Thurlow Creek

Continued from page 3

Hollow' where Negro Winnie lived. Winnie was a bootlegger and she sold pure corn moonshine whiskey for $3.50 a gallon and you bring your jug. At least everyone said she did. I never saw a drop of that moonshine liquor but I did see a lot of coming and going in and out of her house. We loved Winnie and she loved us and was good to us. She could make the best peanut butter cookies you ever talted and she always seemed to have a fresh batch on hand. I can't ever remember the County Sheriff bothering her and I never heard of any fights or trouble around her place. It was said that she would never sell to youngsters nor to a person who was already drunk. She was a rather large woman and her skin was so black that it seemed to shine. Winnie said that her husband was dead. She had two or three children. I could never really determine just how many she did have. She had one named Arthur who was about my age.

It was above Winnie's house that the Mountain Lion had been seen. Several had said that they had seen this Lion. Someone said they saw the lion go down to Thurlow for water. Another saw him...then another...and so the cry went, "There's a Lion in the Mountain! There's a Lion in the Mountain!" He was filmted but never found.

I had never seen a real lion except in the Circus that came to Drew and this one wasn't majestic at all. Instead he was mangy and dirty and smelled bad. I had seen pictures of Lions, Kings of the Jungle. I thought well, this one would be King of Winnie's Mountain. I could just picture this terrible beast coming down from the mountain and carrying off one of Winnie's children. I just hoped it would not be Arthur because Arthur made the best slingshot in the world.

When we questioned the old black man that hung around Winnie's he said that maybe the reason that nobody could get the lion was that he was the devil. "Didn't the Good Book say the devil went about as a roaring Lion?" I was disappointed with the Devil and the Pool Room so I decided I didn't want anything more to do with the devil, with or without horns.

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Willard and I had slipped off to Happy Hollow. I was uneasy. I had for the first time in my life, disobeyed my father. He forbade me to go there, said with everyone crazing around it was too dangerous. The only bit of conscience that I could salvage was that I hadn't promised that I wouldn't go. But that was of very little comfort. It was not that I was afraid of my father but that I felt such a remorse in disobeying him.

We had chained Bango because we didn't want him to follow us. He still wasn't entirely well from the fight with the Bob Cat. When I returned home that afternoon from the mountain Bango was gone. He had been able to slip his chain after all and follow us. The bottom just about fell out of my world. Willard and I hunted and hunted...called and whistled, but no Bango. When my father returned home from the store I confessed what I had done. He didn't whip me...didn't even scold me. I would have felt much better had he given me a good thrashing. He said, "It is too late to go searching for him tonight but first thing in the morning we will go look for him." I slept but little that night. What if Bango had found the Lion where everyone had failed. And what if the Lion had killed Bango.

The next morning my father had to go early to the store by way of a neighbor's house to catch the Greyhound bus for Birmingham so he told me to go and look for Bango. This neighbor did not have a car and my father was going to take him to the bus station. He told Willard and me to go to the mountain but to be doubly careful. We walked, searched, whistled and called and called over and over again...Bango...Bango...Bango. It was in a small draw that we found him barely alive. Both front paws had been caught in a giant steel trap that had been set to catch the lion. I fell down on my knees and called his name and cried. I cradled his wet shaggy head in my arms. He looked at me through the most saddened pain filled eyes that I had ever seen. I don't remember getting him home. I later learned that the old black man brought us home in his truck.

The next morning my father told me there was no chance for Bango. He could no longer raise his head. My father said he had suffered much and it was better to take the gun and put him out of his misery. At first I thought what a most inhumane thing to do. Then I had to admit that there was no other way and that my father was as saddened as I because he knew how much I loved this old our dog. It was only through tear stained eyes that I looked at Bango and silently said goodbye and walked away from the house and went home for awhile with Willard. When I returned home Bango was dead.

We built a strong wooden box and made a coffin for Bango. My mother lined the box with some beautiful blue material that she had been saving to make a dress.

Mr. Clark came over in his new pickup truck and took us to upper Thurlow. We dug a deep hole and buried Bango there on the banks of the creek. We piled rocks on his grave for protection. My father had made a wooden marker and had taken a straight iron fire poker and burned on the marker the words, "Bango — A Good Dog." I hated to leave Bango there by the creek all alone, and I thought we ought to sing a song like Rock of Ages or something, but Mr. Clark had to get back to town and perhaps they would have laughed at my suggestion, anyway, but somehow I don't believe my father would have laughed.

In the summer of my 12th year we moved away from the little town of Drew. My father sold the store and our house and we went to Missouri where I would live and one day perhaps forget that our dog named Bango, but I wasn't sure that I wanted to forget him. We moved just before the beginning of the school year. I was to be 30 years before I would return to Drew and Thurlow Creek.

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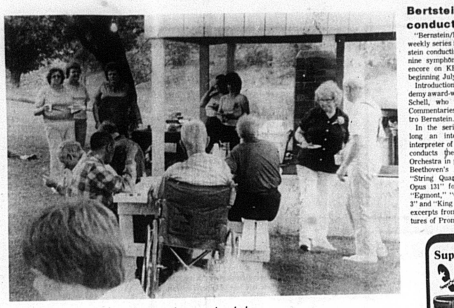
I recently went back to the town of Drew. Now they called it a city. From the little town of 500 it had grown into a small city of nearly 9,000. So many changes...industry had come in and bringing with it, people. People with different lifestyles from the old lazy easy going life that I had grown up in. Well, at least grown up to be 12, anyway. I walked the streets begging for someone to recognize me, speak to me or at least smile, but everyone just hurried on by. Thirty years is a long time to be away. After a while I gave up and got into my car and drove up the new highway until I found the road that led off to Thurlow Creek. The road was now just a very small stream. I walked until I found the spot where I thought we had buried Bango. I cut a small willow limb and sat there puddling in the water of the creek, lost in reverie of yesterday. Then that reverie was interrupted by a small boy with a face full of freckles, a boy that could have been me these many long years ago. He looked at me and said, "Ain't no fish in there, mister."



A day at the lake

The V.F.W. and the Ladies Auxiliary hosted about 30 patients from the Leestown Road Veterans Administration Hospital last Thursday for a cookout. It was held at the city lake. In the background from left, are the Auxiliary officers, Mamie Price, Joyce Earlywine (president), Ruby McKee, Vicky Snapp and Mary Belle Hardin. Also present were V.F.W. president Ed Jefferson and post members. — Mercury photo.

Bertstein to be conductor on KET

"Bernstein/Beethoven," an 11-part weekly series featuring Leonard Bernstein conducting performances of the nine symphonies of Beethoven, will encore on KET on Tuesday nights, beginning July 5, at 10 p.m.

Introductions are provided by Academy award-winning actor Maximilian Schell, who also hosts the series. Commentaries are provided by Maestro Bernstein.

In the series, Maestro Bernstein, long an internationally recognized interpreter of the works of Beethoven, conducts the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra in performances of each of Beethoven's nine symphonies; the "String Quartet in C-Sharp Minor, Opus 131" for string orchestra; the "Egmont," "Coriolan," "Leonore No. 3" and "King Stephan" Overtures, and excerpts from the ballet, "The Creatures of Prometheus."

Beware! it's tick season

If you plan to visit the great outdoors soon, beware — it's tick season.

These little parasites love to "visit" dogs, people and other warmblooded creatures. Although they usually are more annoying then harmful, ticks can pose health hazards, according to Dr. Chris Christensen, Extension entomologist in the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture.

At the least, he said, a tick bite can hurt or become infected; at worst, it can cause Rocky Mountain spotted fever.

The American dog tick, which can be found in Kentucky, is a carrier of Rocky Mountain spotted fever. Only a small percentage of these ticks carry the disease, so if you are bitten by a tick, your chances of contracting the disease are slim, Christensen said.

"But anyone who spends time outdoors in the summer needs to be aware of ticks and the possibility of Rocky Mountain spotted fever," he added.

Disease symptoms include fever, headache, chills, muscle aches and sometimes nausea, and occur two days to two weeks following a tick bite. A rash, starting on the wrists and ankles, usually appears also.

"If you have these symptoms after a tick bite, get to the doctor immediately," advised Christensen. "The disease can be cured if diagnosed early. Because the disease is sometimes not recognized or is misdiagnosed, tell the doctor about the tick bite so Rocky Mountain spotted fever can be considered among possible diseases for treatment."

You can make outdoor areas less attractive to ticks by removing thick brush and mowing regularly. Ticks need tall vegetation and small animals such as rodents to develop and to survive. Eliminating these conditions around trails, picnic areas and camping sites will help reduce tick problems.

Insecticide sprays may be needed along trails and in severely infested areas. Diazinon, malathion, Rabon or Vapona may be used for outdoor tick control, Christensen said, but applications should be limited.

"Generally a 5 to 10-foot swath along paths will be sufficient in most areas," he advised. "The treatment should be allowed to dry before people go into the areas."

County Extension offices have more information on ticks and Rocky Mountain spotted fever and a handout concerning tick safety especially for campers and recreation groups.

Fleming-Mason RECC to meet

The Fleming-Mason Rural Electric Cooperative will hold its 45th annual membership meeting on the afternoon of July 13, one mile west of Flemingsburg on highway 32. Registration will begin at 1:00 p.m., with the program getting underway at 2:00 p.m.

During the business portion of the meeting, co-op members and their families will hear reports on current activities and conditions at the cooperative and will elect two directors, who will serve for three-year terms. Director nominees are Henry F. Ginn, Vanceburg, and Anthony P. Overbey, Mt. Olivet.

Gospel recording artists, The Florida Boys, will highlight the day's entertainment program, which will also include the crowning of a new Miss Fleming-Mason RECC, children's entertainment and door prizes.

In addition, approximately 12 girls will vie for the title of Miss Fleming-Mason Rural Electric. Teena Ison of Morehead, the reigning title holder, will crown the winner, who will then compete in the Miss Kentucky Rural Electric Pageant on Aug. 4. This year's pageant will be held at the Gault House in Louisville.

For the children there will be a special act by magician/illusionist Dorian Blake. According to Mr. Delaney, "If you've seen the act once, you can never forget it — and if you haven't seen it, you can't know what you've missed!" Blake has appeared on major television networks and has entertained in night clubs and stage shows across the country.

Hospital notes

ADMISSIONS: Doris Fisher, Minnie Frederick, Viola Brown, Manda Roberts, Willie Clem, Paula Foster and baby girl, Carole Moreland, Tom Kimes Jr., Allie Sexton, Timothy Withrow, Wanda Tucker, Bertha Lawrence, Judie Sorrell, Mabel Morris, Larry Morris, Jessie Capps, Delphia Asbury, Judy Burton, Jon Stacy, James Duncan, Avery Mitchell, Shirley Robinson, Alma Hilander, Carlisle; Hazel Dye, Patsy Cox, Ewing; Pamela Jolly, Millersburg; Ada Hughes, Julian Martin, Robbie Garrison, Mt. Olivet; Daniel Daugherty, Sharpsburg; Merrill Vice, Moorefield.

DISCHARGES: Lisa Morris, Reitha McClothin, Timothy Withrow, Margaret Hatton, Wanda Tucker, Sidney Clay, Doris Fisher, Allie Sexton, Tom Kimes Jr., Minnie Frederick, George Jolly, Carole Moreland, Paula Foster and baby girl, Joe Beatly, Larry Morris, James Duncan, Carlisle; Jessie Gilbert, Brookeville; Kathy Catron and baby girl, Ewing; Patricia Sexton, Daniel Daugherty, Walter Blevins, Waffina Spencer and baby boy, Sharpsburg; Julian Martin, Mt. Olivet; Kimberly Vice, Moorefield; Donna Flora, Maysilick; Diana Carson, Paris.

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Fun in the sun

Some of the children enrolled in the Nicholas County Community Center day care program are enjoying a romp around a sprinkler on the center's grounds last week. From left, Billy Fulks, Angie Livingood, Crystal Snapp, Aimee Fulks, Benjamin Crump and Charlotte Trussell. Partially hidden in the background is Daniel Calvert. — Mercury photo.

Have your pets vaccinated

First the good news: rabies has become a rare disease among Kentucky's pet population. There were only eight laboratory-confirmed cases in dogs during 1982 and only two cases in cats.

The bad news, ironically, is that domestic animals rabies has become so rare that many people don't have their pets vaccinated, then don't suspect the disease when their pets get sick.

The consequence can be that a number of people are exposed to rabies by an animal before the proper diagnosis is made.

Cabinet for Human Resources officials tell of one friendly stray dog that won the affection of people in a Fayette County suburb last year. When he showed signs of illness, the neighbors tried to treat him. A trip to the veterinarian eventually became necessary.

By the time rabies was diagnosed, 72 people had been exposed to it and required post-exposure treatment.

The mistake many people make is to assume that dogs and cats transmit rabies only by biting, he said. Human infection can occur when the rabid animal's saliva comes in contact with any open wound or the membranes in a person's mouth or eyes.

Typical symptoms of rabies are difficult to describe, he said, because they vary so much from case to case. Skaggs listed some of the early signs that many rabid animals exhibit:

- Personality changes—Docile animals may become agressive, for example.
- Voice change—The sounds the animal normally makes may alter in pitch.
- Mobility change—The animal may have trouble walking or may develop an abnormal gait because of weakness in the rear legs.
- Jaw paralysis—In dogs, the lower jaw may hang open. People expose themselves to rabies when they think something is stuck in the dog's throat and reach in with bare fingers to retrieve it.

Skaggs said that while the pet animal rabies is more rare than wild animal rabies, the chances of human exposure to the disease is higher because the pets live with people. Unvaccinated pets allowed to roam can contract rabies from infected domestic animals or wild animals like skunks and racoons.

"A nationwide increase in the number of domestic cats with rabies has been linked with an increase in skunks with the disease. Racoon rabies is epidemic in the nearby states of Virginia and West Virginia," said Skaggs.

During 1982, Kentucky recorded 97 laboratory-confirmed cases of skunk rabies, seven cases in foxes, nine cases in bats and one case of possum rabies. Wild animals are thought to have caused the recorded three cases in cattle and the seven cases in horses.

Because more people are spending time outdoors this time of year, the potential for exposure to wild animals increases. While rabies in the wild is more prevalent in the fall, winter and early spring, the disease does occur in the summer as well. Skaggs advises that people enjoy wild animals from a distance. Persons who suspect they may have been in contact with a rabid animal, wild or domestic, should capture and confine the animal or kill it without damaging the brain, immediately scrub and cleanse the hands and any open wounds, and contact local public health officials.

Continuing judicial education becomes mandatory in Ky.

Chief Justice Robert F. Stephens announced recently that the Kentucky Supreme Court has approved a proposed rule to make continuing judicial education mandatory for all members of the state's judiciary, beginning July 1.

Essentially, the rule requires each justice and judge to obtain a minimum of 30 hours continuing judicial education per biennium. Credit for the initial biennium will cover the period of Jan. 1, 1983 through June 30, 1986. Thereafter, an educational biennium shall begin on July 1 and end two years later on June 30 of each even-numbered year.

Approximately 85 percent of Kentucky's 225 judges have voluntarily participated in 20 hours or more of educational programs offered yearly by the Administrative Office of the Courts since 1977, as well as by other law-related agencies. Chief Justice Stephens, wishing to emphasize the effort to continue and strengthen the legal and professional proficiency of all the state's jurists, appointed Justice Donald C. Wintersheimer early this year to chair a commission for the purpose of proposing a mandatory continuing judicial education rule which the Supreme Court adopted June 7 during a conference session. "This rule is a positive and progressive step toward improving the services to the citizens of Kentucky by their judiciary," stated the Chief Justice following the court's adoption of the rule.

The 15-member Mandatory Continuing Judicial Education Commission, chaired by Justice Wintersheimer, is comprised of one Court of Appeals judge, three circuit judges, three district judges, representatives from each of the state's three colleges of law, and four legislators. The Commission will exercise general supervisory authority over the administration of the mandatory judicial education rule, accredit sponsors of courses, programs, and other educational activities which will satisfy the rule's requirements, and will have the authority to exercise exemptions due to disability or for good cause. Any judge who has not completed the required number of hours within the specified two-year period and has not received exemption shall be referred to the Judicial Retirement and Removal Commission for possible disciplinary action.

Forty-one states, including Kentucky, have formal mandatory requirements for judicial education, although the definition of what type judicial education and how many hours are required varies from state to state. Colorado and Minnesota require 45 hours during a three-year period for all judges, while Connecticut requires 45 hours annually only for general jurisdiction judges. Wyoming and South Carolina require 15 hours annually for lower court judges and Iowa requires 15 hours annually for all judges.

The Administrative Office of the Courts will continue to sponsor judicial colleges each year which, if attended by the judges, will meet the minimum rule requirements.

THREE NAMED TO KET AUTHORITY

William M. Cox of Madisonville, Carolynn Conyer Wosoba of Middletown and George Street Boone of Elkton have been named to the KET Authority for Educational Television, the governing body of KET.

President of the WEBA Corporation, Cox is a former member of the Kentucky House of Representatives, served in the Public Service Commission of Kentucky and as a Federal Highway Administrator in Washington, D.C.

Wosoba has been recently appointed as Assistant Superintendent for Instruction with the Kentucky Department of Education and is a candidate in the Educational Doctorate Program at the University of Louisville. She has been superintendent of the Anchorage Independent School District and, in 1978, was awarded Superintendent of the Year by the Kentucky Association of School Administrators.

Chairman of the KET Advisory Board, Boone has acted as counsel and city attorney for several municipalities. He has been a member of the State House of Representatives and is a board member of the Kentucky Civil Liberties Union, the Kentucky Historical Society and a member of the advisory board of Murray State University radio station.

National Geographic specials return to KET for summer

Some of the most popular "National Geographic Specials" return to public television this summer. The one-hour programs air Wednesdays at 8 p.m. on KET.

On July 13, scientists who are beginning to unlock the secrets of shark behavior, guide us through a compelling documentary, "The Sharks." The program contains extraordinary underwater photography and offers viewers new data on how sharks feed, rest and why they attack.

The giant panda's fight for survival is the subject of the July 20 "National Geographic Special: Save The Panda."

The program takes viewers to China to observe the giant panda in the remote Wolong Natural Reserve where studies on this sad-eyed, mysterious and endangered species are being conducted.

The Arctic's largest, most dangerous carnivore is the great white polar bear. "Polar Bear Alert," airing on July 27, shows how residents in the migratory path of the animal prepare to avoid encounters with the bears and how man and beast have learned to coexist in nature.

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Cattle receipts, 437 — Steers 43.00-71.00, Heifers 41.00-59.50, Baby Beeves 45.00-71.00, Slaughter Cows 30.25-46.00, Slaughter Bulls 42.00-54.25, Cows by head 220.00-710.00, Cow and Calf by head 335.00-910.00, Stock Bulls 295.00-585.00, Stockers 93.00-260.00.

Calves receipts, 240 — Top Veals 74.00-86.00, Medium 60.50-74.00, Baby 20.00-135.00.

Total receipts — 952.

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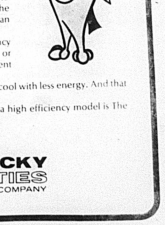
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