

OWEN HIGH — BLACK MOUNTAIN  
AND SWANNANOVA SCHOOLS'  
**SPRING CONCERT**  
Friday, April 24, at 8 p.m. at Owen High

# BLACK MOUNTAIN NEWS

YOUR COUNTY NEWSPAPER

## Weather

	High	Low	Prec.
April 14	54	32	.01
April 15	67	30	
April 16	73	38	
April 17	77	35	
April 18	58	49	
April 19	72	53	1 in.
April 20	78	55	.41

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8 PAGES TODAY

NO. 34.

## REFLECTIONS

Gordon Greenwood

was warned! Ronald Finch and Roy Taylor prepared me to some extent for the rush and confusion which seems to have become a part of the days spent by the lawmakers at the Capitol each biennium. But no one can give any idea of the feeling of frustration and bewilderment which one gets when confronted for the first time with the pressure of arguments used to sway opinions on major and minor issues. You must have to be there to understand why few can survive more than a session or two without losing their "nerve."

For instance, last week I had to vote consistently against some of my best friends and those I admire most in the House. The voice of the "division" or "the Ayes" on the second or third reading, the pressure is on. That is the time one has to stand up and be counted and that is not always easy, as much as some of us would like to pretend that taking a stand is the simplest thing imaginable.

Following several such votes last week, one veteran member rose to observe: "I have never seen such strange bedfellows as this bill has produced." He was right. One finds himself lining up against friends and with former opponents. Which leads me to warn: Don't promise to support any "harmless bill that does exactly as it says and no more." You may be asked to vote to abolish the public schools or the highway system.

Learn Lesson Hard Way! In committee last week I tangled for the first time with a veteran many sessions of the legislature. I beat my ears down and I came out second best but much wiser. After I had had my say, the veteran rose, patted me on the back and argued in a very persuasive way: "I'm sure my distinguished friend from Buncombe is right in his opposition, and I am as sure he wouldn't oppose it if he understood the merits of this measure."

After this flattering speech, I sat up a lot straighter and was tempted to vote for it myself. I felt better when four of us voted.

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Nancy Jane Watson amid Women's club plantings.

## Our Town Greet the Spring

(Photos by Gragg)

Black Mountain was in full flower this week and readying a shining face to greet summer visitors' arrival as scenes like these contributed to the just-announced third-time win of this community as "Town of the Month" in the "Finer Carolina" program sponsored by CP & L in the two Carolinas.

FC Chairman Max Woodcock and W. S. Holcombe, local power company manager, receiving word of the award here for the month of March, had words of high commendation for community-wide participation in the four projects of the program. The town now has permanent possession of the bronze plaque previously won here for January and February. The plaque is pictured, right below, as it was shown recently centering a hand-craft display by pupils in the 8th grade class sponsored by the Business and Professional Women's club in the FC program.

## Combined Schools' Bands and Chorus In Concert Friday

The Swannanoa Valley schools' bands and chorus, appearing in a spring concert Friday, April 24, at 8 p.m. in the Owen High School auditorium, will present the largest group in its history, 275 students.

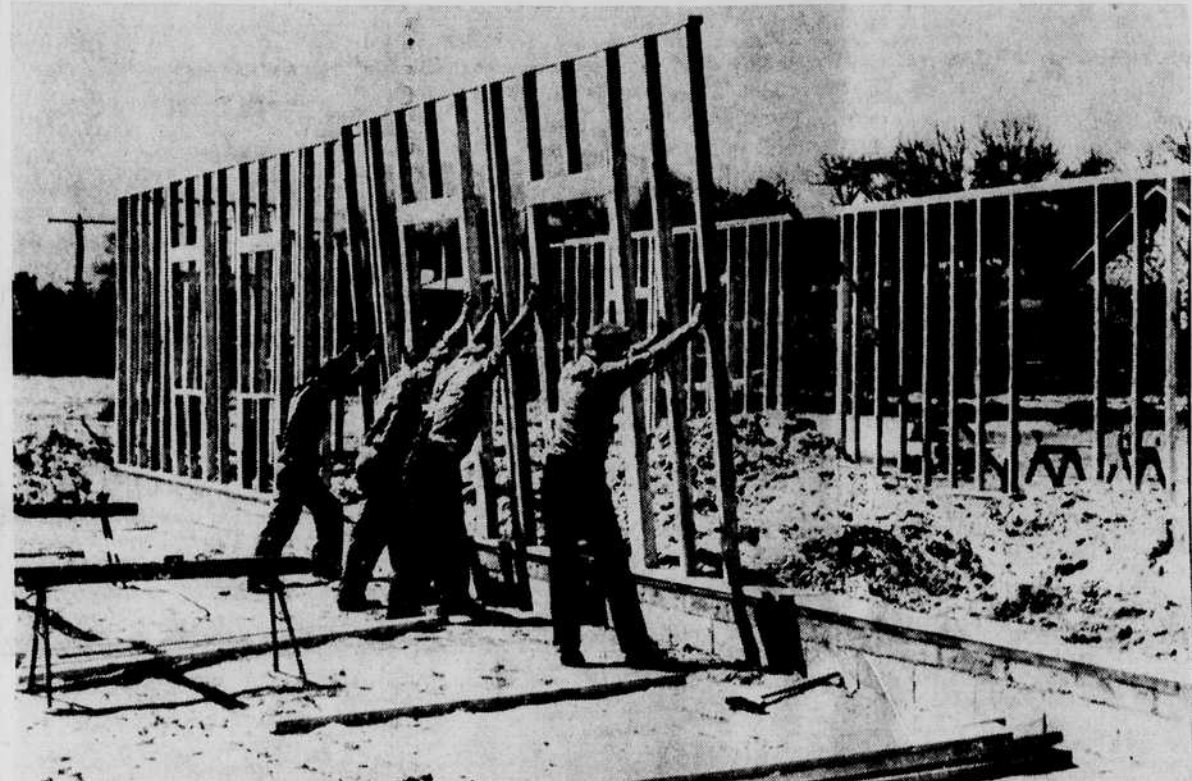
The combined Elementary schools' bands' program will consist of the "Carnival King Overture," "Swiss Navy March," and "An American Air." The Black Mountain Elementary school chorus, organized and accompanied by Mrs. Charles C. Meyer, will sing "O, Morn of Beauty," "Sibelius," "Kerry Dance," "Molloy," and "Minka," a Russian folk song.

The Swannanoa Elementary school chorus, under direction of Mrs. William J. Faucette, will sing three numbers, for one of which Jimmie Morgan will be soloist and play guitar accompaniment. The Owen High band will present "The Dorian Overture," "The Courtiers," "Little Classic Suite," "Sousa Marches" and novelty numbers. The High school chorus selections will be "Hallelujah Amen," Handel, "Salvation is Created," and mountain folk songs and spirituals.

The Owen band and chorus are under direction of Woodfin C. Rhodes, with Betty Patton as accompanist. The Owen High Majorettes headed by Mary Bannerman and the Little Majorettes will also be featured.

The grand finale, "God of Our Fathers," by Joseph E. Maddy, will feature the combined band and chorus of Owen High. This selection was especially written in 1876 for the centennial celebration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Against the main theme are heard melodic suggestions of American history such as "Rule, Britannia," "Yankee Doodle," "Dixie" and "Battle Hymn of the Republic." These will be climaxed by the "Prayer for Peace."

The program will benefit the Valley schools' music program. Tickets, which may be purchased through your PTA, are priced at \$1 for adults; 50 cents for students. Tickets will also be sold at the door on the night of the concert.



Going up is the new Youth Center near Cragmont Road.

## 8 More BB Games For Owen High

Owen's High School's baseball schedule, announced this week, schedules the following contests: April 24, Biltmore at Owen; April 28, Erwin at Owen; May 1, Reynolds there; May 5, Biltmore at Owen; May 8, Valley Springs at Owen; May 12, Erwin there; May 15, open, and May 19, open.

## United Church Women to Meet

The local unit of the United Council of Church Women will observe "May Fellowship Day" Friday, May 1 at "Introspects." At 10:30 a.m. a business session, devotions and a program will be held. Luncheon will be served at 12. All church women are invited to attend. Reservations must be made by Tuesday, April 28. Call Mrs. Max Woodcock, NO 9-7101.

—Paint-Up, Clean-Up, Fix-Up for a "Beautiful Black Mountain in a Finer Carolina".



New evergreen plantings at town's highway approaches.

Representing "Finer Carolina" projects is the scene in top photo, with Nancy Jane Watson, 14-month-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Watson, inspecting the first blossoms in the Women's club planting at the intersection of Highway 70 and Cragmont road. Another shows one of the town's highway markers at east and west entrances (third photo) which have been landscaped in the club's "Beautification" program, now combined with the "Clean-Up and Paint-Up" drive of the Chamber of Commerce and the Lions club, as merchants and householders put their property in top condition, and the town refurbished street markings for convenience and safety of motorists and pedestrians (photo below) and (right) George Moray, C. of C. secretary, prepared to greet and aid visitors in the newly redecorated C. of C. office at City Hall.

Meanwhile, the biggest FC project of all, the building of a permanent Youth Center by "Operation Youth" got underway (photo second from top) and made good progress with the aid of, left to right: Bill Burnett, H. McGuire Wood, volunteer supervisor, Theodore Williams and Sherman Burnett.

The fourth project of the FC program is school improvement, sponsored by the Black Mountain PTA.

## More Industrial Automation Requires Well Educated Workers, Chamber of Commerce Told

Belief in the need of higher education—particularly vocational education—for "young people in this age of automation in industry," was expressed by C. E. Ford, manager of Ex-Cell-O corporation, in speaking at Monday's luncheon meeting of the Chamber of Commerce at the Monte Vista hotel. His topic was "Requirements for Skilled People in the Field of Industry."

"Education has become something beyond a cultural thing," he maintained, adding, "today it is an economic necessity. High school graduation today is as necessary to success in industry as was an eighth-grade diploma 15 or 20 years ago," he said. "College training is vitally necessary in such fields as engineering, which, is, of course, vital in industry today," he added.

Mr. Ford contradicted "a widely held belief that automation today has created unemployment. On the contrary," he said, "this is not the case. If anything, automation has created additional employment. When one man can supervise one machine which does the work formerly handled by 10 persons, additional openings for employment have been created by the accompanying need for processing, for maintenance and for design and assembly of these machines," he declared. "But those workers must be highly skilled—and therefore they need study and training to qualify to fill these new jobs," he explained, adding, "It was a different picture 20 years ago. Industry today needs people who know how to think and who have an education. It is, we think, up to industry to show young people how important education is in today's world; to bring them in and show them the kind of skills they will need. Somehow, we must get their attention and get this message across to them."

Mr. Ford expressed his company's "hope that our Black Mountain plant may, in co-operation with the universities, one day soon take students into industry for six weeks' periods of training which

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## CARD OF APPRECIATION

To our many friends and neighbors, we would like to express our deepest appreciation for their many acts of love and kindness during our recent bereavement. We especially appreciate the beautiful floral offerings.

The family of Harvey D. Melton.

## P.O. AND CITY HALL MAPS OUTLINE MAIL DELIVERY TIPS TO LOCAL RESIDENTS

Are you puzzled about how to make preparations to receive mail delivery which is scheduled to begin in the Black Mountain area at an early date? If so, you'll want to take a good look at the maps and directions posted in the Post-office lobby and at City Hall. These give house numbers for local property, as well as an outline of thoroughfares which will be served by delivery of mail at the door and of those which will require RFD type of mailbox placed on the road which serves your household.

## Efforts Being Made to Bring About Silo Circle's Return

Hopes were growing here this week that the Silo Circle Players, who established a summer theater here last year, would be able to play a return engagement during the coming summer.

The Chamber of Commerce on Monday unanimously voted "to cooperate with the Silo Players" as individual members, giving co-operation through advertising and help with ticket sales" in order to make possible their return. This followed a movement earlier in the week by a number of local citizens to aid the company's return by means of forming a local volunteer committee to "handle business and all finances" and "wipe out last year's deficit of about \$2000."

Miss Tinka Crawford, one of the founders of the company here, was in Black Mountain early this week at the invitation of the group.

## Alert Exercise Co-operation Here Reported as Good

RED CROSS AND OCD PLAN TO SPONSOR FIRST AID COURSE

Civil Defense leaders here this week pronounced Black Mountain's co-operation as "good" in last week's nation-wide OCD alert exercise on Friday. OCD Director Bill Costner said, "The operation was a success here and in the surrounding area, with excellent co-operation being given by the people and by local industries." Streets were completely cleared. The Police department stopped traffic at east and west approaches and auxiliary police halted traffic on other approaches to the community.

Mr. Costner expressed the OCD's "thanks to the people and to such industries as Beason Manufacturing Co., Kearfott, Ex-Cell-O, Morningstar and others."

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## Volunteers Are Needed Saturday at Youth Center

For the third time, sponsors of building operations at the new Youth Center will attempt to hold a Community Workers' day at the building site between Highway 70 and Cragmont road on the coming Saturday, April 25, beginning at 9 a.m. Rain on the past two Saturdays meant cancellation of such volunteer activities—but volunteers are being sought for Saturday of this week. Hammers and shovels should be brought by the workers.

Meanwhile, this "Finer Carolina" project has been aided daily by five young volunteers working during after-school hours: William and Thomas Copeland, and Danny, Freddy, Timmy and Tony Curtis. They have been distributing sand and gravel contributed by J. G. Northcutt.

## NANCY KESTER WEDS CHARLES NEALE, JR.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Anderson Kester of Eureka, Ill., announce the marriage of their daughter, Nancy Alice, to Charles Russell Neale, Jr., on Saturday, March 21, in the First Congregational church at Boulder, Colo.

The Kesters are former residents of Black Mountain. They return each summer to spend some time at their home on High Top Colony road.

## New 'Pre-Pay' Coin Phones Are Slated

Announcement here this week that the 97 coin telephone instruments in Black Mountain and Swannanoa will be converted to the pre-pay type of equipment was made by J. L. Smith, district manager of Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Co. Cost of this new equipment was estimated as approximately \$20,000.

These plans drew commendation from the president of Black Mountain's Chamber of Commerce, William Hickey, who stated that addition of this type of equipment marks an excellent step in the Telephone company's handling of service in this exchange area.

Mr. Smith said, "with this equipment you remove the receiver, deposit a dime, listen for dial tone, and then dial the telephone number. If you get no answer or a busy signal you hang up the receiver, and your dime will be returned. This is the same way the coin telephones operate in the Asheville exchange."

All local coin telephone instruments will be changed. The company will start changing the equipment about the middle of May and will complete the work by early June. Mr. Smith stated it would also be necessary to change the telephone numbers, and the company has made arrangements for these numbers to be in the new telephone directory which will be published in July.

## Woman's Club Plans May Events

The Junior Woman's club, meeting April 14 at the Monte Vista hotel, heard an interesting program given by Miss Ann Sherman, supervisor of elementary education for Buncombe county. She spoke on "Getting Ready for School."

The club made plans for the annual banquet and installation of officers, also the spring dance at the Black Mountain Community clubhouse on May 16.

Members present were Alice Turner, Mrs. W. L. Wheeler, Mrs. Bill Phillips, Mrs. Howerton Price, Mrs. John Bennett, Jr., Mrs. M. L. Williams, Mrs. Frances Pearson, Mrs. Don Ross, Mrs. Taylor Martin, Mrs. Ned Straehla and Mrs. Bill Ryan.

## Shall There Be Pistol Cap Sale?

Requests have been received by North Carolina legislators asking them to legalize the sale of toy pistol caps in Buncombe county. Your representatives would like to hear from you as to your attitude toward such legislation.

## An Editorial

### 3-Lane Highways Must Go

This is the time of year when the grim figures of the year's total of traffic deaths, injuries and accidents is received from the State Department of Motor Vehicles. This document is of top importance here in the Swannanoa Valley, where we know all too vividly just now the real tragedy of death on the highway—death for well-loved human beings of our own home town—death for the heads of families who are a part of the everyday life of our community. The statistics at this time make compulsive reading, indeed, for every one of us.

Before we go into the details of that report, we want to make one thing clear at the outset: We are committed, from this moment forward, to doing everything in our power to wipe from the face of North Carolina all three-lane highways such as are constituted by Highway 70 from the eastern outskirts of Black Mountain to Asheville's Beaucatcher tunnel.

## 3-Lane Highways Must Go

Such a highway is a constant menace to all who travel thereon. We can find no words strong enough with which to deprecate the ever-present threat to life and limb offered by such a thoroughfare—and no words sad enough to express a community's sorrow and a family's grief over such fatal accidents as those in which death has struck here in recent weeks. In four fatal accidents occurring since January 1, in a little more than three months' time, six persons have been killed on this stretch of a three-lane highway. Forty-nine accidents have taken place in that period on the three-lane roadway between Black Mountain and the Asheville tunnel. These six fatalities already, thus early in the year, comprise almost a fifth of last year's entire total of such fatalities throughout the whole four-county area served by our District 3 of the State Highway Patrol.

More accidents—and more fatal accidents—

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Re-decorated Chamber of Commerce office at City Hall.



Spring paint-up of street markings.



Finer Carolina plaque stays here.