

# Commune Living For Senior Citizens?

Commune living for the aging!! --- Why should the young get all the credit for everything? Can't older people "let their hair down too"? In Winter Park, Florida there is a commune which will not accept hippies or other young people... only those above 70 years of age. The "share a home" idea is meant to serve aging persons who are not senile, who are too active to live

in a rest home; yet who lack either the money or physical strength to keep up a household of their own. Each member contributes a large part of his Social Security or VA check; a home is rented, and a staff is employed for cooking, etc. to do the things necessary. However, the members are required to do as much as possible themselves. They "share a home" which

means more than just shelter... it includes having the moral and spiritual support of others who are also passing through the same period of life, when the bodily and mental functions are needing someone to lean on. This leaning is partly opposite to persons living in nursing homes who are almost totally dependent. The commune living is demonstrating the strength of independence just as long as possible; and to continue being useful and needed by others.

Some older people gradually begin to physically and psychologically return to the stage of dependence; so why deny it and why view it as bad? Can't it be a pleasant and glorious time... a resting?

The sunset (aging) cycle similar to the sunrise (dependent child) cycle? Some people have this view. Do you? If you differ, please write or call the Department of Social Services (682-2134) and express your thinking. Remember THE FESTIVAL OF FRIENDSHIP, May 23, 1972, on the Town Square.

A thought expressed by Oliver Wendell Holmes goes like this -- To be seventy years young is sometimes far more cheerful and hopeful than to be forty years old.



## IN MEMORY

In remembrance of our friend whom we all learned to love, Mr. Alfred Baird, an Asheville Policeman, was a wonderful friend of many people in Yancey County, some of who hunted with him on several occasions. He belonged to the Daniel Boone Bear Club.

We are surely going to miss him. He was killed last week in the performance of his duty.

--- Friends from Lincoln Park, Burnsville.

## Song Service

There will be a special song service at the Valley Forge Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Elizabethton, Tenn. Sunday afternoon, April 23rd at 2:00 p.m. according to pastor Rev. Holt Herrell.

Rev. Richard Horney and the "Tabernacle Choir" from Boone, N.C.; The "Chestnut Grove Quartet" from Abingdon, Va.; The "Heavenly Way Quartet" from Kingsport, Tenn.; The "Chapel Quartet" from Gray Station, Tenn.; The "West End Quartet" from Gate City, Va.; the Revivalaires" from Bristol, Va.; The "Masters Singers" from Newland, N.C. and the "Valley Forge Singers" are all scheduled to be there.



Crafts Shown At Senior Citizens Meeting  
**Citizens Discuss Crafts**

Thursday, April 13, representatives from nineteen Senior Citizens Community Center Groups in Yancey County had their monthly meeting at the courthouse. Articles of interest made by various individuals were on display for the benefit of the group. A program was planned and refreshments were served.

Mr. Curtis Hastings, Proprietor of a new gift shop in our area this summer, Hemlock Hills Home Crafts, was the first speaker to the group. Mr. Hastings is interested in crafts made by the groups.

Also speaking to the group was Mr. Archie Pierce, Program Director for W.A.M.Y. Community Action. Mr. Pierce told the group about benefits for the aging. The senior citizens were challenged to come up with a list of needs and some ideas on what could be done. The money, says Mr. Pierce, has been appropriated--so, if we need it, we should get it and put it to use.

## 4 Hers Tour Mohasco

By Kaye Honeycutt  
One recent Thursday in March, Clearmont - Jacks Creek 4-H Club toured Mohasco Plant.

They saw how synthetic materials were dyed and spun into yarn for carpets. They were given samples of the dyed materials and yarn.

After they toured the plant they were taken to the Amberjack and treated to ice cream and soda.

Around seventeen kids attended, including Cathy and Sherri McCurry, Rhonda Hensley, Terry Williams, Dale and Rodney Proffitt, Levenia Peterson, Jill Peterson, Memi Drew Byrd, Chris and Lars Rousseau, Sandra Robinson, Kathy Bailey, Lori Peterson and John Anglin. They were chaperoned by Mrs. Bill Proffitt, Mrs. Bill Young, Miss Kaye Honeycutt and Mr. Pat Guyer.

We would like to thank all who made the trip possible.

## Pensacola To Form Club

Attention Homemakers!! Pensacola is forming a new homemakers club. Those interested should attend the first meeting at 7:30 p.m. April 25, at the home of Mrs. Bobby Ray.

The idea behind the homemaker club is for women to get together and become better homemakers. Gardening, sewing, canning, decorating, and craft making are only a few of the projects to be undertaken. Everyone is urged to attend this meeting to help make decisions and organize the club.

## Gets Trophy

By Kaye Honeycutt  
Mrs. Grace Whitson of Cane River recently attended the State Wide Amateur Cosmetologist Contest in Charlotte where she received a third place trophy for hair design.

Last week she made a trip to New York where she participated in the International Hair Design Competition. For this she received a commendation from the judges.

She plans to begin work at the Haircare at Cane River in about three weeks. She is a 1966 graduate of Cane River High School and attended Continental Hair Design in Asheville. She is the wife of Mr. Blaine Whitson, teacher at Cane River.

# Social Security News

By Jack Britt  
Field Representative  
Q. I've been getting my monthly social security benefits since I was 62. I'll be 65 in March 1971. What do I have to do to sign up for Medicare?

A. There are two parts to the Medicare program. You will automatically qualify for the hospital insurance part without doing anything. Hospital insurance, financed thru employee and employer contributions to social security during a person's working years requires no premium payments.

The other part of Medicare is medical insurance. You should receive a form in the mail several months before you are 65 asking if you want this part of Medicare. If you want to Medicare medical insurance, complete this form and return it in the envelope furnished. This part of Medicare is financed by monthly premiums of \$5.30 from people who sign up for medical insurance and matching contributions from Government Funds.

If you do not get the form, or if you have any other questions, call any social security office.

Q. I can't give you my name for obvious reasons, but I make a lot of money bootlegging whiskey. Some joker told me I have to pay social security taxes on this money if I clear over \$400 in a year. He's got to be kidding!

A. He wasn't kidding. You are in business, and the fact that your business is illegal doesn't keep your earnings from being subject to social security taxes.

Q. I receive social security checks now and I understand I am supposed to get an increase in my check. When am I going to get the extra money?

A. Congress recently passed a law increasing social security monthly benefits by ten percent. The first check that will include this increase will

## School Bus Safety Week

School Bus Safety Week is being observed nationwide during this week, April 17 - 22.

Commissioner of Motor Vehicles Joe W. Garrett joins other states in asking that motorists observe this nationwide campaign. Garrett says the North Carolina laws state "traffic in both directions must come to a complete stop whenever a school bus is stopped and displaying its mechanical stop signal. On Dual lane roads in which opposite roadways are separated by a dividing space or a physical barrier, traffic in the opposite roadway is not required to stop."

North Carolina has over 10,000 school bus drivers, 85% of these drivers are students and 15% are adults. Department of Motor Vehicles' Driver Education and Accident Records Division has 61 Driver Education Representatives and 4 Supervisors who train and certify these drivers.

Commissioner Garrett said, "Safe student transportation on school buses has acquired great importance due to the increasing heavy traffic on our streets and highways throughout the State. School Bus Safety Week is an ideal time for all citizens to rededicate themselves to promote safety on our streets and highways in all their driving habits and at the same time by protecting our most precious cargo -- our children."



be the May check, which you should receive on June 3. The increase was made effective January 1, 1971, so you will receive the ten percent increase for January through April in a separate check sometime in June.

Q. I just turned 65 and applied for Medicare last week. I now find that I will have to go to the hospital very soon. What will happen if I do not have my card before I'm admitted?

A. You will be covered just as if you had your card. If necessary, the hospital can call the social security office to verify your Medicare coverage.

Q. I am 66 years old, and I have a 68 year old sister in the Eastern part of the state. She writes me that she can get drugs under Medicare but I've been told that I can't. Please check to see if I can't get the coverage for drugs also.

A. The Medicare program under Social Security is a national program and the rules are the same in all states, and in all parts of a state. At the present time drugs are not covered by Medicare. Your sister probably gets help with her drug costs through the state-administered Medicaid program.

Q. As I understand it I don't have to pay any tax if I made less than \$1350 last year, because I'm married. I made only about \$700 from a small part-time business. But a man in your Social Security Office told me I should file a tax return anyway. Why do I have to file a tax return?

A. Because if you have a business of your own, or if you farm, you must file a Federal Tax return to pay Social Security taxes, and thus build up your potential benefit under Social Security, even if you haven't earned enough to pay Federal income tax.

Q. Please let me know what the trouble is with my medicare card. I signed it several weeks ago but don't have my card yet.

A. Health Insurance (Medicare) cards are issued by the Bureau of Health Insurance in Baltimore, Md. There is often what seems to be an unusually long delay. In the meantime, our office can inform your doctor or hospital that you have enrolled.



Indian Two Feet And His Horse, written and illustrated for children by Margaret Friskey, was read by Miss Theresa Coletta to 40 "little people" this past Monday and Tuesday at the CHILDREN'S HOUR in the Yancey County Public Library. Following this Indian story, the children were taught the song "Ten Little Indians" and made their own little Indian teepees.

Those children attending the CHILDREN'S HOUR were Randy Byrd, Denita Duncan, Kathy Fox, Stuart Hensley, Valerie Kampf, De De Laws, Greata McIntosh, Lori McDonald, Heather Norris, Joan Styles, Stacy Styles, Ann Westall, Tammy Woody, Kenny Wright, Greg Yuziuk, Marvin Vess, Derrick McFee, Tammy Burleson, Kitty and Yancey Sanchez, Lisa Wilson, Crystal Davis, Chris Fender, Denny Woody, Steve and Lou Ann Robinson, Jeff, Shannon and Angie Warren, Mat Bradley, Joyce Sheehan, Phyllis Gilbert, John Kegley, Curtis Hughes, Angie Riddle, Royce Chrisawn, Chris McPeters, Jonathan Silvers, Donna and Darrell Mitchell, Jeff Honeycutt, Norma McCurry, Lisa McIntosh, Ricky Crout, Danny and Dennis Tip-ton, Carla Wilson, Tammy Mercer, James and Emma Angel.

**When you stop going to work, we start going to work.**

If you're sick and have to stay out of work, Nationwide's Income Protection Plan gives you cash. Cash to live on while you're recuperating. Cash that keeps coming in even when your paycheck isn't. Nationwide can pay you up to \$1,200 a month depending on your income and the plan you choose. Let Nationwide go to work when you can't. For information call the man from Nationwide.

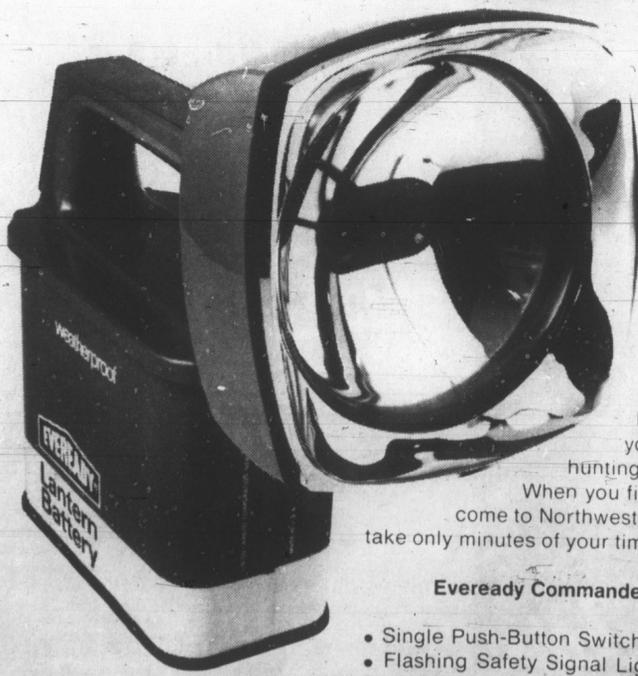


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