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AND OTHER PHARMACY COMMENTS

HEALTH NEWS

Your Rx Specialists:
Charles Gillespie, Jr., Mike Eudy,
and Ferril McCurry

Poem Reveals Retarded's Feelings

Retardation affects about 6.5 million Americans (3% of the population). Yet, given the opportunity, the overwhelming majority of retarded persons can live productive lives in their communities.

Two important developments may aid the future of retarded children and their concerned parents: 1) the right to an education in public schools at government expense; and 2) efforts to keep retarded people out of institutions and in local communities — at home or in group houses — where they can lead lives as close to normal as possible.

Each week we present the above comments for your information. We very much appreciate your readership and would be especially happy to have you express your views regarding the contents of this space.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor:
The Yancey County Extension Staff and "Food Fun" participants join me in thanking you for the excellent publicity which you gave our Food Fun Activities program.
It was a good experience for all of us and we are proud to have a newspaper that helps tell the story about educational opportunities for our youth.
Thank you again for your fine spirit of cooperation.
Mary Margaret Deyton
Home Ec. Ext. Agent

Community Events

Dr. I. M. Ellis, a graduate of Moody Bible Institute and Union Seminary in Virginia will be guest speaker at the Newdale Presbyterian Church this weekend. Services will be held Friday and Saturday nights, Sunday morning and Sunday night, July 26-28. Evening services will begin at 7:15.

The speaker has a wide range of experience as a pastor, as evangelist, as director of Christian Education, youth work and as a singing leader. Though retired, Dr. Ellis still supplies a small church near Old Fort and leads youth recreation two nights each week.

Singing will be a vital part of these services and the church invites you to share the singing and hear these four vital messages.

Rev. Ernest Wilson serves as pastor of the Newdale Church.

There will be a special song service at the Covey Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Green Mountain, N.C., Sunday night, July 28 at 7:00 p.m. according to pastor, Rev. Holt Herrell. The "Covey Rock Church Youth Choir", the "Mocassin Gap Quartet" from Gate City, Va. Radio Station, little "Lesia Joe Potter", soloist, Mr. Rotha Ogle and Mrs. Leland Scott from Burnsville will be singers. The "Happy Pilgrim Gospel Singers" from Erwin, Tenn. will be there, as well as the "Revivalaires Trio" from Bristol, Va., the "Moss Family" from Mars Hill, and the "Gospelaire Quartet" from Spruce Pine, N.C. Everyone is invited to attend this special song service.

Yancey County School principals attended a four-day conference for elementary and high school principals in Myrtle Beach July 14-17. The conference was sponsored by the principals' division of the NCAE and was conducted by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Those attending were Mrs. Cara Cox, Mr. Boyd Deyton, Mr. Larry Howell, Mr. Ronnie Proffitt and Mr. Kenny Sparks.

Edgar Hunter attended the state conference for school superintendents in Wilmington July 21-24.

There will be a weekend revival at Newdale Presbyterian Church beginning at 7:30 Friday evening, July 26, running through Sunday evening and including Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. Dr. I. M. Ellis of Black Mountain will be the speaker. The public is cordially invited.

Missionary Evangelist Rev. Jimmy Lyons will be the guest speaker at the 11 o'clock services at the National Presbyterian Church at Celso on Sunday, July 28.

CAP Meeting
Mt. Wilderness Civil Air Patrol will meet every Monday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Mountain Wilderness Office, Pensacola, N.C. Anyone interested in joining this group will be welcome to attend any Monday night meeting. All visitors are welcome.



Yancey Girl Scouts Entertain Visitors

Last Thursday was a special day for Girl Scouts in Yancey County as they ate and talked with sister Scouts from 34 states and 2 foreign countries. The visitors obviously enjoyed the picnic on our town square as well as visits to the Nu-Wray Inn, Country Store, and Johnson 9 Co. They were entertained by local singers and dancers whose talents were greatly appreciated by all. Everyone was sorry to see the fellowship end, but were richer for having had a part in Pisgah Girl Scout Council's "Good Ole Mountain Do." In talking with Gayle Graff of Cordova, Alaska, we found that many girls had never before seen clogging or heard bluegrass music,

things we take for granted! They were finding our food "fantastic" and still had many adventures to anticipate. An Explorer Scout [member of a co-ed Scout troop] from Florida said she chose to apply for this event over others in the nation because she felt it offered something of more lasting worth than the others. It would be an opportunity to learn about disappearing arts and crafts, as well as an opportunity to become acquainted with an area of the country. The result has been a desire to preserve these traditional crafts and a real respect for the people of Western North Carolina.

Playhouse Seeking Musicians

The Parkway Playhouse is anxious to be put in contact with musicians who would be available to play in the orchestra for My Fair Lady. Various parts have been filled but others are still needed. Most desperate is the call for violinists.

The first full orchestra for a playhouse musical was the 18 piece orchestra for last season's *Oliver!* So many favorable comments were received that the Playhouse management is working diligently to gather the best available musicians to play *Lerner and Loewe's* fabulous score.

Rehearsals will be the week of August 1st with performances scheduled for August 6 through August 10.

All interested people should call the Playhouse at 682-6151.

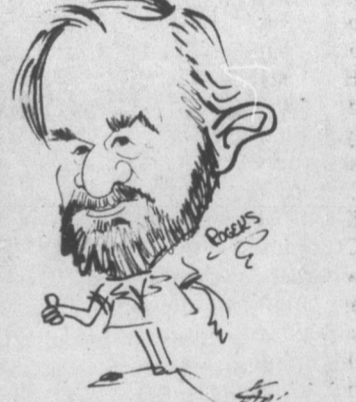
Dividend Declared

The Trustees of Northwestern Financial Investors, a real estate investment trust headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina, have declared a dividend of 30 cents per share for the quarter ended June 30, 1974. The dividend is payable August 12, 1974 to shareholders of record on June 29, 1974. The dividend is being paid from second quarter earnings of \$519,620.00 or 34.41 cents per share. Earnings for the first half of 1974 now stand at \$1,093,898.12 or 72.44 cents per share. The Trust also announced that August 13, 1974 has been set as the date for its Annual Shareholders Meeting to be held in Charlotte.

Apply Now

The Yancey County Tomato House is now open. Application for employment may be made from 8:00 to 4:30 Monday through Friday.

Folk-Ways and Folk-Speech
of SOUTHERN APPALACHIA
with Rogers Whitener



An interesting item in a recent edition of the *New York Times* may bring knowing smiles to those who remember the folklore of the "missing hitchhiker" from the days when the grandparents of the present hitchhikers exercised their thumbs along the nation's highways.

Story after story emerged in the 30's and 40's, usually about a young girl picked up on the roadside who mysteriously disappeared during the course of the ride and was generally conceived to be an angel or other heavenly visitant.

Now, according to the *Times* story, the hitchhiker is invariably a handsome young male hippie dressed in white who sits in the rear seat, buckles himself into the seat belt, and begins to talk of the second coming of Christ. Then he asks his automotive hosts if they believe in the Second Coming, but when they turn to answer him, he has vanished.

Over 60 reports of such mysterious hitchhikers have been collected in upper New York over the past months, most of the incidents supposedly occurring on the New York Thruway and reported by motorists rather than by toll collectors or other highway workers.

The *Times* article indicates that motorists have varying interpretations of the mysterious hitchhiker. Some believe he is Jesus Christ, some call him an angel, a false prophet, John the Baptist, and even the anti-Christ. The conception apparently varies with the religious denomination of the teller. Folklorists no doubt, will soon be tracing the phantom hitchhiker not only on his New York circuit but throughout these United States. All Southern Appalachia readers of *Folk-Ways* are invited to send in their accounts.

Received an early response to a recent item about a weed which supposedly enabled a blacksnake to recover from the bite of a rattlesnake to the extent that he killed the rattlesnake. Arnold Barker, of Appalachia, Virginia, writes:

"Dear Mr. Whitener: I have just read your article in the July 14, 1974 *Kingsport Times* concerning the weed used by blacksnakes for poison remedy.

I know of the weed and it grows in abundance in this area. It is simply called rattlesnake weed. It's deep green in color with a jagged stripe of black and white running through it. It has the shape of a philodendron plant.

I have seen a copperhead and a blacksnake fight, although I did not see the blacksnake come back to kill the copperhead. I did see it crawl away. But I have heard of this tale all my life.

If you wish to experiment with this, I will be glad to assist you in locating a poison snake, a blacksnake, and the weed.

I know a couple that took a sourwood stick, measured it the size of their child and hung it over the front door for the cure of asthma. Also an uncle of mine is supposed to have cooked a

skunk and eaten it for the cure of asthma.

There are lots of tales of this type passed down from generation to generation in this area. The old people here lived by this folklore."

A note from Adele Lawson of Los Alamos, New Mexico, comments on the expression "pawm my honor" sent in by another reader. She also offers several superstitions commonly heard in her Tennessee past.

"Dear Sir: In regard to an item in the *Morristown* (Tennessee) *Tribune*, "pawm my honor," I recall this expression by older people in Appalachia (Hancock County, Tennessee) where I grew up. I finally realized many years later it was the Old-English vow, "upon my honor" found in *Canterbury Tales* and the works of Shakespeare.

Others I recall: If your nose itches you are going to have guests. If your ear burns someone is talking about you. If you see a redbird you'll have good luck. Find a pin and pick it up and all day long you'll have good luck. If you cup your upper teeth before the lower you will die by drowning."

Please send all material to: Rogers Whitener, Box 376, University Station, Boone, N.C.

Corporation Report

Unaudited, consolidated net earnings of Northwestern Financial Corporation for the first half of 1974 were \$3,978,682 or 87 cents per share. This compares to \$4,452,565 or 98

cents per share the first half of 1973. The resulting 11.91 per cent decrease was due primarily to unprecedented increases in the cost of money. Total interest expense for the first six months of 1974 was over 63 per cent higher than 1973.

The Northwestern Bank, largest of the Corporation's subsidiaries, reported total deposits of \$877,444,048, representing deposit growth of \$85,217,522 or 10.76 per cent since June 30, 1973. Loans outstanding increased \$73,145,078 or 12.12 per cent and now total \$676,654,124. On June 30, 1974 total assets were reported as \$1,017,416,279, up \$102,271,421 from June 30, 1973.

In addition to the Bank, other subsidiaries include Northwestern Security Life Insurance Company, M & J Financial Corporation, First Atlantic Corporation, Northwestern Advisory Corporation, Northwestern Factors, Inc., and Financial Supplies, Inc.

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