



Yancey Senior Citizens Enjoy Traditional Turkey Dinner

## Thanksgiving

The W.A.M.Y. Community Action Agency, along with Title VII Nutrition Meals, observed the annual Thanksgiving Dinner this past Wednesday. Yancey County Senior Citizens, along with invited guests from other local Social Service Agencies and

Committee on Aging Meals on Wheels volunteers, enjoyed turkey (baked by Ethel Higgins) or ham, English peas, cranberry sauce, potato salad, green beans and rolls, with cake for dessert. Ray Strickland, Volunteer Coordinator for the Elderly,

assisted with this program supplying tables and chairs. "Meals on Wheels" were delivered to 22 homebound Senior Citizens. A good time was had by some 200 guests who most likely would have had no other Thanksgiving meal.

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## Patrolmen Get Service Awards

Four members of the North Carolina Highway Patrol received Service Awards on Monday, November 28, for a combined total of 60 years of service with the Highway Patrol. Linda Carroway of the Burnsville Patrol office is shown presenting the awards to the following patrolmen (pictured left to right): First Sergeant W.L. McDonald has been a member of the Highway Patrol for 31 years. He has been stationed in Asheville, Shelby, Bryson City, Marion and Burnsville. He came to Burnsville on January 1, 1974. A native of Murphy, N.C., Sergeant McDonald is receiving a 30 year service award. He is married and has two children.

Sergeant Donald W. Reavis has been a member of the Highway Patrol for 16½ years. He was previously stationed in Murphy before coming to Burnsville in August of 1974.

Sergeant Reavis is a native of Madison County. He is being awarded a 15 year service award. Sgt. Reavis is married and has one child. He and his family are members of the First Baptist Church, Burnsville.

Trooper Rodger Hinshaw has been a member of the Highway Patrol since September 1966. Since his employment he has been stationed in Spruce Pine. A native of Thomasville, N.C., Trooper Hinshaw is being awarded a 10 year service award. He is married and has two children.

Trooper Bill Stallings has been a member of the Highway Patrol since May 1970. Prior to his present duty station in Burnsville he was stationed in Burlington. Trooper Stallings is a native of Rutherford County. He is being awarded a 5 year service award. Trooper Stallings is married and has two children.

## Disaster Relief Committee To Coordinate Assistance

Representatives of a number of agencies involved in flood relief have formed the Yancey County Coordinating Committee on Disaster Relief to increase the effectiveness of the disaster help to flood victims in the county.

The coordinating committee was formed in a meeting of agency representatives at the Community Center in Burnsville Friday afternoon, November 25.

The committee includes Pat Hardy of the Mental Health program, Floyd Holt of Social Services, the Reverend Dick Muri, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Burnsville, Wanda McNeill of the Health Department, Gene Cannon, assisting in the WAMY Community Action program, and the Reverend John Emory Jones of Asheville, minister of the Bald Creek and Pensacola United Methodist Churches in Yancey County. Mr. Jones

was named chairman and treasurer of the new coordinating committee and will devote a great deal of time to working with the agencies involved in the flood relief.

The coordinating committee will invite donations to its program through member agencies and through churches of the area. The donations can be designated for a particular type of category of flood relief—and for particular uses with elderly, with families, with children, for construction work, etc.

Already a number of persons or organizations have indicated their desire to donate to the effort. These donations, when received, would total as much as \$900.00. It is expected that churches in the county and beyond, civic and service organizations here and elsewhere, and individuals will desire to send donations for

help in the Yancey county flood relief through participating agencies.

The committee will have headquarters in Lincoln Park school, with volunteers assisting in the operation. Printed forms are prepared to provide a full "picture" of the income from donations to the coordinating committee and also the distribution of the funds through help to flood victims. The chairman-treasurer of the committee will not authorize any purchases on credit—all will be with checks at time of purchase. In the event the contributor desires a different system, in order to pay the source of materials directly, the contributor will sign a purchase order, taking full responsibility for the bill.

The coordinating committee held its initial meeting Tuesday, November 29 at 10 a.m. at the Lincoln Park building, headquarters for the

coordinated effort. The committee and the chairman-treasurer will provide publicity and information for the general public through The Yancey Journal, the Asheville Citizen and Times, radio stations and TV stations in the area.

Agencies involved in the coordinating efforts include Social Services, WAMY Community Action, Red Cross, Mental Health, Health Department and possibly others. Farm and Home extension departments are being invited to be involved, and other units engaged in helping in flood relief. The central office of the coordinating committee will be a "nerve center" for the general flood relief effort in Yancey County.

There will be special efforts to avoid overlapping of services to flood victims, with reports to be interchanged [Cont'd on page 2]

## Accessway Construction Moves Ahead Despite Snow

Work on more than 100 temporary access projects went on in sub-freezing temperatures this weekend as efforts continued to provide isolated Yancey Countians with roadway links to the outside world.

Officials of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said they had directed contractors who are building accessways to ignore the snow and continue operations as fast as possible.

Federal Coordinating Officer Joe D. Winkle said damage survey teams have identified some 350 sites throughout western North Carolina where access has been disrupted. These disruptions may affect as many as 700 families.

"The Corps of Engineers, working through private construction firms, is pushing ahead with work despite the weather," Winkle said. "And contracts are being let daily for additional projects."

But as work moved on, Winkle said he is becoming increasingly concerned that some of those who are eligible for accessway assistance are expecting more than than

federal government can provide.

"This access work provides nothing more than temporary—and I strongly emphasize the word temporary—passage to these isolated families," Winkle said. "Whatever we build will not be designed or constructed to solve the problem forever."

Winkle said many of those now isolated will find it necessary to construct permanent accessways next spring.

Winkle said the decision to

build accessways is cost trade-off involving options available under law.

"We determined it would be less expensive to the taxpayers to build accessways than to uproot families and move them into temporary housing," he said.

Because of the temporary nature of the projects, Winkle encouraged those with access problems to apply for low-interest loans from the Small Business Administration or grants from the state's

Individual and Family Grant program. SBA loans up to \$10,000 are at one per cent interest and the state program may provide grants to \$5,000 for those who qualify.

Winkle said owners of property isolated by flooding must request assistance before action can be taken.

"We feel certain there are people out there waiting for the Corps of Engineers to come in and do the job," Winkle said. "But this can't happen under the law until there is an application for assistance."

Applications may be made at the follow-up assistance center in Burnsville or by calling 1-800-452-2826. The center is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Friday, December 2.

Half of the 16 counties included in President Carter's major disaster declaration have asked the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration for direct aid on the accessway problem.

Officials in Yancey County have said they do not have the financial resources or equipment to handle the job.

## Mail Schedules

Burnsville Postmaster Phillip Banks has announced that the Postal Service this year will make every attempt to have mail and parcels delivered on a normal schedule during the Christmas Season, throughout the continental United States. Normal delivery time, he said, is approximately 10-12 days for parcels and 4 to 5 working days for letters and cards.

Persons having Christmas mail going overseas should try to have it in the mail stream by or before December 10. Specific mailing dates for overseas areas may be obtained by calling the Burnsville Post Office.



Donna Shore

Walter Anderson

Tim Thompson

Kevin Shirley



Philip Shore

Joyce Watts

Della Ogilvie

Bill Perkins

## Agatha Christie Mystery Staged

Mystery enthusiasts are in for a suspenseful evening as a fine cast presents "The Mousetrap" by Agatha Christie. The Burnsville Little Theatre performances will be Wednesday, November 30 and Thursday, December 1 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday afternoon, December 4, at 3:00 p.m. at Mountain Heritage High School. Proceeds from these performances will go to the Mayland Chapter of the American Red Cross, which has already spent over \$60,000 to help flood victims in Yancey County.

"The Mousetrap" is the longest running play in the history of the world. November 25 was the 25th anniversary of the

play which opened in London in 1952, and is still running. Agatha Christie is considered the foremost mystery writer of our time. Her plays, books and stories have sold over 400,000,000 copies.

Tickets may be purchased from Little Theatre members at various stores and at the door. They are \$2.50 for adults and \$1.25 for students.

Cast for "The Mousetrap" includes (l to r.) Donna Shore, Walter Anderson, Tim Thompson, Kevin Shirley, Philip Shore, Joyce Watts, Della Ogilvie and Bill Perkins. Bill Perkins is also directing this production.