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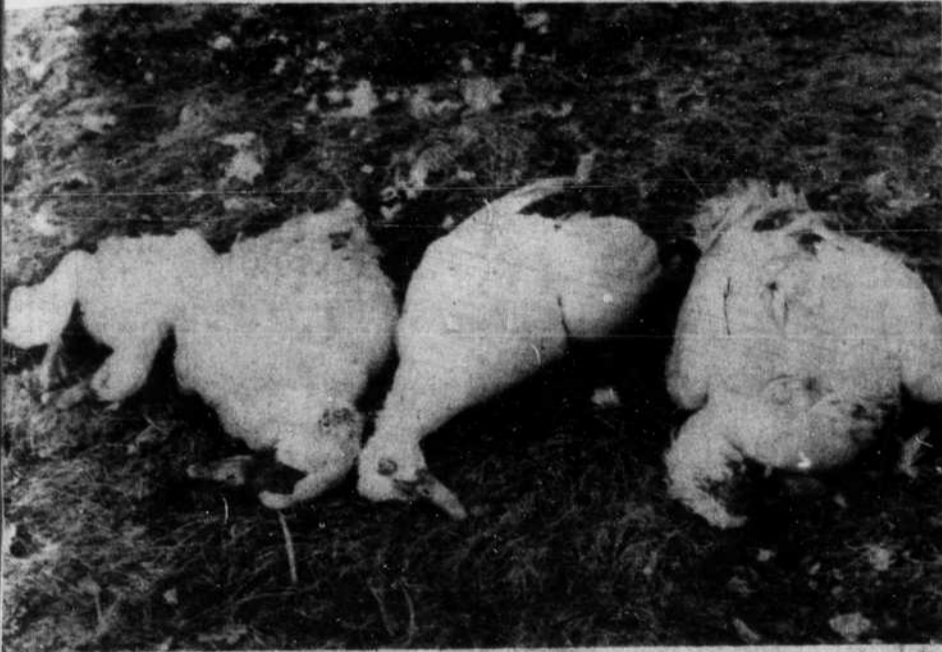
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15 CENTS

Thursday, February 10, 1977, Vol. 33, Number 19

Dog Leash Law?? Protecting What??



Innocent Victims - Slain Needlessly

By UVA MIRACLE

Packs of dogs are once again roaming the Township at will, invading neighborhoods where they do not belong. The area around Tomahawk Lake is especially hard hit.

Last Thursday morning dogs attacked the ducks at the Lake killing seven in a wanton, useless slaying. They did not kill out of hunger as all the mangled carcasses were left where they were slain. There was no escape for the ducks. The Lake was frozen except for a very small area and the ice was thick enough to support the weight of the dogs as they chased the ducks to the dam area.

Al White and one of the other men from the City Water Department went to feed them and found this mayhem. It was the ducks Thursday - What or Who Will Be Next!!

The Dog Leash Ordinance, passed on August 12, 1975, has proven totally ineffective. The Law was passed; but there was no monetary provision made to hire a man to enforce it or to provide him with equipment or training. If there has been any change in the status of the dog population the people of the Township cannot tell it.

Now before someone accuses me of being a dog hater etc., etc., let me refute it in advance. I have a dog, for most of my life I've had a dog. I also love my present little pet dearly, so much so I do everything in my power to take care of him and also to see that he does not bother anyone else. I also try to keep him out of harms way.

Do you love your dog as much?? If so why are you letting it run loose at the mercy of the elements and man also to be destructive and abusive to the rights of others?

Because of those who feel that "they" have the right to turn their pets loose all others, as well as animals like the ducks must suffer.

It is not safe for law abiding citizens to chain or tie their dogs in their yards for this puts the restrained animal at the mercy of the pack.

It has seemed to be the general consensus that it is the job of the individual citizen to be responsible for the impounding of these strays. We, the citizens, must catch them, we must restrain them until such time as the Humane Officer from Buncombe County can come out to get them. Perhaps you are willing to tangle with a strange dog, of unknown viciousness but most of us are not.

Just what means are available and just what has been done to aid in restraining the free running animals?

Town Mgr. Jon Creighton stated Friday that the Town has cage type traps which can be set in individual yards to entrap the animals, without harming them. Most people have refused to use them and we feel justifiably so, the people who love their pets so much they let them run loose are very touchy about them.

However, the time has come when we have to put up or shut-up. We as citizens will have to make known, if possible, the owners of the dogs creating the havoc. Folks around the Lake are trying their best to protect the ducks, but there have been many other animals killed by these roving packs all over



Can We Protect These And Other Helpless Creatures??

town. There is never a day that goes by that the News Office or City Hall does not receive a complaint about this. The people generally making the complaint will not deal directly with the pet owners involved but expect someone else to do their complaining for them. Until you are ready to speak up and be counted this problem cannot be alleviated.

The Leash Law per se is at present useless. We would ask if it is not going to be enforced and the means for enforcing it provided, Why have it?

Again we ask are we going to protect the helpless animals who are the victims or are we going to protect the strays and their owners. Think about it!!!

Investigator Fineberg Resigns, William Stafford Named Successor

William A. (Bill) Stafford of Asheville has been hired as Special Investigator on the Black Mountain Police Dept.

The vacancy was created by the resignation of Myron Fineberg who had held that position since October of 1976.



MYRON FINEBERG



BILL STAFFORD

Commencing in October and ending Jan. 1, 1977, Investigator Fineberg opened or had opened a total of 47 cases for investigation. Of these 25 had been closed or transferred to another agency, at the time of his resignation. One case is presently pending in District Court and appears to most certainly go to Superior Court.

Town Manager Jon Creighton, Mayor Margaret Slagle and members of the Board of Aldermen praised Mr. Fineberg. In the short

time he was investigator showed initiative, worked long hours in his efforts on crime and his effort in setting up files on PIN standards. We wish him every success in his new endeavor.

Stafford comes to Black Mountain after four years with the Asheville Police Dept. He worked for a short period as a Federal Police Officer at the V.A. Hospital in Oteen and also as a Buncombe County Sheriff's Deputy for six months.

He was a member of the

U.S. Marine Corp from 1968-72. He served as a Criminal Investigator in the Military Police Division.

Stafford has attended several police and criminology schools including the Los Angeles State College School of Criminology with special emphasis on Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs.

Stafford, 27, is a native of Asheville, is married and has one child, a daughter 4 years old.

He assumed his duties on Jan. 31.

T.W. Fortune & Don Ramsey New Police Officers

Two patrolmen on the Black Mountain Police Department who have not been introduced to the public via the Black Mountain News are T.W. Fortune who has been with the department since October and Don Ramsey who began his duties early in January. Fortune, age 30, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Grover Fortune formerly of Broad River, is a native of Salisbury and is single.

He also has worked in security work for the Asheville Retail Merchants Assoc.

He attended the Basic Training School at Chapel Hill for the Highway Patrol and taught Basic Training Schools in the Sheriff's Dept.

This is Ramsey's first experience in police work. He is a navy veteran, with four years service, mostly in the Mediterranean area.



Don Ramsey



T. W. Fortune

He is an Army veteran with three years of service, 2½ years of which he spent in Germany as a Medical Corporal.

His police work background consists of two years as a Patrolman with the N.C. Highway Patrol (71-73) and two years with the Buncombe County Sheriff's Dept. (73-75).

He is taking courses in the Inter Agency Narcotics group and will attend police courses as offered.

A graduate of Lee Edwards High School, he attended W.C.U. for one year. Ramsey and his wife Diane are living on Montreat Rd. They have one son Chris, age 5.

Renovation Of Club House Nearing Completion

Local contractors have finished work on the upper level of the Community Center at Lake Tomahawk. The renovation has been a major undertaking involving replacement of paneling and floor tiling, a new placement of doors, and structural changes in the basement which will leave the whole area open for activities. The construction has been particularly sensitive to the needs of Senior Citizens. A new access road will make transportation to the door possible and ramps in and out of the building will increase safety and mobility; these features are very important since one of the primary clients of the Center will be the XYZ Club, a Black Mountain Senior Citizens group. The addition of a redwood deck on the tennis court side of the Center is another attractive feature; sitters will have a nice view of the lake and mountains. Results of the renovation are most satisfactory in every way. City Manager Jon Creighton and the Town Council must be complimented for their persistent efforts to see that the renovation was initiated with the minimum of delay.



MEMBERS OF CP&L clean up debris from a tree which fell across a power line on Montreat Road Saturday at 1:04 p.m. disrupting power in a large area of Black Mountain. Power was off from 45 minutes to one and a half hours. CP&L workmen were aided by the Black Mountain Fire and Police Departments. (Photo by Gary Sorrells)

IRS HAS NOT PROVIDED FORMS FOR POST OFFICE

The fact that there are no Income Tax Forms at the Black Mountain Post Office is not the fault of the U.S. Postal Service or Postmaster Roy Harris. The IRS did not send any forms to the local post offices.

Postmaster Harris stated he had called the IRS in Greensboro and had written them and he said it seemed they were not sending any out to be placed in post offices.

Mr. Harris said the service in the past had been a courtesy provided by the Postal Service. "We are in no way connected with the IRS. We donated the space and handled the forms as a community service."

He noted that persons needing extra or special forms could obtain them by calling the toll free number in Greensboro 1-800-822-8800 or the U.S. Government telephone no. 255-2850 and ask for the Internal Revenue Service and they'll mail it out to you, Harris claimed.

He also stated if the IRS sends them any forms they will gladly display them as in the past.

FIREMEN FRANK PLEMMONS, Tom Turner and Gary Bartlett deliver water, in a 17½ gal. container, to a family who are without water. This is one of 277 the men in the department have been keeping filled. There is no end in sight for the deliveries.

356 Families Aided By Firemen

Members of the Black Mountain Fire Department have been seeing to the needs of 356 families in the area who have been without water and fuel. They have contributed 884 volunteer man hours, delivered 2,706 gals. of No. 1 and No. 2 fuel oil and 277 of 17½ gal. water containers

placed in the community. The containers were filled on an alternate basis.

On Sunday Feb. 6, 1977 they hauled 2,400 gallons of water to a reservoir at Sky High Acres.

The men have been on call around the clock from Jan. 22 - Feb. 4.

Monday February 14 is Valentine's Day!