

# HOW TO PUT OUT

COMMUNITY NEWS

Pg. 3

# COMMUNITY NEWS

Vol. I, No. 1

Any Community, U. S. A.

May 4, 1967

## Community Starts Paper

### 500 MORE OUT-OF-WORK

Over 500 more men could not find jobs last week.

Many of them had been working in the unemployed fathers program.

These men have over 2,000 children in their families.

Government officials seem discouraged. Mr. Sam Bureaucrat said, "As long as the Viet Nam War keeps up, I don't know

(Cont. on pg. 3)

Hungry Pete Sez:

"Unity worked in the 30's. Reckon we ought to try it again."

### "STOP BEING LAST" 450 ARE TOLD

"We're going to put a stop to the poor always being last on the list," Chet Johnson, Pres. of the Poor People, told 450 last night at a mass meeting.

(Cont. on pg. 4)

### Dedicated To Truth And Programs

The COMMUNITY NEWS begins today. It is dedicated to giving a true picture of the news and needs of the people of our community.

And the COMMUNITY NEWS will write about constructive programs to meet the needs of our people.

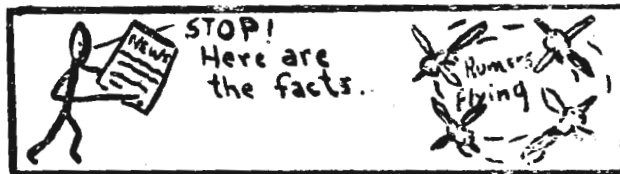
We invite your

(Cont. on pg. 2)

## HOW TO PUT OUT A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Many good organizers use community newspapers. A weekly, two or four-page paper can keep people up-to-date. And it will get people to work harder--especially when they see their names and activities reported each week in the newspaper.

You can also use a community newspaper to raise issues. For examples, a group of citizens may decide to get some of their roads paved. If the rest of the community finds out about the plans by "Word-of-mouth-," some people are likely to get the story mixed-up. Some might take sides against the group because they feel left out. Others may say the group just wants to pave the roads of its own members.



So you can use your newspaper not only to raise issues (the roads need paving), but also to keep everyone informed about the plans (for paving the road). This will prevent a lot of rumors and backbiting.

Community newspapers will also help to get people to follow up on group decisions. If the newspaper says--for the whole community to see--that Don is going to do something, he will probably do it.

You can also use newspapers to argue for your side in an argument. This is called taking an editorial position. When you write your opinions you should clearly title them:

### AN EDITORIAL

## **PAVE ROADS NOW!**

The MOUNTING STAR feels that all roads in this County should be paved NOW. The Construction Co. should do it.

They mess up the roads. They have the trucks.

And they already have all our money.

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THE ORGANIZER'S LIBRARY SERIES  
of the  
SOUTHERN CONFERENCE EDUCATIONAL FUND  
3210 West Broadway  
Louisville, Kentucky 40211

(Bulk Rates to Movement Groups)

5. There should be plenty of white space in your newspaper. Use three columns. Break up your stories with headlines.

## APPEALING LAYOUT

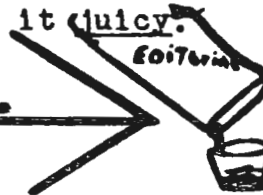


Put different stories in boxes, such as we have done in this booklet. It makes your paper easier to read.

Don't let your paper look like a page of a book (see THE MOUNTAIN NEWS on the next-to-the-last page of this booklet).

6. Don't editorialize too much. One short editorial in each issue is enough. But make it juicy.

## STRONG, FACTUAL EDITORIALS



If your paper is going to be a fighting paper, talk about problems that bother your readers. Write strongly. And back up your position with facts.

7. Many newspapers print Letters To The Editor. Sometimes you can get a lively discussion going among your readers through this column.

Some newspapers print coupons which will save their readers' money at the advertiser's store.

**GIMMICKS** → [ TEAR Out + Bring To ]  
[ Community Co-op Wash ]  
[ for ONE Free Wash ]

You can also hold contests, such as a short essay contest on "What Our Community Needs Most." Then you can print the prize-winning essay.

8. When writing news stories, answer these six questions:

**WHAT?** → The Sam Jackson family's home was washed  
**WHEN?** → away last Monday. The house was located  
**WHERE?** → near the strip-mine on Big Mountain.  
**WHO?** → The family is safe, but all belongings were lost.  
**WHY?** → "We've lived there for 15 years," Jackson said, "but since they started cutting up the hill, the floods have gotten bad."  
**HOW?** → A Company spokesman said it was sorry

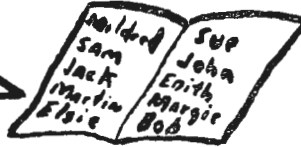
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It is usually best to cut out all unnecessary words. Make your sentences short. And sweet.

WHAT MAKES A **GOOD** COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER?

1. Use as many names as you can squeeze in. People love to see their own names in print. Spell them right. A good page should have at least 20 names on it. Sometimes you can list all the people who attended a meeting. Or who voted for something. Or who signed a petition.

**NAMES**



There are many ways of getting more names into your paper. This will help you sell the paper—and get more people to read it after they buy it.

2. Print stories about things most people have already heard about. People like to read about familiar things.

So write about church services...club meetings... accidents...people moving into or out of your community... births and deaths...exciting and funny things that happen to local residents.

**FAMILIAR NEWS**



Sometimes the weather is news—particularly when it's bad.

Gossip columns are big favorites, if you can find a gossipy person to write them. People love to read about who is visiting who, and who got engaged to who.

3. Most men like to read about sports. Since yours is a community paper, you can give more space to the local high school team than a larger paper.

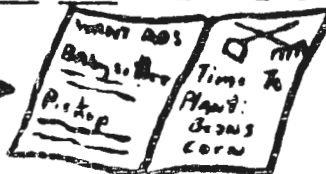
**SPORTS**



Print quotes from players on the team. You can become known as the only paper that really covers the local sports scene.

4. Provide useful information, such as gardening and cooking hints. Free classified ads will also be popular.

**USEFUL SERVICES**



BUT REMEMBER...

There are several DON'TS to remember about putting out a good community newspaper:

A. Don't think it takes the place of the hard work of organizing. Many "organizers" spend all their time in the office, writing weekly newspapers, and lose contact with the people and their problems.

B. Don't lose contact with your total community. Many editors depend on just a few people to give them the news. Other people in the community get jealous. And they will undercut the paper the first chance they get.

C. Don't do all the work yourself. Try to get reporters from as many organizations in your community as possible. For example, get a reporter from each church and each school. Ask them to write stories for you, and try to print their stories word-for-word. Give them a by-line. That way they'll keep on writing.

D. Don't get handcuffed to whoever is paying for the paper. You can be pressured to stop printing critical things about certain people or agencies, if you depend on someone else for your stencils, mimeograph machine and paper. So try to save enough money to buy your own machine and supplies.



There are four samples of newspapers on the next pages. Which one is easiest to read? Which one do you think will bring about more changes in the community?

Good luck with your newspaper!

AFTER YOU GET YOUR PAPER WRITTEN...

You still have two major problem—circulation and money.

9. Many community newspaper editors have hired a hard-working young teenager and made him circulation manager. He then hires some of his friends to be carriers.

CIRCULATION



If you charge a dime for your paper, split it with your carriers. They get a nickel, and the paper gets a nickel to pay for printing costs. Most people are more than willing to pay a dime for a good paper. If they won't pay a dime for your paper, there's probably something wrong with it.

You can also sell mail subscriptions, to build knowledgeable support from people outside your area-- and also build your treasury.

10. How are you going to pay for your paper? If you want to do it right, appoint a business manager too. He can keep track of the money being spent and the money the circulation manager is bringing in.

Also the business manager can sell ads to local stores and businesses. This can help pay for the paper and mimeographing costs.

BUSINESS



Put out a couple of editions and take them around to some local businesses. You should also have a chart, showing how much various-sized ads would cost. A real hustler will also draw up a couple of sample ads to show prospective advertisers.

# the M.V. TIMES

Vol. I, No. 2

Mountainvale, W. Va.

May 2, 1967 10

## PPA TO "FEEL POWER

### MASS RALLY SET HERE ON LABOR DAY

### "Strip Mines Must Go"

"We must outlaw all strip mines," George Harris, Chairman of the Committee Against Strip Mines told the PPA yesterday.

"The new laws are OK, except no one can enforce them here," he said. "The only way to stop them is to outlaw them."

"Then we can use their heavy equipment to build roads," Harris said.

Mr. Harris's group received the full support of the PPA.

### CHURCH NEWS

MT. BETHEL BAPTIST: Rev. J. M. Price preaches on "Jesus, The Revolutionary," at 11 am Sunday. Baptismal services at 3 pm Sunday.

LITTLE HATTIE CHURCH: 10 am Sunday. Mr. Wm. Green, Moderator.

CHURCH OF CHRIST: 10:30 am Sunday. Rev. George McAmes from Hilldale preaching.

### MOUNTAINVALE TROUNCES CITY

"That layup George made at the start of the second half broke their backs," Tony Worden said, after Mountainvale trounced City High, 54-37.

"George" Jones scored 18, Worden, 11, and Mike Johnson led in rebounds with 6.

### Editorial

### WE KNOW WHAT WE WANT...

Federal officials have proposed another survey of our area to find out what we want.

We are tired of being surveyed. We are tired of planning commissions. We have said over and over what we want.

We want JOBS. We want ROADS. We want HOUSES.

Instead of spending more money on surveys, how about giving us what we want?



### BACK ROAD OPENED

The back road between Mountainvale and the City has finally been fixed. A rock slide from the Big Mountain Strip Mining Project put it out for three months.

County officials could not fix it until last week.

The Make Poor Coal Co. did not contribute to the repairs. It is still strip-mining above the road.

PPA PICNIC - SUNDAY - 3PM  
LONG HOLLER

The Poor People's Association of Mountainvale will sponsor a mountain-wide rally here on Labor Day.

Other groups of poor people from across the mountains will be invited.

"We want to feel our united power," Charles Atkins, President of the PPA said.

"We think other groups want jobs, roads and houses too--and we want to see how many of us there are."

If all goes according to the PPA's plans, there should be about 8,000 people here for the rally.

The Rally Committee is chaired by Mrs. Ed. Day. George Wilkes, Dan Howie, and Mrs. Isabel Kline will travel around the mountains, talking with other groups about the rally.

Mrs. Sam Walls is in charge of refreshments.

All local groups will be asked to help put up the thousands of guests expected for the rally.

SUBSCRIBE NOW



# THE MOUNTAIN NEWS

Vol. I, Number 1

Mountain, Kentucky

March 3, 1967

## POOR PEOPLE GET ORGANIZED

President Michael Bach announced that the Poor People of Kentucky, Incorporated, was organized recently. Bach said that everyone was welcome to join the organization.

Other officers of the new group included Sam Johnson, Vice President, Marie Compton, Secretary, and Joe Bethel, Treasurer.

The group held an organizational meeting a couple of weeks ago, and everyone had a good time.

Another meeting is planned soon. The Poor People of Kentucky will try to develop their area. Houses, roads, better schools and jobs for everyone are on their list of goals.

## MOUNTAIN NEWS BEGINS

This is the first edition of THE MOUNTAIN NEWS. It is going to be put out every week. The first copy is free. From now on it will cost ten cents. All the money it makes will go to the Community.

If you don't like the way the paper looks, come down to the office. We're located up Little Creek Holler in an old yellow house on the left. You can help us write the next copy. Of course, if you don't want to walk up the holler, send a letter to us at THE MOUNTAIN NEWS, Rt. 3, Box 1776, Mountain, Kentucky.

### Editorial

## the truce on Poverty

The other day we saw some numbers in a big New York newspaper about the war our Government is fighting in Viet Nam. This big New York paper said that our Government spends 2½ billion dollars each month on this war.

In the same paper we read that the "war on poverty" (our friends here call it the "truce on poverty") may get 2 billion dollars for all of next year.

We don't understand that war over there very well. But we do know what the truce on poverty here in the mountains is doing. It's starving little kids. It's cheating bigger kids out of a decent education. It's tearing up families. It's making grown men look down on themselves.

Maybe it's time we took another trip to Washington.

# ★ the BLUE STAR ★

Vol. I, No. 2

Big City, U. S. A.

June 1, 1967 10¢

## BLUE ANGELS CHARGE FOSTER

### City-Wide Interest In Boycott

The Red Dogs, Rebels and Northwest Youth Council are all interested in the school boycott plan.

"I have gotten calls from leaders of these groups and a couple of other youth groups," Joe Thomas said.

"We will probably get together in a couple of weeks to see what we can work out."

### CHURCH NEWS

LINCOLN BAPTIST—Rev. J. M. Price preaches on "God and the Revolution," 11 o'clock, Sunday morn. Baptismal services at 3 p.m.

HOLY TEMPLE—Sister Mary Pendleton will preach on "My Lord, Why Have You Forsaken Me?" on Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

### KANGAROS WIN, 67-21

"They couldn't move like us," Tony Worden said. He scored 18 points in Tuesday's whopping win over the Bethesda Bombs.

"I guess they're slower in the suburbs," Tony said.

"We Got Foster Where We Want Him."



### It Is Time ...

It is time to put an end to the flunky system.

It is time to stop Foster and Atkins, and all the other flunkys across the city.

The only way we can do this is to stick together. They will try to pull us apart.

We must be strong. We must stand together.

### QUICK-FLICK CHECK

#### STATE THEATER

"The Alley Cats." Tues Wed, and Thurs. 5:30, 7:40, and 9:50. "Raisin In The Sun." Fri. thru Monday. Same times.

#### CENTER THEATER

"The Organizer." All week, 5:30 and 8:00.

SUBSCRIBE NOW-15/yr.

### PETITION STARTED

"Mr. Foster has violated the rights of 3 more students," Joe Thomas, President of the Blue Angels charged today.

"Last week Foster kicked out 3 guys—Jim Martin, Ed McKnight, and George Lincoln. They were kicked out because they didn't have short hair-cuts and didn't have their shirt-tails tucked in.

"We do not intend to let this sort of thing continue," Thomas said.

### FOSTER STRIKES BACK...

"The young punks are just mad at themselves," Asst. Principal Foster said in a telephone interview with THE BLUE STAR. "Someday they'll realize I've done them a favor."

The Blue Angels have been circulating a petition, demanding the immediate removal of Foster and the reinstatement of the ousted students.

### Support

## BIG ED'S CARRY-OUT

### He Supports

## THE BLUE STAR

-sample-

-sample-

# ★ The BLUE STAR ★

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Volume I, Number 1

Big City, U.S.A.

May 24, 1967

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## BLUE ANGELS ORGANIZED

President Joe Thomas announced the organization of The Blue Angels yesterday. Thomas said The Blue Angels were concerned with the situation at Kangaroo High School, and with the City Schools in general.

Also elected at a meeting of the Blue Angels a week ago were Mike Johnson, Vice President; Bernard Moore, Secretary; and Joey Jones, Treasurer.

The Blue Angels plan to focus most of their attention on Kangaroo School. They are particularly disturbed about the attitude of Mr. Foster and Mr. Atkins, two Assistant Principals at Kangaroo. Thomas said, "These office flunkys treat kids like dirt. I think Foster has kicked out more guys from Kangaroo than have graduated from there."

The Angels plan to petition, picket and possibly boycott the school in order to gain more control over who gets promoted to office jobs.

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## BLUE STAR STARTS

This is the first edition of THE BLUE STAR. It is going to be a weekly newspaper, put out by the Blue Angels. Joe Thomas is the editor. We will report about activities of the Angels and other items of interest in our neighborhood. This first issue is free. We plan to charge 10¢ for future copies.

We welcome your comments and criticisms on it. Please address letters to the Editor of THE BLUE STAR, 1234 K Street.

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## THREE PROGRAM CHOICE

The Blue Angels are trying to decide on three possible action programs. Joe Thomas, President, said that after a brainstorming session, the Angels had come up with programs for petitions and pickets, a city-wide boycott of the schools and conducting their own summer school program.

"We will be talking to other kids and parents in the neighborhood about these programs," Thomas said. "After a couple of weeks, we will make a choice about what we should do. I personally like all three of them."