

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

Please convey our thanks to Mrs. Yuziuk for her splendid article concerning the "Hippies" and the false representation of our county.

My ancestors were among the first to settle in Yancey County (their fathers coming from Scotland) and I very much resent an outsider coming our way, accepting the hospitality of the mountain folk, and leaving to submit such fiction to a newspaper.

However one bright thing has resulted from his deed and makes me very proud of our own. People who have been away for more than 20 years still have enough love and respect for this county to come to its defense. We, too, received copies of the Detroit Free Press!

I would like to know if the False Representative received a copy of your paper. I will gladly pay postage on one with Love to him!

Mrs. Luther Banks Sr.
Rt. 6, Burnsville



Dear Editor:

I have been greatly impressed by your efforts toward a beautification program for Yancey County and commend you on your accomplishments in getting rid of junk cars, garbage dumps, etc. However, equally important with disposing of the things that should not be but are, is the loss of things which should be but are not. I speak of native trees and shrubs that once graced the hillsides and forests of Yancey County. Particularly conspicuous in their absence are azalea, mountain laurel, dogwood, crab apple, poplar, maple, and all types of hemlock, fir, and other evergreens.

It almost makes me ill to see our landscape practically denuded of these gems of nature.

One of the sad aspects of the removal of these trees is the fact most of them die. They are taken up, burlapped crudely (if at all), are usually too large for transplanting, sold and planted in and out of season. My father was a nurseryman all his adult life and my brother continued his business a long with his own nursery in Yancey County until a few years ago. Some of their briskest business came about through the replacement, from their own stock, of trees and shrubs that had been bungled at the hands of the amateur--either the commercial handler or the homeowner following the do-it-yourself fad. These trees taken from nature's setting are not prepared for the shock of transplanting into a new environment. A reputable nursery grows its plants from seed or purchases them from the wholesalers, climatizes and adjusts them to their new surroundings by planting them in his nursery, where they are cultivated and pass State inspection against disease before purchase by the customer.

We own several acres in Yancey County and once had plenty of the aforesaid trees right where God planted them. Today, the only reminders we have of most of them are the numerous pits and scars in the soil denoting their removal by pick and shovel. A "No Trespassing" sign is no deterrent to one bent on making personal profit by sale of such plant, or the resident who covets it for his own little plot of earth, usually hidden away from the eye of the citizen or tourist scanning the general landscape.

I feel many have made this observation and join me in a "Hélp" signal in halting the mass destruction of these silent, resplendent sentries of "Our Hills of Home." I do not know what steps should be taken, but let's join hands and hearts in bringing this to the attention of our lawmakers, legislators, forest service -- or whoever has the authority to do something about it!

Sincerely yours,
Gladys McMahan Sandlin

FHA Has Money For Qualified Persons

(Cont'd from page 1)

financing has 1,400 square feet of living space. Monthly payments for a \$16,000 home would amount to only \$108.

The repayment period is stretched to 33 years in order to keep mortgage payments low. Interest rates can be as low as 1% in special circumstances, although interest rates for most home loans are 7 1/4%.

An added bonus to all homeowners who have their homes built with FHA funds is that they are assured of solid, dependable construction. FHA makes at least 3 construction inspections while the house is being built and, in addition, has a detailed account of kinds of materials used and the price paid for each.

Requirements to be met for an FHA home are not difficult, according to Wilbur Howard. "We are trying to help people secure adequate housing," he says. "We help them with their applications and answer their questions with their needs in mind. Eligibility requirements

in brief, consist of the following: (1) Applicant must be a citizen of the United States.

(2) He must possess the ability to understand the obligations of the loan.

(3) He must be able to repay the debt. In other words, he must have a job or a source of income.

(4) A good credit rating is required.

(5) A good moral character is required.

(6) The applicant must not own a home adequate for the needs of his family.

(7) He must not be able to secure sufficient credit from other lending agencies upon terms and conditions he can reasonably be expected to meet. (Among obstacles for many people is the large down payment and short repayment period required by most lending agencies.)

The money is ready for any qualified applicants--and that's really saying something in this time of tightened budgets and closed pocketbooks. "I hope people will read this article

and see what the Farmers Home Administration can do for them," says Howard. "They may find they can afford a new home to meet their needs. And they certainly have nothing to lose by trying."

Mallonee To Visit Yancey

Tom L. Mallonee, 11th Congressional District Assistant to Congressman Roy A. Taylor, is now making scheduled visits to the county seats and other sections of the counties.

On Tuesday, October 6, he will be at the Madison County Courthouse, Marshall, from 9:30 to 10:30; at the Yancey County Courthouse, Burnsville, from 1:00 to 2:00; and at the Town Hall, Spruce Pine, from 3:00 to 4:00.

Any person who has plans or official business pertaining to Congressional matters to be discussed, is invited to meet with Mr. Mallonee.

SHOWING..

Sat., Oct. 3

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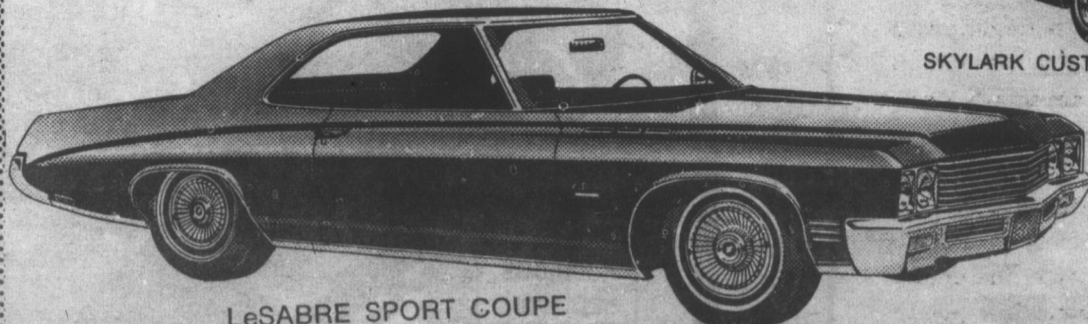
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