

MORE LETTERS

ATMC Election Good Time For Pledge To Update Cable TV

To the editor:
This week along with my phone bill, I received a copy of the "Atlantic Tidelines." As I read about the upcoming nominations and elections of directors, I thought of the recent letter to the editor concerning the outdated Atlantic TV Cable System which most companies replaced 10 years ago.
I thought of the ugly converter box atop my nice "cable-ready" television set. I thought of the laughs, sneers and jokes made by out-of-town guests as they refer to our "stone-age" system. I thought of their frustration (and mine) of being forced to use two controls just to get the TV to operate.
Of course, that is assuming there has not been a rain shower within the last hour. If so, they just get to look at a "snowy" screen and listen

to a lot of static.
I then thought about the management and board of directors of the Atlantic Telephone Membership Corporation who have allowed this to continue.
I am certain they are all good people and I have nothing against them personally. However, I believe it is time we "customers" let our voices be heard. As long as we sit idly by and endure, they will continue to charge us the maximum rate possible for the use of their "box" and old outdated system. It seems to be much more important to reap high profits and allow assets to build rather than to invest in modern equipment and cater to customer satisfaction and concerns.
With director election time approaching, it is now time for the membership to act. We need to con-

tact those nominated and get a commitment to proceed immediately toward modernization. If they refuse to make such a commitment, we need to find individuals who will, and get their names on the ballot. Likewise, if after this election nothing is done, we need to marshal ourselves and get a board of directors who will.
One final thought: I do not expect something for nothing. I do expect a modern state-of-the-art and reliable system for the money I pay each month.
Otto Brown
Supply
Don't Appeal
To the editor:
I can't believe the Brunswick County commissioners are considering appealing the judgment that the

jury awarded the county board of education in July.
The future and the health and well-being of the children are being put at risk. That's not including the below-standard educational materials that they will have to get by with.
The commissioners have yet to say that the money isn't needed by the board of education. When the county collected over \$28 million in property taxes in 1993, why can't the \$5 million be given to the board of education?
As I understand, even last year, the children had to attend classes (indoors) with their coats on in some of the schools. The reason for this is the mandatory lower setting of thermostats to be able to pay the utility bills.
Don't they realize that cold class-

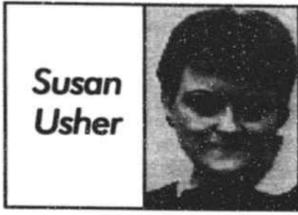
rooms can cause illness? Absenteeism is a direct cause and effect of poor academic levels.
This also does not include the overcrowding of classrooms, which is against state building codes and fire codes. All of this because of no funding to hire teachers. Isn't it strange that the county commissioners can force the school system to break these codes?
Brunswick County parents are in a dilemma beyond belief. They pay county property taxes so that their children can have the education that is guaranteed by the Constitution. The county commissioners seem to be denying them of that right.
The question that is needed to be asked is, "Where has the money gone?"
B.J. Huffman
Southport

We Welcome Your Letters

We welcome your letters to the editor. Letters must have an original signature and must include your address and telephone number. (This information is for verification purposes only; we will not publish your street/mailling address or phone number.) Letters must be typed or written legibly. Include your photograph if you would like one to accompany your letter. Address letters to:
The Brunswick Beacon
P.O. Box 2558
Shallotte NC 28459
Anonymous letters will not be published.

It's Been 50 Years, But They Haven't Forgotten The War

A letter came from Winston-Salem the other day, a reminder of an upcoming reunion of veterans of the Battle of the Bulge.
The note struck a chord. After spending a good chunk of World War II ensconced in relative safety in a Greenland outpost, my father-in-law's unit was transferred to Europe in plenty of time to join the Allied assault in the Ardennes.



Susan Usher

Eugene Eggert's family had made a rather large contribution to the war effort—two sons and two daughters had signed on. They were second-generation Americans, and very patriotic. Don's great-grandfather had emigrated as an adolescent in the mid-1800s from the Mecklenburg-Schwerin district of Germany, later part of East Germany. He lived in Medaryville, Indiana, and later in Logansport, where he ran a successful business and reared a God-fearing family.

Eugene Eggert can remember counting in German for his grandmother and listening to her read from the family's large German-language Bible. Now here he was, in Germany, fighting German-speaking people. The smattering of the language he knew would prove to be useful.

By this time, Joe Eggert, a simple, gentle man who only wanted to farm, had died. His body was buried in France, amid thousands of others in rows marked by white crosses. Sister Betty, an Army nurse in England, heard the news from the wounded pouring into the hospital where she was stationed long before the family received official word stateside.

For years, the entire time my husband Don was growing up, Mr. Eggert never talked about the war. It was over, if not forgotten.

But a few years ago, when we were talking one Saturday afternoon about the Eggert family, Mr. Eggert brought out a picture of Joe in his uniform. Then he shared some of the letters the sons and daughters had faithfully written their mother from the war, posted from bases and training camps all over, the affection for their parents and each other very ev-

ident.
Next came copies of his old base newspapers, followed by a company history written by a former commander, and a few of the keepsakes Mr. Eggert had brought back from Germany, medals, coins, photographs.
Memories flooded to the surface, along with a few tears.
I had studied the Battle of the Bulge as part of my peace, war and defense minor at UNC, but it didn't sound the same. In the classroom, the agony, fear and confusion were missing, along with the kindnesses of those ordinary people who were liberated.

The Battle of the Bulge began in December 1944, when a strong German force commanded by Marshal von Rundstedt broke the American front in the Belgian Ardennes sector, a wooded plateau that also saw heavy fighting in World War I. It was foggy and the Allies were surprised, confused, allowing the Germans to penetrate deep into Belgium, creating a "bulge" in the line and threatening to break through. At the same time the Germans were bombarding the Allied supply port of Antwerp with V-2 rockets.

The fighting had turned for the Allies in 1944, and the Allies didn't lose their grip this time. An American force held Bastogne, though surrounded and outnumbered. The U.S. 1st and 9th armies, temporarily under the command of British Field Marshal Montgomery, attacked the German salient from the north, as the U.S. 3rd attacked from the south. It was nasty going for a while, but by Christmas Day (what a way to celebrate) the weather improved, a big help for the air

assaults. By mid-January 1945 the Germans were routed or destroyed, but at a cost of some 77,000 Allied casualties. Two months later Bradley and Montgomery and the Allied forces smashed the Siegfried line and crossed the Rhine. The war in Europe formally ended in early May.

But at night, that's not what they remember. Rather, it's the snow and cold. Rumbling tanks and dark woods filled with the unknown. The sound of shell fire for hours and hours on end, punctuated by screams.

Villagers grateful for the Allies' presence, reaching out to press a hand, to say thank you, to share whatever they had.

German soldiers searching out American units to surrender to, for fear of how they might be treated by the Russians.

Months later, American soldiers posing for the camera as they waited to board a troop ship home, clutching knapsacks of keepsakes. It isn't uncommon to see a GI holding a dog, a stray adopted sometime during the course of the fighting, something to care for, to pet, to hold.

Mr. Eggert's thought about it. He's decided he'll sit out this reunion.

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DAY	LEAGUE NAME	Start Time	# Per Team	KIND OF LEAGUE	MEETING DATE/TIME	START DATE/TIME
MONDAY	Men's Classic	6:30 pm	5	Men's/Hdcp	8/29 6:30 pm	9/05 6:30 pm
	2nd Time Around	9:15 pm	2	Scratch	8/29 8:00 pm	9/05 9:15 pm
TUESDAY	Fun League	10:30 am	4	Mixed/Hdcp	8/30 11:00am	9/06 10:30 am
	Nutty Buddies (Have a Ball League)	6:30 pm	4	Mixed/Hdcp	8/30 6:30 pm	9/06 6:30 pm
WEDNESDAY	Bowloholics Lg.	12:00 noon	1	9 Pin No Tap (Singles)	8/31 12 noon	9/07 12 noon
	St. of Confusion	6:30 pm	4	Mixed/Hdcp	8/31 6:30 pm	9/07 6:30 pm
THURSDAY	Latecomers Doubles	9:00 pm	2	Mixed/Hdcp	8/31 9:00 pm	9/07 9:00 pm
	Fifty-Five Plus (Have a Ball Lg)	1:00 pm	3	Seniors/Hdcp	8/25 1:00 pm	9/01 1:00 pm
FRIDAY	Ladies Nite Out	6:30 pm	4	Ladies/Hdcp	8/25 6:30 pm	9/01 6:30 pm
	Whiskey Doubles	9:00 pm	2	Ladies/Hdcp	8/25 9:00 pm	9/01 9:00 pm
SATURDAY	Woodmen of the World "Spare Pairs"	6:30 pm	4	Mixed/Hdcp	8/26 6:30 pm	9/02 6:30 pm
	(Scotch Doubles)	9:00 pm	2	Mixed/Hdcp	8/26 9:00 pm	9/02 9:00 pm

YOUTH—ALL AGES (SATURDAY MORNINGS) REGISTRATION DATES:

AGE GROUP	REGISTRATION DATE
PeelWees (Ages 3-6)	Saturday 8/13 1:00 pm-4:00 pm
Bentams (Ages 7 & 8)	thru
Preps (Ages 9-11)	
Juniors (Ages 12-14)	
Majors/Seniors (Ages 15-21)	Saturday 9/03 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

START DAY FOR ALL AGES WILL BE SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

DAY	LEAGUE NAME	Start Time	# Per Team	KIND OF LEAGUE	MEETING DATE/TIME	START DATE/TIME
SUNDAY	Adult/Youth	3:00 pm	2	Handicap (1 adult/1 youth per team)	8/28 3:00 pm	9/04 3:00 pm
	Sunday Night Mixed	7:00 pm	4	Mixed/Hdcp	8/28 7:00 pm	9/04 7:00 pm

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