Serving--

- \* Black Mountain
- \* Swannanoa
- \* Montreat
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# Cherry St. group given beauty 1st

group of shop owners on herrry Street in Black intain were honored as the 1976-1978 by the North olina Federation of en's Clubs at the State vention April 25 through 27 the Raddison Hotel in

onal program to improve visual environment of the nunity and is co-sp

onsored by the General Federation of Women's Clubs and Cities Service Company.

Merchants of the Cherry Street Plan were responsible for major assistance from the Town Board for street im-Additional improvements included sidewalk patching, a corner planter, benches on the lower end of the street and planters

Cherry Street painted their store fronts.

A plaque honoring the merchants of Cherry Street was presented in recognition of their efforts. The Black Mountain Woman's Club. whose President is Mrs. R.C. Moss, sponsored the project and received a \$100 check for their efforts. Mrs. Harriet served as project



Black Mountain Water Supt. Al White looks on as Johnny Harrison climbs to the new reservoir on McCoy Cove Road. The reservoir, when it soon ets Health Department specifications, will replace the current facility in

#### Bell rate increase begins

by Nelle Laetsch

Southern Bell's North lina customers will inease 10 cents a month and ness rates 25 cents a onth, beginning April 26, as esult of an order issued ril 17 by the North Carolina ilities Commission.

a Black Mountain the basic onthly rate for residence phone service will inase from \$7.70 to \$7.80, ording to R.B. Moore, Bell' cal manager. The monthly siness rate will increase in \$19.25 to \$19.50. Service connection

arges also are being revised more closely reflect the it the telephone company

s an example, Moore said, service connection charge residences where all ing and jacks must be talled will increase from 50 to \$31.10.

residences in which ephone wiring and jacks

are already in place, the service connection charge will

For residences in which the wiring and jacks are in place—and the customer picks up his or her telephone at a Southern Bell Phone Center Store—the service connection charge will be \$15.90.

The installation charge for a business telephone will increase from \$33.40 to \$40.00. Savings for business customers, similar to those for residence customers, on wiring and jacks can be realized if these facilities

Moore pointed out that basic monthly rates have been adjusted for a variety of local service items. Rates for touch tone service were among those restructured and some customers who have this service may experience additional increases.

The monthly rate for business extensions will increase slightly, from \$1.90 to \$1.95 per month.

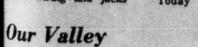
Today's order by the

Utilites Commission resulted from a request by Southern Bell in August, 1977 for \$53.7 million in additional revenue. Following extensive public hearings, the Commission on March 24 granted the company additional revenues of about \$28.6 million. Nearly \$22 million of the increase went into effect April 3 in the form of higher rates for in-state long distance calls and for Wide Area Telephone Service

The April 3 revisions also established a 25 per cent discount for in-state long distance calls placed between 12 noon and 1 p.m. weekdays. Southern Bell originally had requested three hours of discount callings on week-The Commission ordered just one hour, sayings that such a concept should be tested in actual experience before being extended to

additional hours. Today's order affecting local service charges will produce about \$6.7 million in additional annual revenue for

Southern Bell.



### Mountains and streams

by Bill Penfound and June Hodge

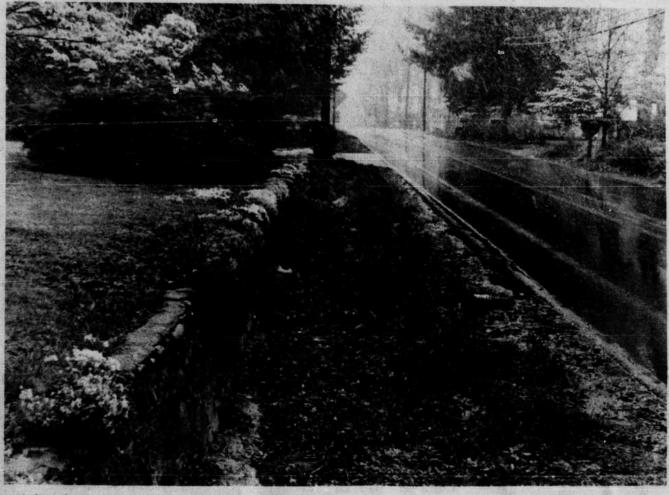
note-The following is first article in what mises to be a long series on natural and human history he Swannanoa Valley. The hers, with the typing islance of Ethel Caldweel, to publish their series book called SWAN-NOA VALLEY sometime future.

The Swannanoa Valley is a

broad, mountain-edged valley which is located in Buncombe County, in the southern section of the Blue Ridge Province of North Carolina. The Swannanoa Valley extends from the sources of Flat Creek and the North Fork River to the confluence of the Swannanoa and French Broad Rivers at Asheville. The Valley has its beginning in the Craggy, Black and Graybeard mountains to the mountains to the south. Many

of the mountain peaks are over a mile high whereas the elevation of the Swannanoa River at its confluence with the French Broad is only 1995 feet above sea level. The Valley is 18 miles long and varies from less than one mile to six miles in width. An impoundment, as a water supply reservoir for Asheville, has been constructed on the upper reaches of the North Fork. This area is now under

(Continued on page 11)



A late freak blizzard provided an unusual con-

trast to spring flowers on Montreat Road Friday. (Dan Ward)

#### 5 local youths arrested in raid

prise drug raid April 20. One an Asheville man, according to a Buncombe County Arrested in the 7 a,m. raid, coordinated between the Sheriff's Department, Interagency Narcotics Squad and Asheville Police Department, were Keith Aiken, 18, sale and delivery of marijuana; Danny Lee

Brigman, 19, sale and delivery

of marijuana; Preston O.

Walker, 22, sale and delivery of marijuana; Perry R. Shippey, 19, manufacture of marijuana; and Michael Shippey, sale and delivery of marijuana—all of Swannanoa. A hearing is set for May 4.

The other 10 arrested in the raid, all from Asheville or Candler, were Marvin K. Bryan, Philip R. Ross, William S. Isreal, Philip Vernon, Terry Phillson, Effie Fullwood, Steven R. Wilson, Michael Gray, J. Leonard Gudger, Charles S. Collins.

and Gary E. Radford. In another case. Terry Lynn

Stephenson, 22, of Swannanoa defender and had a hearing set for May 8 on charges of armed robbery and assualt with a deadly weapon in connection with two

According to sheriff's police, Stephenson is charged with the robbery at gunpoint of \$35 from the Ice Service Store on US 70 April 10 and with beating his wife. Dorothy

Jean, on April 22. Bond was set at \$25,000.

Black Mountain Police arrested James Manuel St. John of Thomasville on April 23 and charged him with communicating a threat after St. John allegedly threatened another man at Reed's Motel while holding a shotgun.

Black Mountain Police answered 83 calls, issued two traffic citations, arrested one for public drunk, investigated two accidents, and assisted sheriff's police last week.

## Swannanoa fire destroys home, investigated

by Dan Ward

A fire with suspicious origins destroyed a mobile home and all its contents, and resulted in one injury April 21 in Swannanoa.

Mrs. C.A. Wilson was treated and released from Memorial Mission Hospital for smoke inhalation when she awoke to a fire in the trailer she rented from an out-ofstate owner on North Street

Swannanoa Fireman and investigator David Strickland said that, because there were two "hot spots "; or potential beghinnings of the fire, the investigation was turned over to Buncombe County Sheriff's

Sheriff's Det. Don Whitaker confirmed, through reports of Arson Investigator Forest Weaver, that the fire could have started in two placesthe heater and the stove of the trailer. Value of the trailer was set at \$10,000, while personal belongings lost were worth \$4500.

Whitaker said that that becasue no flamable liquids

were found at the scene, the fire did not warrant an SBI arson investigatioon. He said, however, that a county investigation continues

Two trucks and nine men from Swannanoa responded to an alarm called by Mrs. Wilson, to find the trailer already in flames. The fire was under control in 10 minutes, a fire department spokesman said.

The burning ban in Swan-nanoa has been lifted, although the Swann ios Fire Department recommends that persons starting a controlled burning exercise extreme caution and common

Swannanoa Fire Department made two other runs last week.

On April 17, two trucks and eight men responded to an unauthorized controlled burning at the Davis Mountain Hideaway on Davidson Road. Also that day, one truck and 10 men stood by a wreck on I-40 east of Jim's Branch Road. The driver, who was injured in the wreck, was treated for minor injuries at Memorial

#### Black Mountain fire

Black Mountain firemen made four runs last week.

On April 18, one truck and seven men stood by at a car wreck on US 70 west. One person received minor injuries in the wreck.

On April 19, one truck and five men stood by at a controlled burning on Occoneechee Avenue.

When another controlled

April 22, two trucks and 18 men responded to the Bill Price residence on Old US 70. On April 23, one truck and 20 men were called to stand by at

the scene of a car wreck on US 70 west. Power lines were downed as a result of that accident. There were no in

The Buncombe County Ambulance Service made one emergency, 16 routine and two unneeded runs last week.

Roy Orr

### A hot fudge sundae--with good talk on top

by Dan Ward

Like the gleaming grill on a '57 Chev, Roy Orr' s soda fountain is a symbol of a space in time that defies clocks.

Amid a row of gleaming flavor spouts and constantlywiped ice cream bin covers, Orr reigns as half-owner and operator of "the only sody fountain around," at B&J Drugs in Swannanoa.

'This is the only one left between Beverly Hills and Marion, "he said. "Folks come here from all over.'

'Most soda fountains were in drug stores, see, in the old days. You take on 10 and 15 cent sales, you have to take in a lot of business to pay the overhead.

"When the rest of them closed down, I raised my prices to where I could stay above board,"he said. Even with higher prices,

Orr knows that ice cream sodas alone won't keep him in business. Counters around the store are filled with toiletries and non-prescription medicines.



Years of carvings in B&J's booths-"Iwouldn't

counter hangs a kaliedascope of key chains, pipes, watchbands and cigarette

lighters. The main attraction, next to the ice cream, is the shop's sandwiches and hot dogs all-the-way. "We've always had the best

hot dogs in Buncombe County," Orr said as though he were saying the grass is green-an indisputable fact "We' ve never had anyone

kick on hot dogs.' ' A man sipping coffee at the counter nodded in silent agreement. People wander in and out,

all taking their time. While they know a Coke costs the same here as everywhere else, they know the conversation is free-and friendly.

One young man at the counter, who was probably in his early teens when the soda fountain was the main hangout for rock-n-roll lovers, called to Orr

"Hey Roy, tell him about the

Orr put down his wiping rag and led the way past the counter to where a row of initial-carved booths faced an 'Yeah, we've got the only

nickel jukebox in the countystate maybe,"he said, tapping 'They want me to change it,

but I said 'hell, the kids only got a nickel, let them play it.' "They come in here and pool their pennies to get nickels." The drug store, with its old-

timey paneling, shelves and trim-along with the traditional wooden booths and



pretty much the same since Orr and his step son, Morris Jones, bought it 27 years ago. Some of the reasons for not modernizing is money, Orr

"My overhead would be higher and I'd have more work to do-and I don't want to do that,"he said with half a wink. "I' d just be asking for headaches. As it is, my wife and I can run it all right."

But part of the reason is a feeling for the store's distinctive style.

booths, you'd see the names of million that's graduated and moved on. I wouldn't take one

thousand dollars for all those names,"he said. Another customer came in, and Orr began methodically making a chili dog, keeping the jokes and conversation

going all the while. A country music station played on a portable radio, which was perched next to a large mirror behind the counter.

At the far end of the store, near the booths, sat an idle stand-type fan looked down on by a '50s vintage Coca-Cola

After the last scoop of onions buried the dog and it was handed to its new owner, Orr ambled back down the

"There used to be a lot of businesses on this side of town, but they're all moving out now-because of the big chain stores,"he saied.

"They undersell some things I've got by as much as 15 cents. But it don't hurt me, people just come back. When people find a place they like, they stick with it.'