River. The segment being studied is from N.C. Hwy 80 bridge south of Locust Creek in Yancey County to U.S. Hwy. 19E bridge in the Newdale community. If you have any firsthand knowledge of this segment of the South Toe, drop a card or letter with your name and address to Ervin Meyer, Wild and Scenic River Study, Commonwealth Associates, Inc., 209 East Washington Street, Jackson, Michigan 49201. You will be sent a postpaid questionnaire to fill out.

Firsthand knowledge is needed by the Bureau from local fishermen, canoeists, conservationists, students, hikers, campers, farmers, etc. about conditions along the streams such as geology, water quality, vegetation, wildlife, canoeability, fishing quality, camping possibilities, land use, etc. Or if you are opposed to designation of a certain stream as a Wild and Scenic River, you may give your specific reason for your opinion on this stream.

The rest of the streams under study in the state of North Carolina are as follows: Ararat River in Surry County, Hiwassee River in Cherokee and Clay counties, Little Tennessee River in Macon and Swain Counties, Little

River in Alleghany County, Johns River in Burke and Caldwell Counties, Jacob Fork in Burke County, Broad River in Rutherford and Cleveland Counties, Second Broad River in Rutherford, First Broad River in Rutherford and Cleveland, Green River in Henderson and Polk Counties, South Fork New River in Watauga and Ashe, North Fork New River in Ashe, Yadkin River in Caldwell and Wilkes, Linville River in Burke County, N. Paolet in Polk, Tuckasee River in Jackson County, Big Laurel Creek in Madison County, Nantahala River in Macon and Swain Counties, Chattooga River in Jackson County. Only a certain segment of these streams is under study and if you have

first hand knowledge of one of the streams mentioned in North Carolina, you will need to write to find out what segment of that stream is under consideration.

## McCurry To Retire From Bank Post

Hazen Ledford, executive vice president of The Northwestern Bank of Burnsville, has announced that Flavil McCurry will retire from The Northwestern Bank on February 29 after 21 years of service with the Bank.

Flavil McCurry, a native of Yancey County, is a graduate of Burnsville High School. He has served as cashier of the Bank since 1954.

McCurry is married to the former June Riddle of Burnsville; and has one son, Kenneth, of Burnsville; and three daughters, Mrs. Susie Ayers of Arden, North Carolina, Mrs. Cynthia Hall of Charlotte, and Mrs. Rheta Hollar of Greenville, South Carolina. The McCurrys attend First Baptist Church of Burnsville.

After retirement, Mr. and Mrs. McCurry plan to travel throughout the United States.

## South Toe Meeting Set

The next Community Organization Meeting of the people of South Toe will be held Thursday, February 19, at 7:30 p.m. at the Greater South Toe Community Center. The agenda of this meeting will include approval of By-Laws. This is a very important meeting in organizing the Council and everyone is encouraged to attend.

## Savings Bond Sales Came Close To Goal

Sales of Series E and H Savings Bonds in Yancey County during the fourth quarter of 1975 were \$35,021. Total sales for 1975 were \$79,938. This represents 90.1 percent of their goal of \$88,740.00 according to Hazen Ledford, County Volunteer Chairman.

Total cash sales of E and H Bonds for the past year in North Carolina were \$97,910,586, which represents 99.3 percent of the state's dollar goal of \$98,600,000. Of that amount, \$25,032,635 was sold in the fourth quarter.

Nationally, U.S. Savings Bonds sales hit a record high of more than \$7 billion during 1975. Total year end holdings

of Series E and H Bonds were \$67.5 billion. Including Freedom Shares--which were withdrawn from sale in 1970--the total adds up to \$67.9 billion.

Speaking of the program, Secretary of the Treasury William E. Simon said, "The 1975 United States Savings Bonds story is one of gratifying achievement. Savings Bonds are good for America, good for individual Americans and good for our future. They are a safe, convenient and intelligent way for millions of Americans to save. They help the government to manage the national debt in probably the least inflationary way possible. And they are a practical way for all of us to 'take stock in America'--to say 'Thanks' for our national past and 'yes' to our collective future.

"For these reasons, we at Treasury hope and expect that 1976, America's Bicentennial year, will be another record-breaking 'buy bonds' year as well."

## Meeting Of Conservation District

The Yancey Soil and Water Conservation District is holding a meeting this Thursday night, February 19, at 7:00 in room 12 of the county Courthouse. Bill Allen, an engineer with the Department of Natural Resources, will be guest speaker. He will be speaking on the regulation and enforcement of the Erosion and Sedimentation Laws now in effect and those which will soon be becoming law.

All interested persons and those involved in any type of work involving land grading and excavation are strongly urged to attend.

## Decision Pending On Rate Hike

French Broad Electric Membership Corporation's Acting Manager Charles R. Tolley reports that they received the details of the rate increase to French Broad EMC from Carolina Power & Light Company last week and have been studying this information. As soon as a decision is made concerning retail rates, the information will be forwarded on to our members, he said, adding that they will strive to keep their rate increase as low as possible.

Applications are available at the Continuing Education Office on campus at Mayland Technical Institute and Cannon Memorial Hospital, Banner Elk, for CETA Training Programs for Nurses Assistant and Hospital Plant Maintenance. Persons wishing to apply for these programs will need to fill out the application forms at one of these two locations as soon as possible.

## Training Programs

The Yancey County Recreation Committee will sponsor a basketball clinic for all interested 5th and 6th grade girls in Yancey County. The clinic will be held in Burnsville Elementary gym, 7:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Thursday, February 19. Basketball shoes will be required for everyone. Instructors will be Director, Gordon Banks assisted by Chris Cooper, Eddie Chershkov and Steve Proffitt.

## Basketball Girls Clinic

February 23 is the last day to register to be able to vote in the Presidential Primary on March 23, according to the Yancey County Board of Elections.

Registration Deadline

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## Burnsville Racers To Compete

Two Burnsville racers, Johnny Hall and Bud Edwards, are expected to lend strong competition at Spartanburg International Dragway on opening night, March 6. What may have termed as the most modern format in present day drag racing has been established for the coming season there.

Executive Manager, Jimmy Boyd, veteran drag racing promoter said months of preparation have been put into setting up six new eliminators, each of which are a form of "dial-your-own" type racing. Boyd, one of the early proponents of the system stipulates that Bracket Racing is the coming thing in drag racing and will run all six new eliminators each Saturday night.

Spartanburg International Dragway will feature an all-new staff, new purse arrangement, a new Points System for 1976, and new starting time with gates opening at 3 p.m. each Saturday beginning March 6, with racing to get underway promptly at 7 p.m.

## Linda Harding Selected Teenager Pageant Finalist

Miss Linda Harding, age 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Harding has been selected to be a Finalist in the 5th Annual Miss North Carolina Teenager Pageant to be held at Raleigh Memorial Auditorium April 24, 1976. There will be contestants from all over the state competing for the title of Miss North Carolina Teenager 1976. Contestants will be judged on scholastic achievement-leadership; poise-personality; and beauty. Each contestant will recite a 100 word speech of her own composition on the subject, "What's Right About America."

Winner of the Pageant will receive \$500 and an all expense paid trip to the National Pageant including round trip air fare and a week's stay at the National Pageant with meals and lodging furnished. Trophies at the state pageant will be awarded to the top 5 contestants, 3 speech winners, Miss Congeniality, Miss Photogenic and the Citizenship Winner.

\$10,000 in Scholarships are awarded at the Miss National Teenager Pageant to the college of the winners choice.

Miss Harding is being sponsored in the pageant by Deneen Mica Company of Newdale, The Burnsville Jaycees, The Northwestern Bank, Joe Young Ford and Glen Raven Mills, all of Burnsville.



17-Year-Old Linda Harding

Next Week!  
In The Yancey Journal

'PROGRESS'

A Special Photo Feature  
'Meet Your Merchant'