(continued) I was so mad, and he let me by, he backed up, he let me by. I would have killed him. This has got into 33, 34 years. You don't do that to people. You can wear anybody out, but I could live and I had better standing with the law. If I had went to jail anyway, I knew that. I'd planned it well. I said, I know I'll stay in jail bout 3 days 'til they bury him, which'll be fine. I won't even have to be around there. I won't have to have no part of it. But after the funeral I know they won't take my children. I'll appeal and I'll stay out on bond, and I'll do it until I get them up 'til nobody can't be mean to 'em anyway. And then if I have to go, I'll go. But he ( ) I stayed away and went to the clinic everyday, but I had me a little trailer hid up the hollow. He never did come there. But then when I moved to another place, he found out where it was at and started to aggravate me a little again, but sometimes I'd have to shoot before he'd pull out the driveway. But I lived like that 'til he married again, and finally he died. But before I left him, when I was trying to stay with him, on different occasions he broke my jawbone, he broke my cheekbone three times, broke my jawbone and he stabbed me. Another time he broke my arm and twisted it. It still bothers. And another time, go to work. I pulled him out of bed, I drug him out of bed cause he had a good job. And I as trying to make him go to work. And he got up, but before he got off that bed he hit me right in the chest and broke three of my ribs. He kicked my ribs in barefooted. He kicked me so hard. And he hurt my leg. He hit me with a pistol. He did a lot of things to me. I've got a lot of scars from every ( ) The most I got was my children. I got good children. And I love 'em and they love me. But married 32 year, no mother paid a price for her children that I paid for you all. Not in money. (Laughter). There're all right.

The clinic prospered. We growed from 2 days a week in my building that got burnt. You know, my life has been just one big disaster. Seems like I had ( ). But I can tell you I've been sad. I've enjoyed it and some people probably would have wilted up and died, and some people would have probably committed suicide. I don't know what, I'm just speaking from what I see. I never was that unhappy despite the problems. They was good parts of it, you know. And I got so used to fighting with him, its like I got to where I kinda enjoyed them battles (laughter). I didn't win 'em all but I didn't lose 'em all either. And he was drunk one night and he was trying to put us out, tried to throw us out, and I cooked a big meal and the neighbors would come in despite anything and all things, they'd come in and eat with me, and they'd got so they'd ignore him if you can. If you can't knock him out of your way you'll do whatever it takes to do. Just enjoy the day, and we would. Some of 'em would be kin to him. They was always my friends. He kept on aggravating and I thought what can I do to torture this man. He's a-killing everyone of us. And the floor furnace kicked on about that time. And I said, I know what I'll do, I'll scorch you on this furnace. So I turned that furnace up. I turned up the thermostat as high as it would go,
and I just drug him right over that furnace it was scorching hot and I was ( ) that furnace on his skin everywhere it would fit and I said, now that's what hells like, and that's where you're going if you don't leave me and these children alone. (laughter) He didn't care. He was so evil and hateful and mean. The children didn't like him either that much. When he was sober he was quiet as you all are and nice as he can be. So, you know, its just strange what kind of fellar he was. He was one of the best moonshiners there was. He could make the best - what he'd do and I learned to do it, he would borrow money, if you had liquour you had money, and we'd get us some meal and get us some sugar, and we'd cook us a barrel or two, and he had the reed(?) copper reed, so sometime before the ( ) he would be drunk from drinking the beer out of the barrels. Well then we got two barrels of beer to cook off and him drunk. So it was left up to me to cook it off. So I would have to cut wood, drag wood, but I would run it off and get that whiskey and get it hid and stuff. And as long as you had whiskey, you had money too. So I'd sell that moonshine and I learned to make it. I made it and made it and made it. I didn't want to. It wasn't my choice, but just like everything else, he'd always fall back on me to do it.

Interviewer - Sell it yourself and keep the money?
Eula - Yeah, keep the money but the children some clothes. I paid for one of the houses there where my son lives not. But you know I was in North Carolina once. Where's .. that .. Chapel Hill - it was another place, I forget, and we was talking about moonshine and the ways of the mountain people and stuff, and this one guy he got up there and he put moonshine down that it was poison. He was ( ) radiators in cars and it would kill you. and he talked about all the people that had died and all that stuff. And I said, what revenuer have you talked to, what book have you read? I said we don't drink that way. I said, we ain't never killed nobody. Fact, I said, we used it for deliveries and for pulling teeth and I said, you know, that's a big resource to us and its a money making thing to us. I said, who in the world educated you? I said, we don't do it that way. That's not the Kentucky moonshine. And I said, where in the world were you? That must be away down in Georgia somewhere, where you don't know what you're doing. (laughter) He really put it down, but, really, its not. Its safest whiskey there are if the person that makes it knows what they've made. Its nothing but corn and sugar and mild corn, and copper.

Interviewer - Take a break.
Eula - Well, now, I really didn't start it. I was instrumental in starting it. I was involved and I was involved on several of the committees with the welfare . . . we had a real old man that was the president.

Interviewer - Can you talk about people and how it got started, most...
Eula - We was a member of the national welfare rights.
Interviewer - Most of those were blacks or people in cities alot of them.
Eula - Well, this was - we got started because of the problems here and how we wanted to do something about it. We organized the people and educated the people on those problems and who was to blame, and what route we wanted to take to try to do away with some of the problems we had, with the lunchroom health problems, and roads. In the sixties there wasn't a bridge at ( ) that big concrete bridge you come by. It was just a wood span and it had been condemned by the state for years. And the school bus had to stop on each side and let the children walk across. It was one lane, and there was big holes in it you could have fell through. You had a half a mile to go down. So we got petitions and went to the governor and got the bridge.

Interviewer - How did you start the organization?

Eula - How did we start our welfare rights? We wanted to organize, just like a union. We wanted to have our own body, our own unity so we could deal with problems we was faced with. And you know we were stronger in groups than we were individuals, and we had hundreds of members, but you know we had to have leaders. And I was chairman of the health committee, and I was chairman of the transportation committee, and I was on a lot of boards. I was always helping work with the union, volunteer work. And I had good support. If it hadn't been for UMW financially, we'd of had trouble starting our first clinic. But we got a retainer fee with the union as soon as we got licensed and financially they helped us.

Interviewer - Was there a strong ( )?

Eula - Then it was, right strong. Its not that way anymore. The union is the weakest I've ever seen it.

Interviewer - So that's how you knew about organizing.

Eula - Oh, I tried to organize when I was in New York when they didn't pay me. When I was 14, I was organizing. I always knew it took people to get anything to change, to get things done.

Interviewer - Was the tradition amoomg the mine workers strong?

Eula - Very strong. The women were strong support for men and the miners. I was in that Harlan county . . .

Interviewer - We saw that the other night. I saw you and I told Sarah ther's Eula.

Eula - We give a lot of health care for them miners where they had cut off their health care over there. We had 'em to come over here. We'd give 'em medicine, and helped 'em with food and fund raising as well as doing picket duty. The clinic did.

Interviewer - The Appalachian volunteers, are they . . .

Eula - They're gone.

Interviewer - Were they instrumental in . . .

Eula - The Appalachian volunteers, right here there were only two of us. Steve Brooks and me. That's the only two there were. They were other AVs, but not in this area, not in Mud Creek. The others would help, they all helped, we worked together. And we worked with the council of (seven mountains?) which was a real strong organization then, from different states, you know, and then we worked with the union and with any local group, grass roots group that would help us with the problems and support us in what we was trying to do to get better services in this area, like water and roads and schools and transportation, and
whatever, you know. Health care was always my main priority because of the suffering I'd seen. It just, this place here, its just a dream come true. I couldn't tell you how proud I am even though its small and it don't do everything I'd like to see it do, but I wish we were ten times this size with ten times the staff, because there's a bigger demand here. But with what we've got we've been blessed with some of the best staff, and with what we've got, we've really utilized it to the fullest. When you come here, you don't know what you're going to deal with that day. The only thing here if there's a car wreck down the road, we're gone. If there's a mine accident back on the hill, we're gone. If something happens at home, we're gone. If it's an emergency here, we deal with it. A lot of times its to get an ambulance or helicopter - you do what you have to do. And sometimes, you can't get anybody, and you do it yourself. I've left this door and been in Lexington in less than 2 hours with a critical patient. I've got four wheel driving a van, but I don't like to do that. I wish that we could buy ambulance, but some people don't have money and the ambulance services is private. They don't have to come. And most of them, one of the women that works here, her daughter's got an ambulance service and she's good about getting out here. But before her you couldn't get an ambulance without money up front. I went through the crowd begging money out here to get somebody out here. You're talking about at least a 125 or 150 dollars if its just local. You most of the time have to have a nurse and an ambulance. You know, we do what we have to do. Last week, we had a terrible thing. There was a little kid, one of the poorest families in the area, and they had an old wringer type washer out on the back porch of an old run down trailer, and that washer was loaded with clothes and water was running, and somehow it fell off the porch and hit the little 3 year old and crushed him. He was dead when he got in here. But the father didn't even have transportation, he was running up the road with him, and one of the patients was coming from the clinic, stopped and picked him up and it was dead on arrival of course, we tried everything. We took it to McDowell and they pronounced it dead at the hospital, but we knew it was dead. And I took the family over there. That just drained us all that day. It was the cutest little thing you ever seen. Since then, we've had a lady come in - she'd slashed her wrists to the bone. It was terrible, and she just - she's a nice woman. But she ( ). You never know when you come out here in the morning what you're going to do. Same thing when you have to go home. I never know where I'll be called. I'm on call 24 hours, and when I go home, a lot of time, there are people in my driveway. Its too late to come out here so they wait on me at the house. But I represent people at their disability hearing, social security, food stamps and things. So a lot of times, they just save their papers until at home and then I work on them there. A lot of weekends I do the same stuff for them, transport 'em. If they have to have an evaluation by a specialist of the social security, they decide they want so and so to evaluate these people - we're not taking Mud Creek reports - we're going to have an evaluation done by our doctors. They'll set it up in Blacksburg or Lexington, and these people have never
driven that far, they'll have a reliable vehicle sometimes, and I take 'em. But they only pay 'em so much a mile, but I never take their money. And I take 'em make sure - a lot of times I can talk to the doctor better than they can and explain to the evaluator the situation. And I've helped a lot of 'em get their benefits by just being there and explaining what we know about it, what I know about them. People get offended, they really humiliate 'em, and they don't tell anything. They just almost throw their hands up before they go, what the heck, you know. I've won 90% of my claims. I work hard on it. I got three hearings in one day the 5th of October. I usually schedule two in the morning and two in the afternoon, so that when I go to Prestonburg, I don't have to come back until I get it all done.

Interviewer - How would you evaluate the how things have changed here in Mud Creek over the last 25 years?

Eula - There're much better. Course now, unemployment right now is the highest I've ever seen it in Mud Creek. There's less jobs. The mines have stopped operating, just minimum, and there's no work. For a while, when the first black lung law was set aside, it was not very good, social security got hold of it and the administered it, and the rules and regulations were so stiff, people couldn't qualify. We went right back and I was president of the Kentucky Black Lung Association. We even went back and lobbied again in Washington, and we got the law amended in '72 which made it much easier to qualify. And then thousands and thousands of miners qualified for benefits under the amendment, and I could represent 'em. Lot of them didn't have attorneys and I could represent 'em. I seen a big change then where people - every time they got any kind of money over what they had to live on, they repaired their house. They would put indoor plumbing, and they'd add a room on, or they'd remodel and make their house a lot more comfortable. They'd get a better vehicle, and they could buy better clothes for their children, educate their kids better, and I've seen a big improvement in that. And then I've seen healthwise this clinic has saved thousands of lives, and its made life better by being here to provide good health care for thousands and thousands of people that otherwise a lot of people would be dead or a lot of people would be so sick, they'd be dying. And you know, we don't stop with what we can do here. If its a surgical problem, we don't just send you out of here because we cant do surgery. We make sure we find somebody, if its rehabilitation, or if its ( ) or ( ) we know about these programs and we know where the help is. And we will not let up or stop until we get something done. If its glasses or hearing aids or whatever. We try to find a Lions club or a church or a road block or chiken and dumpling dinner I don't care. There is money out there. Right now its the hardest time to get money though. But I just got a call from one of our state representatives, and he said that Gore had kinda indicated he wanted to visit eastern Kentucky, and that if he did, he wanted to see the clinic. So its a possibility that we'll get to Senator Gore to the clinic. Hal Rogers was here about two or three weeks ago. He's been to the clinic before. Senator Kennedy's been here. Edward Kennedy's been here. We've had a lot of visitors, you
know, and that helps us. Anytime there's a story on the clinic like Peoples magazine had a story, tyhe First (?) magazine did a story. There was another one (?) magazine. We get donations. See this part of the clinic was not here this time last year. This is an addition that we added on, and I did it because things like we're doing now, can't do it in my office, because there's too much traffic and we needed a place when we have visitors where we can sit down. And then there's ( ) that's because we have so much depression. People in such stressful situations. They got counselors over there. It helps us. You know I don't do it for any glory, you know, its just be as well to me if nobody didn't know me because the people know me here and that's my pride and that's what I pride in is what I can do here, what I can do for somebody that needs me like ( ) and stuff like that . As far as a big name for myself, I don't want it. You know, I'm just one of these people here. I feel no better, no bigger than anyone else, cause I'm one of 'em, I always have been, I always will be. I don't want to be anything else. You know, what I do, I tell you the truth, I do it to help the people, to help keep this place going and hope to expand it so I can do more services for the people here. I'm really proud of the clinic, and I've tried with the help of ?? health care to get another clinic like this in Pye county, and we've recruited two physicians that'll be graduating in July of next year. Hopefully, in July next year, we'll have a clinic ready for two physicians to walk in. Because we got 900 patients from Pye county. We got people driving 75 mile one way to see the doctor here. We got people from Virginia, West Virginia, we've got people for northern Virginia. We got people from the Virginia-West Virginia line. We got Johnson county, Knott county, Pye county and one reason - we do good health care, another reason our fees are low, minimum or nothing. We care about people. There should be a clinic like this in every county, and they wouldn't be so many problems

Interviewer- Would the new clinic in Pye(?) county face the same political battles that you fought?
Eula - Just like this. We fight battles cause Dr. ( ) does not like me. she don't like Mud Creek clinic, she don't like me. She is pretending to be a Christian and she is a good doctor. She knows what she's doing. But I'd say Dr. ( ) she works for the Pye county health department, and I'll bet she don't see anybody other than for immunization or some kind of state health department regulation, and no mess. You know, there's nothing compared to this place. But she is anti. I know we talked about it years ago, and she was one of the biggest opposers. And when they had the Kentucky health planning council and you had to plan and go through a lot of red tape to get licensed or get a certificate of need, she fought us harder than anybody. I helped people at the hearings at Lexington and I tried to take people down there, you know, that knew what the life was and what it would be without the loads and loads of people to Lexington. And she had the doctors in Pye(Pike?) county down there to testify, and they are good doctors. There're specialists, but they don't see people can't pay maybe once in a lifetime. But no follow-up,
no care. So one of 'em put his foot in his mouth. He was down there and of course the news people was there, and he said that Pike county had some of the best doctors in the nation. Which I won't dispute that. They're very good doctors, and he said, we take care of Pike county, Pike ( ) had a population of 5500 and we take care of everybody's health needs regardless. You know 5500 people compare that - that's city and of course these people, you know, and I got him. As quick as he said that, I said that's true, I don't dispute it, but wheres these people that are out in Greasy Creek ( ) Phelps, ( ) and all those places, but where are they? I'm sure you're taking good care of ( ) nobody's disputing that, but do you ever see these people. And he just looked at me. He put his foot in his mouth. I said what are they doing? Just exactly what people in Mud Creek did before Mud Creek clinic. We aren't taking a penny away from those doctors up there. What we can do, if its something we know here and a doctor calls a surgeon and he says you know I think you ought to do this, they don't have a lot of time, you don't go into this or that. They put 'em on the spot, kinda, to get it done. Well the poor patient showed up, the receptionist would say, if you don't have the money, well get out of here. They're paid to do that. You know, one time I got into it with the Appalachian Regional Hospital in McDowell. They held a big chain conference they got hospitals in several different area and counties. Well they decided one year they'd have their big annual thing over at ( ). Well somebody had told me and said you ought to be over there. And I said, I will. They just turned one of my patients away the other night hospitalization. And they got a big sign up outpatient pay cash. When I got over there and I snuck in they passed out their fact sheet. The third paragraph on that fact sheet said, we provide adequate health care to anybody regardless of race, creed, color or ability to pay. So I just let 'em get up and start their speech, and I raised up waved that fact sheet and I said, whose responsible for this? Who printed this? and they said, Oh, Eula how are you, how's Mud Creek? I said, fine, I said, who printed this? They said it come out of the main office. I said this third paragraph is a biggest lie ever printed on a blue sheet of paper. Cameras and lights a-flashing. He said, why? the other night - and the administrator of that hospital was sitting there - I said, ain't this right Mr. Connel(?) I was over there with a patient and y'all turned away. I said tell me, who printed this big lie? Then he got all colors, and he said, Eula, we need to meet, we need to talk. I said, its a little late, ain't it? and he said, no we need to meet, we need to talk, that's what this meetings for. and I said I'm willing to meet with you anytime, anywhere, and he said, what about tomorrow? I said what about 7 o'clock before I go to work. I know he wasn't going to get up - they drink all night, they'd be hung over big the next morning. (laughter) He said, all right. So I picked me up a bunch of people and I went over there. He said what do you think we ought to do? I said, number 1, start with the receptionist at the front desk. Tell them girls to quit turning people away and quit calling the polices when they don't go. And I said have an
emergency room doctor paid by the hospital so the doctor can't say I'm private and I don't have to see you 'cause you don't pay. Hire you a doctor and stick him in there and tell him to see people. I said have you some drugs there for these people that hadn't got no money and can't buy. I said writing 'em a prescription ain't worth the paper you wrote on because they hadn't got no money to buy. And I said that's my three concerns. Straighten them girls out at the front desk, put you a doctor or nurse to see the patients, and give 'em some medicine. And they did. They did. They trained 'em and they did for a little while, they fell right back in the same old pattern. But I really embarrassed him good. And one old woman was going to defend 'em and she was about two rows up front and she raised up, well I think this and I think that. I said, honey what kind of insurance have you got? and she had two or three kinds. And I said that's the reason you're number 1 and you're top priority and they're benefiting from you. I said, I can get one back here, who's the direct opposite. She started to say, don't bring this and that, and I was, I just rolled a piece of paper, and I said shut up. The camera was really doing 'em. I didn't have to say no more. The camera had 'em right where they wanted 'em, you know. The program is the same from the county. Them people they denied they had already been programmed, they knew exactly who they had and how well they could blow it up, you know. And they didn't like a thing I said. It made headlines in so many papers. It ought to be, it ought to be. You know, its just like preachers going to church on Sunday. Why do they get out and preach hallelujah and then come back here and do anything in the world to these poor people. Just certain kinds of people get in certain churches. That's not religion and that is not Christianity, you know. Its wrong, its very wrong. To me its wrong. That's why I don't belong. I don't agree with it, I believe in doing what's right, but I don't believe in doing it that way. You are or you ain't.

Interviewer - You talked earlier about a judge or county courthouse that they kind of put a stop to this. What was his... Eula - They took us to fiscal court. They ousted Vista. Because we had our own paper and just like if the school lunch program we'd write it up in that paper then what had happened with health care and somebody turned somebody away, we wrote it up. It was news, it was community news, and they said in one of the fiscal court meetings that the judge weighed that paper and said this has to go. They burnt the outpost down that night with the press in it, and then when he got in on this health care thing, he would hold his meetings anywhere but where we could get there. Now he had some local people on the board, but they were local people he controlled. They had to have a minority on, ( ) McDowell - they went out and got a black man and that blessed old black man was the best person - he done exactly what the judge said, afrais not to. I've seen big tears roll down his cheeks when we was talking about how bad things were - he knew that. Nobody knew it any better than he did, and they wouldn't of picked that blessed old feller up if they hadn't of needed him and they used him. That's exactly what they done.

Interviewer - Who were the judges?
Eula - The judge then was a county judge Henry Stumbough, stayed in 30 some year. He died in office and then his daughter run it a little while. She had me locked up down there one day for four hours. But I started to slap her good. I didn't know the county detective cause I didn't fool around with judges office that much. I didn't like him. He didn't like me, but I had to go in there one day and I was in there talking to her wasn't no court was in session that day - me and her - and over here was somebody and I didn't know and didn't pay no attention but I was talking to her and it was on one of these things, they were going to turn this feller out, and I said, if you turn him out he going to do just what he's done or more. they were going to turn him out on signing his own bond, sign his own recognition. I said, if he does this court right here will be held responsible because you're the one making the decision what happens to the ( ). And she said that's contempt of court. And I said what court? And she said (Pike) county court. I said, there ain't no court in session. I thought you had to be on the bench, and I said, you mean people can't talk to you unless you're in a robe and on the bench? That old feeler - she said, she got real snobby. I said, you know you just need somebody to smack the hell out of you, someone like that. That done it. He jumped up and he grabbed me by the arm. He thought I'll man-handle her, and right out we go. He yanking me by the arm just like he had the biggest criminal in the world. I don't consider myself a criminal. But we got out there in the hall way, people everywhere, and I said, let go my arm, I know where the elevators is and when I said that he just- you know how people in authority can act. I just busted his face and I was already mad, and I said if we're going to jail I'm going for something and I just busted his stomach. Didn't know he'd had surgery. I hit him in the belly, and he trying to squirt me with mace, and he's trying to do everything to me. Jerking me around and I was hitting him and kicking him, and we got down to the elevator and he's hollering Help, Help (laughter) and here comes the sheriff out of his office. And he said what's going on Eula? and I said, I don't know, ask this man. He collapsed and passed out. He'd had surgery and I didn't know it. He was supposed to have a heart attack. It made front page of the ( )County Times. The sheriff said you get in here, and get out of here. They will lock you up. I said, I don't care if they do, but he wanted to jerk me around and man-handle me in front of people. I'll kill him, you know, I was mad. I was going to bust him good. I said, nobody treats me like that in public. So I went in the sheriff's office. I was going to sit there a few minutes and get out. The state police come, daggone if the state police didn't some, said you're going to jail. They took me kept me four hours. But lord, I had a multitude of people when they found out they'd put me in jail they all come a lot of people did, and they stayed up there with me. I filled out their forms. The reason I was there to start with was to help some of 'em so I just took care of my paperwork up there in jail. When they opened the door and they said I'd stay so long - I said I got four hours. Four hours, I got a watch, and when they opened the door in four hours I said you don't want to go down the
stairs with me. I mean you push me no further. But the circuit judge called and told the sheriff, he said I would come down and write up a writ habeaus corpus and turn you a-loose. But he said time I get down there from over here she'll be out anyway. Time I get it done - she'll be out anyway in four hours. I figured he was sue me. I figured he'd try to do something to me because he'd had surgery, but I guess he figured I'd get him just as good as he'd got me if he did. So that was it, right there. It made headlines in the ( ) County Times. But now, you know, if I'd broke the law and they want to lock me up, they could have done it nice. If he'd just said we're going to jail, and that'd been it. I wouldn't of said a word to him, but he just jerked me around, jerked me by my sore arm anyway. I just said to myself if I have to go to jail, I'll go for knocking the devil out of you and that's where I went right up the stairs. It happened just like I said it would. He got out, it wadn't no time until he was back in for manslaughter.

Interviewer - So are things differnet around here in terms of local politics?

Eula - I don't have no trouble with the politicians. You've heard that old saying, if you can't beat 'em, join 'em. So that's what - we didn't join them, they joined us. They don't do a thing to me if I got a speeding ticket I can get it took care of if I can get a paper filled out I can sign sombody's bond that gets in jail. Its not the same people. They see what was done out here, and a lot of these people we helped is their people. These people would be at the court house trying to get help if they didn't get it here. So they really decided, really acknowledged that this clinic, is just, you know, a spark in the dark. And its just a light at the end of the tunnel for a lot of people. We don't have no trouble with politicians anymore. When I need to get a letter of recognition for our grant, they don't hesitate to write it. Twenty year ago they'd of put me in jail if I'd of asked 'em to. You see, when we got licensed, we had to have a local medical society's approval, you had to have local government, and you know, we couldn't have gotten that after we defunded that million and a half dollar a year program after we documented all the deficiencies, we could have gotten that approval 'bout as good as we could fly away. But you know, either way around things, we got it but - it went over, we got it. So we had different contacts and different prices. Instead of getting a judge to sign it, we got the magistrate which was the closest thing to the local government, and he was the enemy of the judge. So he signed it in a heartbeat. And instead of getting some of the local doctors to sign it, we got the president who was a foreign feller that had got his bitter training with 'em at the start. So we got by, we got our license without too big a hassle. But the judge was so dumb, he didn't know he even had to sign to get it, and some of us didn't know either, so we was licensed and in operation 'fore they know. "Fore they know how to stop us. So we never - we kept going. You have to know how to get around 'em if you can't deal with 'em. I used to be worried - I got shot at and I was worried - in the 60s and all through the 70s I was pretty scared. I watched - I was out all the time, I watched but I'm not worried
anymore. I have too many friends, and we've done too much for things to - we don't have no hassle with 'em, we don't fight with 'em like we did.

Interviewer - In the near future if there was ever a moment in our nation's history where more federal funding were available for projects or clinics like this would there be as much political resistance today as there was.

Eula - They'd support it. Its changed, because they can't run a clinic, the local government. Governments don't need to be in medical care. They don't know much about the needs of people like there is like this, they're not out here. Maybe one time in a helicopter just before the election, drop down some leaflets, or something. They don't know the needs of the people here. That's why things are as bad as they are. That's why the problems is like they are. They don't know what we need, They don't know how bad these roads are. They don't travel 'em everyday. They don't know what goes on out here and there's a lot of money comes into Appalachia but a lot of times it never gets to the people its intended to. And time it gets there, its shaved to the core and there ain't much left. If the people hadn't started this clinic on their own, and proved that the need was here and problems that people was faced with trying to get adequate health care, we'd of never got federal money. But you know, when we get congressmen and senators here they can handle the local politicians anyway. So we got a good reputation. We've done well. We've took care of as many people as we could. We do everything we can with the tax payers money. They got nothing to say about it. They can't say nothing but good about it. Its just like going to school like I did when I was a poor kid trying to prove a point that I could beat another school, you have to do it. You can't tell 'em you can do it because they don't even listen. You have to prove it to 'em and we did. We have. Sheriff ( ) was very impressed with what we've done here. I gave him a tour out here to some of the poorest homes with the electricity being cut off, was children there that don't have adequate heat, and I took him where there's no roads to the house. I took him to show him where people were living in barns that had been boxed up and made into some semblance of a house, and I took him to where people didn't have beds and were sleeping on mattresses on the floor, you know. I showed him the worst, and some people in Mud Creek got mad. Why didn't you show him my house! I've got a brick home. I said, well he's used to that. (laughter). You know, he's got all that. He don't need to see that. And I don't need to show him what you got. You know I think its good you've got it. I don't have to worry your starving or freezing or going without health care. We're more worried about these people that don't have what you've got. I didn't bring him in here to show him the glamour, I wanted to show him the gloom. And he got his eyes full. He did. Same thing with the camera people, TV people. We took 'em in the mines and showed 'em what it would be like to mine in 28 to 30 inch coal crawl all day and we took 'em right in where they're shooting, loading and they were scared to death. They didn't know any better go in. They probably hadn't - wouldn't took a million dollars if they'd known what they were getting into. If you've
never seen nothing, you know, you don't know what its like. Seeing is believing. And it was very educational for 'em. We had a cook-out at my house, and I had moonshine. They'd never drunk moonshine, they didn't know how powerful it was, you know. And they was drinking like you would beer, and I told one of 'em, I said you'll be laying down in a few minutes, you can't do that. They was from the city they can do it all. I said myself it's you you ain't working go ahead. Another time they left Frank(?) couldn't get up. (laughter) When they pulled out of my driveway, somebody there was with us, they'd cooked out with us, said "Goodnight America." (much laughter)

Interviewer - What have you done - talking about unemployment around here, the worst you've ever seen it.

Eula - Its the worst I've ever seen it. I don't think that the unions don't. And the sad part about that is cooperators is going to force these people - I won't say its gone, but I say its going to take a lot of organizing, its going to be almost like starting over to get the union back strong again. Until then, the miners are going to be working for low wages. No health care and dangerous conditions again. You can't open your mouth or you'll be fired. They 'bout got the miners back where they was before the 30s when they had to organize. Until there are some more factories, or some kind - and you know we're rich in natural resources, with coal and gas and timber, I don't know why our governor says this is the other Kentucky that they don't try to put something in here that is going to give people jobs and get people back on their feet. I know people are getting more education than they've ever had. More people are going to college, more people completing high school and I'm not saying we don't have a high drop-out rate, we do, but there're more people getting more education now than ever I remember. More people in school, but these people when they graduate, what've they got? Where they going? Used to you could go up North and get a job - Detroit, Baltimore, Chicago and be almost going to your job the next day when you went out and filled out an application. Its not that way now. The cities is worse off than we are. What's people going to do? My son graduated from college in May and Tape 2, side 2 lives in Michigan. He's still working, he's worked 20 some year at (Great Lake?) steel. He said he's looking to get laid off. He bought a home when he first went up there, and he ain't got it half paid for yet. They add your tax and they add sidewalk for in front of your house. Everything goes on your mortgage, and he pays - we figured it up - it comes out better than a rental would because he's paying 300 and something a month on it which you couldn't hardly rent anything for that, and he's got better control than he would have to put up with a landlord. But he's got so many years, and that house cost him 30 some thousand when he bought it, that house and lot, and if pays on it as long as he should, he's going to pay up close to 96 thousand, he's going to pay for that. He said it wasn't worth the 30 some. But I said, you look at it that way that's the bad way. But you look at it as not having to fool with a landlord and paying rent like you'd have to pay - you're better off. And he said, yes I'm better off
paying for it. But people had to come back here, a lot of people had to sell, got laid off, they had to come back, and they had to go in amuch worse house situation then they had they had and draw unemployment benefits out. There's no jobs and they're here on food stamps - a lot of people that were middle class people five years ago working maybe both of 'em working. Now there's so many here unemployed. and you know, there's no relief in sight so Bush says Read My Lips, No More Taxes. He turns around and he raises 'em. He blames congress for that of course. And he won't debate Gov. Clinton and he's got a solution for the economy. I guess its read my lips, plenty of jobs, just get me back in or something. But we know better than that. What are we going to do? Where are we going? What's our children going to do? You don't see - people are scared to death that's he's going to do something with Medicare and he's going to cut social security. Well, he tried black lung- Reagan did once, you know. And we had to go to Washington and march and lobby up there for two or three days when he's threatening the black lung program. Reagan did. And we stopped that with the help of the congress, you know, and the UMWA that's up there. So now, people scared to death. And people's got money is afraid to spend it because they don't know what they're going to have to do with their families, you know. The co-operators has got a lot of money. You can't get nothing out of 'em now. You can't get a donation out of 'em hardly, because they holding on - they don't know what the future holds. Its really sad. If he does something with - what's that program - with Medicaid - you know the food stamp program could be much, much better. People really don't benefit as much as they could from some programs. I think the food stamp program is good to feed people, but there ought to be jobs. You could take a lot of that money and put in factories. Give people food stamps that ain't able to work. But people that's able to work, give 'em money, give 'em a job, give 'em money , give'em back their dignity, self respect. You know, when you lose that you're just about lost. That's why there's suicides. One week here we had four suicides. We had an unemployed coal miner to take the hill(?) with a shotgun and shoot hisself in the stomach and he's a man that was raised with my children. We had another woman suicide that just can't take it. You know the woman suffers I guess in a way like more than a man. Men may suffer but they don't show it. They're not as emotional. Bills a-stacking up and lack of food and utilities then threats of disconnect and you know, you just can't go straight. You've got them little children to worry about all of 'em, and if you get a payday coming you know you may can pay them bills, but if there ain't nothing coming you know what you've got to look forward to, and like that 48 hour programs that people lay in the 'til 11 o'clock. I've seen the time if I could have slept 48 hours I would of. I didn't want to get up and face reality, you know. So what have you got to get up for if you don't have a job of no reason to get up. That's the reason a lot of people get on drugs, they can't face the music its just too much.

Interviewer - One of the things that stirking is there is a section of town with strip malls and then you turn off the road
then you enter a different world. It looks like some people have like William's Liquor Store and so and so's auto parts- a different economy. Are there people here that benefit from Wal Mart.

Eula - Yeah, they do. Some of the people that's on welfare gets a welfare check. They head over there any buy a pair of shoes on sale for their child or some of the older people go to Wal Marts the first day of the month. You see a lot of 'em up there because they get their toilet paper, you know, and their detergents and stuff. Its a lot cheaper than the country store. So they do go and they shop and they congregate and they meet people and they talk. Some of the stores employ people. Somebody's got a relative up there working. They work 'em - nobody gets full time because of fringe benefits and so they work part-time. You don't say nothing. You can get hired and fired the same day.

Interviewer - These are all the corporations that have their main offices...

Eula - They had a Murphy Mart and the changed it to Hanes and it went out. And then they had Hecht's - it gone. They've had several of the big ones and didn't last, they're gone. Wal Marts and K Marts I imagine there're here for a while. And they do employ some people but they're part-time. You could live 'bout as good on welfare and food stamps as good or better than working at Wal Marts because you've got to buy gasoline to get there and you've got to have a baby-sitter if you've got children you could come out in the hole. So really a lot of peoples that's working there is peoples that's got money. The poor don't get no richer.

Interviewer - People go up there to shop and eat and stuff
Eula - Yes, some do. Some go to the dollar store at Prestenburg. Lot of people go up there.

Interviewer- Talked earlier about one of the things that was important to you is the chance to work for Appalachian vista, ( ) Appalachian volunteers that work the clinic, and talked about one of your brothers that worked for the CCC.

Eula - He went to the three Cs and then he went to war.

Interviewer - What would be the prospect of having, what would be the impact of having government jobs like that -
Eula - Be good! Mostly, they're training programs. You know, (name) told me that when he went in he signed up for heavy equipment operator, and he never drove a vehicle in his life. He'd never been ion the wheel of a car, you know, but we were in the three Cs. He's fascinated. He wanted to learn. And he said I knew I never run no - I just signed up as a driver. And he learned. He learned to drive anything. But when he got in there, he said I don't drive nothing. But he was smart. And then he come back and he went into the coal mines and he was the boss, he was the foreman of the coal miners for 20 some year. But he got wounded in the war and he got disabled when he was close to 60 and he died with a massive heart attack at 66. He died last year. But he was over here late today and he brought his wife to see the doctor. He's doing good. He went home and went to feed his
horses and fell and they called me and I sent an ambulance over and got him, and we flew him out of [there] to Lexington and he died. That's just about the way it is. You work your life away. Retire and you got a year or two then you go on. But he really worked hard. He enjoyed the three Cs because, you know, it got him out of that cycle he was in there. And it give us a little money though they paid very low wages, the three Cs did. It give him a little money and he give us a little bit but I can remember when a quarter was - I went to school there's a little spring in kinda a hollow - there's a little hole and it was just a thing we do, we'd run and stick our head and get us a sip of water, and I stuck my head over there once and [found] a quarter. I thought I was rich. That was the first quarter I ever had in my life. I'd had some pennies and a nickel a time or two, but I hadn't had a quarter. And my aunt lived on the poor farm, you know, our county used to have what was called the poor farm or the poor house, and if you couldn't live no other way, 'course it destroyed your pride. A lot of people just went and checked in the poor house. She was living in the poor house, her and her two children and her husband was disabled. Well the city dump wasn't far from the poor house and she would go to the city dump and they would dump better stuff than we'd ever seen in our life. And she'd get shoes that just had a strap broke or something, and she'd pick up dishes that just had a gap broke out of 'em, not very big, so she was giving us some good stuff. I can remember she give me a little willow sectional plate and it just had a gap broke out of it. Lord, I ate out of that plate for probably 15 years. She got a pair of slippers out of the dump and I gave her that quarter I found for a pair of slippers and I felt - there wasn't a movie star or a first lady that felt as big as I did in them white slippers that she found at the dump - I give her my quarter. And how I guess that quarter got there - they played poker down at the poor farm and people'd congregate and gamble. I'll bet one of 'em got him a drink and dropped that quarter out of his pocket or something. I never could figure out how that quarter got there. Money was so scarce. But I bought them shoes and that she got at the dump for that quarter. They was good, they was not cheap slippers and I wore 'em and wore 'em and wore 'em. But I had me a good pair of slippers. She'd get so sick at the poor farm, and you know they didn't have very much freedom. But she'd get so sick - they'd walk from Powell to Greasy Creek to our house and spend a weekend, and then they'd have to go back. And if she could find her a little place in the spring she'd think well we can raise enough to not starve, after a while we'll come back out of that poor house, we're sick of that poor house. She'd say this one is mean to me and that one is mean to me. She'd move back and come winter, they couldn't make it and they'd have to go back in the poor house. But they worked people that was able to work. She had she called it the (physick), asthma was what she had and she wheezed. She wasn't able to work. They didn't make her work. Her husband either. They were disabled. There was nothing o draw She'd got old enough - they'd put in low wage pension into effect so she started drawing a little bit of money a month and she lived out a few years before
she died. I always helped her, going in and doing things for her. My daddy raised a little patch of tobacco every year for his own use and she smoked a pipe. and I took her many a twist of tobacco, what we called ground leaves, the bottom leaves. Daddy would save them and bag 'em I would take her a whole bag and she'd smoke that homemade pipe out of a corncob.

Interviewer - The thing that strikes me most about your clinic now - given all the kinds of economic problems that exist you're probably servicing a lot more people and a lot more pressure on you, these people coming back from the North.

Eula - That's right. The case load is heavier and we just can't take care of all of 'em and it hurts me to turn somebody away. I'm always going home with a heavy burden because we have to screen. If a diabetic comes in and is out of medicine, we know they can't wait we have to see that diabetic. But if somebody come in with high blood pressure that's not extremely high, that don't have a doctor and no medicine, we as if they can come back tomorrow. You've got to screen, and you've got to set priority what's the highest risk and which can wait the longest and set. You know they're so understanding. Bless their hearts. They know we do our best. We're not trying to discriminate and I explain to 'em. I say, now if you was this patient and she was here, would you want to go in front of her. No. She's more danger than you are. Can you wait until we come back tomorrow or the next day whenever the doctor can get you in here. And they come back. Sure do. There should be more clinics like this. This clinic should be ten times its size. I've hoped for a holding area where we could hold people at least 36 hours and we've cut down on hospitalization for a lot of people, and we do a better job because we care more. But if you know the government don't change. A lot of laws changed and a lot of emphasis put on people instead of politics. I love that saying, tax the rich, I just love it. Put a ceiling on how rich you can get. These are coal operators, my brother-in-law's a coal operator, they make a million. And these coal miners survive - they survive until they get black lung then they die. Just like turning a horse out to green pasture. They don't turn these miners out to green pasture, they just turn 'em away from the job. They go home and suffer. You can go up and down this road in the summer any hour of the night, you'll hear somebody talk, it'll be dark, it'll be a light on, you hear somebody coughing and there'll be a man sitting on the porch trying to breathe a lot of times. I've seen that many a night. I've stopped "What're you doing up, what're you doing out?" "I'm trying to get my breath. I just couldn't sleep." You don't hear them complaining they may not even come into the doctor the next day. They come in when they think they're going to smother to death. But you see up and down these hollows regular a man sitting out on the porch 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning trying to breathe. You ever been in the coal mines?

Interviewer - No.

Eula - There's so much dust in the coal mines. I've been in. I've stayed in all day at a time. My husband worked in it and his brother is a coal operator so we'd go in on Saturday and he'd clean up, help with the batteries on charge, check the breakers
and do things. There's so much dust in there just from going in
on a scoot and it covers your glasses. You can't see if you try
to rub
em off, it scratches 'em. And time you come out of there, you can
spit it up, you can rub it out ( ) and there ain't no
machines a-running and the water is in there. Its terrible how
they live 10 year in there, some 20, 25. But you know I guess a
body can stand a lot more than we think it can to put it through
that much abuse. And you know, I've seen the lungs of coal miners
and they're coal black some of 'em. I mean they're black and
white, what that coal dust and rock dust. See you have the rock
dust. My son Danny rock dusting and he's deaf. He worked in the
mines and he rock dusted to keep down explosions and fire and
that rock dust - no mask, no nothing. He's in there a-slinging
that stuff, bag after bag. Until he makes coal snow white and you
can't see for that stuff. Now can you imagine what went in his
lungs plus you're stirring up that dust. Its coal black. I've
seen miners lungs - black and white. It looks kind of like your
hair when it goes gray. Then - send you to some doctor that says
its your cigarette smoking. They's a big difference and cigarette
smoking does hurt your lungs and it aggravates lung disease, but
it don't turn 'em white or black. If anything they'd be brown. It
cannot, no matter if they smoked two or three pack a day, they
can't conceal that rock dust coating. what to do. Its there.
Doctors say what they are paid to say a lot of 'em. Here we don't
pay ours to say nothing. They take care of peoples needs. That
makes a difference too. They're not paid to do nothing but do
good health care. If you write a medical report, they state the
facts and they back it up with X-rays and tests.
Interviewer - All the skills you have to have to do the job like
you're doing, you've got to be a politician, administrator,
you're making health decisions of who to take care of and who not
to take care of, and your community organizing. how do you do all
that?
Eula - You do, you go by your feelings and conscience. You do it
'cause you want to do it. first way. And then you do it by the
need you see while you're doing it. You know, you've heard tell
that Doctor, lawyer, merchant, chief - well here to deal with the
problems we have, we don't have money for big professional social
workers and you know, I don't think we need 'em because they're
all for social workers and you don't meet the peoples needs by
coming in here and sitting down. You know I can fill forms out,
and I can do incoming evaluations, but I would fall short of
peoples needs if that's all I done. I make home visits with the
doctors and I'm not a nurse of course or a doctor, but I know
from my own experience how they feel. I know what they need. It
don't take me long to access the needs cause I've been there. And
it don't take me long to figure out what's best because I've been
at this a long time. All my life. And I just took it on myself to
do it. And I never know what I'll do when I come out here, but
I'll do my best and I'll try my best, and I've done a lot. Course
by the doctors and the nurses, its good to have - you have to
have lots of people and I worked with them on decisions and
anything I do I do it legal. You've got to have 'em. I know
medicine. I know the basics what medicines for breathing pills, high blood pills, and circulation pills and pain pills. I know 'em as good as the pharmacy does. The reason I know 'em I delivered I've delivered bag after bag if I go out of here somebody calls me up and says I don't have no medicine, you give me refills, well, when I get them refills, they done told me what they want, and when I get them refills I go check 'em off with the list they told me what to get to make sure I take what they need. I've got what they need, so I've learned the medicines and the streets. I've done the income evaluations there is one question on that income evaluation is do y9u have a vehicle? What kind you got? You know and I've got an '89 Ford or a '72 Chevrolet or I just - I know every name of a car - I filled out them papers, you know and I'm not worrying about what they look like from seeing 'em in 'em, you know and going to their houses and things. You'd be surprised what you, if you want to learn, what you can learn. I missed out on not having a better education. If I'd of had a better education I could have done a lot more than I've done. I can't type and there's small things I can't do I wish I could do. I'm caught sometimes - I need to do. I wish I had got more education. I'd probably been in a better position to do more. Instead of having an administrator in here - I might have been enough if I'd had a college degree or a master's degree in something, you know. But I don't let 'em pull nothing. (laughter) You don't have to have an education to do a lot of things. You have to have sense, common sense. I'm not a genius but I've got some common knowledge. Like my neighbor said one time, well, Eula, its not how smart you are, its how you use it. And how you cultivate what you have got. He said, you cultivate what little sense you have and put it to use. (laughter)
Interviewer - inaudible
Eula - You need people in communities that knows. There's black people nobody knows better in the world what sufferings like, discrimination. And if you're ever going to improve anything get them people involved, 'cause they know it by heart, they know what'll work and what wouldn't. The don't have to have a master's to know that. And you know, you can change things if you work with the right kind of people. Politicians ain't going to change nothing for us 'cause they want us to stay poor, they want us to depend on them, but you know, you don't have to. I won't. If I want something out of 'em I wouldn't be half as polite to them as I would be to you. they owe us we don't owe theme.
Interviewer - Well I think you are right One of the struggles we deal with is the very phenomenon that students that are going to be educated in the formal sense. But in their arrogance they think...
Eula - Students today have not suffered like we did. They don' know, they don't know the history. A lot of black young people don't know the history. They really don't know what it was like. They don't know where they come from. They don't know what their parents or their grandparents went through. Same with my children don't know what it was like. There was a movie producer, they wanted to do the story of my life. And I said I don't care a bit
to do it, but my children they don't want me to. They said you
know, don't do that. It'll hurt our children. We don't want our
children to know what life was like for you Momma, we don't want
'em to know how Daddy beat you and how he abused you. He was our
Daddy and peoples going to look at our children and frown upon
them and I can see their point. I can see it. But I wouldn't do
it. I was offered money, you know to start with, but I said I
wouldn't hurt my children for this world. I don't care a bit to
tell. You know if you keep it - I lived with it a long time - I
was like them, I would have been ashamed to of told you. If you'd
of come to my house and there's best man in the world and
everything was hunky dory there, but you didn't know the hidden
hell that - you've seen the burning bed - the same people that
made that movie come and tried to get me to want to make mine. I
didn't on account of my children. But people won't admit what
things have been like. I will. Its terrible. You know I told, my
children said to me, well my grandchildren, you won't have a bit
of trouble getting in heaven cause you've sure been to hell. I
said, yeah, but you know there's a hell and I enjoy it. I didn't
feel helpless in it like we might wind up one day. I said, you
can do things about hell if you want to. I said, I come out, you
know, without - pretty good, I didn't get scorched too bad.

(laughter) A lot of women in this area, a lot of women has tried
to improve their situations but a lot of 'em - and I can go to
their house right now - if the man was home they won't talk much.
But I can go when he's at work or when he's gone and you'd be
surprised what I'd hear and what I'd find out. You'd be surprised
when he's gone to work they call me up at home. I go get 'em and
take 'em to my house and keep 'em till the coast clears, or
whatever. Its left up to them what they do. But its horrible, its
horrible how women and children suffer more because they're more
like second class. You know prisoners are treated much better
than a lot of women. If I'd of been a prisoner, it wouldn't been
half as bad for me as where I was. Only then I would have been
separated from my children. If they had took children in prison
hell I would have went in a hurry- here we are - let me have my
youngun's and I'll stay with you. Right now when they was going
to put me in jail when they was going to take my husband, me and
my children will be safe in here. I would have gladly went in. We
can't put them children in jail. Eula we'll put you in it. I
said, I'll break one of these windows out and they said we still
won't put you in with these children. Had no protection. I could
go in there if something went wrong. If I called police and it
depends on where they're at how fast they would get out here.
They holler about violence and all this stuff - you have to take
care of yourself. By the time you get the law out here its
terrible. They don't pay polices to run this road. We got a
security run now when an alarm goes off it goes off at the police
station. And at one of the neighbors and my house. We do get
pretty good protection because its already linked up. But if
something happened out here and you called the police, you got no
idea when they'll come. And you know, if its something real bad -
that's why there's so much violence. That's why so many people
get (?). Car wreaks. I seen a man get killed. I was coming up mud
and a coal truck was in front of me and he was driving too fast. The road was wet. He lost it. That truck went - the bed of the truck was kinda bouncing, you know, I didn't see the on-coming traffic because the coal truck was just wobbling around. and first thing I seen was just like an explosion. The car parts just went right out, the windshield, the lights, the hood and then I saw he's killed somebody. And by the time I got out of my van and got to that car that man was dead. He was dead. He'd hit him and knoocked him into a truck and it just jerked his head off. I mean it didn't come off but it broke his neck, jerked his head. It killed him. Polices - I went, got back in the van and went to a neighbor's house and called the police and went back. And I was scared to death. If that man's wife had of come along it would have been hard to tell what had happened there. And there were people angry, people really want to beat up on that coal truck driver I didn't think the police was ever going to come. What do you do? I just set there cause I was an eye witness to the accident. We just don't have much protection. Could have been a lot worse. They get out of here and they talk like war on drugs like its a big deal. Big deal. That weed didn't bother nobody. You won't get into it any bit more than tobacco. If you want to smoke it you'll smoke it. And if you don't want to smoke it you won't. I can't see marijuana for being any more harmful than a cigarette. Our state has blew it out. Everywhere you turn you'll se a dog camouflaged officers and these four wheel drives a-hunting up weed. It is pitiful if you'd leave it these people could sell it and buy 'em some food, pay their bill and stuff.

Interviewer - comment
Eula - Its ignorance. You know there's a lot worse things than marijuana. If it was cocaine and crack and all that gets in here - and god knows who's involved with it - but if they worry about that - hook these children, school kids and things, but I could see that point. You could call 'em up and tell 'em there's a five pound bag of cocaine and a marijuana plant they'd get that hill(?) that marijuana plant and they wouldn't worry (laughter) Its a shame. And out where we live they went back in there and they stayed 'bout half a day and they come out, and I bet them plants were ten foot high. You know, they cut 'em down and piled 'em in that four wheel drive and out of there with 'em. They were hanging out the back, they was so tall. And they take 'em to the sheriff's office and who knows where they go. Its a shame. I've not seen many children smoking marijuana. I have not seen that, and you know I just don't think they want to . I ain't proved to cause cancer yet. We do know cigarettes kill people. They cause lung cancer. I wouldn't encourage anybody to smoke nothing. I think its silly that they spent so much money - to go out of their way on something that somebody can make a dollar off of. Its crazy.

Interviewer - Just like moonshine.
Eula - You know they send people to federal prison. My brother was one of 'em, my half brother went to Petersburg, Virginia to a federal prison for making moonshine. Stayed nine months, and you'd be surprised at the people on this creek went to prison for making moonshine. You know they don't care. Its a good living.
They probably drink it just as quick as anybody. They don't get the tax off of it. That's the whole thing. That's why you go to prison, you're not feeding the government, you're not feeding the fat cats. That's it.

Interviewer - ( ) wild turkey

Eula - My husband got caught. The worse thing they done to him. They cut up our rig. It's so hard to make a copper rig. But we knew how to beat 'em. He run to the county, to the local magistrate, then magistrate's could try you, justice of the peace could try you. So he run to the justice of the peace and confessed and paid a fine and then they couldn't indict him. And they make good in the ( ) He'd already been tried and convicted and paid up. Paid $75. The worse we lost was our rig. But there was a . . . federal court, if he got to that federal court he's gone. They got him and he paid off in the country, the justice of the peace, $75. 3rd day in June. Off and on during the war it was $40 a gallon. $40 in the 40s was a good sum of money. But everything was rationed. If stuff hadn't of been rationed I could have fed everybody. (laughter) But you know that was rationing - everybody had coupons and stamps to buy food. You couldn't get much, you had so many stamps that's all you could get. I've sold hundreds of dollars of moonshine in one day, and these soldiers would come back, you know, on furlough, and shoot they'd buy - they had money - they'd buy them two or three gallon to make sure they would have a big time while they was here. (laughter) We'd have to keep a big stock, but the feds sure would send you up - [about] the tax, they don't worry about the liquor. It's the tax. It's wrong.

End of recording.