A Look Back

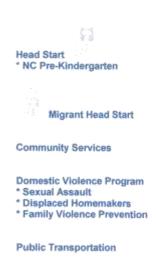
WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL

50 Years say Pepsi. PEPSI-COLA please CROSS ROADS CO-OP STORE 111 13 5 700 COMMUNITY CENTER Mountain Dew apt and





Cindi Dixon, Board Chair



Senior Enrichment Program • Meals on Wheels • Congregate Nutrition Sites

Legal Services

Family Resource Center

Senior Centers of Excellence • East Bend • Yadkin County • Yadkin Valley • Surry County

Pilot Mtn. Senior Center

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program

Weatherization

September 16, 2015

What an honor and privilege it is to be the Board Chair as we Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc. (YVEDDI). YVEDDI was established in 1965 as a community action agency designed to help people and build stronger communities.

We have truly been blessed with a half century of staff, volunteers, community partners and board members who have dedicated themselves to the noble cause of helping people. Most importantly, they have served diligently and passionately to end poverty and promote stability among the disadvantaged citizens in Davie, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin Counties.

YVEDDI has invested 50 years to preserving our communities' most vital resource; its people. It is evident that God's hand has been in the great work of YVEDDI. I am truly thankful for YVEDDI and can't wait to see the great things to come. Please join with me in congratulating this organization on 50 years of dedicated service.

Sincerely,

Cindi Dixon Board Chair

The 1964 Economic Opportunity Act



In 1964, during the presidency of Lyndon B. Johnson, Congress enacted Public Law 88-452, an omnibus bill titled the "Economic Opportunity Act of 1964." The Act established the Of-fice of Economic Opportunity in the Executive Office of the President to direct and coordinate the mobilization of the "human and financial resources of the nation to combat poverty in the United States." The effort quickly became known as the "war on poverty." In part, the Act stated: "It is the policy of the United States to eliminate the paradox of poverty in the midst of plenty in this nation by opening, to everyone, opportunity for education and the training, the opportunity to work, and the opportunity to live in decency and dignity." Community Action Agencies, which are local private non -profit and public government organi-zations that have directly served the needs of the low-income.

How YVEDDI Started ...

On August 9, 1965, twenty-six interested citizens, invited by Joe C. Matthews, met at the Jonesville Town Hall to decide which counties would join together to develop a Community Action Agency (CAA). The following counties were represented: Ashe, Alleghany, Stokes, Surry, Wilkes, and Yadkin.

Also, attending the meeting were Mr. Eddie Brown, a Representatives from Raleigh, and Ms. Micki Bingham, a Representative from Washington, DC.

On August 23rd, the County Planning Boards from seven counties met and elected Joe C. Matthews as Chairman of the Planning Group and began working to establish a CAA.

On August 30th, a Steering Committee met at the Yadkin County High School in Boonville to prepare to make application under the Economic Opportunity Act to establish a Community Action Agency (CAA) comprising four counties.

On September 16th, Articles of Incorporation were approved with Davie, Stokes, Surry, and Yadkin Counties, establishing Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc.

On June 6, 1966, Carroll F. Gardner was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors and John Hairston was elected Secretary/Treasurer. Claude A. (Bob) Campbell had been employed as Executive Director.





MISSION STATEMENT

Dedicated to improving the lives of individuals and families in Davie, Stokes, Surry, and Yadkin Counties through a variety of programs and partnerships to build stronger communities.

VISION STATEMENT

YVEDDI is the best Community Action Agency in North Carolina. Our caring professionals and Board members work in harmony as a team to make a positive difference, promote wholesome living and connect individuals and families to tools and resources that foster success and self sufficiency.

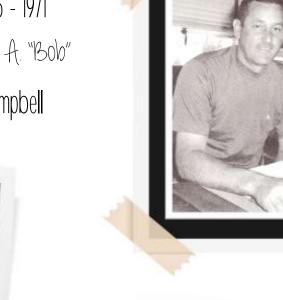


Board History

Dates	Chai rman	Vi ce-Chai rman
6-20-66	Carroll F. Gardner	John Hairston Secretary/Treasurer
1967	Carroll F. Gardner	Fred Hobson
1668	John Hairston	Vance Thompson
1969	John Hairston	Vance Thompson
1970	Lonnie Howell	Thelma Holcomb
1971-1983	L. H. Jones	Sam Daywalt O.S. Turner John Hairston Delma Hoots
1984-1995	Charles C. Jackson	0.S. Turner
1996-1999 2000-2002	Ellis Boyles Michael D. Crouse	Ellis Boyles Michael D. Crouse Ellis Boyles
2003	Roger Evans	John Barber
2004-2008	Hassel Brown	John Barber
2009-2013	Jack G. Koontz	Michael D. Crouse
2013-2014	Jimmy Walker	Michael D. Crouse
2015– Current	Cindi Dixon	Eddie Harris

Executive Directors

1965 - 1971 Claude A. "Bob" Campbell





1971 - 1999 Jimmie R. Hutchens







1999 - 2011 JoAnn Larkins



Harry Anderson, national clothing director of the Save the Children Federation, outside clothing center opened recently at Elkin

Reprocessed Items Are Sold

Clothing Center Is Opened at Elkin

Special in The Journal

ELKIN - The Save the Children Federation, an international organization which serves primarily children from low income families, has opened clothing center in downtown Elkin'

The center here is the second established in North Carolina by the federation. The other is at Chocokee. There are ap-proximately 120 such centers in the United States, most of them in the Appalachian region.

The clothing centers offer, at Th low prices, clothing that has the

been used and reprocessed, and federation some new clothing that has accass served, either been donated by in-dustries or purchased by the federation New and used shoes. Thesenay, Thursday, Friday and books and toys are also offered Saturday. for sale.

Each center also served as collection point for clothing and items donated by individuals or organizations. The duals or organizations. The clothing collected is sent to a central clothing center at Knoxville, Tent, where it is reprocessed and redistributed for sale at local centers.

programs in the

The federation was asked to set up a clothing conter here by Willard Switt, assistant director of the Yadkin' Valley Economic Development District, the area antipoverty agency. The Save the Children

Federation, which is a nonprofit, nonsectarian The profit from the sale of with the federal antipoverty ne clothing is used for program however.

YVEDD Seeking Federal Funds For Recreation

The Yadkin Valley Economc Development District YVEDD), Boonville based rea anti-poverty agency, has aunched a study to develop lata for use in applying for unds with which to finance 4-county comprehensive ecreation program at schools nd recreation centers.

Heart of the proposal would e the use of school buildings nd community centers for outh recreation during afterchool hours, on weekends nd during the summer.

As one of the four counties a which YVEDD administers rograms, Surry County ould be affected by the rogram.

Claude A. (Bob) Campbell, VEDD director, has called or a dinner meeting Septemer 15 in Boonville at which ime county, town, school and VEDD officials will discuss he passibility of inauguratng such a program, providng initial financing can be btained from federal soures.

a projected budget. In ampbell has estimated that will take \$9,300 in federal inds, of which \$2,320 would e from local sources either a cash or "in kind", to aunch the program.

To be given consideration or financing, the proposed rogram must hold serious romise of becoming self susaining within two years.



Hundreds Attend Open House Sun. At Co-Op Store

Hundreds of persons turned out Sunday afternoon for an open house at Cross Roads Community Store and Service Center near Dobson. The cooperative store is owned by the people of the community.

Residents of the community showed off their store, located in an old school building they remodeled. It was stocked with funds received in the form of a \$1,000 incentive grant arranged by the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc.

Guests Sunday were treated to refreshments and, according to Mrs. Lorene Lowe, Community Action employee who works closely with the cooperative stores in the area, "It was a highly auccessful program."

B. The number of directors constituting the initial Board of Directors shall be thirty-six (36) and the names, positions, descriptions, and addresses of the persons who are to serve as Directors until the first meeting of the corporation or until their successors are selected () and qualified are:

Names and position	Description	Street Address	City			
Clyde W. Young	City Commissioner		Mocksvilla	NC		
Leo Franklin Williams	Co. Ext. Chairman	Jericho Road	FOCKSVILLS	NC		
George Wilson Martin		No. 1, Court Square	HOCKEVILLI	NC	Ori gi nal	Poard
Reid Lemuel Towe, Farmer &	Community Leader	Davie Academy Road	Mocksville	NC	0	
Banjamin Earl Stewart. Jr.	Community Leader(Mfg.)	33 Center St.	Cooleemee	NC	Membe	ers
Harold Franklin Foster	Labor Union Leader	64 Duke St.	Cooleemee		Article	es of
James Edgar Everidge	Supt., Davie Schools	Hollander Drive	Hocksville	HC_	Incorpor	sati on
Booker Thomas Williams	NAACP, Negro	N. Main Street	Mocksville	NC	rincor por	
Ivan William Ijames	Minister, Negro	Rt.1, Callahan Rd.	Pockavilli	FIC		
Nellie Reynolds	Housewife, Nagro	Rt.1	Pinnacle	XC		
Essie Joyce	Farmer, Negro	Rt.1, Box 48	Belews Cr H	k NC		
David Alley	Farmer, Target Grp.	Rt.1	Danbury	NC		
S.P.Brandon	Community Leader (Lions)) - Rt. 1	King	NC		
John L. Hairston	School Prin., Negro	Gen. Delivery	Pine Hall	INC		
Enmet Waller	Community Leader(Lions)) - P.O.Box 365	Walnut Core	NC		
D.R.Baxley	Health Department	Rt. 1	Walnut Core	11C		
Ralph Mills	County Commissioner	Box 355	Walnut Core	NC		
William Gentry	Welfare Department	Box 275	King,	ITQ 1		
Joe C. Hatthews	Welfare Department		Yadkinvil'	- NCa		
Arthur Lamson	Parent-Teachers Asso.	Shacktown Road	Yadkinville	NC		
Clint Poindexter	Grange Representative	Rt. 1	East Bend,	NC		
Brady Hinson	Regro. Target Group		Jonesvills	NC	\vee \vee	EDDI
Dwight Brendle	Community Leader (Lion	5)	BOONVILLE	MC	I V	



A YVEDD GRANT BRINGS SMILES

Mrs. Betty Jenkins, telt, community organizer with the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, makes presentation of a \$1,500 chiefs in Mrs. Page Cockerham, treasurer of the Lattle Richard Community organization. The unset represented on incentive grant given by YVEDD, to be matched by the community residents as they cause finds for constraction for a community building.

***** These Citizens Oversee **Operations of YVEDD, Inc.**

Presently serving on the 36-member board of directors of the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc. are, by counties;

SURRY: Dobson-Carl Brittian, Leroy Dobson, John Edwards; Mount Airy - L.H. Jones, Grady Harmon, Lee Hiatt, Foy Clark; Pinnacle - Ervin Bratcher; Pilot Mountain - Mrs.Sophia East.

YADKIN: Yadkinville - Fred C. Hobson, Frank Wilson, Arthur Lamson, Mrs. Edna Williams; Boonville-E.L. Cundiff, Mrs. Thelma Holcomb; East Bend - Pride Wooten; Jonesville - Brady Hinson; Elkin - Mrs. Lois Lytton (Elkin is placed in Yadkin Community Action program because of its close location to the Yadkin County CAP office in Yadkinville,)

DAVIE: Mocksville - James E. Everidge, Melvin R. Martin, Jimmy Carter, Charlie Rivers, Lonnie Howell, Harvey Pulliam; Cooleemee - Robert E. Hoyle, Theodore Pierce, Bud Alexander.

STOKES: Pine Hall - John L. Hairston, YVEDD board chairman; Walnut Cove - Gaston Hairston, Reuben Duncan; Danbury -Zack Wood, Paul Priddy; Lawsonville - Charlotte Stephens; Westfield - Gentry France; King - Ellis Boyles, One Stokes seat is vacant.

Tuesday, June 2, 1970.

NYC Enrollees Sought Here

The Neighborhood Youth Corps, operating under the auspices of the Surry Community Action Program, is seeking students in the county to enroll in the summer NYC program in the county.

Those that pass requirements will work for 26 hours a week for 10 weeks, begin-ning June 8. Their job sites will be at agencies or nonprofit organizations. The pay will be \$1.45 per hour, and their services will be free to the supervising agency or group, according to Jimmie R. Hutchens, coordinator of SCAP, local federal anti-poverty agency.

Applicants may be referred to their guidance counsellor, a CAP worker, or the SCAP office in the Fine Arts Center in Mount Airy. Students from 14 years of age may apply. Summer counsellor for the program in Surry County is Claude Helton.



Jeff Cockerham (current staff), Lisa Money (current staff), Lavania Gilliam (former staff)

Financial Report – 1970-71

Program	Federal	Non-Federal	Total Budget
Administration	\$ 36,388	\$ 5,600	\$ 41,988
Community Development	185,843	46,868	232,711
Manpower	39,990	10,848	50,838
Youth Program	30,462	6,000	36,462
Neighborhood Youth Corps			
In-School	51,960	14,450	66,410
Summer	119,030	13,510	132,540
Head Start	207,262	77,525	284,787
Community Cannery Association	29,000	16,000	45,000
Emergency Food and Medical Services	43,669	00	43,669
N. C. Council of Churches Migrant Fund		500	500
	\$743,604	\$191,301	\$934,905

Program	Federal	Total Budget	
Head Start No. 2523B/0 Unexpended Balance (1968)	\$ 55.00	\$ 55.00	
Head Start No. CG2523A/9 Unexpended Balance (1967)	25,280.41	25,280.41	
Head Start No. CG2257A/3 Unexpended Balance (1966)	4,143.81	4,143.81	
	\$29,479.22	\$29,479.22	

Audit by D. E. Gatewood & Company, Winston-Salem, N. C. - June 30, 1970

New Boonville Cannery Plans Set, Site Unnamed

Plans for the Yadkin Valley on Boonville Elementary School Cannery Association's new building were announced last week at a meeting of the association's building committee and representatives of the Yadkin Val-ley Economic Development Distriet (YVEDD),

The plan, submitted by Grady Hunter, the association's presideat, calls for a 100 by 36 - foot concrete block building with a brick front.

The Building will house a 60 by 35-foot cannery area, an as-sembly room, a large storage room, office space, rest rooms, a boffer room and a patio.

Jimmie Hutchens, who re-presented YVEDD at the Monday meeting here, said a paved parking area will be built outside the new cannery and the site will be landscaped with shrubbery. No site has been selected yet,

he said but a number are being considered. Several members of the building committee said they hope to obtain a site on U. S. 601, close enough to Boonville. to tie on to the town's water and sewer lines.

The building committee expects to announce the cannery site at a meeting in Boonville next Friday.

Committee members voted to award the contract for the new cannery to a local firm and to use as much volunteer labor as possible.

In a related move, the committee voted to expand in order to bring in more people from the Boonville area.

Mr. Hutchens said it now apears that there is no chance of etting the cannery into operation n September, as had been hoped.

The Yadkin Valley Cannery ssociation serves citizens of adkin, Surry, Wilkes, Davie, okes and Forsyth counties.

The old cannery, which stood no

property owned by the Yadkin County Board of Education, was destroyed in a pre-dawn fire on Jan. 27, 1970.

It has been operated since the summer of 1969 with a \$1,000 Incentive grant from YVEDD and money raised from 340 lifetime memberships sold by the association.

Before it reopened for the 1969 green bean season, the cannery had been closed since 1967, when the county school system went out of the cannery business.

The school system closed the cannery when the high school grades at Boonville School and the vocational agriculture teacher who had operated the cannery for 20 years were moved to

Forbush and Starmount High Schools.

The old cannery had been a community institution since it was built in 1945 to combat World

War II food shortages. The new cannery will be built with a \$29,092 grant from the U. S. Office of Economic Opportunity.

Cannery Grant Awarded

Congressman Wilmer D. Mizell announced yesterday that the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc. has been awarded \$29,000 by the Office of Economic Opportunity to construct and operate a cannery.

According to Congressman Mizell, this cannery is for low income resi-dents of Yadkin, Stokes, Davie, Forsyth, Surry and Wilkes countles. It will be operated by a non profit corporation, the Yadkin Valley Community Cannery Association, Inc.

The pilot program, Mizell explained, will enable those qualifying residents to preserve surplus garden and animal products.

This program will last for 12 months and \$16, 000 will be added to the grant by local author ities.

Claud Campbell, executive director of the dis-trict office at Boonville, said yesterday that the location of the cannery would he a matter to be decided by the board of directors who operated the former cannery at Boonville, which burned Jan. 27,

Yadkin Valley Community Cannery

The Yadkin Valley Community Cannery was established to reduce the occurrence of malnutrition among YVEDDI area poor persons by providing canning services to local citizens. Membership in the Cannery Association is by purchase of a membership card. Free memberships and reduced (or free) canning services are available for eligible low-income families. Although planned to primarily serve residents of the four YVEDDI counties plus Forsyth and Wilkes Counties, the Yadkin Valley

Community Cannery is available for use by anyone

regardless of residence. During FY '72, 32,050 cans were utilized, and of these approximately 2,750 involved free or re-duced canning services. Area Agricultural Exten-sion Services personnel conducted canning classes to assist residents who need information for using the cannery services. In the spring of 1972, the special purchase of cans made possible the lowering of canning prices, and the summer of 1971 was high-lighted by the operation of a Farmer's Market in the Cannery building.



WASHING THE PRODUCE REFORE CANNING



CANNERY STAFF ASSISTS A FAMILY WITH PUTTING CANS IN THE "STEAM BATH" IN PREPARATION FOR SEALING



MRS, JO ANN SNOW Head Start Director

NATHANIEL VENNING Leads Youth Corps

Head Start, Youth Corps **Directors** Announced

BOONVILLE -- Mrs. Jo Ann Snow has been named director of the year-around Head Start Program in Surry, Yadkin, Stokes, and Davie counties, and Nathaniel Venning has been appointed her successor as director of the Neighborhood Youth Corps for the same four-county area.

Appointments were announced this week by Claude A, Campbell, director of the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc., the federally financed antipoverty agency which has its headquarters here.

MRS, SNOW has been serving as Head Start director on an interim basis during the pastnine months, She is a veteran employee of YVEDD, Previous positions with the agency have Included Head Start bookkeeper, Head Start administrator, plus the NYC directorship.

Mrs. Snow, her husband and two small children live at Mount Airy. She is a 1966 graduate of Alcorn A & M College at Lorman, Mississippi,

MR. VENNING is a native of Charleston, S.C. He is a1970 graduate of St. Augustine College.

Head Start Wants **Bigger Program**

Application has been made to officials of the U. S. office of Health, Education and Welfare for an expansion of the Head Start Program in the Yadkin Valley area of Surry, Stokes, Yadkin and Davie counties from the current eight weeks program to an eight month one.

Claude A. Campbell, director of the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc., administering agency of the Head Start Program, presented the application to HEW. He pointed out that the cooperation and guidance of school superintendents and other school administrators was instrumental in formation of the proposal. If funds are granted, the expanded program will become effective November I.

With 400 children expected to attend the expanded Head Start classes, communities involved include Mount Airy, Dobson, Yokum, Siloam, and Lowgap in Surry; Boonville, Jonesville, East Bend and Yadkinville in Yadkin; Walnut Cove, Westfield, Germanton, Pinnacle and Sandy Ridge in Stokes; Mocksville, Coolecmer, Advance, Cedar Creek and Sheffield in Davie. Due to its nearness to Yadkin, Elkin has been placed with the Yadkin center.

Total cost of the program during its first year of operation is expected to be \$270,974. Camphell said. Of that amount, \$207,262 will come from federal funds with the remaining \$63,712 designated as local in-kind matching funds in the form of space and volunteer hours.

Head Start, A YVEDD Program, Has Price Tag Of \$270,974

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YVEDDI





Head Start field trip

Head Start Expansion Planned

Application has been made for an expansion of the Head Start Program in the Yadkin Valley area of Surry, Stokes, Yadkin and Davie from the current eight weeks program to an eight-month program. If funded, the expanded program would become effective on Nov. 1, less than one month from today.

Application was made to officials of the U, S, office of Health, Education and Welfare by Claude A, Campbell, director of the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc., the agency that administers the Head Start Program in the four counties.

Campbell, who presented the application on Tuesday, September 23, pointed out that the cooperation and guidance of school superintendents and other school administrators was instrumental in formation of the proposal,

Total cost of the program during its first year of operation is expected to be \$270,974. Of that amount, \$207,262 will come from federal funds, with the remaining \$63,712 designated as local in-kind matching funds in the form of space and volunteer hours, Local contribution to the program is all non-cash.

The 400 children expected to attend the expanded Head Start elasses will come from 21 communities in the four-county area, Communities involved include Mount Airy, Dobson, Yocum, Siloam, and Low Gap in Surry; Boonville, Jonesville, East Bend and Yadkinville in Yadkin; Walnut Cove, Westfield, Germanton, Pinnacle, and Sandy Ridge in Stokes; Mocksville, Cooleense, Advance, Cedar Creek, and Sheffield in Davie. Elkin, due to its proximity to Yadkin, due to its proximity to Yadkin center.

The conversion of the Head Start Program from one of eight weeks duration to eight months was prompted by several factors, according to Campbell, Ability to provide more services, better use of funds available, emphasis on career development for mothers, involvement of more people in the program, plus the emphasis from Washington on year-round programs instead of short term projects all had a hearing on the decision,

The objectives of the program, briefly stated, are to ald the economically disadvantaged child of pre-school age through (I) an attack on his problems at a local level and (2) involvement of his entire family and community in solving his problems, thereby contributing to the longrange objective of the Community Action Program to affect a permanent increase in the ability of the poverty afflicted individuals, groups, and communities to improve their own

munities to improve their own conditions. In achieving these goals the program is almed at improving the development of the child

physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially and to provide a better chance for him to succeed in school,

involvement of parents, particularly fathers, is one of the prime goals of the new proposal.

Commenting on the program's goals, Campbell said: "We feel these objectives are realistic and can be achieved. We base this assumption on evaluation of past successes in this area of work,"

The Community Action Agency, school systems, and volunteers will coordinate their efforts to solve the transportation pro-

blems faced in a program of thi kind.

Other agencies and volunteer will assist in recruitment and with other phases of the program,

Equipment accumulated by the Community Action Program agency over the past three year is described as "ample" when used in conjunction with that provided by the school systems, Volunteers will be recruited

through churches, civic, and social and educational organizations.

Emphasis on employment o all personnel will be on the qualifications of the applicants and the contributions they will be able to make toward the attainment of the goals and objectives of Head Start and will be made without regard to race or color.

As a result of the sound foundation gained in previous inservice training, parents and other experienced non-professionals will be given priority in applying for teaching positions without the pre-requisite o teaching experience and degree.

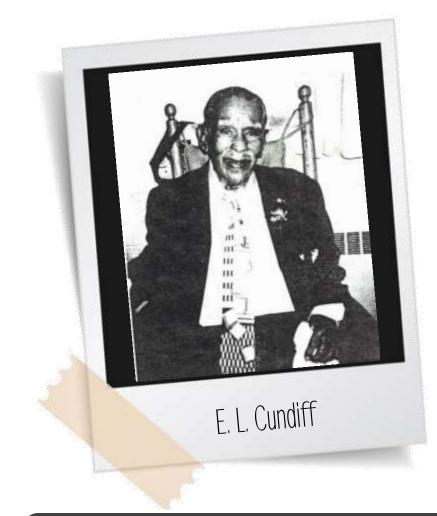
Professional staff other than teachers will be interviewed and selected by the Policy Advisory Committee, Board of Education, and Yadkin Valley Community Action Agency.

....



ShaRee Parker and Nat Venning (former staff)

PAGE 17



E. L. Cundiff was instrumental in the development of YVEDDI. He was a Charter Member of the Board of Directors and served in various offices over a 30+ year period.



Jack Koontz (former Bd.) and Charlie Walker (former staff)





1972

The first Meal on Wheels delivery



Freda Gibbons (former Bd.)



Hassel Brown (former Bd.)

1-11-80 Yadkin County P. O. Box 146 Yadkinville, N. C. 27055 JAMES E. HAYNES COUNTY MANAGER TELEPHONE 919/ 679-8513 PA/Spl JA January 9, 1980 NWROOS Mr. Jimmie R. Hutchens, Executive Director Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc. P. O. Box 309 Boonville, North Carolina 27011 Dear Mr. Hutchens: This letter will inform you that Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc., has been named the Mass Transit Authority for Yadkin County. The Board discussed your request for additional local money but de-2 layed any action until the Third Monday Night Meeting this month when you are invited to attend. If I may be of further assistance, please contact me. Sincerely, James E. Haynes County Manager JEH/mc

Surry To Participate In Jobs Program

BOONVILLE-Low-income Sorry County residents may participate again this year in a federal program designed to reduce poverty in several area counties.

Billy Penn, job training coordinator for the Yadicin Valley Economic Development District-which administers the program-said Thursday the program is entering its second year with alightly more money and a slightly different emphasis.

The budget for 1983-84 will be \$217,692-about \$2,500 more than the current hudget, according to Jimmie R. Hutchens, YVEDDI executive director. The program offers job training, ex-

perience and family counseling to poor people who apply and are accepted. The job training is done at Surry Community College, and the development district tries to find work for the trained person, including reimbursing an employer for the person's salary, if necessary.

Penn said that during 1982, about 11 Surry County residents participated in the year-long program, which is also open for residents of Yadkin, Davie and Stokes counties.

Of those 11, six were placed in full-time

(Continued on Page 3A)

obs

obs, while five were placed in part-time employment.

Penn said the program is designed to

help families with incomes at the poverty level "to become more self-sufficient."

1983

This year's new emphasis in the program will be on female heads of households.

Hutchens said that emphasis is needed because women in poor families are often the chief money earners.

Potential applicants should contact the Surry YVEDDI office on N. Main St., in the Smith Building, or the Boonville YVEDDI office by calling 367-7251.



(Continued from Page 1A)

Community Services **Block Grant Program Accepting Applications**

Families eligible under Department of Health and, Human Services Poverty Guidelines who genuinely desire self-help assistance to enable their family to rise above the poverty level may make application for enrollment in the Total Family Assistance Program. The Total Family Addistance Program provides job readiness training, family support services, employer incentives, job search and placement services to families enrolled in the program. Applications are requested to be made before July 23, 1983 at the YVEDDI County Community Action Program Offices:

Davie: BC Brock Community Service Center, 622 N. Main Street, Mocksville, N. C. 704-100 634-2187 Stokas: Stokes Community Services Center, Hwy.

59, Danbury, N. C. 919-593-8185

Surry: Smith Bullding, 1006 North Main Street, Mt. Airy, N. C. 919-786-6155

Yadkin: Yadkin Community Services Center, East Hemlock Street, Yadkinville, N. C. 919-679-2071

YADKIN VALLEY ECONOMIC **DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.** P. O. Box 309

Boosville, N. C. 27011

We are an equal opportunity employer and service provider.



Targeted: County inspectors have ordered the old senior citizen center in Elkin torn down.

Decay dooms senior center

By BILL WATSON Editor

995

A building owned by the Elkin School Board has been condemned by Surry County building inspectors and will be torn down.

The structure at 245 Memorial Park Drive houses a senior citizen center operated by the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc. YVEDDI has already found another building to use until a new senior citizen center is completed in Jonesville this summer, School Superintendent Don Lassiter told the school board Monday.

YVEDD1 spokeswoman Barbara Hall said Tuesday that the senior citizen program will be moved to the social hall of the First United Methodist Church on Hawthorne Road in Elkin. That building will be put into use starting next Tuesday, she said.

Lassiter noted Monday that the board has the option of hiring an architect to examine the building to see what repairs might be made, then laughed.

The building is beyond repair, board members agreed.

According to an Oct. 2 report by Surry building inspector Phil Whitaker, "water damage has caused deterioration of the roof and ceiling systems. The floor system has deteriorated so as to have huge swags in almost every noom, an overloaded beam in the kitchen area, and decaying conditions in the restrooms."

Whitaker's notice directs the school board to move the occupants out, demolish the building and clear the lot.

Lassiter will contact Elkin Fire Chief Tommy Wheeler to find out if the fire department can use the building for training. The training exercises will involve setting the structure on fire, for role entry and similar activities that should destroy the building and reduce the amount of rubble that has to be removed.

In other developments at Monday's meeting of the school board, Lausiter announced that the new lighting at the baseball/practice field at the high school has been installed and should be working by Thursday.

Plans to move the school's administrative offices from a 19th century building into a former Dake Power office at

Doomed, page A-8



Condemnation notices were posted on the building, which is owned by the Elkin school system, on Oct. 2.

Surry elderly forced to wait for meals

Many months often pass before homebound seniors start receiving free lunches

By Sherry Wilson

JOURNAL SURRY COUNTY REPORTER

MOUNT AIRY

Now that 79-year-old Hazel Byrd needs hip-replacement surgery, she uses a cane and walker to get around, but she has a hard time standing long enough to cook lunch or dinner.

Although she qualifies for the government-sponsored Meals on Wheels program in Surry County, the program has a waiting list. Byrd is one of about 80 people on it, and it could be six months before she is off the waiting list.

That's too long to wait, though, when hot midday meals are needed right now for her to gain strength, said Sandra Byrd, her daughter-in-law. Families have the option of paying for the meals, which cost \$6 a day, until a space on the permanent list opens up. Byrd's family began paying for them four months ago.

Some homebound elderly have stayed on the waiting list up to a year, but unlike Byrd's family, most of their families couldn't afford to make sure that they got meals while waiting for a spot to become available, said Brenda Holbrook, who coordinates the program for Surry and Yadkin counties for the Area Agency on Aging's Elderly Services.

The meals generally are delivered five days a week, except during holiday weeks, so it can cost \$1,584 a year.

Because Elderly Services in Surry has enough money to feed only 87 people at a time, others usually have to wait until someone on the list dies or moves to a nursing home, she said.

Sandra Byrd said her family would rather use that money to pay the monthly bill for a Lifeline monitor, which would let Byrd alert emergency dispatchers in case she fell or had some other emergency. But making sure that she has a hot meal each day is more important, she said. "It has helped her out tremendously to have the hot meal each day. This has helped build her up, these hot meals," Byrd said.

Before the Meals on Wheels volunteers began bringing the boxed lunches, Byrd sometimes just ate peanut butter and

See MEALS, Page B6

MEALS

Continued From Page B1

crackers, Sandra Byrd said. The need for the program has grown significantly in the past 14 years, said Barbara Hall, who ran Elderly Services in Surry until this summer, when she retired. In the 1980s, there was no waiting list and less than half as many people were entolled in the program.

Although funding has increased, it is not enough to keep up with the growing number of senior citizens who need the service, Hall said.

Part of the reason for the demand for Meals on Wheels is the growing trend for senior citizens to try to remain independent and live at home as long as possible, said Dean Burgess, the director of the Area Agency on Aging at the Northwest Piedmont Council of Governments in Winston-Salem.

"I just think sometimes that we all ignore our aging. We need to do a little more preparation. If you can allow a person to stay in their home, it saves county tax dollars (because) they stay in their home and maintain their property. It's also quality of life. If they can remain in their home, they're a lot happier," she said.

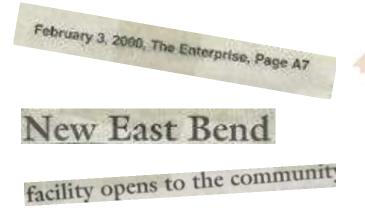
The Surry Meals on Wheels program depends on the federal goverament to provide 85 percent of its \$92,000 budget, Holbrook said. The state provides 10 percent and the rest comes from the county and donations. Elderly Services is considering ways to increase its budget, including an adopt-a-senior program or putting collection boxes in restaurants, she said.

Agency officials would also like the county to provide more money. "I don't think it's something they've neglected. I just don't think

there's the awareness (of how large the need is)," Holbrook said.



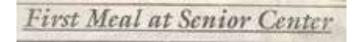
Gilda Pruitt (current staff) and Barbara Hall (former staff)







Barbara Mittman (former staff)





YVEDDI

RSVP volunteers honored at annual recognition celebration



About 160 Mount Airy and Surry County volunteers enjoyed the annual RSVP Volunteer Recognition Celebration at Prime Sirloin.

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program had its annual volunteer recognition celebration at Prime Sirioin

A total of 160 volunteers attended the event that honors seniors involved in forms of community outreach.

The celebration got off to a great start with Darlene Candle from Boonville singing her tribute to Patsy Cline. She wore a red and whote cowgirl outfit and thoroughly entertained the andience Jean Chilton (Surry County RSVP specialist), Brenda Hol-brook, Tina Styers and Doris Neah helped serve coffee and juice

The get-together concluded with the awarding of door prizes.

Anyone 55 or older who is interested in service opportunities available through RSVP should contact Jean Chilton at 786-6155 ext. 232

RSVP is a part of the Senior Corps, a national service program, and is locally administered by the Yadkin Valley Economic De-velopment District Inc. A federal grant provides 60 percent of RSVP's annual operating budget. Additional support comes from the boards of commissioners in Surry. Davie and Yadkin counties. United Way organizations of Davie and Yadkin counties and Pilot Mountain: and from Southern Community Bank and Trust.



Joyce Bryant (current Bd.)

Meals on Wheels expands to Dobson

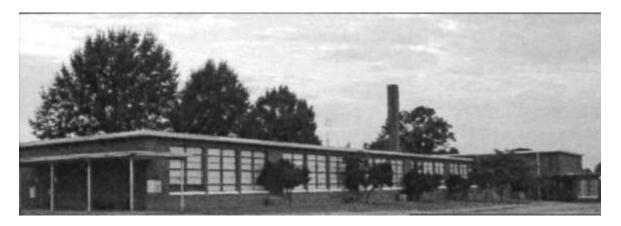
Meals on Wheels cutting deliveries

Gas prices force agency to eliminate one day of service



Ernestine McCraw of Mount Airy is shown rolli containers. used by the Meals on Wheels program to deliver meals to hot area, which is being reduced to four days per week. McCraw, who has been involved with the program for more than three years, runs a delivery route that includes 13 people.

United Fund may bail out Meals on Wheels



The YVEDDI District Office was located at 3800 River Road in Boonville, NC from 1965 to 2008



2009

The YVEDDI District Office relocated to 533 N. Carolina Ave, Highway 601N in 2009

Page 12 - The Yadhin Ripple, Yadhimilie, N.C., Thursday, January 27, 2011

Jo Ann Larkins honored at retirement celebration

Retiring VVEDDI Executive Director To Ann Larkins was honored at a celebration on Thursday, Jan. 13, 2011.

Approximately 130 family members, riseads, postors, business associates, board mentices, and former and carrent staff were is attendance for the execut held at the Central United Methodiat Church in Meant Airy.

Mayor of Mount Airy Deborah Cochran welcomed everyone mid thanked Mrs. Larlow for her dedication and servicus to Surry County and Mount Airy.

YV13DD Hoard Chair Jack Koontz presented a plaque to Mrs. Ladins in appreciation of her-40 years of service. Board Vice Chair Milee Croase gave the invocation.

A PowerPoint presentation compiled by Yolanda Saffo, Magrant Head Starn Coordinator, which included bundeeds of photographs and remembrances. was shown during dinner. A family tribute was presented by two of Mrs. Larkins' children, Keeley Snow and Keith Snow. Her granddaughter, TaKetra Snow, also expressed her love and appreciation for her grandfrodher.

Entertainment was provided by Brenda Scanes and The Cockerham Sisters.

Charlene Jones, Head Start family partnership coonfinator, was the keynote Speaker. The therme of the celebration was "It's Your Time." A portion of the words from the song are: "You encouraged everyone else when you needed it for yourself and for your faithfulness, it's your fitter." Head Start Director Kathy

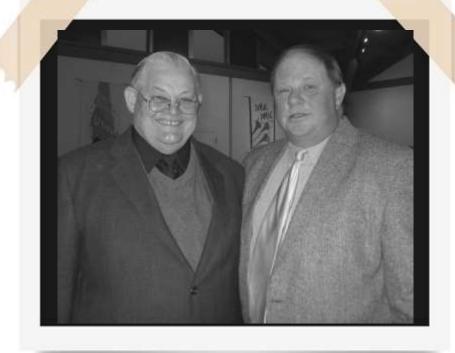
Head Start Directore Kathy Payne presented a digital photo funce to Mes. Larkins loaded with bundreds of photographs scanned by ShaRee Parker, administrative secretary. The digital photo frame and a beautiful silk flower arrangement were gifts from the YVEDDH starf and Crench Joslyn PLLC An exquisite scrapbook de signed by Rhonda Wrenn, Hend Sturt education managerdeputy director, included all the remembrances received and will be a cherished keeptake.

Mrs. Larkins expressed her appreciation for the aversione party and thanked everyone who helped to make it so special. Regina Chappell – district office secretary/receptionist and Frieda Belcher – Head Start administrative assistant worked diligently to make the event a success. Mrs. Larkins stated than she appreciated the oppertunities that have been afforded to her during, her 43 years of employment with YVEDDI, Sne sad that she has not been perfect, but that the dues her best. Larkins will retire on Jan. 28, 2011. Reverend Junes Acolatae

Reverend James Acolatae issued the closing remarks and expressed his appreciation for Mrs. Larkins and wished her much happiness during her retirement.



Retiring YVEDDI Executive Director Jo Ann Larkins was joined by YVED-DI Board Chairman Jack G. Koontz during her retirement party last week.



Jack Koontz (former Bd.) and Mike Crouse (current Bd.)

Vigil raises awareness of domestic violence



2012



Head Start Center Named For Jack Koontz

Agency A Life Saver

You see the vans all over the county. And for many residents of Davie - they are lifesavers.

YVEDDI - Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Inc. provided more than 3,900 rides to Davie residents from June-April. More than 1,800 were for the elderly and disabled, more than 2,000 for the general public.

"Almost all of the E&D trips and a significant amount of RGP (public) trips are to life-sustaining services such as dialysis," Jeff Cockerham, YVEDDI transportation director, wrote in a letter to Carl Humphrey, chair of the Davie County Board of Commissioners.

The board last month agreed that YVEDDI would provide the services with \$143,430 in state funds. Funds are also used for employment assistance, and more than 15 residents benefitted last year, many with car repairs.

"We are proud to serve the people of Davie and hope you will partner with us again in this high calling to serve the transportation needs of those with limited mobility options," Cockerham said.



Our new logo/ branding was introduced

4. 1100

2013

YVEDDI holds first ever 5K race

hid ton the of

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2003

YVEDDI consolidating dispatch center

Staff Report

BOONVILLE — The Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Inc, (YVEDDI) has announced that beginning today Surry County residents requesting transportation services from YVEDDI have to call a centralized location in Yadkinville to schedule rides.

In the past, YVEDDI transportation offices in each of the four counties served by the nonprofit — Davie, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin — scheduled trips for their respective county. Jeff Cockerham, transportation director for YVEDDI, said, "This new system will make our transportation services more time and cost efficient."

In some cases, Cockerham said the new system will consolidate routes and, ultimately, reduce the need for new vehicles.

YVEDDI vans make about 800 trips per day and operates Monday through Friday (except for holidays and in inclement weather) transporting residents — the majority of them Head Start children, the elderly and/or physically, mentally and developmentally disabled — in the four counties. These include trips to dialysis centers, medical centers, nutrition sites, grocery stores and drugstores.

School systems also contract with YVEDDI to transport students in work programs and students with special needs.

YVEDDI services are available to the general public. To schedule transportation, call 336-679-2071 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. There is a special line for Spanish-speaking customers and separate lines for anyone scheduling in advance and a separate line for customers needing to change or cancel trips scheduled for that day.

Cockerham said centralizing the scheduling was one of the recommendations made by the KFH Group of Bethesda, Md., in YVEDDI's five-year community transportation services plan. Hired by the N.C. Department of Transportation and YVEDDI to evaluate the transportation program, the consulting group found that YVEDDI was perhaps the largest para-transit system in the state not offering centralized scheduling through specialized scheduling and routing software.

YVEDDI's transportation offices in Davie, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin counties recently implemented a NOVUS software program designed to help manage the unique needs of demand response transportation organizations utilizing such features from call tracking to web dispatching. The program was designed by Trapeze, a worldwide leader in transit scheduling.

For more information on scheduling rides with YVED



Taylor Pardue | Yadkin Ripple

Racers crowd around the results sheets to see how they compared to the other participants.

Federal cuts hit Surry County senior programs

YVEDDI dealing with 'sequester' cuts

Town of Elkin welcomes YVEDDI

Public transportation in Elkin becomes official at an official ribbon cutting ceremony that was held at Elkin Town Hall on Monday with commissioners, Mayor Lestine Hutshens, and YVEDDI transportation officials. YVEDDI announced that destinations for passengers will include Walmart, Food Llon, Goody's, Elkin Center and Surry Community College, and Town Hall.

> Anthony Gonzales | The Tribune



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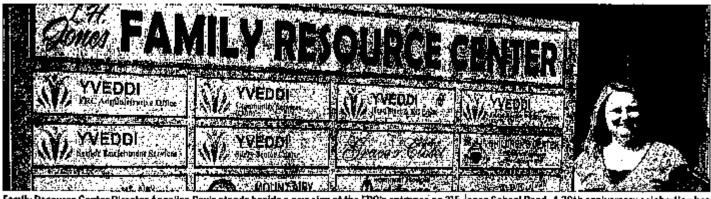
Volunteer Driver Program Launched

YVEDDI

IV News

LOCAL

Wednesday, June 18, 2014 (PAGE 5A



Family Resource Center Director Annalisa Davis stands beside a new sign at the FRC's entrance on 215 Jones School Road. A 20th anniversary celebration has been slated for June 19 from 5:50 p.m to 7:30 p.m.

Family Resource Center to mark 20 years

By David Broyles dbroyles@civitasmedia.com

The L.H. Jones Family Resource Center's 20th Anuiveraary event Thursday looks to celebrate the center's figurative transformation from a caterpillar to a hutterfly.

According to Director of the Family Resource Center (FRC) Annalisa Davis, the celebration is open to the public but special emphasis has been given to parents because they want to be a positive image in the minds of children as they grow older, Davis and Senior Center Director Brack Llewellyn both recalled how "a lot of sweat equity" had brought the former Jones School back from its falling into disrepair after the school was closed.

The FRC opened in 1994. It is typically open Monday through Priday from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. with extended hours for special activities. Davis said there are around 14 agencies in the building with a waiting list of other non profits because of the cost sharing price charged them, which is based on the square footage they will occupy.

Funding for the center

from the County as well as from the County as well as fund raising, concessions and community use fees. The Yadkin Valley Economic Development District Incorporated (YVEDDI) is the administrative entity for the center. Davis said many of the FRC agencies are under YVEDDI's ambrella, although not all are.

The anniversary celebration will be held from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Davis said refreshments as well as live music performed by Denuis Tolhert and Prienda will be featured as well as information booths on member agencies of the FRC. Activities planned include a bouttee house, Mount Airy Fire Department trucks and special appearances by Bob

building and grounds comes, the Builder, Charles the Chef amazing what is happening Lifespan, Circle School Defrom the County as well as and the Chickol-A cow mashere. The college (SCC) volopment Center, Pledmont has a lot going on as well. Triad Regional Council-

• The two agreed there is still a great need in Surry County based on requests the FRC mutinely receives, Davis said she remembered when the building was slated to be torn down but was saved by the efforts of "those with a vision."

Both said the center has a tradition of being able to fund projects, such as its new sign, by being frugal with volunteers stepping up to make improvements happen in spite of money always being an issue. "Id volunteered with projects over the years hear," Llewellyn said.

"Until 1 came to work here I didn't know how busy the center stays. It really is amazing what is happening here. The college (SCC) has a lot going on as well and we have had droves of people visit Grace's Closet. The Headstart is always full as well as daycare. I'm also more aware now of how busy we are at night with classes and meetings. People love this space. We really strive to project the sense of welcoping people."

Davis said she feels strongly about carrying on a tradition of treating everyone seeking help at the center with kindness, even if they can't help them.

She aaid technology has helped staffers to be better be able to use databases to refer clients to people who can help them. Other agencies located in the FRC are

Triad Regional Council-Workforce Investment Act (WIA), Fiedmont Triad Regioual Council-eLink Youth Program, J.J. Jones Alumni Association, Financing Pathways of the Piedmont, The Children's Center of Surry Inc., YVEDDI, Head Start and NC Pre-K, YVEDDI Community Services self sufficiency program and displaced homenakers program, the Surry County Senior Center and YVEDDI Senior Enrichment Services. Persons may call 336-786-6155 or email adavis@yveddi.com for more information.

David Hittyles mvly de reachadt at 336-709-1952 or on twitter@-MtAlryNetysDave.

Yokeley delivers meals to recognize national service

Staff Report

The third annual mayor's day of recognition for national service was held on April 7 at the Mount airy Nutrition Center on 215 Jones School Road.

Mayor pro-tem Steve Yokeley accompanied local Meals on Wheels driver Barbara Quesinberry to deliver meals to home bound seniors of Surry County. The Mount Airy Nutrition site operates under the Older Americans Act, Senior Enrichment program which also offers transportation and legal services.

Typically, mayors and county executives hold public events on Mayors Day to engage citizens and meet local needs to spotlight and honor the impact of national service. According to event spokesperson Debra Caudle the initiative is being led by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The corporation reports that it annually engages five million citizens in service at more than 60,000 locations. National service members seek to help local leaders tackle difficult problems and strengthen communities through supporting food banks, homeless shelters, providing health services, building homes and managing volunteers at other locations.

Another goal of participation in Mayors Day is to show support for nonprofit and national service groups and inspire more residents to serve in their communities. Caudle pointed out service is a cost-effective way to address challenges in cities and counties, noting the effect of AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs.

See YOKELEY | 2B



Yokeley

From page 1B

According to Caudle, the retired and senior volunteer program supports the Senior Enrichment Program by providing the volunteers. Both of these programs operate unde the umbrella of the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Incorporated (YVED- DI), which is a non-profit corporation.

YVEDDI is designated as the local community action agency that administers human services and community development programs funded through federal, state, and county governments, United Way and other resources. The YVEDDI Retired and Senior Volunteer Program receives fiscal support from the Corporation for National and Community Service and the United Funds of Surry and Yadkin counties.

Persons who may be interested in volunteering may contact the Senior Volunteer Program in Mount Airy at 336-786-6155, extension 232 or at dcaudle@yveddi. com. The Jonesville area program may be reached by contacting Gilda Pruitt at 336-526-1087 or gpruitt@yveddi.com.

Senior Center celebrating 20 years

By Andy Winemiller awinemiler Devetasmedia com

The Surry Senior Center is holding a 20th anniversary celebration Thursday evening at L.H. Jones Family Resource Center in Mount Airy. The event, which is free of charge, begins at 6 p.m. and will last about two hours.

The event will feature door prizes, refreshments and live entertainment by the Reunion Band.

Annalisa Davis, a staff member at the center, said the event is already set to be well-attended. "We've had a lot of people already say they are coming," said Davis, "It'll be a great event, with good food and great entertainment."

Davis said the featured entertainment will be playing "beach music" and some "classic rock." She said the Reunion Band is somewhat special. Davis said the band is comprised of a few local musicians, some of whom are in other area bands, who have come together for this one special event.

The county's two senior centers are located at L.H. Jones in Mount Airy and on Old 52 Bypass in Pilot Mountain. The centers offer a number of programs in which area senior citizens can take part, ranging from social events to health and wellness programs. Activities for seniors include arts and crafts, bingo, dancing, bowling and even an

See SENIOR | 5

2015



A group of area senior citizens pases for a picture at Mount Airy Bowling Lanes. Bowling is one of the many activities offered by the Sarry Senior Center.

Senior

From page 1

arthritis Tai Chi class.

Participating seniors may enjoy most activities at no cost or a nominal fee, according to Davis. The two senior centers. also play a pivotal role in helping to organize Surry County's Senior Games, an event which engages seniors in athletics and arts. This year's senior games wrapped-up last month. However, the mission of positively impacting the lives of senior citizens continues on a daily basis at the centers.

According to Davis many of the area's senior citizens reap the benefits of the county's two centers, "Our classes and services are always wellattended," said Davis, adding that "there's a big



Area senior citizens crochet as part of a class offered by the Surry Senior Center.

demand for our services."

The senior center mission statement states, "Our goal is to positively impact our community by creating opportunities for healthy aging through social engagement, physical well-being, civic involvement, creativity, and lifelong learning."

Davis said the senior centers live up to that goal, pointing to the fact the Surry Senior Center was named a North Carolina Senior Center of Excellence last year.

According to Davis the "Surry Senior Center operates under the umbrella of the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District (YVED-DI)." Davis added that *YVEDDI, which offers a variety of programs dedicated to improving the lives of individuals and families in Davie, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin counties, is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year."

The agency is governed by a 24 member Board of Directors made up of public officials, lowincome and private representatives reflective of our service area.

YVEDDI employs about 240 staff and approximately 100 are part-time, with a varying operating budget of \$11.2 million for the administration of 65+ grants.

Programs are funded through Federal, State, County Governments, United Fund agencies and other resources.

Programs Include: Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Head Start Migrant Head Start L. H. Jones Family Resource Center Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Senior Centers Senior Enrichment Program Public Transportation Weatherization

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Mickey Cartner (current Bd.)



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••••



Ms. Essie Joyce is the only original Board Member that remains on our Board.

Her dedication contributes to our success.

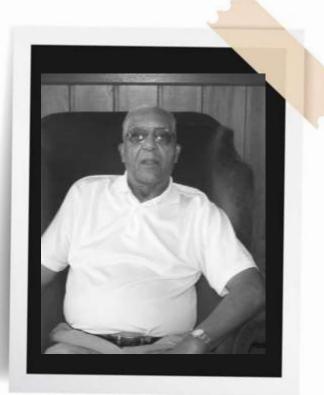
Thank you for many years of devoted service.



JoAnn Larkins (former staff) and Jimmy Walker (current Bd.)

HONORS

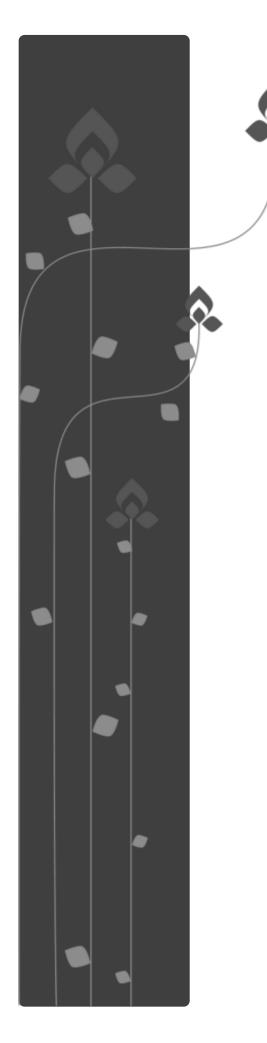
Hassel C. Brown Jo Ann Larkins Jack G. Koontz John Barber Barbara Galloway Mittman Freda Heflin Gibbons Maxine Reynolds Helena Creed Monus



Robert Strickland (former Bd.)

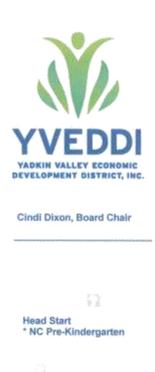
RETI REES

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Community Services

Domestic Violence Program

- * Sexual Assault
- * Displaced Homemakers * Family Violence Prevention

Panniy violence Prevention

Public Transportation

Senior Enrichment Program

- Meals on Wheels
 Congregate Nutrition Sites
- Legal Services

Family Resource Center

Senior Centers of Excellence

- East Bend
- Yadkin County
- Yadkin Valley
 Surry County

Pilot Mtn. Senior Center

Retired & Senior Volunteer Program

Weatherization

50th Anniversary Closing Message from the Executive Director

The preceding stories offer a glimpse of the many ways in which the Yadkin Valley Economic Development District, Incorporated (YVEDDI) has touched the lives of people in Davie, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin Counties our first 50 years as a Community Action Agency. I am honored to be one of the privileged few to have served as director of YVEDDI, and the only one who joined the agency as staff-level employee who worked in several positions and programs. Over the last three decades, I have worked alongside many talented and dedicated public servants, and I deeply appreciate the efforts of all the men and women who have furthered YVEDDI's mission "to improve the lives of individuals and families through a variety of programs and partnerships to build stronger communities."

Since our inception on September 16, 1965, YVEDDI's responsibilities have grown with each passing year and are now administering over 60 grants. By helping people reach a greater level of self-reliance, we have had many accomplishments. In 1988, the Yadkin County Chamber of Commerce was created, as well as the establishment of five Senior Centers of Excellence. Because of YVEDDI people can get to medical appointments, work or school. More people have gained the necessary skills to obtain better employment and a living wage. Head Start has bridged the learning gap of thousands of low-income preschool children, enabling them to enter public school ready to learn and achieve greater success. Victims of Domestic Violence have gained the support and assistance necessary to leave their abusers and start a new life. Countless senior citizens attend programs that promote their wellness and independence, which help them avoid costly nursing homes, and our Weatherization Assistance Program has improved the energy efficiency of countless homes.

There have been many challenges over the years against the backdrop of an ever-changing economy. Funding is always short of the need for assistance and shifts greater focus to fundraising to sustain our organization and maintain programs vital to our mission. Through adversity, we have made great strides in reducing costs, improving operational efficiency, and expanding our community partnerships to better meet the needs of our communities.

YVEDDI today has a strong foundation upon which to build its future. As always, our success will depend heavily on the commitment of our board, staff and stakeholders, as we strive for continuous improvements to build stronger communities.

We invite the community to join us in this experience, because YVEDDI works for you. Our mission is vital, as is your continued support.

Honored to serve,

Kathy Payne Executive Director

PAGE 40

Many thanks to the dedicated Board Members, employees, volunteers and partners that have made the last 50 years possible.

YVEDDI

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