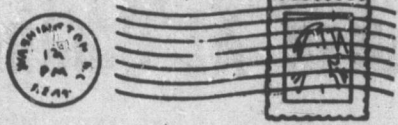


# Letter To The Editor



Dear Editor  
 There is much about the operating of a school system I don't understand. I merely wish to state that which seems obvious to me. I respect a school teacher for having obtained enough education to instruct others. It then seems reasonable that the teacher who has more education is more qualified to teach. Are there more than four certified school principals among the nine holding this position in Yancey County? It is rather odd to fire certified principals. Are there persons with equal qualifications to replace the persons fired?

I respect, too, a teacher whose ability is proved in the managing of a group of students. I respect a principal for the way he or she organizes and runs a school. I think Mr. Frank Deyton has done a good job as principal in this county. I can say the same for the other principals first. I simply know more of Mr. Deyton's work. I know from observation that where he is in charge the school building is kept clean and in good order. I know he tries to deal fairly with his staff. And I know that he is capable of controlling the children. I think it is unreasonable, because of his ability and his proved work, that he is without even a teaching position in this county.

Respectfully,  
 Vinita Miller Deyton



Dear Editor:

We've had the dumpsters for about a year now, and personally, I wonder how we ever got along without them. The overflow of the first few weeks has never really let up, and I understand that the Land-fill crew is still working six days a week, although they were never expected to work on Saturdays. The county certainly owes these men a debt of gratitude for their dedication.

Maybe citizens could express their appreciation by observing three practices which, it seems to me, would make the dumpster program easier to handle for the crew itself and for those private persons who try to keep the dumping sites cleaned up each week.

(1) Residents could make an effort to dispose of trash early in the week. If we didn't choose Saturday to dump our trash, the weekend overflow wouldn't be so great and the county would look nice for church-goers, visitors, and families out for a Sunday drive. Moreover, Monday's collection wouldn't be such a headache for the dumpster crew.

(2) If people can load refrigerators, stoves and huge pieces of furniture onto trucks to bring to the dumping sites, they could just as well take them to the Land-fill on the Booneford Road located this side of the Mitchell County line. I know that the Land-fill road is always passable in fine weather, even though it may be muddy after heavy rains. It is certainly no help to dump a huge item in the dumpster box so that there is no room for ordinary trash.

(3) Finally, the dumpster program is for solid waste. The boxes are not the proper place to pile brush and lumber, which could be disposed of in the woods, since it will disintegrate quickly anyway.

It seems to me that there is nothing wrong with the Dumpster Program. We are very lucky to have it. But there may be a few things wrong with the way we are using it.

Sincerely yours,  
 Charles F. Jones,  
 Rt. 5, Burnsville

# Facts On Lightning

(Cont'd from page 1)  
 venture outside, unless absolutely necessary.

--Stay away from open doors and windows, fireplaces, radiators, stoves, metal pipes, sinks, and plug-in electrical appliances.

--Don't use plug-in electrical equipment like hair dryers, electric toothbrushes, or electric razors during the storm.

--Don't use the telephone during the storm--lightning may strike telephone lines outside.

--Don't take laundry off the clothesline.

--Don't work on fences, telephone or power lines, pipe lines or structural steel fabrication.

--Don't use metal objects like fishing rods and golf clubs. Golfers wearing cleated shoes are particularly good lightning rods.

--Don't handle flammable materials in open containers.

--Stop tractor work, especially when the tractor is pulling metal equipment, and dismount. Tractors and other implements in metallic contact with the ground are often struck by lightning.

--Get out of the water and off small boats.

--Stay in your automobile if you are traveling. Automobiles offer excellent lightning protection.

--Seek shelter in buildings. If no buildings are available, your best protection is a cave, ditch, canyon, or under head-high clumps of trees in open forest glades.

--When there is no shelter, avoid the highest object in the area. If only isolated trees are nearby, your best protection is to crouch in the open, keeping twice as far away from isolated trees as the trees are high.

--Avoid hill tops, open spaces, wire fences, metal clothes lines, exposed sheds, and any electrically conductive elevated objects.

--When you feel the electrical charge--if your hair stands on end or your skin tingles--lightning may be about to strike you. Drop to the ground immediately.

Following these safety rules, Tolson concluded, will lessen your chances of being struck.



**New Beta Club Officers**

The new Beta Club officers for the 1973-74 school year at East Yancey High School were chosen recently. Susan Laughrun (seated-left) will serve as President, and Danny Hughes (standing left) will serve as Vice President. Carol Ray (seated-right) is the new Secretary and Larry Edwards (standing-right) is Treasurer. Beta Club is an honor organization for students who maintain a 90 or above grade average.

# Dr. Horner Receives Awards

Dr. Jack Horner of Spruce Pine recently received a Selective Service Medal and Honor Certificate from President Nixon in grateful recognition of valuable service contributed to the nation and selective service. It was also signed by Governor Holshouser. A Meritorious Service award from State Director McEachren, was also presented to Dr. Horner.

Dr. Horner was first appointed Medical advisor to Local Board #62, Mitchell County on Sept. 18, 1951 and the Certificate of appointment was signed by Gen. Lewis Henshey. He was awarded 5, 10 and 15 year certificates of appreciation by three other presidents: Dwight Eisenhower in September 1956; John F. Kennedy in 1961 and Lyndon Johnson in 1966.

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# Writer Traces McKinneys

Estelena McKinney Harper of Anaheim, California has spent the past several years compiling a book tracing the descendants of Charles McKinney. Her efforts have been copyrighted and published under the title "Charles McKinney and Related Families."

The name Charles McKinney is well-known in the tri-county area and a great many people find they are related to this legendary McKinney who lived near what is known as McKinney Gap.

McKinney attained his "fame" for having fathered 48 children by four wives--who lived under his roof simultaneously.

The recently published volume is more than a genealogy of the McKinney family, because it contains many interesting anecdotes collected by Mrs. Harper through interviews with McKinneys and related families. In addition to visiting area cemeteries and consulting U.S. Census records, Mrs. Harper's research for this 269 page volume included searching through courthouse records in the tri-county area.

In the preface the author acknowledges the fact that mistakes are inevitable in a work of this type and she urges members of the McKinney line to call errors to her attention and supply her with correct information or information that has been excluded. Readers may write Mrs. Harper at 252 Broadway St., Anaheim, California 92804.

In addition to the various McKinney lines, she lists other family names such as Biddix, Buchanan, Burleson, Greenlee, Dale, Hall, Heffner, Hollifield, Lowery, McFalls, Mace, Self, Sparks, Vance, Washburn, Wiseman and others. Copies of "Charles McKinney and Related Families" have been acquired by Avery-Mitchell-Yancey Regional Library which includes the libraries in Spruce Pine, Bakersville, Newland and Burnsville. According to Capt. George Downing copies of the volume will soon be available at the Yancey County Country Store.

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