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4-H's Depart For Betsy-Jeff Penn Camp

Twenty-one excited 4-H members departed for Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Camp Monday morning. Excited parents and friends saw them off wishing them a fun week. The campers have an interesting week ahead, filled with special classes and programs. Some special events planned are a stunt night, a talent show, swimming, hiking, a banquet, and camping trips. The campers have the opportunity to participate in a dental hygiene program. The ecology class will be better than ever this year. In addition to the regular ecology class, there will be an afternoon hike one day during the week. The craft this year

will be "decoique"--making a kitchen knife holder. The campers will design their own pattern and work with various stains and decorations. An extra horsemanship class is available as a choice activity.

An educational as well as a fun-filled week is planned for the campers this bi-centennial year. Pictured above are campers departing for Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Camp. The guy with the fishing pole is Johnny Hensley, Ass't. Agricultural Extension Agent, but he is not going fishing. The campers are going to participate in a Fishing Rodeo!

Ragan Firm Admits Improper Payments

Brad Ragan, Inc. admitted Friday gifts and improper payments to customers totaling more than \$300,000 to gain business, and acknowledged that the Securities and Exchange Commission is looking into the company's affairs.

The company, of which Carolina Tire Company is a part, said the SEC, seeking to determine whether any federal securities laws have been violated, is looking into business and billing practices concerning the sale or gift of goods, or payments or loans to customers or employees of customers for the purpose of obtaining business.

Other areas figuring in the probe are the interest of management and others in certain acquisitions made by the company, and unreported and unregistered stock transactions involving certain officers and employees of the company, the firm reported.

The company said it ordered a halt in January 1975 to "any and all improper payments and gifts..." as well as improper billing of come customers in connection with those transactions.

The firm markets a variety of new and retreaded tires and operates a chain of retail automotive and appliance stores under the name Caro-

lina Tire Company.

Its disclosure of the SEC probe was contained in a financial report issued Friday in which it said revenues for the year ended April 30, 1976, rose to \$121.6 million, a new high from \$113.3 million a year ago.

Special Telethon Slated

"Something Special," a Cystic Fibrosis Telethon, will be presented to viewers on Sunday, July 25th, from 11:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on WRET, TV-36, Charlotte.

This special telethon will help bring the "breath of life" to more than 150,000 children in North Carolina who suffer with chronic lung-damaging diseases--through your contributions to this cause.

Watch for, and be part of, "Something Special" on Sunday. If you live in an area where channel 36 is not received, be a part of this statewide effort anyway.

Please, participate by calling 682-2110 or 682-2327, or mailing in your contribution to Michael D. Whitson, publicity chairman for Yancey County.



Violinist In Concert

The Music in the Mountains Concert Sunday will feature the Celo Chamber Players in works by Handel, Ravel, and the contemporary American composer, Irving Fine. Ronan Lefkowitz, one of the youngest members of the Boston Symphony and a semi-finalist in the Montreal Violin Competition, will join Dana Rusinak, cello, and Ruth Geiger, piano, to perform Ravel's Trio. Interestingly, Mr. Lefkowitz is a student of Szymon Goldberg, the great chamber player with whom Mme. Lil Kraus recorded all of the Mozart violin sonatas.

Eve Lynne Reeve, harpsichord, and Ralph Matson, violin, and Maureen Gallagher, viola, will perform the Handel Sonata in G minor. The Woodwind Quintet will present Fine's Partita.

The July 25 concert begins at 3:30 p.m. in the Presbyterian Church, Burnsville. Tickets are available at the door or at the New Way Inn and the Yancey County Country Store.

Candidates To Speak At WNC Sierra Club Forum

All candidates for the Eleventh Congressional District have been invited by the Western North Carolina Group of the Sierra Club to participate in a Candidates' Forum to be held Thursday, July 29, 7:30 p.m. at the University of North Carolina,

Asheville, in the Auditorium of the Humanities Building. The public is urged to attend and will be permitted to question the candidates with regard to the stand of each on the five topics of special interest to the Sierra Club. They are: 1. Energy Policy

(i.e. nuclear, solar, fossil fuels, etc.); 2. Land Use Planning; 3. Wilderness; 4. National Forest Management; 5. National Park Maintenance and Development.

At the time this is being written, those who have accepted and will appear are: Glenn Brown, Democrat; Lamar Guder, Democrat; Ralph Ledford, Republican and Mike Vaughn, Democrat. Bo Thomas, Democrat, sent regrets that he has a previous commitment, and a summarized statement of his position on the five topics.

In his letter of invitation, Richard R. Maggi, Chairman, stated: "As the major conservation group in the Western Carolina area, the Sierra Club is keenly aware of the difficulties environmental challenges and decisions facing us all in the future. Consequently, our Candidates' Forum will provide you with the opportunity to present your views and programs for dealing with environmental issues before the WENOCA Group as well as the general public." (WENOCA has members in twenty counties of North Carolina.) Each candidate will have a maximum of 3-5 minutes (depending upon number present) to state his position on each of the questions.



Parkway Presents 'The Matchmaker'

To kiss a girl and have an adventure is the goal of "Cornelius" (Mike Glenn) in THE MATCHMAKER, the comedy playing at Parkway Playhouse, Wednesday through Saturday, July 14-17 at 8:30 p.m. Cornelius is only one of the loveable characters in Thornton Wilder's warm-hearted story. "Dolly Levi" is the best known character and is the basis of the well-known musical HELLO DOLLY. Sam Stuart, a theatre student at UNC-Greensboro plays "Dolly" in Burnsville. Miss Stuart is at Parkway courtesy of the Gioia Promise Award for Outstanding Professional Promise and also received the 1975-76 UNC-G Outstanding Undergraduate Award in Acting.

People hiding under tables and in closets, waiters getting stuck in restaurant partitions and mad cries of confusion characterize the show which promises to delight Burnsville audiences. David R. Batcheller, Director of Theatre at UNC-G is guest director for the show, and Ed Simpson, a UNC-G graduate student, recently seen as Mr. Webb in OUR TOWN at Parkway will portray "Mr. Vandergelder." Pictured top left to right: Jason Solomon, Mary Wiebe, Robin Barnes and Mike Glenn. Pictured below: Sam Stuart and Kim Downey.



ESC Announces Hike In Payments

Jobless workers qualifying for the maximum unemployment payment after August 1 will be paid \$105 a week instead of the current \$97 maximum, according to manager Jim Acuff of the Employment Security Commission here.

The higher payment applies only to new claims established on or after that date. Persons currently receiving the \$97 maximum payment will not have their payments increased to the new amount.

"State law requires that the maximum weekly unemployment payment be two-thirds the average weekly wage paid all workers covered by unemployment insurance," said Acuff.

"Each August the Commission computes a new maximum payment based on the prior year's average weekly wage."

He explained that the average weekly wage earned by all persons covered by

unemployment insurance in 1975 was \$158.19. The minimum payment remains at \$15 a week. The present average unemployment payment is \$64 a week.

When a worker becomes unemployed his rate of jobless payments is determined by what he earned during his high quarter of his base period of employment. Beginning with August 1 claims, a worker who earned as much as \$2,717 during his high quarter will be entitled to the maximum \$105 payment providing he meets other eligibility requirements.

Since unemployment payments are pegged to average wages, the maximum benefit increases each year.

There are presently over 50,000 workers filing claims under the regular state law. About 13,000 workers are filing extended benefits and another 16,000 are receiving special federal benefits.

Their benefits will not be affected by the August 1 increase.

Fed. Supplemental Benefits To End

Manager Jim Acuff of the Employment Security Commission here announced Monday that Federal Supplemental Benefits (FSB) will "trigger off" in North Carolina July 31.

Providing additional unemployment payments to workers who have exhausted their state benefits, FSB terminates because the rate of insured unemployment in North Carolina has averaged less than five percent for 13 consecutive weeks.

"There will be a 13-week phase-out period," said Acuff "so payments will continue for persons who can establish FSB claims until October 30. There will be no FSB payments for unemployment after that date," he said.

"Before an individual can establish an FSB claim he

New EMC Directors, Officers Are Elected

French Broad EMC held its Annual Meeting at Marshall Elementary School in Marshall, N.C. on Saturday, July 17, 1976. Approximately 450 members and guests attended.

Reports were given by the Officers and Manager, and the Keynote Address was given by Mr. Hugh A. Wells, Vice President and General Counsel of North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation. Mr. Wells recounted the early days of Rural Electrification and expressed concern over the availability, reliability and cost of power in the future. He cited the problem of having enough power to meet the loads in the 1980s as the power suppliers have projected a time of zero reserves in the 1980s and emphasized the need of seeking ways of increasing the capacity available for the Cooperatives in North Caro-

lina. Three Directors were elected to the Board of Directors without opposition. They were Novile C. Hawkins, District No. 1, Madison County; Elmer Buchanan, District No. 4, Mitchell County; and Carl Ramsey, District No. 5, Unicoi County, Tennessee.

At the organizational meeting of the Board of Directors immediately following the Annual Meeting, the following officers were re-elected unanimously: President, John O. Corbett; Vice President, Novile C. Hawkins; Secretary, I.E. Clevenger; Treasurer, W.G. Plemmons.

Mrs. Don West of Marshall, N.C. was the winner of the grand prize of \$200 credit on her electric account. Mr. Roscoe Briggs of Route 6, Marshall, won the prize for being the oldest member present. He was 83 years of age.

Curb Market To Open

The Yancey County Farmer's Curb Market will open at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, July 31, 1976. The location will be The Northwestern Bank Parking Lot on the Square in Burnsville.

Selling Permits will be the same as last year: .50c per day-which may be purchased at the Yancey County Chamber of Commerce Office or Yancey County Country Store.

The Curb Market will operate on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Wednesday afternoons from 1:15 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The Curb Market is designed as an outlet for any and all fresh fruits and vegetables locally grown in Yancey and surrounding counties. It is also an outlet for canned fruits and vegetables as well as molasses and honey.