

# Law Enforcement Center?

Before spending a dime on renovating the old jail or building a new one, we hope the public and the various officials within the county will take a long look into the future and the law enforcement needs of the county and its municipalities.

To serve Transylvania's needs over the long pull, what is needed is a Law Enforcement Center, a modern building with a jail, plus facilities and equipment for the 30-plus employees of the combined sheriff's Department and the Brevard Police Dept.

With a central location, one set of records to keep, a combined investigative department, and only one statewide police network hookup needed, this combination setup would save city and county taxpayers thousands of dollars a year, and with the departments in constant touch would also greatly improve the efficiency of law enforcement.

We have talked with some members of both law enforcement agencies, and they agree that it would improve the police work of both departments.

## Grow With Us

Girl Scouts everywhere are celebrating.

Sixty-three years ago—on March 12, 1912, to be exact—Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. was founded, on very much the same ideals that shaped the birth of our republic. Just as our country has grown, so has girl scouting: from 18 girls in Savannah in 1912 to more than 3.3 million girl and adult members in 1975.

Many changes have been made to keep the Girl Scout program timely and available to all girls through the years. But, the principles on which girl scouting is based—honesty, fairness, and respect for oneself and others—have remained constant. From its beginning, girl scouting has helped millions of girls to grow into resourceful

ments. We have talked with several elected officials, and to a man they favored the idea.

It would save fuel for heating, fuel for autos, make interdepartment communications simple, and they also wouldn't need but one coffee pot.

It just makes good sense to us, no matter which angle we view it from, except for the moment—politically. The city and the county are too much at odds too much of the time. But we can exclude the political angle. Politics isn't noted for making sense.

The taxpayers are going to have a chance to have a say so or two in this problem of what to do about a new jail. There's a public hearing in the matter on March 25.

We're hoping for the largest crowd ever to pack the court room at 7:30 p.m. on that date. Since something is going to have to be done about the jail, the public will have a chance to say what that something will be.

Mark the date on your calendar.

To highlight this year's Girl Scout week, March 9-15, Girl Scouts across the country invite all citizens to "grow with us."

They ask us to work in partnership with them as they prepare for leadership roles. They ask us to join their conservation efforts, their work with handicapped people, senior citizens, the migrant community, and hundreds of other cooperative community service projects.

Whether 6 or 60, say the Girl Scouts, "Grow With Us" and have fun doing it. We accept their invitation with thanks. And we add our congratulations to an organization that continues to contribute so much to what is good about the American way of life.

## Sign Those Letters

Although our ground rules for Letters To The Editor clearly call for persons writing to sign their names, we're still getting unsigned letters.

And after writing to us Mr. Anonymous or Mrs. Anonymous, as the case may be, calls us (still anonymous) on the telephone to brand us "yellow" for not printing the letter, or accuses us of being tied in with this faction or that.

We've printed many letters since we've been here which

gave viewpoints 180 degrees from ours. We'll run any letters which aren't libelous or obscene—within the bounds of decency—so long as they signed.

If good reasons are given for withholding names, we'll do that, but The Times must know whose letter it is printing. We want everyone to feel free to express his ideas. That's the way we like it. It's what a free America is all about.

But please sign those letters. We don't like being called yellow.

# Old Transylvania Times

by Earle Kersh

Jim Aiken, is probably best known these days as the father of Moms Mabley. Around the Turn of the Century, though, he was quite a business man in his own right, recalls his niece, Rosa Wilkes. He started out selling needles and pins, but became the proprietor of a restaurant, barber shop, grocery and was also an undertaker. She says his restaurant was about where Patterson's is today on Main Street. But it was in the role of volunteer fire man that he met his death in 1909. All businesses closed for his funeral, held in the white Baptist Church.



## Report To Hill Country

BY CECIL HILL  
State Senator

Several bills of far-reaching influence were considered by the Senate this week.

The Omnibus Utilities Commission bill was finally passed by the Senate and sent to the House. My column has mentioned this important legislation previously. I think it is a good compromise for both the electric companies and the consumers.

On Wednesday we considered Senator Gudge's bill calling for split sentencing. This bill passed after being amended to apply only to persons who had not previously been in prison within the past five years. It is to run on a trial basis only for two years.

In my opinion, this bill will put more criminals in prison than any single piece of legislation passed in the last few years.

I also believe that it will keep more people out of prison after they have tasted a little prison life.

The bill provides that the judge may sentence a convicted person to an active sentence not to exceed six months, or one-fourth of the minimum active sentence suspended, and the remainder of the sentence will be served under strict probation.

I feel that most, having seen what life is like inside prison walls, will conduct themselves in such manner as rarely to return.

Much is to be learned in committee meetings in the legislature. We are privileged to hear experts in many fields.

One Wednesday the Committee on Banking heard

several outstanding mortgage loan bankers.

They pointed out that 95 percent of the mortgage money in North Carolina comes from without the state.

One of the economists now states that the \$2 billion dollar deficit estimated by President Ford will probably reach 110 billion dollars. This will be catastrophic.

This economist forecast that the federal government would have to borrow money to cover this deficit. He stated that there was not enough money in the public market and that the government would offer the people bonds.

"Citizen, do you have permission to move this plant from one pot to another?"



### THE RIGHT TO MOVE

Just as our Constitution guarantees to every citizen the right to move freely around the country, so it protects the right of each individual to conduct his own business or contribute his labor in the place of his choice.

But these rights are being threatened by pending legislation—introduced last year as the "National Employment Priorities Act"—which would make relocation of a manufacturing facility from one state to another (or even an intra-state move) subject to prior government approval.

# 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.)

Margaretville, New York 12455  
March 5, 1975  
The letter follows:  
CROSSING THE DELAWARE

Mr. Dear Mr. Osborne:  
In your February 17 issue Dr. Herbert Spaugh took to task certain writers whom he regarded as engaging in "character assassination and defamation." of early American heroes. Incidentally there was no point in including Mr. Nixon among such future targets as no one can write as concise and devastating an epitaph as has Mr. Nixon already done to himself.

In his seminary days Mr. Spaugh must have been aware of the value of segregating and apocryphal books from the rest of the books of the Bible largely because of their exaggerated stories and claims to authorship which could not be substantiated. And if the writers of today take the same approach, why get so uptight about it?

March 2, The Sunday New York Times in its travel section carried a letter which I hope you will reprint as it illustrates the point in question. As you can see the writer's credentials are impeccable. The facts which he presents can be authenticated or disclaimed. Nowhere does he attempt to downgrade the thrilling victory and the change in fortunes of the ragged and indomitable army. Neither does the status of George Washington as a brilliant military strategist nor his statesmanship rise or fall on the basis of this article which Mr. Spaugh would describe as the work of a debunker.

The American flag pictured had not yet been designed, the soldiers would not have held their barrels pointed upwards to catch the falling sleet. General Washington would not have been standing in the bow of the boat as if he were posing for a picture, and the style of the boat is incorrect. Washington always made use of ferries whenever they were available: there was a ferry in operation in December, 1776, at the spot Washington chose to cross the Delaware.

The David Library of the American Revolution, located one mile north of Washington Cross Park in Pennsylvania (not in the Memorial Building as the article incorrectly stated), contains one of America's leading privately-owned collections of Revolutionary War letters, documents and memorabilia. We cordially invite the public to visit the library.

Dr. Sol Feinstone  
Director  
David Library of the American Revolution  
Washington Cross, Pa.

## THE EVERYDAY COUNSELOR

BY DR. HERBERT SPAUGH

There is a hydrant-eating tree at Kernersville, North Carolina which has virtually completed its work on Main Street there. For nearly 20 years, the tree has been edging its way closer and closer to a nearby fire hydrant.

For a while, Kernersville was ahead of the battle. It managed to keep the hydrant operating when needed. But the tree was relentless. First it took over two outlets, making both of them useless. The third outlet is still free from the tree, but the biggest problem now is that the firemen cannot get a wrench on top of the hydrant to open it for the flow of water. What's going to happen? Either they will have to replace the fire hydrant or take down the tree. A townspeaksman said the victory of the tree over the hydrant is "inevitable."

This is very much like the old story about the camel and the Arab's tent. The Arab was riding his camel over the desert. Night came and they stopped to camp. During the night, it became colder. The camel asked the Arab to let him put his nose in his tent to keep it warm. Next he said it was getting colder and he wanted to put his head in. Soon there was the plea for his head and neck. Finally the camel was all in the tent and the Arab was out.

That's what is happening to this country by the gradual erosion of our moral and spiritual foundations. The same thing has happened to our observance of Sunday. First it was closed tight. Then drugstores were allowed to open for a few hours. Gradually they opened completely, and then variety stores. Other stores followed suit. At first there was Sunday afternoon opening. Now it is becoming Sunday all day. Slowly the tree has been growing around the "fire hydrant."

Write the Everyday Counselor in care of this newspaper enclosing 20 cents and a self-addressed, stamped envelope for bulletins no. 153, "What Do You Throw Away," and no. 192, "Take Care of What You Have."

# The Transylvania Times

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