

BLACK MOUNTAIN NEWS

DEVOTED 100% TO OUR COMMUNITY — THE GROWING SWANNAHOA VALLEY

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HUD grant nixed, but still sought

by Dan Ward
Action of all but two HUD applications from the state, one from Black Mountain, has caused an outcry resounding to the state capital.

Land-of-Sky Regional Council. U.S. Rep. Lamar Gudger, whose 11th district encompasses 17 western counties, met with 40 area representatives including Black Mountain Mayor Tom Sobol, July 29 to discuss what appeared an unfair distribution of HUD funds.

According to Gudger's office, the congressman has expressed his "anger and concern" to HUD officials, and plans to hold another meeting to find whether rejection of the grants was based on inadequacies in preparing the applications or inadequacies in supplying minority or poverty information.

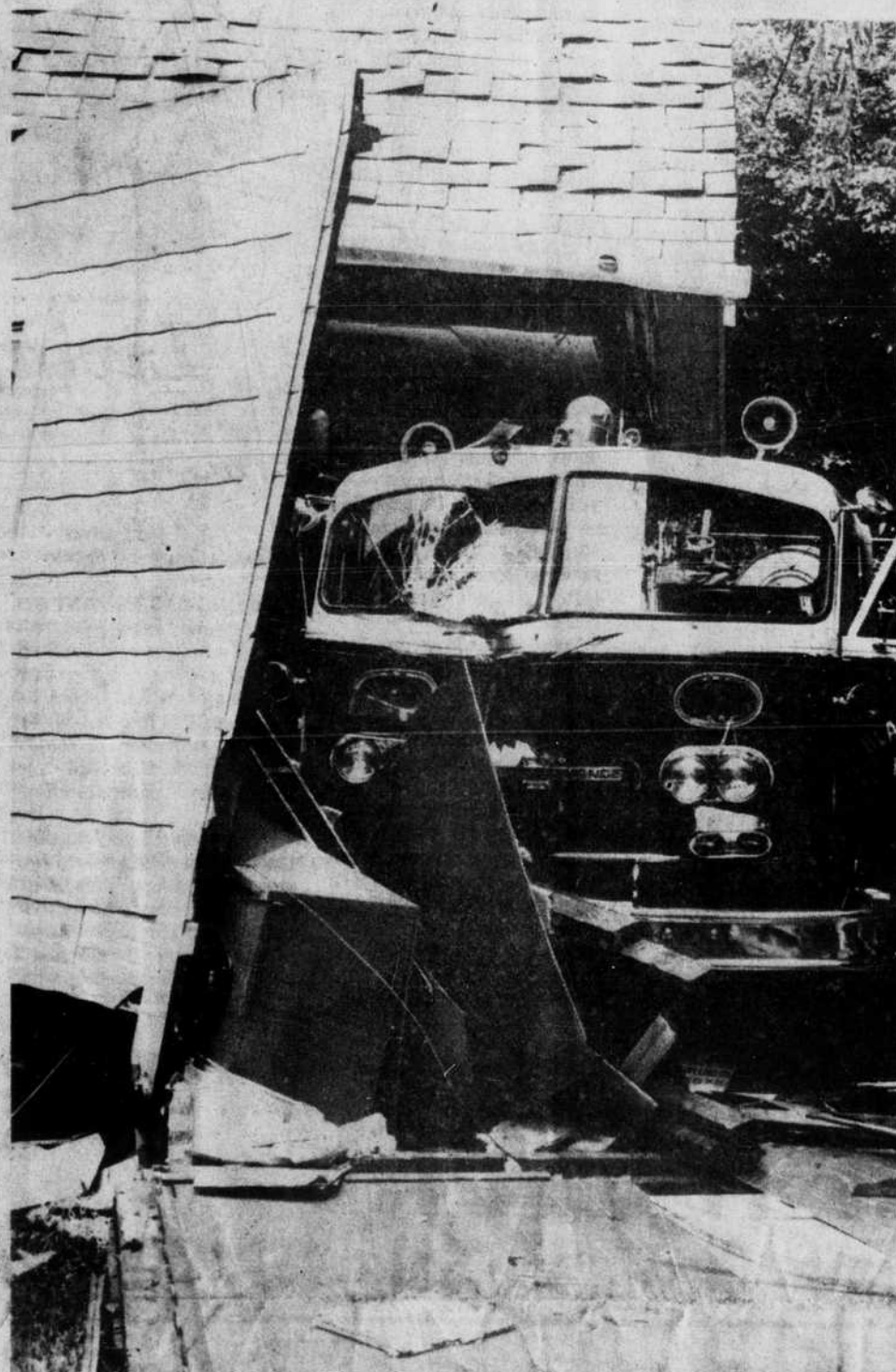
Ms. Williams said that the primary reason most western grants were rejected is that HUD requirements are based on urban conditions. To qualify, a town must show that a significant number of minorities are employed by the municipality and that the town does business with minority businesses.

She added that "there is talk of a second round of funding in December," giving some grant applications another shot at funding. Mayor Sobol said he will urge the Town Board to re-apply for the grant.

One official source said that Black Mountain has lost another \$350,000 in Appalachian Regional Commission funding to build a new reservoir as a direct result of the HUD grant denial. According to the source, the ARC grant would be granted if HUD funding were provided as a base for town water improvements.

Gudger's office has said that if a second meeting with area representatives does not show HUD's allocation of funds was equitable, the congressman will speak with HUD Secretary Patricia Harris.

Ms. Williams said the Land-of-Sky Regional Council will, in the meantime, try to obtain grants for towns such as Black Mountain through the Farmer's Home Administration.



A Black Mountain fire truck demolished a section of a home on Old U.S. 70 Tuesday. Nobody was hurt in the accident. (See related story) (Dan Ward)

Pumper hits house

Mr. and Mrs. J.E. MacMahan had unexpected guests August 1 as a Black Mountain Fire truck moved into one room of their home at the corner of Blue Ridge Road and Old U.S. 70.

The truck, driven by Fireman David Bradley Norton, was travelling south on Blue Ridge Road when the brakes failed. After narrowly missing a tree, the truck

clipped the edge of the house, demolishing three walls but leaving the roof intact. Neither Norton or Assistant Chief Sterling Poe, who was in the passenger seat, was hurt.

State Trooper Albert Allen, who investigated the accident, said that the house was a total loss, having shifted off its foundation in the accident.

Mrs. MacMahan was at the other end of the house when

the truck hit. "I thought something blew up. I knew my husband was outside, so I just tried to get out before the roof fell in," she said with some relief.

Fire Capt. Steve King said that representatives from American LaFrance will be in Black Mountain late this week to assess damage to the pumper.

Valley Sourwood fest— parade, contests, dances

by Dan Ward
Plans have been finalized and various groups are gearing up for the Swannanoa Valley Sourwood Festival set for August 9-12.

Festivities begin Wednesday, with a golf tournament beginning at 8 a.m. at the Black Mountain Golf Course. Registration fee is \$6. For more information, contact Dick Hudson at Black Mountain Insurance.

Also on Wednesday, a Sourwood Festival Parade will begin at the Primary School field and progress to WNC Shopping Center, beginning at 4:30 p.m. According to Bob Miller, parade organizer, 11 floats, a number of horse-drawn wagons, antique cars and two or three state pageant winners will take part, along with local civic groups and fire trucks from Black Mountain and Swannanoa. Free ice cream will be given to children on Cherry Street after the parade.

That evening, a street dance featuring rock and bluegrass music will be held at the Swannanoa Ingles.

Beginning Wednesday morning and continuing all week, the Old Depot in Black Mountain will be open and featuring craft demonstrations and some live music.

Bill Ricketts of the Nostalgia Store on Cherry Street is taking registration for a horseshoe pitching contest to be held Thursday and Friday. A second street dance, featuring rock and square dance music, is set for 7:30 p.m. Thursday on Cherry Street in Black Mountain.

An open market, sponsored by the Jaycees, begins operation Friday morning at the Primary School and operates through Saturday evening. Ron Morrow and Peter Groot of the Jaycees are in charge of renting booths for games, food, craft, or educational exhibits at \$30 for Friday and Saturday.

A swim meet, sponsored by Clevenger Knitting Mills, will be held at the Black Mountain Pool Friday. Ralph Singleton, pool manager, is taking registration.

A third street dance is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. on Cherry Street.

Two athletic events highlight Saturday's activities with a 4.6 mile marathon run from Swannanoa to Black Mountain beginning at 7 a.m. and a skateboard contest beginning at 10 a.m. at the Black Mountain Primary School. Assistant Police Chief Jim Wiseman and Steve Minnick are in charge of each event, respectively. An awards ceremony for all events will be held at 4 p.m.

Ed Weber at the Chamber of Commerce and Carl Bartlett at Northwestern Bank in Black Mountain are coordinating events. (See Schedule inside)

Swannanoa board tries to end dissention

by Dan Ward
The Swannanoa Volunteer Fire Department Board of Directors met in closed session July 27, ostensibly to discuss personnel problems

caused by the time lag between the election of new officers by the department two months ago and approval of those officers by the board of directors within the next few weeks.

Grady Rozzell, chairman of the board, who was not

present at the meeting, conceded that there have been personality conflicts within the department, but that they are minor and can be worked out between themselves.

"I can't say we don't have any problems. Volunteer fire departments always have and always will. People who fight fires are a different breed of people," he said.

Rozzell added that to his knowledge, the board will approve all of the officers

elected by firemen. He also said that the board plans to amend the by-laws soon to eliminate the two-month gap between election of officers and approval by the directors — shortening the lame-duck period to less than two weeks.

Barbara Settle, secretary for the board, would not comment on discussion at the July 27 meeting, except that it concerned personnel. She did say the entire session was closed and that no action was taken.

Voter deadline near

The Buncombe County Board of Elections has noted that August 14 is the deadline

for Black Mountain citizens to register to vote in the September 12 liquor-by-the-drink referendum.

Only persons living inside the Black Mountain town limits, precincts 2 and 3, will be able to vote on the mixed-drink question.

Precinct 3 is that area of Black Mountain proper west of Montreat Road and North Fork Road, and north of State Street.

Precinct 2 is all parts of the town east of Montreat Road, north of North Fork Road, and south of State Street.

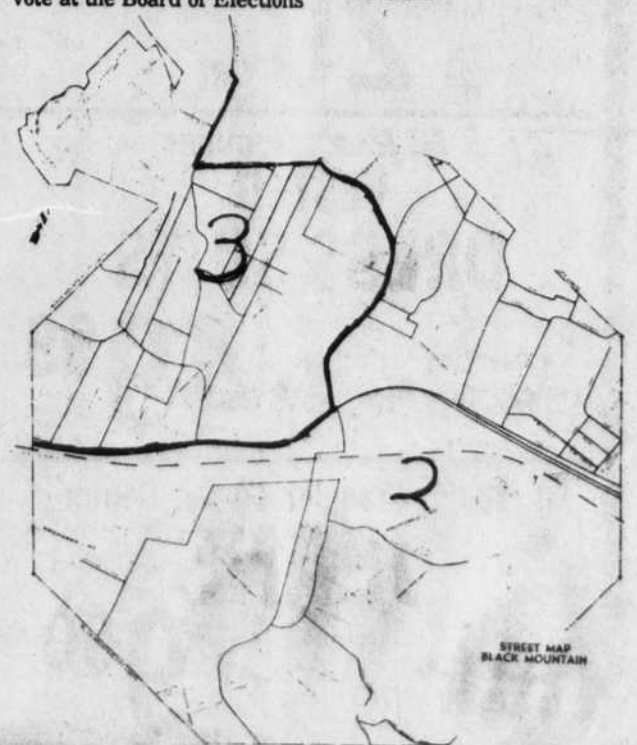
Persons may register to vote at the Board of Elections

in Asheville. Registrars, Republican judges and Democratic judges for each precinct may also register persons to vote.

Those persons for Precinct 2 are, respectively, Helene F. Snider, 669-7083; Richard Worth Cook, 669-2589 after 5 p.m.; and Francis Harris, 669-8732 days.

For precinct 3, they are Mary L. Sobol, 669-7329 evenings; Dorothy Fischer, 669-8927; and Aaron F. Belt, 669-2573 after 5 p.m.

Precinct 2 votes at the Primary School and Precinct 3 votes at the Lake Tomahawk Clubhouse.



Well site rejected, but water progress made

by Dan Ward
Preparations are being made to put one new well in Black Mountain. Engineers are looking for a spot to put another one in the near future.

rejection by the county department of a second well. Black Mountain Mayor Tom Sobol said construction will soon begin on a small building to house a pump and chlorinator for a well recently drilled on the Black Mountain golf course. Sobol said that recent tests have shown the well capable of producing more water than earlier estimated — between 30 and 35 gallons per minute. If the pump were kept running 14 hours per day, the well would

produce 10 percent of the town's present consumption, Sobol said. Earlier tests showed the well could produce only 25 gallons per minute.

Sobol added that a second well site, behind Pizza Hut on town property, was officially disapproved by county health authorities. The health department withdrew tentative approval of the site last week when it was discovered the site was in the flood plain.

Sobol said that engineers are now examining a spot on the golf course behind Horner's Chapel Baptist Church as a site for a second well. He said engineering reports show the site to be as good as behind Pizza Hut as a water source.

In other action concerning water, Sobol said that talks with Asheville officials concerning a year-old \$18,000 water bill and Black Mountain's claim to Chestnut Cove water rights have proven to promising and that the two municipalities should reach an agreement in a meeting August 2.

Sobol said that he and Town Manager Mack Kirkpatrick met with Asheville Mayor Roy Trantham, Assistant City Manager Billy Woolcott and Water Superintendent Bill DeBruhl last week to discuss water.

The \$18,000 Black Mountain owes Asheville is from a two-week period last year when the water level at Black Mountain's reservoir dropped at the height of a drought, and the town opened connections with Asheville lines to supplement already-rationed town water.

At the same time, the town is trying to reach an agreement with Asheville concerning water flowing into Asheville's North Fork Reservoir from Chestnut Cove, where Black Mountain owns water rights. Sobol said engineers are now determining the water flow from Chestnut Cove into the 20-year-old reservoir.

Before 1800 at Ridgecrest

Faith spoken just before death

by Dan Ward
The service had been like many others at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center. Some 1800 people were gathered together for an evening service during a series of conferences for Sunday School week. This one was entitled "Bold Mission."

A few persons came up at the conclusion of the service to testify their faith to the group hailing from throughout the Southeast. As Dr. Harry Pyland and others who had conducted the service were about to conclude the service, Rudy Pavlik, 52, of Columbus, Ga., walked to the front. "At the end of the service, he came up and asked if he could share his experience with us," Dr. Pyland said. "He had only been a Christian about three years and felt very strongly about his faith," he continued.

"When he was almost finished, he fell to the floor in a seizure — his heartbeat was still there, but very faint, when we got to him." In front of 1800 worshippers, Pavlik died of a heart attack in the way his wife later told

Dr. Pyland he would have wanted to go.

"A preacher can say from this that you can be prepared to go at any minute, but I prefer not to draw any conclusions from it," Dr. Pyland said.

"Some say all of life is good. I don't believe that. If my family were to die in a tragic accident, I certainly wouldn't consider that good. I think it can be good only in one sense — that God can make me more like His son."

"If there is any good in this, it is that so many can learn from the tragedy," Dr. Pyland said.

The Buncombe County Ambulance Service took Pavlik to Veteran's Hospital in Oteen, where he was pronounced dead of cardiac arrest.

"His family told me he had a history of heart trouble for some years," Dr. Pyland said. "The congregation was very good about it," he said. "They remained in their places and

Park grant confirmed

by Dan Ward
U.S. Rep. Lamar Gudger's office has confirmed that Black Mountain has been awarded a \$25,722 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Services Grant from the U.S. Department of Interior to build a playground, baseball diamond, tennis courts and parking area below the Lake

Tomahawk dam. The grant, previously known as a Bureau of Outdoor Recreation Grant, had been confirmed by phone to Town Manager Mack Kirkpatrick four weeks ago.

Under terms of the grant, Black will have to pay a matching \$25,000 while the NC Department of Natural Resources and Human

Development would pay \$722. While the town has already earmarked \$25,000 out of the 1978-79 budget to pay its share, the town board chose at its last meeting to freeze funding for the youth park until after the September 12 mixed-drink referendum here, fearing a loss in ABC revenues would result in fiscal belt tightening.



Ground control

A wild hog found himself out of his element when he was treed by a dog recently. (Dan Ward)