

# BLACK MOUNTAIN NEWS

DEVOTED 100% TO OUR COMMUNITY — THE GROWING SWANNANOVA VALLEY

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

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15 CENTS

## Chamber Of Commerce Banquet

### Black Mountain Welcomes Roy & Evelyn Taylor Home

Frowning skies and a pouring rain failed to dampen the spirits or the warmth of the neighbors of Roy and Evelyn Taylor as more than 200 friends and neighbors of his home community gathered at Assembly Inn to welcome them home.

Representative Taylor likened himself to the prodigal son (although he has never been that) returning home and was as always his gentle, personable self and Evelyn, as always, was the epitome of a gentle, well bred lady.

The informal banquet and "home town get-together" at the Assembly Inn in Montreat was attended by approximately 200 of the retiring Congressman's friends and well wishers and was sponsored by the Black Mountain-Swannanoa Chamber of Commerce.

Col. Ed Weber, manager and executive secretary of the chamber, acted as master of ceremonies at the gathering, which featured the format of a "roast" among friends.

The greatest form of flattery and praise one can show the other is through humor," Weber said. "But in view of the fire laws in Montreat, we're only going to singe you a little."

The first to singe Taylor was his district assistant for the past 16 years, Tom Mallonee, who recalled several humorous incidents during his years with Taylor, then said, "Roy has demonstrated time and time again his great love for people."

"There has never been a staff member in Washington that didn't love Roy Taylor, and Evelyn, too. When Jan. 3 rolls around, there will be a lot of wet eyes in Washington. But when he comes home, I know he'll bring that love home with him."

Mrs. Ruth Graham, long time friend and neighbor of the Taylors, spoke briefly but with warmth, saying, "Only for Roy and Evelyn would I venture out on a night like this. All I can say is how happy I am to welcome them back home."

Andy Andrews, director of the Mountain Retreat Association in Montreat, who seemed to be a favorite among the guests, said

of Taylor, "I remember the first time I got a letter from Roy from Washington, in response to one I had written him."

"It wasn't a form letter, and it was his own signature, but just to make sure, I wet my thumb, rubbed it and it smeared."

"Since that time, I've gotten three or four more letters from him, and they all smeared too."

"What that says to me is, he's authentic. It also says that no matter how far you go, you can still be personal with the folks back home."

"I guess that's why we all love Roy Taylor," he said.

Black Mountain's Mayor Mrs. Margaret Slagle, spoke warmly of both Evelyn and Roy Taylor, followed by an official proclamation of the week of Dec. 5 through 11 as "Roy and Evelyn Taylor Appreciation Week" in Black Mountain, which was met with thunderous applause.

Mayor Slagle also recalled that Mrs. Taylor had once flunked her in French and thanked her for it, stating, "If she had passed me I might have gone through life content to just get by, but she challenged me to do my best and the next year I passed my final test with a grade of 100."

Col. Weber also recognized former Mayor Richard Stone and Mrs. Stone, thanking them for the 14 years of service they had given to the Township of Black Mountain. They were given a standing ovation by all those present. Mayor Stone has also served as Rep. Taylor's campaign manager for sixteen years.

State Rep. elect Gordon Greenwood, who attended Buncombe County Junior College, now the University of North Carolina at Asheville, with Taylor, recalled several memorable occasions shared by the two, then said, "I could speak of Roy as a frisky gentleman, a Congressman, a great North Carolinian and a great American, but I prefer to remember him as just a good human being, one you could always ask for help, knowing that he would give it if there was any way possible, and always in a hurry."

Mrs. Taylor, who began her moment at the podium by saying, "I'm so flustered I don't know if I can say anything," added, "I was so worried about speaking to the home folks that this morning I found myself downtown with two different shoes on my feet."

"It's always harder to appeal before the home folks, because they can't be objective," she said. "But what a thrill it is to look out at all of you and see people we taught, and those we have watched with such interest over the years."

"The thing that sustained us in Washington was the fact that we knew we could come home, and find strength and sustenance with our friends here."

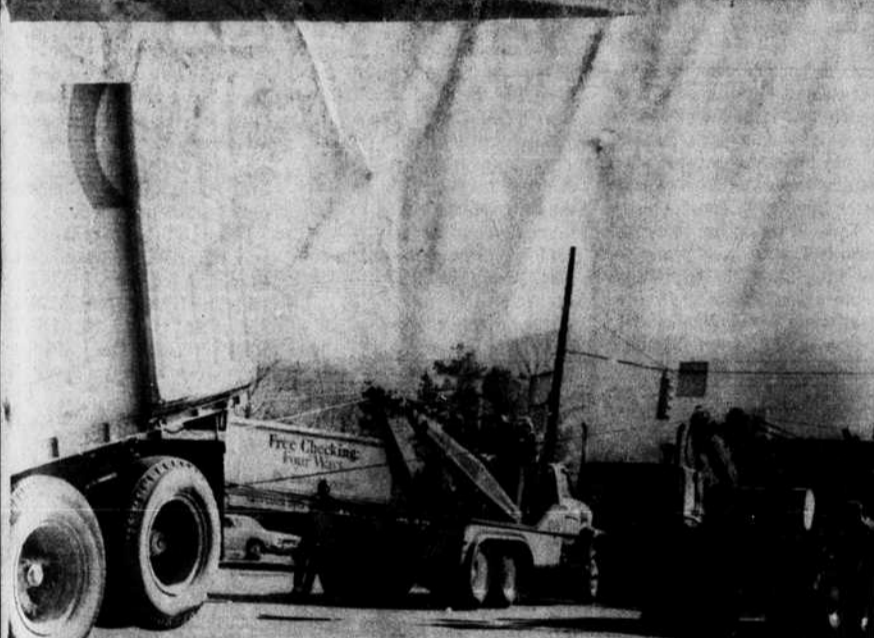
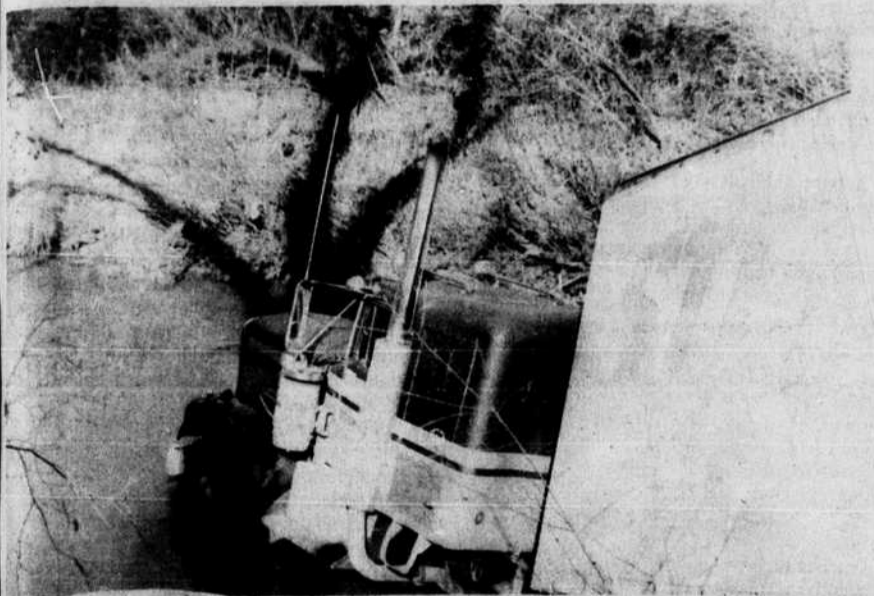
Finally the Congressman stood up before the crowd and said, "Thomas Wolfe said you can't go home again, but we're here."

Taking a moment to recall some of the highlights and humorous predicaments he encountered in Congress during his four terms, he said, "Credit for anything I have accomplished in Washington must go to many people, first of all to Evelyn, who worked as hard as I did but never got paid for it."

"The goodness of the people here and in the entire district has rubbed off on me, and made my job much more effective," he said.

"No man could have represented a nicer group of people. And the warmth and good feeling of being welcomed back home by you can't be beat."

The new Officers and Directors of the Chamber of Commerce were introduced by incoming President Harry Hyder in a brief and witty speech. He also presented a Certificate of Achievement to outgoing President Lee Clapp. The officers will be installed at a later Chamber meeting.



(Photos By Regenia Byrd)

This meat laden truck's enroute from Paris, Texas to Norfolk, Va., brakes failed early last Thursday morning as it turned off I-40 onto Patton Cove Rd. at Swannanoa. It crossed U.S. 70, went through the Bantam Chef parking lot and ended up in the Swannanoa River. Its driver was uninjured and fortunately due to the early hour of the morning 1:30 a.m. no other traffic was on the road and there were no other injuries or damages.

## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, THE TOWN OF BLACK MOUNTAIN desires to commend and honor her citizens who make outstanding contributions to our community, and

WHEREAS, Roy and Evelyn Taylor have been representatives of this 11th District for the past sixteen years, and

WHEREAS, dedication and devotion to the people of this area have taken priority in their actions, and

WHEREAS, their unbiased attitude toward the district has been evident to us all, and

WHEREAS, we look forward to having Roy and Evelyn join the citizenry of Black Mountain in continued community involvement, and

WHEREAS, we, the citizens of Black Mountain welcome home Roy and Evelyn, with much warm appreciation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Margaret G. Slagle, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of Black Mountain, do hereby proclaim the week of December 6th through 11th, 1976, as "ROY AND EVELYN TAYLOR APPRECIATION WEEK."

AND, I do further call upon the citizens of Black Mountain to join together in offering our gratitude to Roy and Evelyn Taylor for the interest and dedication shown to us during these past years of service.

-s- Margaret G. Slagle  
Mayor



ITS ALWAYS FAIR WEATHER when good friends get together L to R at the welcome home dinner for Roy and Evelyn Taylor. Marcus Begley, Julie Weber, Evelyn Taylor, Ed Weber, Dick Stone and Congressman Roy Taylor (Photo By Beverly Genetti)

Live Nativity  
Scene At  
Swannanoa  
United  
Methodist  
Church

Swannanoa United Methodist Church will sponsor the presentation of a live Nativity scene on the grounds of the parsonage on Government Ave. at Alexander Ave. in Grovemont December 16 thru Dec. 19.

Each performance is scheduled from 7 to 9 p.m. with participants taking the roles of shepherds, wise men, angels and the parts of Joseph and Mary. One angel will be stationed on top of the rustic manger shelter, erected especially for this Nativity program.

Committees are busy preparing costumes and plywood animals for the scene. During the performances, participants will be furnished refreshments. Music and scripture will be presented during each performance with the assistance of tape players and amplifiers.

The public is invited to attend the performances, either parking their cars and remaining for awhile, or driving slowly past the scene. A committee is in charge of traffic.

O.H.S. Band Sponsoring  
Luncheon,  
Concert,  
Bazaar  
Sunday  
Dec. 16

The Charles D. Owen High School Band is sponsoring a Turkey Luncheon, Christmas Festival of Music and a Christmas Bazaar. The luncheon will be held from noon until 2:00 pm in the Owen cafeteria. The menu will consist of baked turkey and dressing, green beans, candied yams, cranberry salad, hot rolls, coffee, tea or milk and your choice of dessert. Proceeds will go toward instrument repair and additional uniforms for upcoming band students. The cost is \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children under twelve.

The Bazaar will feature handmade gifts and Christmas decorations made by the band students and their parents. They will also have fresh greenery, mistletoe and baked goods for sale. The band will be offering red and white poinsettias of five or more blooms at a very nominal cost of \$4.50. If you would like to reserve one or several, please call M'Della Knight at 686-5315.

The luncheon will be followed by a Christmas Festival of Music at 2 pm by the Band and Chorus. This is included in the price of the luncheon.

The Band's Schedule for the rest of the month is as follows: Sun. Dec. 12, 12:00 - Turkey luncheon at Owen; Tuesday Dec. 14, 2:00 - chorus to sing at Art Museum in Civic Center; Wed. Dec. 15, 3:30 - nominees to All-County Band will audition at Erwin; Fri. Dec. 17, 9:00 - Swannanoa Jr. Band and Chorus concert; Mon. Dec. 20, 9:00 - Owen Band, Ensemble and Chorus to perform at Swannanoa School; Tues. Dec. 21 - Band Christmas party; Wed. Dec. 22, 10:00 - cpmcert for Owen students and faculty.

## Rozzell To Head Education Board

Grady Rozzell, plant engineer for Beacon Mfg. Co. at Swannanoa, was elected chairman of the new seven-member Buncombe County Board of Education at its organizational meeting Monday night.

Russell Knight of Carolina Business Equipment Inc., was elected vice chairman. The board's action in naming a vice chairman was contrary to advice of its legal counsel, Walter Currie, who said the North Carolina State School Law does not contemplate the election of a vice chairman except when such an officer becomes necessary due to the absence of the chairman.

Board member Mrs. Edna Roberts then offered a motion calling for the board to adopt a policy of electing a vice chairman and a corresponding secretary as well.

was for a corresponding secretary in addition to the one it already has, Mrs. Roberts said a corresponding secretary would gather information and make it available to the board.

Dr. Roger James, board member from the T. C. Roberson district, said it was his opinion that the board would be foolish to ignore the advice of its legal counsel, to which Rozzell replied that "We are responsible; he (the attorney) is not."

Rozzell used Roberts' Rules of Order as his guide in conducting the meeting and read from the North Carolina School Boards Association's handbook on the subject of organizing school boards.

Carroll asked if the corresponding secretary's duties would be clearly dictated by the board rather than determined by the corresponding secretary and was assured that they would. But after a five to one vote,

Dr. James voting "No" and Chairman Rozzell abstaining from voting, the office of corresponding secretary was declared vacated for want of a nomination for the post.

At this point, Harold Zeugner, whose views are frequently heard at school board meetings, inquired whether applications would be taken by the board for the job. He suggested that perhaps a job description would be in order.

Knight's election as vice chairman was effected by a vote of three to one, Dr. James having nominated Carroll. Mrs. Roberts and the two

Caldwells cast their votes for Knight, and Rozzell did not vote.

Contrary to practice of the previous board, Rozzell held that the chairman can vote only in the event of a tie.

Currie tendered his resignation as legal counsel, effective Dec. 30, which was accepted "with reluctance" by the board.

The third Wednesday of each month was set as the regular meeting date for the board, with work sessions to be held on the preceding Tuesday, both meetings to start at 7 pm.

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## Old Fort Mountain Road Work To Begin

Travelers on Old Fort Mountain (U.S. 70 West) will be inconvenienced somewhat just after the first of the year as construction to upgrade the mountainous road to interstate standards begins.

David Patton, resident engineer for the Department of Transportation, said Friday that work on four new type retaining walls will begin this week as workers begin clearing the area for construction of the walls along the eastbound lane.

Patton said the construction of the reinforced earth walls is necessary because of serious slides which have occurred on the eastbound lane of the

roadway. One slide is just inches away from the pavement, two other slides are located on the eastbound side across the road from the picnic area, and another is located just at the end of the median barrier.

Perry Alexander Construction Company of Asheville was the successful bidder with a low bid of \$2,322,589.75, Patton said.

According to Patton, the walls are trade named "Reinforced Earth Walls" and are rare in the Eastern United States. "The longest

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