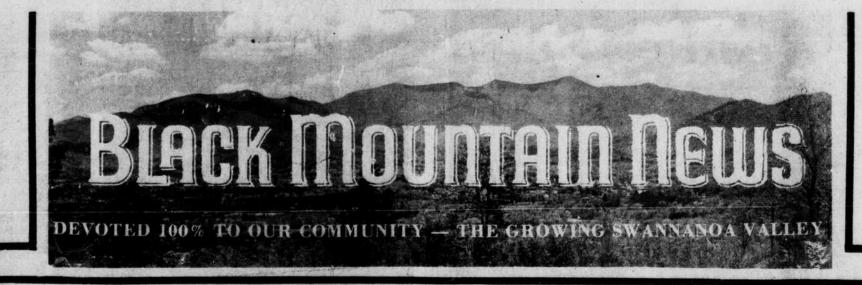
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# Moral education due, speaker says

by Dan Ward

The president of Mars Hill College told a relatively small audience at the annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet at Assembly Inn December 4 that education now must focus on confronting moral issues and provide a liberal arts background to meet changing social pat-

Fred Bentley, 43-year-old president of the Baptist college, told a crowd of less than 100 that technological growth has created new moral debates, such as "test tube" birth and artificial life supports, and has contributed to phenomena such as the breakup of the family unit, homosexuality, and multiple career changes.

To combat and adapt to rends, he said, colleges need

FIRE DEPT.

model truck the town will sell. (Dan Ward)

to stress studies in the liberal arts to provide a broader educational background, and to give students a philosophic base to try to deal with new moral questions. He added that society in general needs to work toward maintaining family unity - the root of most moral decisions.

"In small towns such as Black Mountain you have the advantage of remaining somewhat close-knit, with the family unit still very important," Bentley said. "We should all try to keep that

Bentley's address followed short speeches by outgoing president Bob Dickey and incoming president Carl

praised the chamber for innovative - particularly in thinking

regard to Sourwood Days festivities - during the last year. He also lauded Chamber Manager Ed Weber for being responsive to the needs of the community.

Bartlett, in a short speech said he would like to see the Chamber and community work more closely for the good of the Valley.

Included in the program was an award of appreciation to Ed Miracle, who has served as treasurer for the organization for a number of years. The award, written by Weber and read by Dickey, jested that Miracle did a fine job of doctoring the books for the IRS. Miracle declined reelection to the post for the upcoming year.

Blessings and benediction were given by the Rev. Edgar Farrell. George



Fred Bentley addresses the Swannanoa Valley Bartlett is to the left of the podium, former Chamber of Commerce. Incoming President Carl President Dr. Bob Dickey to the right. (Dan Ward)

and I don't agree on, but that's firing of former Town

# New hearing for HUD grant December 7

The Black Mountain Town Board has set December 7 at 7 p.m. as the time for the first of two public hearings on what project the town should propose for use of a Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development grant. The meeting will be held at Town

The purpose of the grant would be to make improvements for lower income neighborhoods or to provide facilities for the elderly or

An earlier set of hearings in Black Mountain resulted in a proposal to install 10-inch water mains and fire hydrants in the Cragmont Community. Funding for that project was rejected earlier this year. However, a representative of the Land-of-Sky Regional Council has stated that the town stands a better chance now of getting a grant for the project, should citizen input suggest that the water lines are still the priority project

## Firemen hurt

### by light fumes

## Tree lighting Saturday

A short, but festive tree lightin ceremony has been set for the Black Mountain Clubhouse at Lake Tomahawk for 7 P.M. Saturday,

by the Chamber of Commerce and organized by Jack Clevenger and Margaret

by Dan Ward

If there is one item the

present Black Mountain Town

Board members

are unanamous on, it is that

all have rarely been unanamous in action during

the first year they've been in

However, most agreed that

The five aldermen-Mike

Begley, John Kluttz, Jim

Norton, A.F. Tyson, and Ruth

Brandon- and Mayor Tom

Sobol were asked to reflect on

the first of two years for the present board. All responded

except Tyson, who said he

would submit only an unedited

printed statment. That

statement is printed as a letter

"Working relations could be

better, but it hasn't been all

to the editor on page two.

the division and conflicts

could have been worse.

Mayor Tom Sobol.

Included in festivities will be a visit by Santa Claus, who will give candy to children and hear their Christmas requests, and Christmas

music on the piano. Mrs. Slagle said the event will replace the annual Swannanoa Valley. Although planning has been done by the Chamber of Commerce, she said the tree-lighting is a community affair.

"It's not just Chamber people-we encourage community involvement, "she said. Because the event will be on a Saturday evening,

what democracy is all about,"

Norton said devisiveness

"You get bogged down in the

political end of it. If

something needs to be done,

you don't need to debate it all

All except Kluttz said they

have noticed a change for the

better in terms of rapport with

citizens. Kluttz said he has

only heard a handfull of

persons comment on board

business, one way or the other.

that comments from citizens

"One of the things I've been

most pleased with is the

support we've gotten from the

Most of those comments, he

said, came in the wake of the

community,' 'Begley said.

have been good.

Begley and Sobol both said

has held progress back.

that much,"he said.

program will be kept short so that "people can just stop by for a moment on their way to other engagements," Mrs. Slagle said.

Two trees, rather than the former one, have been placed on the lake this year. Chamber Manager Ed Weber said he hopes to arrange for

Manager Jon Creighton, the

resignation of Golf Pro Ross

Taylor, and current set-

tlement proceedings with the

disenchantment. I don't think

it's apathy - it's optimism, "he

Sobol, on the other hand,

said most favorable com-

ments he's heard stem from

"putting the right person in

the right job.' 'He said a

reduction in complaints to

Town Manager Mack Kirk-

patrick indicates that citizens

are getting the town services

they need without problems.

change she sees is an in-

creased activism on the part

cerned with their town

"They seem more con-

Mrs. Brandon said the

"There seems to be less

J.E. McMahans.

Four Black Mountain firemen were overcome by noxious gas when they were inspecting a faulty lighting fixture at the De-tox unit at WNC Hospital November 28. The four were taken to

Memorial Mission Hospital, and were released shortly after. Two trucks and 22 men responded to the report of No damage was

Two trucks and 19 men

government than ever before.

They are demanding, and

rightfully so, that board

members be held accountable.'

She added that she has been

humbled by expressions of

gratitude she has received

Begley, Sobol and Kluttz

gave averting a water crisis

as the most significant

achievement of the board

during the last year. Kluttz

noted that in spite of the worst

drought in a quarter of a

century, the town managed to

get by with buying only a

small amount of water from

Asheville - primarily because

of a new well drilled on short

"I was really happy about

Norton said he was happiest

about gains made for

recreation, including repairs

notice at the golf course.

that,"Kluttz said.

during the past year.

responded when an alarm at the Ingles warehouse malfunctioned November 29. Damage estimated at \$5000 resulted from a fire in the kitchen of the Tommy Stepp residence at 817 Rhododendron Ave. November 30. Two trucks and 17 men responded. The county ambulance service made two emergency, 17 routine and one unnee

to the golf clubhouse, repairs

to the pool, and obtaining a

**Bureau of Outdoor Recreation** 

Grant. He also praised

capital and personnel gains

for the police department and

fire department, although he

said he was opposed to grants -

- such as for the PIN ter-

minal and dispatchers - that

require the town to pay an

increasing share of the cost.

disagreements and con-

For all their past

#### One year in office, agree that they disagree Black Mountain Fire Chief Gary Bartlett and Captain Steve King check out a new FMC pumper at McMurry Chevrolet. The pumper replaces a 1952

#### Senior Citizen party set

The Fifth Annual Christmas Party for senior citizens will e held at Highland Farms Retirement Community on December 10 from 3 p.m. to 5 5

All Swannanoa Valley eisdents over 55 years old are invited to attend. This year's orogram features Harry Bryant and Louise Barnhill. Attendance at this affair has een over 200 persons for the

past several years, according to Elizabeth Harper, chair-

It is anticipated that state, regional and local officials as well as representives of the media will be in attendance. Serving with Mrs. Harper on the committee for the Senior Citizens Christmas Party are Mark Cooper, Jim Buckner, Inez Daugherty, Louise Hamby, Irene Stephenson,

Lois Nix, Sandra Buchanan, Zelma Weeks, and John

At a luncheon meeting on December 1, committee members made final preparations for this years event and elected officers for 1979. The elected officers are Louise Hamby, chairman; Lois Nix, vice-chairman; and Irene Stephenson, program

## 30 years ago

Coach Carl Myers' unsputed champions in the American Legion basketball eason for 1947 arranged to have the WNC finals played in Black Mountain for the 1948 season. The fact that the local had completed emodeling of what was probably the best Legion Hall in the state helped to bring the

tournament here.

A representative of the

#### Sorry

In the article on page one of

Asheville Industrial Promotion Council told the Black Mountain Chamber of Commerce that waiting for inquiries was not the way to get industry in Black Mountain. The representative spoke at the chamber's 25th anniversary banquet. He said

ast week's News concerning settlement negotiations etween the town of Black Mountain and Mr. and Mrs. McMahan, we mistakenly gave the cost of the modular home built by the McMahans as \$17,000. That home actually cost \$20,741. Installing

footers, sewer lines, porches and relandscaping, along with the cost of removing the destroyed house, made up the difference between that figure and \$28,116 total cost. We regret any misinterpretation the incorrect figure may have

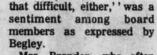
he saw no reason why industry would be incompatable with

The teacher and pupils at Black Mountain's Black preschool offered thanks to "our many white friends of Black Mountain for the lovely Christmas surprise given by Santa Claus Saturday to our colored children."

Santa, besides visiting the preschool, rode a trailer down State Street, handing out free gifts and candy. An earlier plan by the Junior Chamber of Commerce to have Santa visit the stores was cancelled for

Boyd "Meat Ball' Owenby and Earl "Eight Ball' 'Gill were called back for an encore tap dance by a full house at the

(cont. on page 5)



Mrs. Brandon, who often found herself at odds with the rest, or most of the board, saw the devision as "both good and

"It's good if the decisions are truly being made individually because it shows independence on the part of the alderman making that decision. It's bad if it leaves the public feeling that the board is divided for purely political reasons.'

While Sobol said he would prefer to see an end to what he termed "nit-picking"on issues. he was philosophical on division on the board.

"It's been rough at times, but that's because we have people with strong characters. There's a lot Mrs. Brandon



Mike Begley









