

THE YANCEY JOURNAL

VOL. 5, NO. 4

BURNSVILLE, N.C. 28714

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 1977

15¢

Yancey Highway Accident

A two-car accident occurred Saturday, January 22, at 9:30 a.m. 4 1/2 miles east of Burnsville on Wyatt Town Road, Micaville.

Till E. Wilson, 59, of Micaville was traveling north on Wyatt Town Road in a 1963 Chevrolet. He encountered Donnie Buchanan, 26, of Route 2, Spruce Pine driving a 1971 Mercury. Both cars were in the center portion of the narrow road. The Buchanan vehicle struck the Wilson vehicle. The entire road was a thick slab of compressed ice.

There were no passengers in the Wilson Chevrolet and no injuries. There was one passenger in the Buchanan Mercury, and no injuries.

Damage was estimated at \$300 to the Chevrolet and \$350 to the Mercury. Trooper B.R. Owens investigated.



To Attend Farm Course

Michael Good, local young farmer, will represent Yancey County in the Modern Farming Short Course, sponsored by the North Carolina Bankers Association.

Mr. Good will attend on a scholarship provided by the Burnsville Branch of the Northwestern Bank. The short course which will be held on January 31st through February 11th deals with the modern, the new and the old reliable methods of Agriculture and Agribusiness.

In The Grip Of 'Old Man Winter'

BY CAROLYN YUZIUK
Yancey County is caught in the grip of winter weather which has not been so severe and so prolonged for many

years. The freeze is affecting most of the eastern United States and problems caused by icy roads, freezing water pipes, and fuel shortages are

becoming more and more serious as the freeze continues.
FROZEN WATER PIPES
In Yancey County over 120

individuals and businesses served by the Public Works Department have called in about frozen water pipes. According to Supervisor of Public Works Tom Storey, all his men have been working 24 hours a day to maintain service to customers. A list is being kept--and there are at least 50 people on the list at any time this past week--of calls about frozen water pipes. Large heavy duty electric welders are being sent out to thaw the pipes and 2 or 3 of these welders have been operating almost continuously.

A few smaller lines have burst from freezing, says Storey. The Department of Public Works cannot turn the water off for any period of time because it could cause more pipes to freeze, so they are trying to effect repairs with water pressure on.

The ground is frozen 18 to 20 inches deep in places and the freeze is extending deeper into the earth with each passing day. Some pipes are covered with concrete or asphalt which always causes difficulty, but even if they are not, the frozen earth is tough as rock to get through. In the town of Burnsville some fire hydrants are frozen. Water pipes to the Professional Building have been frozen for several days, as well as some pipes to businesses on or near the Town Square.

Storey says that even if the weather appears to warm up, people should let their water run in a stream the size of a pencil until they are sure the ground is thawing out and the freeze is over.

Keith Masters, Sanitarian Supervisor for Yancey County, states that some people have had trouble with pipes freezing from their house to their septic tank. "It is not advisable to flush salt down the commode," he said emphatically. "This can decrease the bacterial action and cause problems with the

septic tank system." He advises the same method being used to thaw water pipes should be used to thaw drainage pipes when it is necessary to do so.

SCHOOL SITUATION
Schools have received the fuel they've been waiting for. 25,000 gallons were delivered during the past week. According to Yancey School Superintendent Ed Hunter, Yancey County has enough fuel for the schools to pull us through the next 3 to 4 weeks in this emergency period, but there is not enough to open the buildings to the public for other than necessary functions.

When the schools are closed, temperatures are kept at 40 to 45 degrees just to keep pipes from freezing, says Hunter. But during this severe weather, we are using as much fuel to keep the temperatures above freezing as we normally do to conduct classes at 70 degree temperatures.

Twenty-one mountain county school superintendents went to Raleigh last week to meet with the State School Superintendent and Comptroller and request permission to knock off whatever days are necessary to end the school term on June 10. The State Board has the authority to knock off up to 15 days, but

each county has to submit their own request, listing problems and days lost, etc. As of last Monday, says Hunter, there are 100 week-days left until June 10. The students still need 103 days plus one holiday for Easter and one teacher work day (June 10)--a total of 105 days needed. Counting last Monday, therefore, we could still lose up to 10 days more and still get out by June 10. Beyond that, no one knows.

FUEL SHORTAGE
Fuel cutbacks have not yet affected Yancey Countians to a large extent, but if the prolonged cold wave continues, this may become a serious problem. According to a spokesman for a large fuel company, their fuel allotment has been curtailed by their supplier and they advise everyone to cut back on fuel consumption to avoid future shortages. Kerosene is in shortest supply; No. 2 fuel oil is more plentiful.

Some families in the county have already had to leave their homes, however, and take up residence with their friends or relatives because the fuel truck simply could not make it up to their homes due to icy road conditions.

The electric company, of course, has already cut voltage back by 5% which means people are paying the same amount for less power. Hopefully this "brown-out" will keep us from having to experience a more severe curtailment of electric power in the weeks to come.

Winter can't last forever, but it can seem like forever while it lasts!

Deadline

The deadline for listing property taxes has been extended through February 5th due to bad weather.

Scouts To Sell Cookies

Once a year, the community has a chance to help Girl Scouts help themselves by buying Girl Scout Cookies. Girls will be taking orders for cookies from January 21-February 5. Deliveries will be made and reorders taken from February 23-March 12.

This year, there are five delicious flavors from which to choose--shortbreads, thin mints, peanut butter sandwiches, chocolate covered peanut butter patties, and sandwich cremes.

Through the sale of cookies, girls earn money for their troops to use in service projects, trips, camping, arts, troop equipment, and special interest needs. This is the way girls help themselves.

The Cookie Sale enables Girls to help the Council develop and maintain camps and camping equipment--both at their resident camp, Camp Pisgah near Brevard, and the three primitive campsites. It also helps the Council involve more girls in Scouting and provide more opportunities for them.

The Cookie Sale provides a Girl Scout the opportunity to know herself, to assume responsibility, and to learn basic salesmanship.

CB Club

Says Thanks

The Mt. Mitchell CB Club wishes to thank each and everyone who played a part in the coffee break at Micaville on January 15. It would take this whole paper to recognize all who gae and helped us in this fund raising for Lisa Haney. With all of everyone's help, the club raised \$4,800 at the break.

Again, the Club thanks all the merchants, clubs, and each individual who supported us in this endeavor. With the \$2,121. the Club raised on a prior drive, we are proud to be able to set up a trust fund for Lisa from our club.

Orders Now Accepted

Strawberry and blueberry plant orders are now being taken by the Agriculture Extension Service. Strawberry varieties are: Tennessee Beauty, Apollo and Titan. Strawberry plants are \$3.20 per hundred or \$32.00 per thousand. Blueberry plants will be 1-year rooted cuttings, 6" to 12" tall and will cost \$1.00 each. Blueberry varieties are: Blueray, Bluecrop, Berkeley and Herbert.

You can place your orders at the Agriculture Extension Office in Room 7 of the Yancey County Courthouse between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Fire Calls

January 18, Tuesday, 7:00 a.m. the Russell Burnett residence at Concord, Building and contents completely destroyed. Fire of undetermined origin. 16 firemen and 2 trucks responding.

January 20, Thursday at 11:50 a.m. Yancey County Country Store. Thawing water lines, setting fire to floor. No damage. 15 firemen responding.

Three Generations Attend:

Local Family At Inauguration

On Thursday, January 20, 1977, three generations of the Mack B. Ray family, all of Burnsville, attended President Carter's Inauguration and the Inauguration festivities in Washington, D.C. Making the trip to view the event were Mr. and Mrs. Mack B. Ray, daughter Dr. Carolyn Ray Cort and husband, Dr. David A. Cort, and their daughters Lisa and Heidi.

Some of the highlights included attending the Peoples Prayer Service at the Lincoln Memorial at 8:00 a.m., Reception by Senator Robert Morgan in The Dirksen Senate Office Building, and Reception by Congressman Lamar Gudger in the Cannon Building prior to the Inauguration of the President and Vice President of the United States at 11:30 a.m.

A real treat for all was the

Inaugural Parade along Pennsylvania Avenue from 3rd Street to 17th Street NW. Everyone present actually got a close-up view of President Carter and wife, Rosalyn, walking the two miles down Pennsylvania Ave. according to many people along the Parade route. This was hard to believe, yet "seeing was believing."

Another big highlight was attending one of the ten

Inaugural Balls. The North Carolina Inaugural Ball was in Crystal City Marriott Hotel. President Carter visited the North Carolina Ball early in the evening in order to make the full round of Balls.

According to the Rays and the Corts, the whole trip was a real delight even with the extremely cold weather. However in Washington on Thursday the weather was clear, cool and brisk--making the trip worthwhile.



The Mack Rays, Drs. Carolyn And David Cort, Lisa And Heidi



NO. 10 OF THE WEEK
YANCEY COUNTY
COUNTRY STORE

Hi-36
20-6