

# \$10 Million Complex Planned In Mars Hill

## Hotel, Apartments And Shopping Center To Be Built On U.S. 19-23

By ROBERT KOENIG

A Winston-Salem developer announced plans to construct a \$10 million hotel, condominium and shopping complex north of Mars Hill Monday afternoon.

Clayton Snyder, president of Snyder Realty in Winston Salem, announced that agreements for construction on a 37-acre tract on U.S. 19-23 have been reached. Snyder said the project will be developed by the Great Smokey Mountains

investment Corporation, which he heads. Several local investors are believed to be involved in the project, but Snyder declined to name the partners in a telephone interview Monday.

Snyder said the proposed complex will include a hotel to be operated by what he called, "the largest hotel chain in the world." In addition to the hotel, plans call for the construction of an office building, condominiums, apart-

ments and a shopping plaza.

Snyder said he has received commitments from a bank and fast food chain, but declined to identify the prospective tenants. Announcement of the stores to occupy the shopping center will be made later, Snyder said. Plans also call for the shopping center to include a movie theatre.

Snyder said there is not startup date for construction yet. He said t

and engineering for the project will be done by Venable and Johnson and Associates of Memphis, Tenn.

The developer said that construction should begin next spring. He added that the timetable for construction will be determined by the completion of sewer projects in Mars Hill and along U.S. 19-23. The town of Mars Hill is currently installing new sewer lines within the town limits.

(Continued on Page 10)



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## Autopsy Ordered Following Death Of Child

An autopsy was ordered Thursday on the body of 5-year-old Joyce Johnson of Hot Springs, who died Wednesday afternoon at Memorial Mission Hospital.

The body will be sent to the state medical examiner's office in Chapel Hill for the autopsy. Dr. H.E. Hinman, Buncombe County medical examiner, said the cause of death has not been determined. The child had been hospitalized twice recently, and it is not known what caused her illness, Hinman said.

Madison County Sheriff E. Y. Ponder said Monday that the child's death is not currently under investigation. The sheriff said he will await the results of the autopsy before conducting further inquiries.

The Madison County Department of Social Services took custody of the deceased child's older brother following the June 17 incident which hospitalized Miss Johnson.

At a hearing held Thursday in Avery County District Court, Judge Phillip Ginn ordered the girl's brother, Christopher Lewis Johnson, 11, be placed in foster care pending a hearing in juvenile court scheduled for July 24.

It will be several days before the state medical examiner's office completes its report.

## Pair Arrested On DWI Charges

Marshall police report they with an earlier accident in the arrested two men Sunday Rollins community. Presnell night on charges of driving was charged with while impaired after the pair DWI, reckless driving, driving were apprehended by a with license permanently revoked and refusing to provide information.

Officer Chris Bowman Ingle was charged with DWI reported that Douglas by State Highway Patrol Presnell, 34, of Asheville and Trooper Charles Franklin, Danny Louis Ingle, 21, of Marshall police officer Mike Leicester were charged with Beasley also charged Ingle driving while impaired, with misdemeanor possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.



WORKMEN CONTINUED EXCAVATION ON HILL ST. IN MARSHALL THIS WEEK after engineers recommended route over possible alternative that would have required digging behind the county Court House.

## Construction Resumes On Hill Street Project

By STEVE FERGUSON

The Hill Street sewer line will be placed under the road as originally planned.

After conferring with town engineer Bill Lapsley, the Marshall Board of Aldermen decided last Wednesday in an emergency meeting that routing the line down Hill Street would be better than placing it behind the Madison County Courthouse.

Construction on that line was stopped two weeks ago when the aldermen learned of a line that ran down an embankment behind the courthouse, and could have been an alternative to digging up a large section of the street. At that time, the aldermen decided to wait for a cost estimate for the new route from Taylor & Murphy Construction Co. before allowing work to resume on Hill Street.

It would be about \$5,000 cheaper to route the sewer line behind the courthouse, Lapsley told the aldermen, but still recommended that the line be placed as originally planned for several reasons:

1. The courthouse is a national historic building and any such construction requires the opinion of a third-party engineer, according to the Historic Preservation Foundation in Raleigh.

2. Due to the age of the building, supports would have to be built to stabilize it during construction.

3. A two-month delay would be required to allow the Historic Preservation Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency to review the new plans, which would probably delay paving Hill Street until spring.

Considering the fee for a

new engineer, the costs of stabilizing the building and the two-month delay, the costs of the projects would balance out, Lapsley said.

Alderman Ed Niles made the motion, which was seconded by Sammy Lunsford, to act on Lapsley's recommendation. Construction on Hill Street will resume as soon as possible.

Mayor Betty Wild supported the move, saying the town has federal money for the project now, all the red tape has been cleared and the project should go ahead as planned. With a two-month delay in the project, and paving being impossible in the winter, the road might have been paved six months behind schedule, she added.

Hill Street residents have threatened legal action, Wild confirmed, but none has been taken yet.

## Beech Prepares For Centennial July 4 Celebration



DAVE PENLAND WAS A CIVIL in 1910 by William Barnhill. It and WAR veteran who always made the other old photographs will be on wildflower displays for the July 4 display at Beech Community's celebration. Photo above was taken centennial July 4 celebration.

Mars Hill College is helping the Beech community to commemorate its 100th consecutive July 4th celebration, believed to be the oldest such celebration in North Carolina.

With the help of the college, Beech residents have published the autobiography of a longtime and valued member of the community, Lillie McDevitt Clark.

Mrs. Clark's book, 'Appalachian Memories - A Simpler Time', features stories of growing up in Madison County in the early part of this century. The book will go on sale beginning on July 4. Excerpts of the book will be published in The News Record beginning with the issue of July 11. Because of its historic value to the area, the Mars Hill College Library's Appalachian Room typed the

manuscript, readied it for production and assisted with other aspects of the publication.

Historic exhibits at the Beech Community Center range from Indian artifacts to old pottery. Included in the exhibit will be many old photographs, including some works from the William Barnhill collection on loan from the Mars Hill Appalachian Collection.

The public is invited to the celebration which begins at 8:45 a.m. Independence Day with a flag raising and will continue throughout the day. Festivities will conclude with a 9:15 p.m. fireworks display which will be followed by a gospel singing.

The festivities will also include a children's parade and pet show at 9 a.m. The main parade, featuring antique vehicles and a shaped-note

float, will get underway at 10 a.m. The patriotic program with guest speaker Milton Ohlsen will begin at 11 a.m., followed by a basket lunch under the trees beginning at noon.

Next comes a performance of traditional mountain string music and clogging. Field day activities will begin at 1:30 p.m. Display booths and demonstrations of old-time crafts such as soap-making will be open from 3 until 5 p.m.

Among the traditions that will be re-enacted from earlier July 4 celebrations will be a series of youth recitations at the patriotic program. Taking part in the recitations will be John McDaris, a descendant of the early Rhea family settlers and Brook Barbee, the great-great-granddaughter of the Rev. A.M. Penland, the founder of the Beech celebration.

## Eco Village Offers Practical Entertainment

By STEVE FERGUSON

"We have not inherited this planet from our forefathers... we are borrowing it from our children."

You'll find this quote in the visitor's guide of the Mother Earth News Eco-Village, and you're reminded of it everywhere you go on the 622-acre development. Countless displays and workshops are there, from solar greenhouses to home cooling techniques, all designed to make the best use of nature's materials.

Eco-Village, an offspring of The Mother Earth News magazine, was started in 1979, and is nearly a square mile of self-sufficient living. About 500 acres of the development are used as a wildlife sanctuary.

A walking tour of the village will take you by a dozen points of interest, and at least a dozen exhibits.

The Eco-Village natural gardens are cultivated using an ecological pest-control, herbicides to fertilizers. They are harvested with compost

and simple hand tools, and gardening methods are designed to heal the land rather than destroy it, they say.

"We see most present-day agribusiness techniques as destructive," the Eco-Village people say. "It is indeed possible to raise an abundant supply of fresh, healthful foods and improve the overall quality of the soil at the same time. In essence, this involves exchanging expensive and often dangerous chemicals for personal labor and careful planning."

Windmills almost disappeared from the U.S. in the early 1960s when commercial power became available, but Eco-Village is trying to reverse that. If you live in an area that has a minimum wind speed of 10 mph each day per year, you could profit by producing your own power, say Eco-Village people.

Fish farming at the village is taught as a fun and profitable way of living, if your area has enough water flow. Oxygenate the water, proper



WATER WHEEL such as the one operated at Eco Village can supply electricity to self-sufficient homes.

pH level and proper water temperature. If you want to sample their homegrown trout, you can purchase it or hook your own in their catch pond.

The self-reliant homestead is a feature attraction, says Ned Doyle, Eco-Village ac-

tivities coordinator. The structure cost about \$10,000 to build, not including land and labor. That's not unreasonable, considering the house heats and cools itself most of the time.

The way the segments of the homestead rely on and help

each other is fascinating.

For instance, the fish pond in front of the house provides protein for the family, a home for the ducks and a water source for the garden. The gardens are fertilized with manure and compost from the rabbits and chickens. Bees from the hives pollinate the plants. The herbs and spices planted in the garden and around the house are helpful in the kitchen and also ward off pests and insects.

A small hydroelectric system produces about 40 watts per hour, a photovoltaic panel on the roof creates about 160 watts per day, and both of these charge a bank of batteries which have a total capacity of 700 amps. The entire system is backed up by a 5,000 watt generator.

Power systems are of interest to many who visit Eco-Village, and they aren't disappointed. Besides windpower, visitors can inspect a hydroelectric system that produces 2,000 watts of electricity, and can learn to make

(Continued on Page 8)

