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THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 1977

15¢

Snow And Ice Cause Highway Accidents

An accident on Wednesday, December 29, at 6:30 p.m. involved a 1970 Lincoln driven by Carson Honeycutt, 26, of Route 4, Burnsville. The car was traveling south on US 19W and skidded on snow and ice. The car skidded off the right side of the road striking a rock and overturning down a 10 foot embankment, striking a tree.

There were three passengers in the vehicle: Clarence Deyton, 54, of Route 1, Burnsville and Jerry McCurry, 23, of Route 4, Burnsville were taken to Yancey Hospital. The other passenger was not injured. Damage to the car was estimated at \$1,200. Trooper A.T. Morrison investigated.

Alfred Muratori, 26, of Burnsville was involved in a one-car accident on Friday, December 31, at 12:00 a.m. The accident occurred on N.C. 1975, 3 1/2 miles out of town.

Muratori was driving a 1969 Chevrolet north on N.C. 1975 and apparently lost control on the wet road. The car ran off the road on the left side, back onto the road, then back off the road down a steep embankment and into Cane River. There were no passengers and no injuries. \$500. damage was estimated. Trooper W.J. Stallings investigated.

Charles Ayers, Jr., 37, of Morganton, N.C. was involved in a one-car accident on Friday, December 31, at 10:30 a.m. The accident occurred 12 miles north of Burnsville on Relief Road.

Ayers was driving a 1975 Chevrolet north on the Relief Road and attempted to make a left turn onto the McKinney's Branch Road. The vehicle skidded on snow and ice off the left side of the road and overturned down a 15 foot deep embankment.

There were two passengers in the vehicle. There were no injuries. Damage was estimated at \$1,000. Trooper A.T. Morrison investigated.

An accident on U.S. 19E 4 miles north of Burnsville toward N.C. 80 occurred on Friday, December 31, at 12:20 p.m. Mary Marsh, 34, of Micaville was driving a 1973 Chevrolet north on the old 19 highway. She came to a stop sign and stopped. She then pulled onto U.S. 19E into the path of Joe Dale, 37, of Green Mountain. Dale was driving a 1971 Plymouth. The Plymouth skidded 50 feet then struck the Chevrolet in the left side.

There were no injuries. Damage to the Chevrolet was estimated at \$700; to the Plymouth, \$75. Trooper A.T. Morrison investigated.

On Friday, December 31 at 5:15 p.m. 5 miles east of Burnsville on the Double Island Road a two-car accident involved Till Gouge, 61, of Burnsville and Jimmie McCurry, 24, of Micaville.

Gouge was backing a 1960 Chevrolet out of a private drive onto the roadway and failed to see McCurry in a 1969 Pontiac. The Pontiac struck the Chevrolet in the rear then crossed the highway running off the left side of the road and striking a block wall.

There were two passengers in the Gouge vehicle. There were no injuries. Damage to the Gouge Chevrolet was estimated at \$300, and damage to the McCurry Pontiac at \$800. Trooper A.T. Morrison investigated.



Snowstorms, Low Temps Extend Holidays

Yancey County school children had it all their own way during the Christmas and New Years holidays this year, as snowstorms and cold temperatures not only closed the schools on Monday, December 20, for Christmas, three days earlier than planned, but kept them closed past Monday, January 3, which was to have been the first day of school after the holidays. At the present time school officials do not know when Yancey County roads will be in a safe enough condition for the school buses to travel.

Temperatures during the past two weeks fell to the teens and below [we had reports of degrees] at night. Daytime temperatures were warmer, but never warm enough for long enough to completely thaw out some of the county roads.

Judging from some overheard comments, not only the parents but also the schoolkids are ready to end the prolonged holiday by this time.

Pictured above, a snow scene captured by camera in the Windom area.

Price Increase Due To Demand:

Firewood Cost Tops \$100/Cord

If you chopped your own supply of winter firewood, that stack of logs in the back yard may be worth a lot more than you realize.

Like almost everything else today, the cost of firewood is going up, sometimes astronomically.

Across the country, a standard cord of wood which cost an average of \$49.50 in 1972 is today about \$86. In some parts of the country that figure is much higher.

A cord that sold for \$45 four years ago in New Orleans, for example, now costs \$150. Prices in New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles also have broken the \$100 mark.

Prices have risen primarily because demand has escalated. Eighty percent of all newly-constructed homes costing over \$23,000, say building contractors, contain at least one fireplace. The U.S. consumption of firewood for fireplaces was estimated

at 14 million cords in 1960, 16 million cords in 1970 and is forecast at 18 million cords by 1980.

Although a price of \$50-\$90 per cord delivered is not exorbitant to pay, it is often difficult, if not impossible, for the consumer to know if he is, indeed, getting a cord for his money.

A standard cord of wood equals 128 cubic feet in volume, or a stack 8' x 4' x 4'. Many dealers sell face cords, short cords, ricks, racks or pick-up loads—sometimes advertised simply as "cords" and priced accordingly.

Another pitfall lies in buying green wood unknow-

ingly. A good fire needs well seasoned wood, containing no more than 20% moisture, that has been air-dried at least six months after cutting. Green wood may be as much as 65% water.

If you are among the more than 20 million American families with a fireplace, there are three ways to get the most for your firewood dollar.

The cheapest method is to cut your own supply—if you have ready access to the wood as well as a chain saw. If that

solution isn't practical, you may choose to burn the manufactured Duraflame-type firelogs, which are available in many stores. Eight and one-third cases, equivalent to a standard cord, cost about \$50 and can be stacked in a closet or the corner of a garage.

Finally, if you decide to buy cordwood, make sure you know what you're getting. Read up on the subject; shop around; take a measuring tape with you, if necessary.

Off-Road-Vehicle Plan In Effect January 1

Robert W. Cermak, Forest Supervisor of the National Forests in North Carolina, said today that the Off-Road Vehicle Plan is now in effect on all National Forest lands in North Carolina.

"Beginning January 1, 1977," Cermak said, "certain roads, trails, and special management areas will be closed to off-road vehicle use. However, many roads and trails will remain open to off-road vehicles."

All of these restricted areas will be posted. The Forest Service plans to distribute maps of each Ranger District which show where ORVs may operate. These maps will be available to the public at District Ranger Stations located at Robbinsville, New Bern, Hot Springs, Marion, Highlands, Pisgah Forest, Burnsville, Murphy, Troy, and Franklin. Maps will be available at the Supervisor's Office in Asheville at 50 South French Broad Avenue.

Four-wheel drive (jeep-type) vehicles will be restricted to use of open roads,

Some roads not suitable for all vehicles may be designated "Four-Wheel Drive Roads."

Only off-road vehicles with a width of 40" or less and 2 or 3 wheels will be permitted to operate on those trails not posted as closed. All vehicles are permitted on open roads provided they meet state laws governing vehicles and operators.

Mr. Cermak said, "The purpose of this Plan is to provide off-road vehicle users [Cont'd on page 3]

COST OF FIREWOOD 1972 - 76	
Albuquerque, NM	72 76
Atlanta, GA	50 80
Boston, MA	79
Chicago, IL	160
Cincinnati, OH	70
Denver, CO	45 70
Detroit, MI	64
Houston, TX	77
Indianapolis, IN	45 90
Los Angeles, CA	45 125
Milwaukee, WI	65
New Haven, CT	75
New Orleans, LA	45 160
New York, NY	100
Philadelphia, PA	65 50 68
Richmond, VA	72
San Francisco, CA	55 85
Seattle, WA	50 80
St. Louis, MO	45 80
*not available	

South Toe Fire Calls

December 27: 3:15 p.m. a broom sage fire on Rock Creek Road in the vicinity of the residences of Stanley Shuford, Wilford Shuford, and Betty Huskins. About 1 acre burned off. Boxwood planting damaged. Forest Service Crew and Fire Department worked together to put the fire out. Two trucks and 11 firefighters responded.



WIND OF THE WEEK
YANCEY COUNTY COUNTRY STORE
WIND 55°
LOW 7°

Report From The Sheriff's Office

Three Felons that escaped from the Yancey County Prison Unit at approximately 7:00 p.m. on December 28, 1976 are all back in custody in the Prison Department.

Roy Shell, age 25 of Morganton, N.C., Marvin A. Brown, age 23 of Brevard, N.C., and Alvin Wesley Smith, age 23 of Cherokee, N.C. left the Prison unit by climbing over the fence. Shell was captured approximately 15 minutes after the escape by a citizen near the Prison Unit. Four hours later Brown was arrested by prison authorities one and one half miles west of the unit on US Highway 19E. Shell was arrested Sunday night, January 2, at approximately 11:00 p.m. in Cherokee, N.C. by the Cherokee Reservation Police, the Department of Corrections and the Yancey County Sheriff's Department. Charges have also been filed against Shell charging him with Automobile Larceny. A 1971 Opel which was stolen from Jerry Lee Pate on Thursday night, December 30 was found abandoned about 300 yards from the Smith residence. Sheriff Kermit Banks is investigating the automobile larceny case.

All three men are presently being held by the Department of Corrections and their first appearance hearing is set for District Court in Burnsville on Wednesday, January 5, 1977.

Escaped felon from the Department of Corrections,

Member Of Association

Indian Creek Angus Farm, Route 3, Burnsville, N.C. has been elected to membership in the American Angus Association at St. Joseph, Missouri, announces Lloyd D. Miller, executive secretary.

There were 222 memberships issued to breeders of registered Aberdeen Angus in the United States during the past month.

Pompano Beach, Florida, Robert Dale Henderson, age 31, was arrested December 28 at approximately 3:00 a.m. by Chief Deputy Erwin Higgins. Mr. Henderson was arrested on Highway NC 80S while driving a 1968 Plymouth owned by Ray Ward of Gatlinburg, Tennessee. This vehicle was reported stolen on December 27 from a shopping center in Gatlinburg.

Henderson is being held in the Yancey County Jail on charges of Using Fictitious Drivers License, Escape from Department of Corrections in Florida, and Larceny of an Automobile in Gatlinburg, Tenn.

The vehicle was first known to be stolen when Deputy Higgins called the license number of the vehicle in to the Yancey Sheriff's Department and a message was sent to the National Crime Information Center, Washington, D.C. This takes only a few seconds by using the PIN (Police Information Network) located in the Sheriff's Department.

The Yancey County Sheriff's Department, for the year of 1976, served 415 warrants, served 476 civil actions, served 1162 subpoenas, served 68 juvenile petitions, served 31 orders of forfeiture, summonsed 378 jurors; a total of 2,520 processes served.

The Sheriff's Department cars were driven a total of 220,150 miles; the Department worked 27,500 hours regular time plus many hours overtime for which no compensation is received.

Member Of Association Mars Hill College Gets \$500

A \$500 gift toward the proposed Blackwell Administration Building has been received by Mars Hill College from Westco Telephone Company at Weaverville.

The contribution was among year-end gifts received by the college, which is presently accumulating funds with which to construct the million dollar administration building named in honor of the college's president emeritus, Dr. Hoyt Blackwell of Mars Hill.

The gift was presented to Dr. Fred Bentley, president of the college, by Paul Wooten, commercial manager for the telephone company, and by Westco marketing consultant Ted Sandford.

Westco installed and maintains a 300-phone center telephone system at the college.

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Burnsville Fire Calls

December 27: Monday, 11:40 p.m. unoccupied Mobile Home owned by Billy Joe McLaughlin on Cherry Lane. Heavy damage to interior by fire, smoke and water. Two trucks and 18 men responding.

December 28: Tuesday at 12:25 p.m. Mobile home of Phillip Cooper on Tooties Creek Road. Entire home and contents destroyed. No injuries. 10 men responding.



Crooked Pine Concert Set

Crooked Pine is a collaboration of the fine and folk arts. It is a meeting of old and new, the modern and the traditional as Mary Hicks combines innovative, original dance with the ageless mountain music of the Crooked Pine String Band.

In a performance that will highlight the songs and dance of Appalachian music, this concert is scheduled for January 8, 1977, at 7:30 p.m. in the Harris High School Auditorium in Spruce Pine. Sponsored by the Toe River Arts Council of Yancey and Mitchell County, tickets are: 50c for children (12 years of age and younger), \$2.50 for adults if purchased prior to the performance or \$3.00 at the door. Advance tickets are on sale at the Yancey County Country Store in Burnsville or at the NCNB Bank in Spruce Pine and from any Toe River Arts Council Board Member.