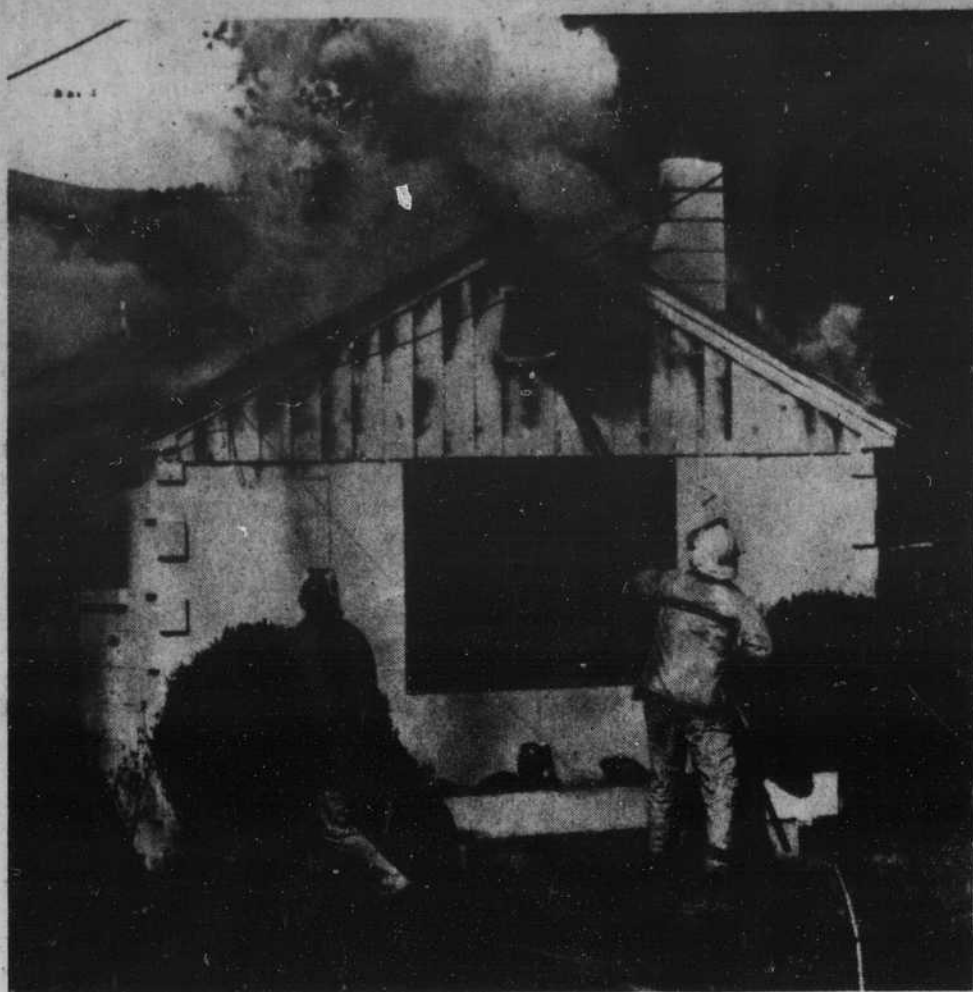


Black Mountain Library
105 N. Dougherty Street
Black Mountain, N.C. 28711



Using a pike pole, Chief Bartlett breaks a ventilator to reach the blaze in the attic with fire hoses.

Fire destroys home

The Burnis Robinson residence on Rock Church Street was destroyed by fire Thursday afternoon, Feb. 12. Robinson had been experiencing problems with the electrical wiring in the house earlier in the week, and the fire was believed to be electrical in origin, Black Mountain Fire Chief Gary Bartlett said.

Robinson said that when he came out of the shower about 2:45 p.m., he saw flames coming into the kitchen. A next-door neighbor dialed the operator to report the fire, causing the call to go through Asheville, Bartlett said.

The fire started in a breezeway between two sections of the house and spread in both directions. "When I got there the whole house was burning," Bartlett said.

Bartlett said that it was an exceptionally hot fire, due to the amount of pine and other wood used in the interior. "It was an older home, remodelled with plywood," he explained. "There was

a tremendous amount of combustible material, wood ceilings, no sheetrock."

The supply hose was run 700 feet from a hydrant near the Middle School. "The police did a good job of keeping traffic from driving over the supply hose," Bartlett said. The Black Mountain Police were assisted by a Buncombe County Sheriff who sighted the fire from Flat Creek Road before firemen arrived.

Firemen were at the scene two hours and 14 minutes. Two engines, an equipment truck, an ambulance and 23 men responded to the call.

Loss was estimated at \$15,000 for the house and \$6,000 for the contents. Bartlett said some of the contents of the house are salvagable.

Robinson had recently been laid off from his job, and had no insurance on the house. His wife, a daughter, 17, and a son, 14, are staying at the home of another son.

Beacon Manufacturing purchase complete

Cannon has completed the purchase of Beacon Manufacturing Company in Swannanoa, Otto G. Stolz, chairman of the board and president of Cannon Mills, announced last week.

Beacon, with plants located in Swannanoa and Westminster, S.C., is the leading U.S. manufacturer and merchandiser of blankets. It employs 1,464 and had annual sales of \$54 million in 1980.

Stolz said that Cannon will continue the operations of Beacon as a major blanket manufacturer. "Cannon is extremely pleased to acquire an organization with such a well-known name and reputation for quality products. The Beacon operations will be maintained as a separate Cannon subsidiary under the name of Beacon Manufacturing company," Stolz said.

Joseph Graham, general manager of Beacon, will continue in this position and will be president and chief executive officer of the new Cannon subsidiary, Stolz said.

John McGovern, who is responsible for consumer sales of Beacon blankets, will become product manager of a reorganized and expanded Cannon blanket department. McGovern will be responsible for sales of both Cannon and Beacon branded blankets and for the development of the marketing programs for these product lines. He will be a vice president of Cannon Mills, Inc., and will report to James Jolly, president of the Cannon sales subsidiary.

Beacon's national sales headquarters are located in New York City and there are regional sales offices in Los Angeles, Ca., Atlanta, Ga., Chicago, Ill. and Dallas, Tex.

Cannon Mills Company is a major manufacturer and merchandiser of cotton and synthetic household textiles,

decorative fabrics, knitted apparel fabric, yarn and other textile products.

Group opposes censorship

A group of Buncombe County residents has circulated a petition in the county opposing censorship of books in public and school libraries and plans to present it to the Buncombe County School Board at a meeting Thursday night.

The group, which calls itself, "Books," is based in Swannanoa and led by Toby Ives. Ives, a member of the Owen School District Advisory Council and director of the Title XX program at the Juvenile Evaluation Center, said that the purpose of the group is to "let folks know that there are two areas of concern in the county, that a substantial number trust teachers and librarians to make the decisions."

Ives said that the group currently has over 800 signatures on the petition.

A committee led by Wendell Runion, a pastor of an Asheville church, met Jan. 22 to speak out against several books in county school libraries. On Feb. 2, the committee announced plans to file a complaint against book selection policy instead of individual books.

Each side will have 30 minutes to make a presentation to the school board Thursday night, Ives said, after which the school board will make a decision.

Other co-ordinators for the Books group include Don and Bettie Albright, Black Mountain; Richard Brown, Asheville; Gay and Joe Fox, Black Mountain; and Barbara Hempleman, Frederick Ohler and Pat Sparks, Swannanoa.

Town Council

Liaison system to remain

The Town Board decided Monday night by a majority vote to retain the liaison system whereby board members serve as advisors to town departments by a 3-2 vote. Voting against retaining the liaison system were Aldermen Begley and Stafford, with Aldermen Tyson, Brandon and Slagle voting for it.

The Town Board also voted to clarify a portion of the policy manual describing avenues of appeal when a disagreement occurs between department heads and the town manager. At present, the only way to appeal such a decision is to bring the town manager before the Town Board. The policy manual clarification will

state that if a disagreement occurs, it can be brought to the attention of the Board in writing and the Board will then make the final decision.

It was brought out at the called meeting that Black Mountain does not by its charter have a council-manager form of government, but rather a council-mayor form of government.

In a council-mayor form of government, powers are not set by law but are delegated by the Board to the town manager.

Police and firemen expressed dissatisfaction with the outcome of the meeting.

BLACK

MOUNTAIN NEWS

Dedicated to the growing Swannanoa Valley

Thursday, February 19, 1981, Volume 28, Number 69

Second class postage paid at Black Mountain, NC 28711 **25¢**

Kids earn \$2,800 for Easter Seals

Black Mountain Middle School students earned \$2800 for Easter Seals this year in a "Shoot-Out for Easter Seals," the most money raised by any school in any region in Western North Carolina. Keith White, physical education teacher and coach at the Middle School, co-ordinated the program there. "I was real pleased with the kids' work," White said. "This says a lot for the community."

Individuals and businesses in the community pledged money for as many baskets as a student could shoot in three minutes. The money earned will be used in Buncombe County for Easter Seal work.

About 70 students in fifth, seventh and eighth grades participated. Students of any age could compete and White said he was especially proud of his students because they were competing with high schools and other much larger schools in Western North Carolina.

John Decker, an eighth grader, brought in the most money in Western North Carolina, \$817, by shooting over 60 baskets in three minutes. John is a starter on the seventh-eighth grade basketball team at the Middle School.

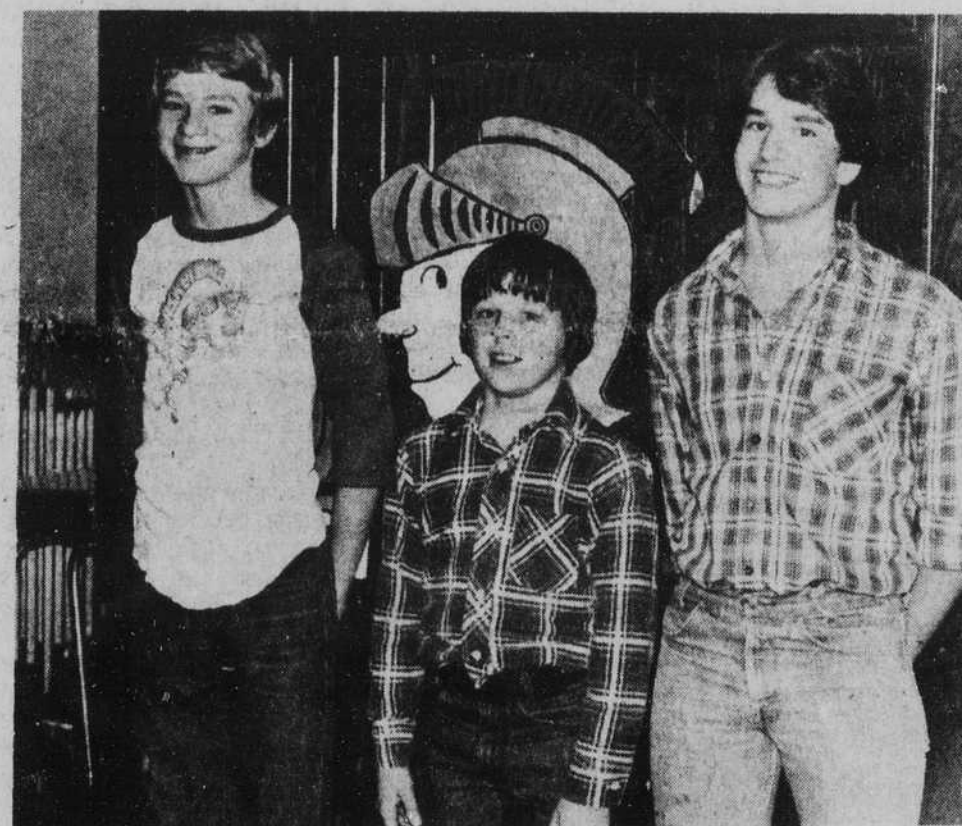
John received a trophy, a certificate, and a trip to the Western Carolina vs. Citadel basketball game where he will sit on the bench with the Western team, visit their locker room at half time and

receive a basketball autographed by the team.

David Rice, another eighth grader, came in second at the Middle School

and sixth in Western North Carolina with over \$250 for Easter Seals. He received a trophy. Fifth-grader Billy Slagle received a t-shirt and a certificate for third place with \$125.

Black Mountain Primary participated in the contest two years ago, and a student, Jamie Hoefling, placed first in the state. That year the Middle School earned a total of \$1300.



Black Mountain Middle School classes raised \$2,800 for Easter Seals this year. Individual winners were (left to right) John Decker, first place, \$817; Billy Slagle, third place, \$125.00; and David Rice, second place, over \$250. Funds will be used to purchase wheelchairs, braces, speech therapy and camping for the physically handicapped in the Black Mountain area.

485 wrecks, 5 fatal

Accidents prompt new Sheriff's Department program

There were a total of 485 traffic accidents in just the east end of Buncombe County last year, excluding those in incorporated towns.

Five of them were fatal.

Property damage from those accidents was estimated at \$376,875.

Statistics like these, rising every year, have prompted the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department to institute a new program called the Sheriff's Traffic Safety Program in an effort to make county highways safer for motorists.

Special new patrol units carrying specially trained deputies will be sent out to locations with high incidence of accidents, where deputies will hand out brochures, warnings and tickets. The units have been ordered, according to R.O. Elkins, bureau chief for the Traffic Safety Unit, and are expected to arrive any day. It will then take a week to 10 days to install equipment and have the units on the road, Elkins said.

This three-year program is financed by a grant from the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration through the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program.

Intersections and roads in the Swannanoa Valley with high incidence of

traffic accidents include: Grovestone Branch Road, 37 accidents; Riceville

Road, 23 accidents; Bee Tree Road, 21 accidents; Whitson Road, 10 accidents; Old U.S. 70 at Bee Tree Road, nine accidents; access to N.C. Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center, six accidents; and North Fork Road, five accidents.

Fatal accidents occurred at I-40 and Buckeye Cove Road; U.S. 70 and Lytle Cove Road; U.S. 70 and Old Lytle Cove Road; and Old U.S. 70 and Grovemont and Poplar Hill Roads.

"Carelessness is a great big cause of accidents," Elkins said. The Sheriff's Department hopes that by making drivers aware of the accident risks at specific locations, drivers will be more alert and careful. "We hope to be working over a period of time at every one of those places," Elkins said. "We're hoping to teach defensive driving."

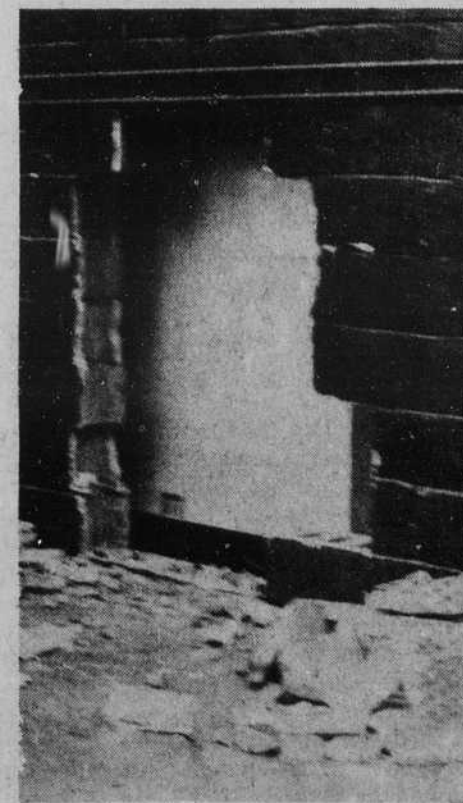


Weather Review

Feb. 7—high 46, low 16 degrees.
Feb. 8—high 45, low 34, .03 inches precipitation.
Feb. 9—high 47, low 19 degrees.
Feb. 10—high 41, low 30 degrees; .60 inches rain.
Feb. 11—high 53 (11 a.m.), low 25; 1.59 inches rain.
Feb. 12—high 33, low 3 degrees.

There was no weather report from Clingman's Dome last week because the instruments were covered with so much rime frost they could not be read.

Courtesy of WFGW Radio National Weather Service weather station, Black Mountain.



Repairs began Tuesday to the Country Food Store—victim of a hit-and-run accident Monday afternoon.

A hit-and-run accident Monday left the Country Food Store with a gaping four by five foot hole in a concrete block wall, Montreat police reported. A minor driving a van plowed into the side of the store just before 5 p.m., got out of the van, into the car of a friend and left the scene of the accident.

Only minor damage was sustained by the van, owned by George Bartlett. No one was injured in the accident.

Montreat police said that the van went through the wall on the North Fork Road side of the building, pushing a beer cooler which was against the wall.

On the inside . . .

Nine-year old gives special Valentine to lucky Mom.

See story, page 10.