

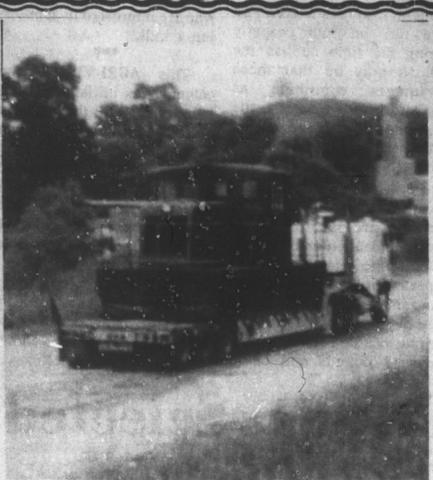
THE YANCEY JOURNAL

VOL. 4, NO. 35

BURNSVILLE, N.C. 28714

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 1976

15¢



Last Farewell

BY MIKE MITCHELL

How fast time seems to have flown when one looks back over a life. Only yesterday it seems that I was born in a large General Electric plant at Schenectady, NY. But that "yesterday" was way back in March of 1955.

I was too young then to really understand what was happening when they loaded me, bag, baggage, and wheels, onto a flatcar and sent me on my way someplace in North Carolina called Yancey County. It seemed that there was a newly formed railroad which needed an engine, and according to the letters on my side, I was to be that engine.

An old steam locomotive met me at Kona—he seemed friendly enough and told me his name was "99"—and pulled me on my flatcar to Burnsville where I was unloaded and my wheels felt Yancey Railroad rails for the first time. It was good to have a home, and I felt like everyone was glad to see me.

Soon, I went to work pulling cars to Kona from Burnsville and Bowditch. My crew was good to me then and cared for my every need. Business was good, and I stayed busy—and happy!

But, things took a turn for the worse. Business fell off and my crew neglected me and treated me badly. My wheels were worn; my engines were dirty; my traction motors had little or no attention; my face was dirty. Still, I was expected to run and work. I was afraid that my railroad would be abandoned, but it suited me if it was for then maybe I could get some rest.

Well, to my surprise, some new folks took over the railroad and it was like old times again. I got oil changes and a whole lot of care. The track was repaired and I no longer got my wheels crusty and hurt from falling off the rails onto the ground. My railroad had a whole lot of business, and I had to strain hard to try to keep up.

However, the years, all 21 of them, along with the bad care I'd had for part of my life, took a terrible toll. I was tired. My wheels were badly worn; my traction motor on one of my ends just gave out; my air pump would hardly pump any more. I guess I had what you humans call "tired blood".

So, after all this time and the work I've done, I am to be replaced by a bigger brother. Another engine is to take my place, a bigger, stronger fellow who can handle the increased business better with his 600 horsepower than I ever could with my 300 horses. I am to leave Yancey County to go to some place called Alabama and a new home after I have some much needed surgery and recuperation.

Make this new engine-his name will be #3-welcome as he comes to the Yancey Railroad. And try to remember kindly every now and then the Yancey Railroad #1, better known by my nickname of "Blackie". And, please hope with me that they don't put "R.I.P.—Rust In Pieces" on a tombstone over me in this place called Alabama. I'm still a good engine, and I have worked hard—just ask me. Farewell, Yancey County friends.

--Yancey Railroad #1, "Blackie"

Railroad Warning:

Look Out For Trains

Yancey and Mitchell County residents and those who live along the tracks of the Yancey Railroad are paying little or no attention to North Carolina law concerning railroad crossings. There are three major crossings on US 19-E between Burnsville and Spruce Pine, and motorists cross them with no regard to approaching trains.

For many years, no trains operated on the Yancey Railroad Saturday, Sunday, or at night. People got used to the fact that the train would slow and look out for them, but such is no longer the case. Trains may operate at any time, seven days a week, day or night.

On a recent Sunday, guests at a home beside the track had parked an auto right on the track. The train arrived and the engineer had a difficult time avoiding hitting the car. In another incident, a young couple in a pickup truck ran across in front of the locomotive, narrowly missing being hit. Another driver froze on the track at Caney Branch in front of an approaching train.

In a recent interview, General Manager J.V. Can-

non of the Yancey Railroad stated: "People do not realize that we cannot stop a loaded train as they can their auto. With our increase in business, particularly the loading in heavy stone originating at Burnsville and mica from Micaville, it is even more difficult for us to stop a tonnage train. Far be it from the Yancey Railroad to want to hurt someone or damage their autos, but all I ask is that the people familiarize themselves with and obey North Carolina law about railroad crossings. Our locomotives always have their headlights on, bells ringing, and whistles blowing at all crossings. Please help us."

Democrats To Meet

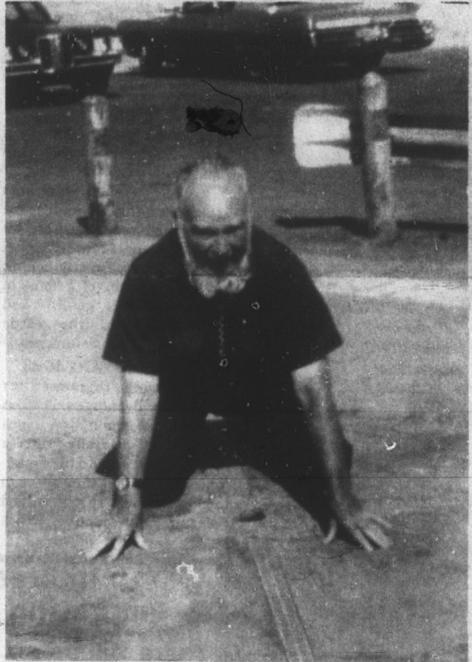
There will be a meeting of the Democratic Party on August 30 at 7:30 at Democrat Headquarters in Burnsville. This meeting will be sponsored by the Young Democrats, but all County Democrats, young and old, are urged to attend.

Refreshments served.



Vicki To Compete For Title

Vickie Lou Hughes and her great horse Copy's Hot Pants are headed for the Tennessee National Walking Horse Celebration in Shelbyville, Tennessee where she will compete for the Juvenile World Champion Title. Vicki and her horse will perform before a crowd of thousands at the stadium during the competition which is slated for August 26-September 4. She will be showing on August 27, and if she places high enough, she will again appear in the Juvenile Championship Show on September 3. Vickie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Farrell Hughes of Burnsville.



Touching Four States

Mr. Claude Leslie of Bakersville spent a week in Colorado in July, accompanied by Paul Garland of Buladean. Pictured here at a tourist attraction, Mr. Leslie straddles four states: his left hand is in Arizona, his right hand is in Utah, his left foot is in New Mexico, and his right foot is in Colorado. The hole in the center is exactly where the corners of the four states meet.

Cystic Fibrosis Drive Underway In Yancey

William K. (Bill) Hobbs, Jr., Campaign Chairperson for the North Carolina Chapter, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, has announced the following area campaign chairpersons for the "Kiss Your Baby" Campaign in Yancey County: Micaville-Windom-Newdale, Mrs. Don Turman; Murchison and Pensacola, Mrs. Mary Melton; Cane River, Mrs. Max Proffitt; Green Mountain, Miss Lydia Deyton.

Campaign funds are used to help support research and care in children's lung-damaging diseases such as asthma with lung damage, chronic bronchitis, bronchiectasis, childhood emphysema, and cystic fibrosis. Of each CFF dollar, 6% is for administration, 12% for fund raising and

82% for the program (research, care, education, and community service).

The major symptom of cystic fibrosis is a salty taste of the skin, frequently noticed by parents when kissing their baby. CF is an inherited and incurable disease and can affect not only the lungs but also the digestive system. It is believed that one in 20 persons are carriers of the recessive CF gene.

Lions Club Dinner Set

The Burnsville Lions Club will hold their monthly dinner meeting at the Community Building on Thursday evening at 7 o'clock. Mr. Carlyle Bledsoe, County Extension Chairman will speak. All visiting Lions are invited to attend.

Sales, Use Tax Report

The report of Sales and Use Tax collections by counties for the quarter ending June 30, 1976, was made recently by J. Howard Coble of the N.C. Department of Revenue in Raleigh. This report shows Yancey County collections for the second quarter of 1976 amounted to \$52,529.88.

This compares to Madison County collections of \$40,140, and Avery County collections of \$52,015, for the same period. Mitchell County led with a total collection of \$75 thousand for the same quarter.

Yancey Primary Election Returns

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| GOVERNOR Democrat | George Breece 614 | Virgil McBride 1194 | Edwin D. Taylor 157 |
| Thomas Strickland 23 | SECRETARY OF STATE Republican | Jessie Rae Scott 328 | STATE SENATE-26TH DIST. Democrat |
| Jetter Barker, Jr. 8 | Asa T. Spaulding, Jr. 291 | SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION Democrat | Helen T. Reed 378 |
| Edward O'Herron, Jr. 98 | C.Y. Nanney 218 | Benjamin Currin 498 | Robert Swain 1138 |
| George Wood 167 | STATE TREASURER Democrat | Craig Phillips 1236 | J. Howard Collins 354 |
| Jim Hunt 1752 | Jack P. Jurney 133 | MEMBER OF CONGRESS Democrat | I.C. Crawford 1184 |
| GOVERNOR Republican | Lane Brown 567 | Bo Thomas 687 | REGISTER OF DEEDS Democrat |
| David Flaherty 447 | Harlan Boyles 1034 | Glenn Brown 198 | Jean S. Buchanan 748 |
| J.F. Alexander 54 | STATE TREASURER Republican | Roy P. Gibbens 49 | Grace M. Ayers 1311 |
| Coy C. Privette 85 | J. Howard Coble 343 | Lamar Gudger 1039 | COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Democrat |
| Wallace E. McCall 20 | George B. McLeod 168 | Michael Vaughn 118 | Clay Miller 1567 |
| LIUTENANT GOVERNOR Democrat | STATE AUDITOR Democrat | Bruce Briggs 540 | Carlson John Tuttle 235 |
| Herbert Hyde 598 | Lillian Woo 504 | Walter Sheppard 45 | Alton W. Robinson 1683 |
| Jimmy Green 738 | Walter Erwin Fuller 260 | Ralph Ledford 40 | BOARD OF EDUCATION Three seats to fill |
| Howard Lee 73 | Henry L. Bridges 935 | Ronald W. Howell 1788 | Wanda Proffitt 839 |
| John M. Jordan 184 | COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE Democrat | W. Kelly Johnson 176 | Artie Lee Peterson 411 |
| E.F. Stephenson, Jr. 25 | Joseph E. Johnson 631 | SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE 24TH DISTRICT Democrat | Ken Laughrun 681 |
| C.A. Brown, Jr. 128 | Jerry Waters 136 | Ronald W. Howell 1788 | B. Dudley Robertson 480 |
| Kathryne McCracken 63 | John R. Ingram 1004 | W. Kelly Johnson 176 | Kenneth Hunter 1360 |
| Waverly Akins 65 | COMMISSIONER OF LABOR Democrat | DISTRICT COURT JUDGE 24TH DISTRICT Republican | Tommy Robinson 1574 |
| LIUTENANT GOVERNOR Republican | William S. Hiatt 384 | J. Ray Braswell 456 | Garrett D. Anglin 1555 |
| Odell Payne 144 | Thad Eure 1199 | COMMISSIONER OF LABOR Democrat | Hazel Gilley 597 |

Budget Meeting For Local UF Campaign

Along with most cities, towns and counties in North Carolina, Yancey County is now getting organized for its annual community fund raising campaign. Known locally as the Yancey United Fund, the simultaneous drives elsewhere in the state operate as United Appeals or United Way campaigns.

But whatever the names, they are all essentially the same, aiming to provide the necessary financing of activities and agencies that make the local community a better place in which to live.

A meeting to set up the budget for this year's appeal, to elect officers, and otherwise get organized for the

Thursday, September 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the Northwestern Bank on the Town Square. Interested citizens are urged to attend. All organizations which desire to be included in the budget are asked to submit their requests for inclusion to Mrs. Ruby Smith, Secretary of the Yancey U.F. prior to the Thursday meeting.

The Board of Directors serving for this, the 22nd annual campaign of the local U.F. is composed of: Mack B. Ray, Acting chairman, John Martin, James Hoover, Dr. Garland Wampler, Staunton Norris, Bob Helmle, Rev. Ralph Jacks, Hazen Ledford, O.W. Deyton, Cara Cox, and...



Dancers Perform 'Raymonda'

Dancers from the North Carolina Dance Theatre perform "Raymonda." They will be seen in Burnsville on Saturday, September 4, in a performance at 8:00 p.m. at the Mountain Heritage High School. Tickets are available at business places

indicated on the blue and pink posters and also at the door. The performance is cosponsored by the Toe River Arts Council and Music in the Mountains and supported by the National Endowment for the Arts.