

EDITORIAL PAGE

THE TRANSYLVANIA TIMES

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Editor's Note: Letters must be brief, signed typed or written legibly on one side of paper. We reserve the right to reject, edit, or condense. Letters should be received by The Times by Monday mornings.)

November 21, 1974  
233 Grove St.  
Brevard, N. C. 28712

Mr. C.K. Osborne, Editor,  
Transylvania Times  
Brevard, N.C. 28712

Dear Mr. Osborne:

I would like to share with you my feelings concerning our local hospital. Even though few of us relish the idea of a stay in the hospital, I found during my recent confinement there after surgery, that we have what appears to be one of the finest hospitals in this area. The equipment and facilities are of course, as up-to-date as any to be found, but even more important is the level of professionalism displayed by the staff there.

I was also astonished to learn of the specialty services offered in physical therapy, cardiac care, respiratory and speech therapy, etc. The doctors, nurses, and other personnel whom I came into contact with, displayed kindness and consideration that I know are not offered by the larger hospitals. We are, indeed, fortunate to have such a facility in our community and we should do everything possible to support it and the staff to the fullest.

To the dedicated people of Transylvania Community Hospital, I say, thank you, and keep up the good work.

Sincerely yours,

John R. Huggins

cc: Transylvania Community Hospital

November 19, 1974

Mr. C.K. Osborne, Editor  
The Transylvania Times  
Brevard, North Carolina 28712

Dear Mr. Osborne:

The Blue Devil Club and the Brevard High School Athletic Department would like to express our thanks to the people who gave their time and talent to the concession stand during the football season.

This group of volunteers is comprised of individuals who enthusiastically support the sports program at Brevard High School. A majority of these people have given their

time repeatedly during the football season for several years. It is the unselfish and dedicated people like these that have helped the Blue Devil Club realize some of its goals.

The proceeds from the concession stand go to the Blue Devil Club and are, in turn, channeled back into the athletic program where it is most needed. The help of the concession stand volunteers is of great benefit to all students in the physical education program.

Thank you again Volunteers, for your enthusiastic support. You are to be commended for giving your most precious commodity — TIME.

With grateful appreciation,

The Blue Devil Club, Inc.  
Martha Nolen,  
Secretary

21 Nov. 74

Editor  
The Transylvania Times

Sir:

Let's keep history straight!

Season record for the 1925 Brevard High School Blue Devils was 1-6. (The last game against Weaverville was the sole victory.)

Accuracy of the foregoing can be checked with any member of the team pictured in your Nov. 18th edition, i. e.,

1st Row (L to R): Harry Clayton, Phillip Hunt, Branch Paxton, Pete Breese, Winnie Waters.

2nd Row: Fred Hollingshead, Jack Frankham, Ed Jones, Frank Osborne, Clyde Jones, Harold Whitmire, Tommy Whitmire.

3rd Row: Ruffin Wilkins, Ansel Jones, Bill Morgan, Jethro Raxter and Tom Dekle, Coach.

Pete Breese (Quarterback '25)

(Editor's Note — The real highlight of the 1925 football season came when the mother of one of the Brevard players dashed onto the field and began beating with an umbrella an opposing player who had dared to tackle her ball-carrying son. Parents, like the players, were just learning what the game was all about

Old Transylvania Times

—by Earle Kersh

When the buffalo roamed these parts he blazed the first trails through the laurel thickets. Surveyors found the buffalo a natural



engineer who picked perfect grades. Indians followed in these footpaths and early settlers widened them for wagon travel.



Tax payers were required to put in six days of road work a year until the early 1800's.

(There's a thought for the road commissioner).



thanks to Mary Jane McCray

Old Farmer's Almanac Still Meaty, Intriguing

What can you say about a 183-year-old publication that this year is increasing its print order 1,000,000 over last year? Well, in the face of exorbitant paper costs and the collapse of periodicals throughout the country, it's obvious that such a publication must provide a service of great value to a great many people.

forecasts) then for the purely homespun, down-to-earth observations and humour that formed the backbone of this country.

The weather forecasts are by far the most popular section of the magazine. Robb Sagendorph who published the

Almanac from 1939 until his death in 1970 said the OFA "does not forecast average weather for the date, but the particular weather for the particular years — win, lose or draw." No modern meteorological scientist yet does that a year ahead.

That's particularly true, in this case, if the readers are interested in: Daily tidal information; phases of the moon rising; conjunction of the planets; gestation table for certain farm animals; daily weather forecasts; bird counts; the forgotten art of building a long-lasting fire; best fishing days; wind chill table; practical advice about a first vegetable garden; methods of storing garden produce for year-round use; methane — a simple solution to farm energy problems; how we count our animals; and reproductive cycles and longevity of farm animals.

These meaty and informative bits of enlightenment appear in the 1975 Old Farmer's Almanac, the oldest continuous publication in the United States, and by recent surveys, the fastest growing.

The 1974 circulation figures were close to 2,500,000 and the national distribution goes into highly urban centers as well as rural communities. Anticipated 1975 circulation figure is 3.2 million.

Back in 1792 when the infant United States was primarily agricultural, such pertinent intelligence as the care and feeding of baby pigs and that muskmelon should be planted by May 30 was essential to the growth of the individual farmer, and hence, the newborn nation.

But, almost 200 years later a constantly rising circulation figure indicates that urban America is embracing the Almanac if not for practical reasons (the weather

Prime Time

Is Your Bank Safety-Deposit Box Insured?

By Bernard E. Nash

Although it was a fairly common practice not so very long ago, I doubt if many older people today keep their valuables or cash hidden in cookie jars and under mattresses in their homes.

Most probably use modern, bank safe-deposit boxes. But their valuables may not be as safe as they think.

When a bank is robbed, the losses suffered by people with checking or savings accounts are covered by the bank's own insurance.

But if safe-deposit boxes are broken into and robbed, the people renting them are sometimes unpleasantly surprised to learn that the bank's insurance doesn't always cover the full value of the contents—if it covers them at all.

All too frequently, the safe-deposit box rental contract will contain a section limiting the bank's responsibility to the "exercising of ordinary care" and releasing it from all liability for the "loss or destruction of any property, including money, placed in said safe." Thus, the bank is off the hook, and the customer is up the creek.

I don't want to alarm anyone unnecessarily, but this is a matter which you—if you or someone close to you has a bank strongbox—should look into now while there's still time to

prevent problems.

Safe-deposit box robberies are rare compared to bank holdups, but they do happen. For instance, in Laguna Niguel, Calif., robbers broke into 450 safe-deposit boxes—many of them rented by retirees—and stole some \$5-million worth of valuables.

"I'm 72 now and just recovering from my second heart attack," one of the victims told reporters. "I'll probably be dead by the time they get this thing settled."

That was in March 1972, and present indications are that the claims cases probably won't come to trial for at least another year.

What can you do to guard against such losses?

If you use a safe-deposit box you should find out exactly how fully the box's contents are covered by the bank's insurance.

Read the contract or form you signed when renting the box. If you don't have a copy, ask the bank for one—and don't be shy about telling them why you want to read it. This form should spell out what protection you have, and—even more important—which of your valuables are excluded from coverage.

If you're not a whiz at deciphering the legalistic fine print of such documents, a good next step would be to have a talk with one of your bank's executives. In advertising their safe-deposit services, banks may imply all kinds of protection, but ask a banker a point-blank ques-

tion—and follow it up with more for anything you don't understand—about your box's insurance coverage.

If your bank does not provide adequate insurance coverage you may want to provide your own. A growing number of insurers have responded to this situation by offering coverage for safe-deposit boxes. Or, you might be able to have it covered by a special "floater" to your house or apartment policy. Discuss it with your insurance agent, and again be sure to note all conditions and exclusions. Check also on accessibility to the box by surviving spouse if it is jointly held. Laws governing access vary among states.

Another good idea is to make a list of the contents of your strongbox, including papers, policies, securities, bonds, jewelry, etc. Whether you or your bank provides the insurance, it's always helpful to have a guide to what's being insured. And the last place you want to keep this list of valuables is in your safe deposit box.

Chances are your safe-deposit box will never be robbed, but—whether you put it in your files or special bureau drawer, or even in the cookie jar—this list will prove valuable someday. You can bank on it!

(Mr. Nash is the executive director of the nonprofit, non-partisan, National Retired Teachers Association and American Association of Retired Persons.)

An Open Space School

A number of visitors to Rosman's modern new elementary school Sunday during the afternoon open house expressed surprise when they walked, not into halls with doors opening off at regular intervals, but into what seemed a wide open warehouse.

The carpeting and the bright colors make the school appear to be anything but a warehouse, but the open space is there. Pupils are no longer herded into classroom units with a single teacher, nor or they kept with their own age group.

Instead, the youngsters are in "pods" as they are called in Transylvania, some 120 pupils with five teachers in a particular area. And the pupils are mobile, that is, they can move from teacher to teacher to get the benefit of the tutors' expertise in their specialty fields.

A pupil may take math under one instructor, reading under another, and be taught history by still another. The teachers, however, don't just deliver their knowledge to passive pupils as they did in bygone days.

In the modern education system, they try to inspire the pupils to become active seekers of information about their subject. The teacher is a leader, a guide, not a dominant influence over her pupils as in yesteryear.

Hopefully, there would be as

much pupil input as teacher input into the classes.

Multi-age groupings also offer opportunities for older pupils to help the younger ones, making it possible for instructors to give individual attention to those who are in need of it. Assisting younger children challenges the older ones to enhance their knowledge and develops leadership ability.

In a way, the modern school is a throwback to the old one-room schools of a century ago; that is, having pupils of more than one grade in an area, and older children helping the teachers with the younger ones.

But there the resemblance ends. There are many instructors instead of just one, and the idea is to encourage the pupils to go after knowledge rather than just sit and have it imparted to them.

Both children and the teachers have more freedom. School changes from a chore to fun in such an environment.

While some critical letters have been written to The Times concerning the new, more open education system, it is our belief that the pupils are thriving in it.

All the youngsters we have talked to delight in it, and the progress they are making speaks well for the system.

We just wish someone had thought of it 50 years sooner.

A Moral Is Visible

Much in the news these days are the "fast buck" guys, Watergate (will it ever be out of the news?), fellows who have no compunction about pulling "a fast one" on their neighbors, and pollution in politics.

We were honored the other day to read an editorial in the Craig, Colo. Press which points up the pitfalls of a person not giving his fellow man a fair deal.

The story was told of a rich man who came to a carpenter with these instructions: "I would like you to build a house for me to give to a friend of mine. Use the finest materials; the cost is no problem."

During the months of building, the carpenter decided to take some short cuts, building a cheaper house, but charging the same price. He skimped here and there, using cheaper materials and inferior work-

manship any place they could be hidden. Finally, he called the rich man to him, and presented the bill and the key. The rich man, looking through the house, seemed pleased and returned the key to the carpenter with these words;

"It's your house. I wanted to build it for you in return for all you have done for me..."

There's a moral here. All of us are building today the kind of life we will live tomorrow.

Can you imagine how Richard M. Nixon would have felt had he heard a court room laughing when his tapes were being played?

From President of the United States to laughing stock of the U. S. is quite a switch.

The same moral applies.

The Transylvania Times

100 Broad Street

Brevard, N. C. 28712

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