

The Smoky Mountain Times

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Around Town

With all the rumors going around about the newly incorporated town "Indian Hills" we find it hard to believe that the story could go from one extreme to the other.

One of our correspondents went to work and came out with the full story. (See page 8 of This Month in Western North Carolina in today's TIMES.)

The arrival of spring is very evident around the Swain County Courthouse. Maggie Warren, Register of Deeds, and Sarah Robinson, Assistant Clerk of Court, were very busy last week doing a much needed spring cleaning around their office. Maybe we should take notice and straighten our desk a little.

The 1969 trout fishing season will open this Saturday and the fishermen will be coming from miles around. If you've got that favorite spot where you can catch all you want, how about dropping by and tell us where we can find it. However, I don't think the fishing spot is our problem. It takes a lot of patience, so we are told, and that's the one thing we are short on.

A regular monthly meeting of Gomer H. Barracks No. 845, Veterans of World War I, of the USA, will be held Saturday, April 5th, at 2:00 p.m. in the Swain County Courthouse. All members, whether members or not, are invited to attend.

The State Highway Patrol reports only one accident in Swain County this week. While making 11 contacts, three were charged with drunk driving and two with speeding. There were three other hazardous moving violations, two non-hazardous violations, and one pedestrian violation also reported. The Department patrolled 2,790 miles in the county from March 24th through March 30th.

Methodists To Present Cantata

An Easter Cantata entitled, "Redemption's Song" by Fred B. Holton, will be presented on Good Friday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Whittier United Methodist Church under the direction of Mr. C. E. Brown and Mrs. Mildred Whiddon. The presentation by the choir of 26 voices will include solos by Mrs. Ava Lee McLean, Mrs. Letha Sutton, Mrs. Betty Brown, Mrs. Joan Parson, Mrs. Judy Revis, Mrs. Mildred Whiddon, Mr. Gale Cross, and Mr. Lewis Cross. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Ceramics Class Planned Here

Southwestern Technical Institute will begin a Ceramics Class at the home of Mrs. Orene DeBord in Bryson City beginning at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 14. The class will meet one night each week from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. There will be no charge for the course, however, each person is expected to pay for any materials used.

For further information contact Southwestern Technical Institute, Box 95, Sylva, North Carolina or call 586-4092.

Rev. Fain Speaker For Easter

The Rev. John L. Fain, Jr., full-time evangelist, from Hendersonville, North Carolina, will be guest speaker for the Bryson City Easter Sunrise Service, which will be held at the Swain County High School football field, at 6:00 a.m., Easter Sunday.

The Rev. Mr. Fain served as a pastor for more than twenty years, prior to his becoming a full-time evangelist in 1966. He served pastorates in Florida, Georgia, and North Carolina, his last pastorate having been the First Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville, North Carolina. During his time in a



Truck Wrecks

County officers investigated a possible attempted auto theft Monday afternoon. This 1968 Ford Pickup was parked some 200 feet from where it was found Monday morning, turned over on its side. The pickup belonged to Charles Pearson in the Neil's Gap section of Swain County. Mr. Pearson related to officers that he parked his truck near the trailer in which he lives about 9:30 Sunday night. He heard a motor running about 4:30 Monday morning and thought someone was trying to steal his truck. He got out of bed, turned on the light and heard an automobile start up in the road in a big hurry. He thought at the time it was his truck. However, when dawn came, he found his truck turned over on the left side some 200 feet from his trailer. The incident is under investigation by county officers. Otis Sitton, County Deputy, is shown examining the truck.

Communications First Project For SWEARS

Communication is becoming one of the big questions among law enforcement officers in the most western counties of North Carolina.

An organization known as SWEARS (Southwestern Enforcement and Rights Service), is attempting to give law enforcement officers the answers they have been looking for. Under the new Omnibus Control Act, federal assistance is available to a county or a group of counties brought together under an organization for projects pertaining to law enforcement and several towns and communities.

In a supper meeting at Sneed's Restaurant here in Bryson City on March 25th, plans were made and proposals accepted to make communications the top priority of the recently formed SWEARS organization. District VI Patrol Sgt. J. L. Wilson and Chuck English from the State Highway Patrol Communications Center spoke briefly to the 20 officers and

representatives from the seven counties involved. The counties involved in SWEARS are Haywood, Jackson, Cherokee, Macon, Graham, Transylvania and Swain.

A second project for the organization would be improved training and educational programs. Higher salaries for law enforcement officers was cited as a third project.

According to State communications expert English, the Highway Patrol has offered space for a transmitter within its facilities at Wine Springs Mountain in Macon County.

A proposal has been made to use the transmitter to permit communications throughout the seven county district.

The project is expected to cost some \$14,000, with \$3,500 being used for a transmitter and \$1,500 for broadcast units to be placed in each county.

77 Jailed During Month Of March

With all the court going on during March, there was very little time for our three-man Sheriff's Department to do all the work that must be done to keep a good law enforcement organization going.

March was a month of courts for Swain County. We started the month off with Superior Court, both criminal and civil sessions. The following week we had two days of District Court and after one week break, we finished the month up with two days of civil action.

In addition to working courts, the Sheriff's Department summoned 52 people to appear before Superior and District Court. 10 capias were issued and 45

warrants served. Three divorce papers and one claim and delivery paper added to the mountain of paper work.

According to records kept by the department, the county jail had a total of 77 visitors during the month. Four men were held over from February action. Federal officers jailed three. State Highway Patrol had seven more. City police officers had a very busy month with 15 arrests and two breaking and enterings. The Sheriff's Department arrested 22 and the Cherokee police in Swain County had 26 more.

The Department also made two out-of-the-county trips. One to the State Penitentiary in Raleigh and two to the State Hospital in Morganton.

People performing in one or more programs were: Mrs. Crowe, Bill Crowe, Elaine Smiley, B. J. Elliott, Earl Vaughn, Janice McKinney, Jane Wiggins, Mildred Howell, Glenda Dale Robertson, Dianne Douthit, Rometta Douthit, Mary Prier, Kay Herron, Glenda Dale Robertson, Dianne Douthit, Rometta Douthit, Mary Prier, Kay Herron, Beverly Sandlin, Linda Wayman, Beth Pederson, Connie Watson, Ivan Gibby, John West, Linda Stiles, Mary Helen Douthit, Tommy Huskey, Kenny Huskey, Ronnie Blythe, Larry Blythe.

Mike Claxton, Mark Claxton, Doug Elliot, Jim Colville, Chuck Russell, Randy Flack, Raymond DeHart, Bill



CITY ELECTION TO BE HELD MAY 6 - INCUMBENTS FILE

Mayor Ellen P. Hyams announced today that an election of a Mayor and four town Aldermen would be held this year in Bryson City on Tuesday, May 6th as prescribed by law.

The courthouse in Bryson City has been sited as the only polling place and he poll is to be open on election day from 6:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. Candidates filing for either

Mayor or one of four aldermen positions must file by noon April 17th.

Perley Hyde of Bryson City has been appointed election registrar while Vincent Jenkins and Margaret Pederson will serve as judges for the election.

The Mayor has ordered a one week registration period for new voters or voters who have changed addresses. The registration books will be open in the home of the registrar,

Young Democrat Club Endorses Bond Proposal

The Young Democrat Club of Swain County went on record during their regular monthly meeting last Saturday night as being unanimously in favor of the proposed county bond referendum for the purpose of supplying the industrial park with sewage disposal lines and an adequate water supply.

Bob Goforth, regional representative for state commerce and industry, spoke to the group and explained the importance of industrial development and how development of an industrial site would better Swain County's chances of attracting new industry. Goforth praised the citizens of the county for their "farsightedness in gaining control of this proposed site" and "reserving it for future industrial use."

A spokesman for the Young Democrat Club told the TIMES, "We, the Young Democrats of Swain County, feel that it is everyone's desire to see their county grow and more jobs made available. We also feel that if this referendum is passed and Swain County's industrial park is furnished with adequate facilities, we would have a better chance to get new industry. Therefore, creating new jobs and keeping our young people at home in Swain County. So, we, the Young Democrats of Swain County, would like to go on record as unanimously supporting the bond referendum proposed by the County Commissioners."

Most Sections Of Blue Ridge Parkway Opened

The Blue Ridge Parkway was open for travel on April 1, Superintendent Granville B. Liles announced today. Some sections in the high mountains of North Carolina have not been cleared of snow and will open later, including the sections from Mt. Mitchell across the Craggies to Weaverville Road (NC 694), and from Wagon Road Gap (US 276) south to Great Smoky Mountains National Park. It is expected that the closed sections can be opened within two weeks.

Although the January ice storms left much damage along certain Virginia sections of the Parkway, cleanup work has been accomplished on the road and potholes so that the 217 miles in Virginia can be opened on schedule.

The campgrounds will again be operated by the National Park Service. Unless additional

operating funds are provided, the campgrounds cannot be opened until May 15. Fees for camping will be collected and the \$7 Golden Eagle Passport will again be valid at all Parkway campgrounds. Daily fees include 50 cents for purchaser only or \$1 for purchaser and all accompanying him in a private vehicle.

The Peaks of Otter lodge, restaurant and service station opened April 2, and other concession facilities will open by May 1. Visitor centers will open on weekends only from May 1 through June 14, after which they will open seven days each week during the remainder of the season. Superintendent Liles explained that the earliest schedule for the operation of campgrounds and visitor centers is due to the Congressional restraints imposed on personnel and funding.

Is This Another Dodge

EDITOR'S NOTE

The following statement was made recently by Arthur Whiteside, public affairs director for television station WLOS in Asheville, in his evening news broadcast. We appreciate Mr. Whiteside's concern in a Swain County problem, and we think his summation of the facts in regard to the agreement between officials of Swain County, the Department of Interior, the state of North Carolina and officials of the Tennessee Valley Authority reasonably accurate. However, the proposition that the agreement is no longer binding because a new person occupies the office of Secretary of the Interior we find utterly ridiculous (See editorial page 2).

IS THERE AN ENFORCEABLE CONTRACT?
THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1969

The battle over the transmountain road in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park is flaring again. In 1943, TVA needing land for the impoundment which became Fontana Lake, made an agreement with the Department of the Interior, the State of North Carolina, and Swain County. The document called for the construction of a north shore road between Bryson City and Fontana Village. The road was to be given in exchange for the transfer of 44,000 acres of land to the national park.

The government has never fulfilled its part of the contract, but has offered to construct a road on an alternate route that would stay away from most of the mountainous park property. But Swain County residents, having been denied the north shore route, now want a transmountain road to Tennessee. It is around this proposal that the battle rages.

This may be heresy, but we believe it's time someone raised the question as to whether an enforceable contract does exist. The contract was made by elected and appointed officials who are no longer in office. Can officeholders make commitments for those who will serve in the future? If so, this would severely limit and restrict the legislative and policy-making powers of future generations of officeholders. They would simply be carrying out decisions which others had made for them. This principle seems relevant to the transmountain road battle. Are present officials to be held accountable for decisions made by their predecessors? Especially since, over the last quarter of a century, there has been a radical change in our views about natural resources, national parks and road building. So we question whether the existence of a contract is really pertinent to the present debate. From an objective, rather than an ethical standpoint, we doubt that it is. We now have, we believe, a whole new ball of wax.



The Green Valley Cloggers put on a fine show during the Swain High Seniors Variety Show. The cloggers, one of two square dance groups from Alarka, were guests of the Swain High Seniors for the evening performance Friday.

Senior Class Variety Show

Senior class officers of Swain County High School report that last week they presented the most successful Variety Show to be presented at the school. Total proceeds from the three performances was \$660 to be used for the class Washington trip.

Three performances were given. Some performers were in all three; others, due to time and transportation limitation, were in one or two.

Marcus, Roy Burnette, Lowell Barnes, The Green Valley Cloggers, Judy Burnette, Lynn Elliott, Margaret DeHart, The Alarka Cloggers, and Heather Vick, a Western Carolina University folk singer.

The class was especially

appreciative of the work of many people such as Roy Burnette, the Green Valley Cloggers, the Alarka Cloggers, and many others who helped to make the shows possible.

Officers Arrest Three In Connection With Break-Ins

City and county officers have arrested three men in connection with two break-ins in Bryson City around the 17th and 18th of March.

The three men, all from McDowell County, have each been charged with two counts of breaking and entering and larceny and one count of possession of burglary tools in connection with the Swain Drug Store and Nabers Drive-In break-ins on the 18th of March.

The three men, Grover Gene O'Dear, age 27, Donald Ray Kelly, age 24, were

apprehended last week by Cherokee police after they had been spotted by city police here in Bryson City when they came through town.

The men have also been charged on two warrants each from Cherokee County in connection with break-ins over there and two warrants each from Avery County on similar charges.

O'Dear and Woody were released to Cherokee County authorities after posting \$2000 bond on each charge here in Swain County. Kelly remains in the Swain County jail.

Fundraising Behind Schedule For Servicemen's Memorial

The Servicemen's Memorial Fund Raising Committee met again Saturday night, March 29th at Sneed's Restaurant.

Mr. Ronald Lane, President, stated that bids are being taken on a statue and plaque, but the fund was still way behind in its goal of \$2000.

The following is a list of persons to date who have made donations to the fund:

International Woodworkers of America, Local 5-343, \$50.00, Peggy Lane Edson \$50.00, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Lane \$50.00, Gary Edwards \$100.00, M. Woodard \$50.00, Lillie Bates Powell \$100.00, C. D. Cline \$100.00, Mabel Edwards Jenkins \$30.00, and Mrs. Ethel Cooper Friar and son Lewis B. Cooper, Jr. \$30.00.

Buddy Southards \$200.00, Mrs. Matty Toherow \$40.00, Carroll Cloer \$50.00, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Meyers \$50.00 Lyle

Edwards \$50.00, Virginia Tipton \$50.00, Edward Jenkins \$50.00 James Tuck, Sr. \$100.00, Carroll Wright of Carolina Building Supply \$50.00, Sadie F. Cashatt \$100.00, The workers of Ashe Thomas Motor Co. \$100.00, Ashe Thomas General Store \$100.00, and L. A. Turner \$50.00.

Harold's Supermarket \$50.00, Ensey's Supermarket \$50.00, M. A. Tillsdale \$100.00, Betty Tuck \$150.00, Dave Jones \$200.00, V. T. Huskey \$100.00, Johnny Becker \$100.00, Doiores Breedlove \$200.00, Gene Shuler \$200.00, Buddy Burrell \$200.00, Jack Jenkins \$200.00, Carl Thomas \$200.00, C. C. Collins \$200.00, Rob Camby \$200.00, Felix Hyatt \$100.00, Frank Jenkins \$50.00, P. R. Bradley \$100.00, Luther Wiggins \$300.00, Lloyd Baines \$200.00, Charles Mason \$100.00, Zeb Brendle \$200.00, James Marr \$200.00, and

Joe Green \$200.00.

R. E. Coffey \$300.00, Happy Bear Grocery \$50.00, Mary Winchester \$50.00, Midtown Service Station \$50.00, Lyndon Monteith \$200.00, Jim DeBord \$100.00, Smith's Grocery \$50.00, Lillians Flower Shop \$50.00, Mary Alice Greyer \$50.00, Hazel B. Jacks \$200.00, Jack Welch \$100.00, Harry Seay \$50.00, Linda Fowler \$25.00, Cindy Taylor \$35.00, Mrs. Robert Phillips \$200.00, Geraldine Welch \$52.00, Noah Reed \$25.00, Mrs. D. H. Gibby \$50.00, J. D. Wetmore \$50.00.

R. D. Sutton \$100.00, Dents Cafe \$50.00, Jim Trawick \$100.00, Rite Way Cleaners \$50.00, Western Auto Store \$100.00, Swain Hotel \$50.00, Horace DeHart \$50.00, Conley's Drug Store \$50.00, Ropers Gift

See Fundraising on Page 3

One Accident In County During Week

Highway Patrol officers investigated only one accident last week in Swain County, according to official reports.

Saturday, March 29th, Officer Z. V. Hawes investigated a two car accident about three miles west of Cherokee on Goose Creek Road.

A 1962 Chevrolet, driven by Lois Lambert, was travelling south on the Goose Creek Road when she hit a 1965 Chevrolet, belonging to Sam Brady, head on.

According to officer Hawes, the Brady auto received about \$350 damage to the left front while the Lambert auto sustained about \$200 damage, also to the left front.

According to the officer, Brady's car was parked when the Lambert car, being driven on the wrong side of the road, hit the Brady auto head-on.