

## Folk-Ways and Folk-Speech

of SOUTHERN APPALACHIA  
with Rogers Whitener

A recent edition of Folk-Ways sent up a call for mountain tales and stories. Only one response on the subject has come in at this writing, but it is an interesting one from a former West Virginian, Samuel Bateman, now living in Kingsport, Tennessee.

The nature of Mr. Bateman's letter—a mixture of story, comment, and poetry—is such, that it seems appropriate to use it in the manner in which it was composed rather than print isolated portions. It reads as follows:

### MOUNTAIN TALES

"Hi, Friend: Back home in the mountains of McDowell County (West Virginia) in a place called War is where I hale from.

"First thing one hears of is your name—seems all have Bible names in my days. Next

thing one hears is tales of things that live in the mountains—one was called Boogey Man, another Raw Head and Bloody Bones, and then Ole Tashey. He was a man who had a beard so long he could tie one's body while he ate them alive. (P.S. Tash means long beard.)

"As I grew up I did the chores, carrying in the coal and wood and scrubbing the floors. As I got bigger I also noticed the coal buckets did too. One tale I heard was of an old lady who wanted help—she said an old big black dog had been around her farm house. She said, 'Don't hurt him—just take this stick and run him off.' Turned out it was a mean bear!

"Now days you hear of large apelike beings and places I went to before but where no man does travel anymore. It's not that I'm

afraid—it's just the tales I heard when small. I don't spin yarns to my kin as my kin did me—about cannibal chickens, hunters who hunt the hunters, wild dogs and cats, snake dens, disappearing persons, and mentally retarded persons who take to the mountains to live as animals.

He ran through the woods  
Just like a man—  
Just as fast as one can.  
Though everyone seeing him  
Said it was a bear  
Seems all he left behind  
Was some black smelly hair.

Up in the mountains  
If a footprint you find,  
You can bet that it will be mine.

They call us backward  
And behind the time,  
But we don't live with no



past—  
We tell our children and  
they make it last.

Hope you will continue to  
send material our way, Mr.  
Bateman, particularly about  
Ole Tashey and other moun-  
tain critters. This, of course,  
continues to apply to other  
readers as well.

Please send all material  
to: Rogers Whitener, Folk-  
Ways and Folk-Speech, Box  
376, Boone, N.C. 28608.

# Cane River High Reports

Cane River students are selling subscriptions to the Journal in a big way! They plan to use the proceeds to buy new stage curtains for the gym.

### BY PHILLIP RAY

Tuesday, February 11, was a big day for the seniors at Cane River. Tri-State Photographers of Elizabethton, Tennessee, came to Cane River High School for the purpose of making the seniors individual cap and gown pictures.

### SENIORS SELL CANDY

By Phillip Ray

The seniors here at Cane River are selling candy for their senior trip. The three homeroom teachers—Mr. Cox, Mrs. Campbell and Mrs. Higgins—have issued a box of candy to each student who wants to help in raising money for the trip. The two types of candy are chocolate with crispies and chocolate

with almonds.

### TOURNAMENT HELD AT CANE RIVER

By Donna England

Starting February 10, 1975 the Blue Ridge Basketball Tournament will be held at Cane River. This will be the second year the tournament has been at Cane River. Games will be played on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday nights, starting at 4:30 p.m.

Number one position in the J.V. division is Polk Central, with Harris High as number 2. East Yancey is Number 3 and Cane River, Number 4.

In Girls basketball, Bakersville is Number 1, Polk Central is Number 2, Cane River is Number 3, Harris Number 4 and East Yancey Number 5.

The Boys basketball division has Tryon as Number 1, Bakersville as Number 2, East

Yancey, Number 3. Harris High is Number 4, Polk Central is Number 5, Cane River is Number 6.

Championship games for J.V., Girls and Boys teams in the 1974-75 Blue Ridge Athletic Conference Tournament, will be played on Friday, February 14.

### A VERY SPECIAL LOVE STORY

By Suel Anglin

How is a story of love told through the eyes of another? Well, it "ain't" easy. This story began almost three years ago. He loved her on sight. She was a local. Her body was sleek, with terrific lines: He loved her small, compact form.

They first met after she had been involved with the radio announcer. He took her in and sheltered her from the winds and rains of life. He told her things he never told anyone else. Yes, they had their little secrets. She was his, and he was hers. They were both very happy. War-

ren loved her. They were a pair. They were always seen in each other's company. You might see them in Burnsville, in Asheville, in Spruce Pine, or at a ballgame. But, like all good things, this came to an end. She began to drink more than she should. Her age began to show. Warren only took her out on weekends. That's when it happened. He started seeing the other one. She was young, like a maverick; she was free and restless; she was fast. But she belonged to another.

Maybe that's why he left her for the first one. It was too late. She began to go down and down; even climbing hills was a problem. She just didn't have the get-up-and-go she used to have.

Warren became worried. He was in the wrong, and he knew it. So he took her to an expert—someone who knew what to do about those things. He waited for the final verdict. When he heard the news he cried for joy. All she needed was a tune-up. His car would be all right!

# ACREAGE

## FOR SALE

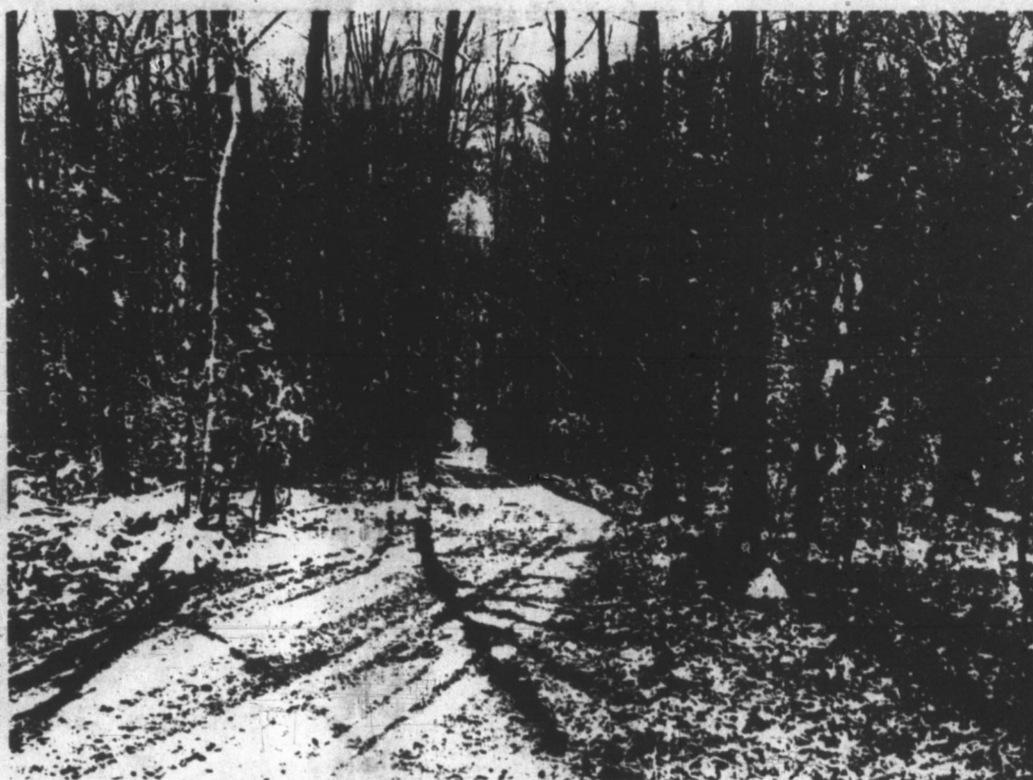
### 5-10 ACRE TRACTS

Some With State Road Frontage, All Easily Accessible

Several Large Streams \* Good Views \* Well Timbered

Ideal For Vacation Cabin Or Year Round Home

Located Approx. 6 Miles From Burnsville



# CY JORDAN REALTY

Cy Jordan, Broker 682-2704

Wanda Proffitt, Broker 682-2332

# REALTOR

Everette L. Dillingham, Broker 682-2160

George Downing, Capt. U.S.C.G. Ret.,  
Mgt. Broker 682-3870

Office Next To Post Office On Burnsville Town Square 682-6617 682-6711

## Beta Club Organized At Micaville School

A local chapter of the National Junior Beta Club, a leadership-service organization for junior high school students of America, was established on February 10, 1975 at Micaville Elementary School, according to Boyd C. Dayton, Principal.

The National Beta Club, with over 4,000 local chapters in the Junior and Senior Divisions and approximately 152,000 members in the schools of 22 states, is now in its 41st year. The Junior Beta Club Division, established in 1961, now has a membership of 51,318 in 1381 chapters in 19 states.

Objectives of this non-

secret, leadership-service organization are: to encourage effort, to promote character, to stimulate achievement among its members, and to encourage students to continue their education after high school graduation.

Mrs. Exam M. Lewis, teacher in Resource Center, was appointed as faculty sponsor for the local chapter. Co-sponsor is Mr. Phillip Young, eighth grade teacher.

Permanent officers for this year are Regina Young, President; Mark Young, Vice President; Renee Young, Secretary and Leisa Young, Treasurer.

The local organization is composed of the following students who have fulfilled the requirements necessary for membership in the National Junior Beta Club: Tracy Allen, Steven Boone, Sherry Buchanan, Benny Buchanan, Timmy Burleson, David Carroll, John T. Gibbs, Sarah Gibbs, Marcia Gouge, Beverly Gouge, Kimberly Harris, Daniel Harris, Joey Harris, Gary Hughes, Brett Hughes, Donna Hughes, James W. Huskins, Joel R. Murphy, Joey R. Murphy, Rita Purcell, Tammy Robinson, Mike Robinson, James B. Robinson, Joel Styles, Rene Styles, Valencia Thomas, Michael Thomas, Randall Weatherman, Tammy Winters, Sheila Wyatt, Renee Young, Regina Young, Leisa Young, Teresa Young, Mark Young, Robert Young.

Mr. R.A. Tomberlin, National Representative, visited the school and helped in the organization of the club. Officers from East Yancey High School Beta Club assisted in the chartering and installation of the members. They also furnished props for the stage. Members present were Debbie Miller, President; Niles Howell, Vice-President; Emily Huskins, Secretary; Rene Buchanan, Treasurer, and Joey Biggerstaff, Past President of the Western District.

A candlelight ceremony concluded the program.

### SCHOOL Lunch Menu

MENU FOR WEEK  
February 17-21

#### Monday

Pinto Beans  
Onion Slices  
Steamed Cabbage  
Apple  
Cornbread  
Milk

#### Tuesday

Fish Square w/Tartar Sauce  
Creamed Potatoes  
Cole Slaw  
Peanut Butter Cake w/Peanut Butter Icing  
Cornbread  
Milk

#### Wednesday

School Baked Pizza  
Green Beans  
Carrot Strips  
Jello  
Milk

#### Thursday

Turkey Pie w/Biscuit Topping  
Cranberry Sauce  
Sweet Potatoes  
Green Peas  
Cinnamon Bun  
Milk

#### Friday

Sloppy Joe on Bun  
Whipped Potatoes  
Tossed Salad w/Dressing  
Sugar Cookie  
Milk

## Sierra Club Report

The Annual Dinner Meeting of the Western North Carolina Group of The Sierra Club was held recently in Asheville and the following officers and chairmen were introduced: Chairman, Mrs. Julian R. Little of Hendersonville; Vice Chairman, Frank T. Schell of Arden; Secretary-Treasurer, John L. Clay of Hendersonville; Conservation, Lt. Col. Frank J. Austin of Swannanoa and Mrs. H. L. Reed of Asheville; Energy, Ernest A. Hamill of Asheville; Historian, Mrs. J. A. Collins of Hendersonville; Membership, Derry D. Koob of Pisgah Forest; Newsletter, Arthur D. Cree of Hendersonville; Nominating, Robert E. Shall of Hendersonville; Outings, Ms Remy H. Ludwig of Hendersonville; Program, Frank T. Schell; Ass't Program, Edward L. Ingle of Horsehoe;

Publicity, Mrs. H.K. Freeman of Hendersonville; Sierra Club Books, Patches, Cups, etc, Miss Jane E. Wright of Brevard; Trails, Dr. Julian R. Little of Hendersonville.

The Avery Creek Hike in Pisgah National Forest on February 1 was led by Edward L. Ingle and greatly enjoyed. On February 22, Harry Logan will lead a hike to Green River Cove and Holbert Cove with emphasis on botany. A Hike to the Narrows on March 15 will be led by Bruce Byers and Dr. Peter Mount will be the leader to the Pisgah Wildlife Management Area on March 22. Julian M. Maddox has a hike to Catawba Falls April 5 and Richard Maggi has one to Raven Cliff Falls April 19. Guests are welcome. Watch the papers for details near the date.