

BLACK MOUNTAIN NEWS

DEVOTED 100% TO OUR COMMUNITY—THE GROWING SWANNANOVA VALLEY

Hometown Newspaper
If You Live In
★ Black Mountain ★ Montreat
★ Ridgecrest ★ Swannanoa

Thursday, February 20, 1975, Volume 30, Number 20

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT BLACK MOUNTAIN, N.C. 28711

15 CENTS

Fire School Graduation Lit Up Black Mountain

Graduation for those attending the Fire Fighting School for Extinguishing Gas fires held in Black Mountain was the real thing. Thursday the forty-five who attended and completed the course fought a real gas fire which was produced by letting propane gas escape from a system of pipes shaped like a tree. The fire fighting demonstration was held at a vacant lot near old U. S. 70 east of Black Mountain. A propane gas fire cannot be put out by the usual method of only by closing the valve

at the source of supply. Then the fire will go out. The method used in extinguishing fire is first to use three one and a half inch lines capable of ejecting 100 gallons of water per minute each. Firemen then advanced on fire at twenty feet from the fire the nozzles on the hoses are turned on to produce a thirty degree spray pattern. At five feet the pattern is changed to ninety degrees and the firemen advance until the leader can reach the valve to cut off the source of supply. The fire will then go out by itself.

The school was conducted by Dawson Nethercutt who is on the North Carolina Department of Insurance. The Black Mountain, Swannanoa, Haw Creek Riceville and Canton Fire Departments participated. The Black Mountain Fire Dept. extends its thanks to Mr. Nethercutt and to Suburban Propane Gas Co. who furnished the gas for the demonstration. Also the Auxiliary Police Dept. of Black Mountain who directed the traffic Thursday night.

From the Asheville Citizen Winfred S. McLeod, who took over as director of the Juvenile Evaluation Center (JEC) at Swannanoa last July, will be replaced next month. The Citizen learned Monday. The move will mark the third replacement at the troubled JEC in about a year. William D. Noland, 40, a native of Lake Junaluska and director of the C.A. Dillon School at Butner who formerly served as assistant JEC director for seven years, has been named as McLeod's replacement, effective March 3.

The shake-up in the JEC directorship was confirmed in Raleigh Monday by David Jordan, director of the Division of Youth Development, N. C. Dept. of Corrections, and George R. Hicks, chief of school operations for the youth corrections system.

Hicks, in a telephone interview from his Raleigh home Monday night, said Noland was "ticked to death to get back" to the JEC, "and really it was a promotion for him."

"So, we are quite pleased, and he is quite pleased, and I hope a lot of other people are going to be quite pleased," Hicks said.

Hicks said McLeod had submitted his resignation "because he preferred the academic environment" over corrections, and that McLeod's resignation was mutually considered as best for the JEC both by him (McLeod) and the Division of Youth Corrections.

"He (McLeod) came to us out of the community college system, and there is a lot of difference in environments," Hicks said.

"He (McLeod) wasn't really satisfied with the progress being made (at the JEC), and he mentioned that to me on my last visit to the center," Hicks said, "I went up and did an evaluation, and I found things as Mr. McLeod had indicated. McLeod said that no one had actually asked for his resignation, but "they hinted at it right strongly."

Administration troubles at the JEC began Oct. 26, 1973, when state youth development officials dropped down on the JEC campus by helicopter and asked for the immediate resignation of J. Louis Parrish, director of the unit since 1968, and four other JEC officials.

Parrish was reinstated a month later, however, after the N. C. Attorney General's office ruled that the then N. C. Board of Youth Development (since disbanded), not the Secretary of the N. C. Dept. of Corrections (David Jones), had the sole legal right to fire administrators within the system of youth development.

Eight other top administrators at youth correctional centers across the state were fired that day by the helicopter traveling state officials, including Noland.

Asked about the fact that Noland had once been fired by the state from his Dillon School position and was now being "promoted" to the JEC directorship, Hicks said:

"Mr Noland since that time has performed very admirably and done an outstanding job for the division of Youth Development.

"Both the division and the Department of Corrections is fortunate to have a man of his qualifications to reorganize the JEC. He has 15 years of service with the department

Demos Set Statewide Meets To Assure Broader Base In Party Policy Councils

North Carolina Democrats have been summoned to a series of statewide meetings designed to develop and win support for the "Affirmative Action" and "Delegate Selection" Plans required for the State Party organization under the mandate imposed by the 1972 National Convention.

While there is no apparent prospect for imposition of the controversial "quota" system, there is a firm requirement that all sectors of the populace be afforded an opportunity to participate in Party affairs, and that the delegates to the next National Convention accurately reflect the "presidential preference" of the Democratic electorate.

In this area, the meeting for the 11th Congressional District is scheduled for Thursday night, Feb. 20 beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Buncombe Co. Courthouse in Asheville.

In final form, the Affirmative Action program is

expected to stress involvement of "traditionally under-represented groups," with emphasis on Senior Citizens. At the opposite end of the spectrum, strong emphasis will also be placed on increasing involvement of the younger voters in Party affairs.

Other groups expected to play active roles in development of the Affirmative Action Plan and in Party operations are minorities, including both blacks and Indians. There are also strong indications that an increasing level of participation is sought at all levels for women voters.

The Executive Committee has already communicated to Democratic officeholders and the Party organization its active encouragement to work toward assuring that the broadest possible base of participation in the planning process is attained, and fullest understanding of support of the new procedures is achieved.

**DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR CLOCKS
UP 1 HOUR SATURDAY NIGHT**

Building Dedication Honors J.G. Northcott

A \$670,000 two-story vocational education building at North Carolina School for the Deaf has been dedicated in honor of J. G. Northcott of Black Mountain.

Northcott has been a director of the school since 1958 and was elected chairman in 1970.

In recent ceremonies, State Sen. Lamar Gudger of Asheville, principal speaker, praised Northcott's long list of

civic accomplishments and said, "I firmly believe that in dedicating this building...and in giving it the name of J. G. Northcott, we have done a wise thing."

Northcott, a former alderman and mayor of Black Mountain, served 18 years on the Buncombe County Board of Education, including 12 years as chairman.

The building contains classroom and shop areas for

dry cleaning, power sewing, driver education, masonry, gasoline engine repair, auto body repair, general shop and classrooms for the multiply impaired, vocational training and a planned electronic assembly area.

Sterling White, president of the state association for the deaf, gave the welcome address. He said "it is our hope that this building will become

a model in vocational training opportunities for young deaf people everywhere."

A plaque unveiled at the dedication reads: "In honor of Mr. J. G. Northcott for his work and leadership as a member and Chairman of the Board of Directors, North Carolina School for the Deaf, during a period of unparalleled growth for NCSD."

New Head Named At J.E. Center

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Jaycees Annual Banquet Friday Distinguished Service Awards

The Annual Jaycees Distinguished Service Awards Banquet will be held this Friday, Feb. 21, at Highland Farms. The Social Hour begins at 6:15 p.m. with dinner to follow.

Speaker for the evening will be William M. McMurray, Deputy Director of the National Clinatic Center, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

A native of Pennsylvania, he attended Pennsylvania State University and graduated from the University of Chicago with a B.S. in Meteorology in 1942.

In more than 30 years with the Federal Government he has served in New York, Cleveland, Washington, Texas, North Carolina, Italy, Oklahoma and was transferred to Asheville in 1955.

McMurray is a Past President of the Asheville Kiwanis Club. Is a member of the Board of Directors of the United Fund of Asheville and Buncombe County and Carolina Community Services. He is also a Certified Lay Speaker in the United Methodist Church. In 1960 he was the recipient of the Department of Commerce's Silver Medal for Meritorious Service.

His wife Betty is secretary in the office of the United

States Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina. They have two sons, John, a former Morehead Scholar graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of North Carolina in 1969. And Tim, who also graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of North Carolina

in Chapel Hill and is now a programmer for IBM in the Research Triangle.

Co-Chairmen for the event are: Awards Ken Haynes; Speaker - Jerry Hartis and Bennie Turner; Banquet - Wendell Begley and Invitations - Frank Watkins.



WILLIAM M. McMURRAY

CP&L Sends Big Guns To Defend Nuclear Power

Sponsored by the Asheville chapter of the American Association of University Women, a panel of outstanding speakers will debate the question of nuclear power on Wednesday, February 26, at 10 a.m. at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Asheville. The church is located just off Merrimon Ave. at N. Liberty & Chesnut Streets.

To advocate expansion of nuclear power CP&L is sending from Raleigh its top

speakers. These are James M. Hall, Jr., Division General Manager of CP&L and David Mosier, professional engineer and Director of Shaeron - Harris Visitor Center in Raleigh.

Speaking in opposition will be Dr. Rob Cole, Associate Professor of Physics at University of North Carolina at Asheville; Henry Harrison, formerly Director of Meteorology for United

Airlines and presently certified Consulting Meteorologist; and Helen Reed, economist and member of AAUW.

This debate should be of extreme interest to residents of this entire area in view of the proposed building of a nuclear reactor by CP&L near Sandy Mush, only 7 miles from Asheville city limits. Opinion is sharply divided concerning the advantages and the dangers of such plants.



Swannanoa Valley Medical Center Inc. Management Committee

THE SWANNANOVA VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER, INC., recently organized a Management Committee, the members of which are shown in the photo above by Edward L. Dupuy. A thorough study is underway of all aspects of business and management procedures practiced by other centers of a similar type, conducted primarily by volunteers. Information is being sought so that the Swannanoa Valley Medical Center will continue to be operated in as practical and economic manner as possible. The members of the Management Committee, shown in the above photo, seated, left to right are: John F. Brown, Swannanoa, Regional Manager of A.B.S. Division of W.R. Grace Company; Ernest S. DeWick, North Fork, President of Medical Center; Mrs. Samuel S. Cooley, Black Mountain, Housewife; Kenneth McAnear, Ridgecrest, Manager of

Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center; Mrs. James B. Hardie, Swannanoa, President of Swannanoa Woman's Club; Mrs. Gaines M. Cook, Black Mountain Housewife. Standing, left to right are: Clarence Frye, Black Mountain, Volunteer Building Supt. of Medical Center; Dr. Paul Lambert, Black Mountain, President of Highland Farms and A.A.R.P.; Dr. Gaines M. Cook, Chairman, Black Mountain, President of Christmount Christian Assembly; G. E. Mattison, Black Mountain, Financial Advisor; Otha Sherrill, Black Mountain, Asheville School Principal; Desmond Hussey, Swannanoa, State Highway Patrol; Dr. Silas M. Vaughn, Montreat, President of Montreat - Anderson College; Mrs. Helene S. Frye, Black Mountain, Medical Center Office Manager, Not in photo.

Tax Rate In Buncombe Is Below State Average

The countywide base property tax rate in Buncombe County is below the average rate in North Carolina's eight largest counties as well as the statewide average of all 100 counties, a recent report shows.

The report has been published by the N. C. Association of County Commissioners, and shows a range of property tax levels from \$1.35 per \$100 valuation in sparsely populated Pamlico County to 90 cents per \$100 in Ashe County, according to Commissioner Cary C. Owen.

It says the average tax rate across the state is 76.3 cents per \$100, as compared to 73 cents in Buncombe. The average rate in the eight largest counties (including Buncombe) is 79.4 cents.

Mrs. Owen said two of the larger counties, Gaston and Guilford, have lower rates than Buncombe, 68 and 43 cents respectively. In the

latter case, she pointed out that Guilford, which contains the cities of Greensboro and High Point, has a tax base 2 1/2 times that of Buncombe.

In an unrelated matter, Mrs. Owen said representatives from the county, the health department, the local medical society, the N. C. Department of Transportation and the State Highway Patrol

met recently to coordinate plans for a clean-up campaign in Buncombe County.

She said the group discussed plans to use employees of the federally-funded Emergency Jobs Program in the campaign, as well as the need for increased public education against littering and legislation on the state level to combat the problem.