

## Reaganomics ...

### Town rethinks water system --just in case

What if Black Mountain does not receive the Appalachian Regional Council (ARC) funds counted on for \$500,000 of the funding of its new \$1.5 million water system?

"We'll advance to the rear and take another look," said Town Manager Earnest Hudgins.

Hudgins received a letter last week from the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development stating what the town already knew: the Reagan Administration proposed budget cuts include ARC funds.

The letter also states that, "It is likely that ARC's funds will be cut, even if they are not rescinded." Hudgins, however, remains optimistic. "I think right now we've got a 50-50 chance on getting it. I'm hopeful that the House will override the President's budget request."

Nevertheless, he has been mulling the alternatives over in his mind and will continue to do so.

Plastic pipe, instead of ductile iron pipes, could save a "considerable expense" on water lines, Hudgins said. Reducing the number of hydrants by placing them 750 feet apart instead of the planned 500 would save even more.

Another possibility is reducing the size of the new water holding tank, but the difference in cost probably would not justify this cut, he said.

If the Farmer's Home Administra-

tion, the company expected to hold the town's water bonds, agrees, the town could use its own work force instead of hiring contract labor to build the water system.

"We already have the equipment," Hudgins said. "We would have to add about four men."

Although this possibility would likely add months to the project, the savings would be considerable--25 to 35 percent of the total, Hudgins believes.

The proposed additional three wells Hudgins says are vital to the system and the number should not be reduced. The wells Black Mountain already has have meant that the town has a stable water supply at a time when towns relying on surface water, such as Asheville, are preparing for emergency procedures.

Taxes and water rates could be raised to make up part of the ARC funds. "Now we have just about the cheapest water in North Carolina," Hudgins said. "I think people would be willing to pay a little more rather than continue with the dirty water we have now."

In the 13-state region served by the ARC, a total of \$120 million for projects serving four million people could be eliminated or cut. Among those is the Swannanoa solid waste transfer station, planning for \$200,000 in ARC funds.

The Black Mountain Town Board expects to know whether or not it will receive ARC funds by April 1.

## Swannanoa man hurt in shooting incident

A Swannanoa man was listed in satisfactory condition at Memorial Mission Hospital after a shooting Thursday night, March 12.

Therrell Lee Wright, 27, of 134 Central Ave., Swannanoa, was shot in the left chest with a revolver about 11:15 p.m. according to the Buncombe County Sheriff's Department.

Charged in the shooting is Wright's father-in-law, Harold Samuel Moody, who was taken into custody and charged with assault with a deadly weapon, inflicting serious injury. The shooting reportedly took place at Moody's residence at 108 Morgan, Swannanoa, after

a domestic situation.

Moody was released in lieu of \$500 unsecured bond. An investigation continues.

## Bee Tree Lake is closed

Bee Tree Lake in Swannanoa is closed for recreation and will remain closed indefinitely. The lake is being held in reserve as an emergency water supply for Asheville and Buncombe County in case drought conditions worsen.

Although the situation at the North Fork Reservoir has improved somewhat in February and March, December was the second driest on record and January was the driest ever recorded.

Water chlorinating equipment has been installed at the lake so that water could go directly into the water system when and if it is necessary.

## Recycled!



Old Black Mountain street signs placed along Tomahawk Avenue will discourage cars from parking in a no-parking area along the lake bank.

## N.C. 226 reopens

A portion of Highway 226, closed by landslides since Dec. 19, reopened to traffic this week, the Department of Transportation reported. Four slide areas near the Blue Ridge Parkway in McDowell County are being repaired and a break in the roadbed which dropped about six feet is being rebuilt.

The repaired portions are not paved and some sections have only one lane open. Flagmen are directing traffic as final repairs continue.



## Weather review

March 7--high 46, low 32 degrees.  
March 8--high 52, low 18 degrees.  
March 9--high 56, low 17 degrees.  
March 10--high 56, low 20 degrees.  
March 11--high 52, low 24 degrees.  
March 12--high 60, low 29 degrees.  
March 13--high 62, low 34 degrees.

Eight inches of snow had fallen on Clingman's Dome by 2 p.m., March 16.

Courtesy of WFGW Radio National Weather Station, Black Mountain.

## BLACK

# MOUNTAIN NEWS

Dedicated to the growing Swannanoa Valley

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## Volunteer firemen gathering funds for rescue tool

Black Mountain volunteer firemen are raising funds for the purchase of a Lukas Power Rescue Tool to use in extricating victims of car accidents.

The tool, which pushes, pulls, pries and cuts with different attachments, costs \$8,200. Now the rescue squad uses hand tools which take "minutes to hours" to free a victim, emergency medical technician Rick Patton said. The Lukas tool is effective in seconds to minutes.

If an accident victim cannot be freed with hand tools, the nearest power tool for the rescue squad here to borrow must come from the Fairview Fire Department or the Buncombe County Volunteer Rescue Squad in West Ashe-

ville, with a travel time of at least 15-20 minutes.

The Black Mountain rescue squad has used a demonstrator at two accidents. Patton says that the tool is "unsurpassed in exerting pressure in extrication of people from automobile accidents."

All Black Mountain firemen will receive training from the North Carolina Department of Insurance Rescue Training Division this week in use of the power tool.

Some area businesses have already contributed to the Lukas tool. The volunteer firemen will hold fund-raising events and also hope to collect donations for acquisition of the equipment.



## M-AC gearing up for concert

Some nationally famous musicians, including one group nominated for a Grammy Award, will be in this area for free concerts March 27-29. The Imperials, Pat Terry, Scott Wesley Brown and Tami Cheri, contemporary gospel musicians, have all agreed to come to Montreat-Anderson College for "Renaissance 81." Montreat-Anderson is gearing up for as many as 3,000 guests that weekend.

"It's for the community; it's for Black Mountain," Stephanie Zimmerman, treasurer of the Student Christian Association explained. Beyond this area, people are coming from colleges and communities in Charlotte, Florida, Tennessee, Georgia and Virginia.

The concerts have been planned entirely by the students of Montreat-Anderson, all since the students returned from Christmas break in January when Stephanie and another student felt moved by prayer to see if they could organize the concerts.

"We started out with no money," Stephanie said, "and God has provided \$5,500." Local businesses have also given the students materials and supplies.

Stephanie called the fact that all the musicians were available to come and agreed to perform for no fee "a miracle." "They're usually booked a year to a year and a half in advance," she said. They also usually charge a substantial fee for a performance.

Pat Terry had a concert in Guam scheduled for that weekend. It was cancelled. Tami Cheri had cancelled a television talk show to come to Montreat.

Miss Cheri, 17 years old, has just completed her second album for a major recording company and is on her fourth nationwide tour.

The Imperials backed up Elvis Presley on his album, "How Great Thou Art," and also played with Jimmy Dean for many years. They were nominated this year for a Grammy Award.

Stephanie described contemporary gospel music as "mellow rock music." She said that while the concert will appeal especially to young people, it will be enjoyed by all ages. Gospel music will be performed as well as contemporary.

Entertainment will also include speaker Ann Kiemel, author of such award-winning books as "I Love the Word 'Impossible.'"

What was begun by two students has come to involve most of the student

body at Montreat-Anderson College. The dormitories and gym will provide free accommodations on a first-come basis, and the cafeteria is ready to feed the multitudes. Students have organized committees to take care of everything from parking to clean-up.

"Everybody said you'll never do it," Stephanie said. "There's no way 18 and 19 year olds could pull this off, especially considering the time element."

The schedule for the weekend is: Friday, March 27, 7:30 p.m., Tami

Cheri; 8:30 p.m., Scott Wesley Brown; Saturday, March 28, 7:30 p.m., sing-along; 8:30 p.m. Pat Terry; Sunday, March 29, 2 p.m., The Imperials; 7:30 p.m., Ann Kiemel. All events are free; an offering will be taken. All ages in the community are invited.



The Imperials

## Friendship Force interviews scheduled here

Interviews for ambassadors and host families for the 1981 Friendship Force exchange scheduled for Oct. 10-23 will be held Saturday, March 21, at 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the Black Mountain Library; Sunday, March 22 at 2-4 p.m. at Warren Wilson College; and also at the Asheville Mall each Saturday until April 4, from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Those applying as ambassadors will be charged a \$2 application fee and will be required to furnish the names of two host families willing to provide a four-day home stay for ambassadors visiting here in the exchange.

Cost of the trip is approximately \$635.

Some scholarships are available. The trip includes a four-day home stay with a European host family and an additional four-day home stay with another family, or four days of travel at the ambassador's own expense.

The destination of the Friendship Force trip is "a Western European city," according to Lynn Winkel, exchange director. The exact destination will be announced in April.

About 250 ambassadors are needed and twice that number of host families.

Host families will provide sleeping space and some meals for individuals or families. Host families will also be

involved in programs, trips and entertainment planned for the European guests by Friendship Force.

The purpose of the Friendship Force exchange is to promote peace in the world by establishing friendships between individuals and families.

A program explaining the purpose and specifics of Friendship Force, which includes slides from last year's exchange with West Berlin, Germany, is available. Clubs or groups wishing a Friendship Force volunteer to present the program can call 255-8021.