

Flogging A Dead Horse

We're still hoping that there can be some communication between the Transylvania County Board of Commissioners and the Brevard Board of Aldermen without having to wait for the results of another election year.

Gentlemen, it is the welfare of the city and of the county which is at stake, not personal whims, nor political party. You are the persons entrusted with the job of spending the local tax money, with operating local government, and with setting the stage for future progress.

As an example, on Monday night the Town of Rosman and the county commissioners are getting together at the regular commission meeting to discuss means of applying for a chunk of the \$63 million-plus allotted to N.C. by the federal government for community development.

This money is available for a broad range of community development activities including expanded economic opportunities, low-income houses and others.

Applications for these funds must beat an April 15 deadline. We think that Brevard, as well as Rosman and the county, should have a part in getting hold of these funds. We'd like to see the city represented at this meeting. It should be.

There are other areas which need city-county cooperation, something which does appear hopeless after last Monday night's Board of Aldermen meeting in which tempers did flare over proposals of continued joint city-county building inspection.

We feel like we're flogging a dead horse, but, Gentlemen, please talk.

A Light In The Fog

Perhaps in all history no piece of legislation has mired down in the muck of misinformation as has the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution.

We've seen ERA called everything from the "slavery act" to the "erring reason act."

Millions of dollars and other millions of words have fought it bitterly.

In such a foggy atmosphere the only hope of any clarity is to go back to read the proposed amendment.

Here it is:

"Section 1 — Equality of

rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any state on account of sex.

"Section 2 — The Congress shall have the power to enforce by appropriate legislation the provisions of this article.

"Section 3 — This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification."

That's it. No, nothing about forced labor, nothing about slavery — just about granting equal opportunity to men and to women.

What, may we ask, is unfair about that?

It's Jaycee Month

On Friday night at Brevard College, the Jaycees honored the Outstanding Young Man of the year, to receive the John I. Anderson Distinguished Service Award.

The DSA went to Chuck Bradley, a realtor. Other finalists were Walter "Tinker" Siniard, a police detective, and Peter P. D'Angona, an Olin employe. All were justifiably lauded for their work.

Somehow the recipient symbolizes all of the Jaycee organization for us; utilizing his youthful vigor for the good of the community, for the county, state, nation, and for all of us.

The Jaycees, we've found,

constitute the most active organization in the county, with their efforts showing up in alcohol education, work with handicapped, low-income housing, youth involvement, their own personal development, and other areas.

And their Christmas House which served around 250 low-income families in the county, was truly a momentous and a most successful undertaking.

This has been proclaimed Jaycee month in Brevard by Mayor Charles Campbell. This is a most deserved recognition.

The community is grateful to you, men.



The red house at 412 Probart Street rests on the hand-hewn logs of the oldest house in Brevard. Leander Gash built his trading post there about 1850. After the Civil War ruined the trading, the house was leased to W.T. Moore as a hotel. The "Red House" was later used for the Fitch Taylors' mission school, the forerunner of Brevard College.

Folkways And Folkspeech

Sugar Mt. Tale Crystalizes

By ROGERS WHITENER

buckets to pick up their trouble of boiling down maple sweetnin'—saved them the —See Sugar, Page 3A

Prime Time

Pollster Challenges 'Image' of Aged

There is a tendency to think of folklore as something only of the distant past, preserved through generations by way of custom and tradition. Actually it is still being created every day by the circulation of stories, songs, sayings, and other materials by specific groups of people.

Some of the contemporary folklore is just as fascinating as that of the past. A case in point is a story heard in a number of versions in recent months about how Sugar Mountain, now the site of a southern Appalachian ski resort, got its name.

Supposedly the legend grew out of continued questions by flatland skiers about the origin of the name: "Did the mountain people tap maple trees on the slopes for sugar? Was it because sunlight on the mountain top made the snow look like sugar?"

Employees, faced with such questions on a day-to-day basis, eventually came up with a tongue-in-cheek response that might vary with the storyteller.

"Oh, no, Ma'am, that's not how the name came about. Fact is it comes from what was once the finest sugar mine in these mountains. See that cleared section up the mountainside where the ski lift operates? Well, that used to be the route of a narrow gauge track that went clear to the top of the mountain where the mine was located.

"Several times a week they'd run what they called the sugar cart up to the mine, fill it up, and then run it back down the mountain. People knew what days it operated, and they'd come from miles around with their pokes and

By Bernard E. Nash
Executive Director, NRTA-AARP

While conducting his recent survey of American attitudes toward aging, the distinguished pollster Louis Harris discovered several curious and somewhat disconcerting tendencies:

• Most adults under age 65 tend to view their elders as "un-alert, physically inert, narrow-minded, ineffective, sexually finished old people rotting away in poor health without proper medical care and without enough money to live on."

• Many older people have been so "brain-washed by society" and its prevailing image of old age that their "net assessment of (their fellow) senior citizens . . . is essentially the same" as that held by younger adults.

• However, when questioned in depth about their personal situations, many of these same old people expressed a far more positive opinion of themselves as individuals, of their close associates, and of their ability to cope with their present circumstances.

In other words, no matter what our age group, we seemed to be telling Mr. Harris that we'll get by, but we're not too sure about the other fellow when he's no longer young. Whether this is an echo of Darwinism with its "survival of the fittest" philosophy, or a modern reflection of American self-reliance and rugged individualism is a question scholars could debate for years to come.

Of far more immediate significance, however, is the extent to which the American

image of aging—and, of course, of our older citizens—has changed for the better during the last decade or so. I should point out that, while the survey dealt with the image rather than the reality of aging, reality is often influenced—and sometimes changed—by images and attitudes in the same way that attitudes are often modified as the reality itself changes.

If the Harris survey had been conducted ten years ago—which would have placed the interviewers out in the field prior to the passage of Medicare—I think the negative attitudes of younger adults toward old people would have been even stronger than in the current pool. What's more, the older people polled would still have thought poorly of their peers—and probably of themselves as well!

Since the Harris study is the first of its kind, there are no statistics available to support my speculations. However, those of us who have spent years working with and on behalf of our older citizens have observed firsthand these changes taking place.

Through the Associations I represent and other organizations (such as the National Council on Aging which commissioned the survey), older Americans are becoming more cohesively aware of their own growing importance and potential. This applies to them as individuals and as an increasingly active political force.

that older Americans are tired of being counted out before their time, and are fast losing patience with policies and people who would prevent them from continuing to take part in and contribute to the society their labors helped build.

"By a thumping and nearly unanimous 86 percent," reports Mr. Harris, "a smashing majority of mature citizens say—and wish the Establishment would only hear it—that nobody should be forced to retire because of age if he wants to continue working and is still able to do a good job."

In another ten years, perhaps a similar survey will be undertaken. If present trends continue, we can fairly safely expect that the image of older people held by younger adults will be considerably more positive than today, and the self-image of older Americans even more favorable.

We are fast approaching the time when aging workers will no longer sit still for rules that exile them from the world of work for no other reason than that they have reached an arbitrarily chosen age which becomes lower and lower each year.

If the key to a better life for millions of aging Americans lies in eliminating mandatory retirement practices—while retaining the beneficial voluntary aspects of retirement—then we had best begin these changes immediately. After all, we all grow older and the policies we establish today are the rules by which we will live tomorrow.

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

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.)

Dear Mr. Osborne:

In regard to your open letter in the Times last week, I would like to say that we people of See-Off Community agree with you wholeheartedly about the roads in Transylvania County. For several years we have signed petition after petition and some of us even made a special trip to Sylva some ten years ago to ask for help on getting See-Off Road paved.

There are around 60 year-round residents on See-Off Mtn. plus many summer residents and at long last our road is in the process of getting paved.

Anyone going out of the County to neighboring counties certainly doesn't need a sign saying he is entering another county as the feel and condition of the roads tell the difference.

And I would like to say we will back you one hundred percent on anything that can be said or done to help get Transylvania County better roads, and I personally would like to say thanks for all the publicity and support you have given see-Off Community.

Sincerely,

Lula H. Johnson
Route 1, See-Off Mtn.
Brevard, N.C. 28712

January 8, 1975

To the Editor
Transylvania Times
Brevard North Carolina

Dear Sir,

Not only was the recent (January 6) letter about the Equal Rights Amendment thought provoking, it raises many questions.

Who are "frustrated men haters"? Who wants father, brother, husband, son in a "slavery class". Who wants sons "in hot water war combat

in bathrooms"? (What an odd picture of family life that sentence presents unless all children are growing up with His and Hers bathrooms.) If insurance rates are based solely on sex, why should a young man pay more?

Why should men be "dragged out to complete industry quotas"? What, by the way, are these quotas? (Not only are unemployment figures on the rise, industry is not nearly as automated as it could be.) What Social Security benefits are available to widowers with dependent children?

Already there are many women working in order to pay a share of family expenses. Too, there are many women working, like it or not because they are, for whatever reason, financial head of household.

Some of them may prefer the role of stay-at-home wife and mother. But ought we not to ask ourselves, how many wives and mothers, not working outside the home, are only one heart beat away from welfare? Even a relatively young man may have a heart attack, may die.

"Equal goes all the way", but there is more than one way to correct an inequality. Given that 10 is two times 5, we do not have to settle for 10 minus 5 is equal to 5. We can also say 10 is equal to 5 plus 5. So, having it so good, not hating men, let us have the Equal Rights Amendment and, keeping what we have, extend those benefits to men.

Cordially,

Mary Yourd



"Talk to a man about himself and he'll listen for hours."

The Transylvania Times

100 Broad Street

Brevard, N. C. 28712

The Transylvania Pioneer, established 1867; The French Broad Voice, established 1888; The Brevard Hustler, established 1891; The Sylvan Valley News (later Brevard News), established 1896; The Times, established 1931; Consolidated 1932.

A STATE AND NATIONAL PRIZE-WINNING NEWSPAPER
PUBLISHED MONDAY, THURSDAY

ED M. ANDERSON—Publisher—1941-1958
JOHN I. ANDERSON—Editor-Gen. Mgr.—1941-1974

MRS. ED M. ANDERSON, Publisher

CLYDE K. OSBORNE—Editor
BILL NORRIS, Assoc. Ed. and Adv. Mgr.
MRS. MARTHA STAMEY Office Mgr.
DOROTHY W. OSBORNE, Women's Ed.
ESTON PHILLIPS, Printing Dept. Head

GORDON BYRD, Prod. Foreman
D. C. WILSON, Printer
DAVID METCALF, Composer
PAM OWEN, Teletype Setter
CINDY BYRD, Teletype Setter
JULIE LINDGREN, Clerk-Typist

SUBSCRIPTION RATES PER YEAR

Inside the County—\$12 year
\$8 Six Months

Outside the County \$15.00
\$9.00 Six Months

MEMBER OF
National Editorial Association
North Carolina Press Association

New York—Chicago—Detroit—Atlanta
NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
American Newspaper Representatives

