

## To open in August

# Primary School 75 percent complete

by Cynthia Reimer  
"It's a reality!" exclaimed a smiling member of the Black Mountain Primary School's Advisory Committee as she toured the 75 percent completed addition to the school Monday, which will hold its first students next fall.

While workmen continued to saw and cement and sand and spackle, Black Mountain Primary School Principal Jerry Green led Advisory Council and PTA officials on a guided tour, explaining such new terms as "pod" and "commons" and "media center."

The new classrooms are arranged in groups of five around a commons area which will hold supplies, sinks, counter work spaces and a set of restrooms. Five classrooms and a commons are called a pod. Each of the four pods will hold a grade and will be painted and carpeted in a different color. Rooms and hallways will be carpeted; commons, bathrooms and entrances tiled.

All rooms open to the outdoors and

have a long window and open doorway leading into the commons. Each pod has its own heating and cooling system, Green said.

The pods radiate off a media center that will be equipped to serve three classes at the same time. Shelves will be child-sized and "walls" are only about waist high, leaving the whole area open. A large trophy case is built into the media center.

Also included in the building is a new gymnasium with a 40 by 70 foot play area, equipped with basketball hoops backed by fiberglass boards that can be raised and lowered depending on the height of the children.

The gym will be carpeted, Green said, with different colors of carpet dividing foul lines, circles, etc. Off the gymnasium are separate shower and dressing facilities for boys and girls.

The roof of the gym is the first of its kind in this area according to Green.

The ceiling is cast concrete with styrofoam inserts, covered with rubber which contracts and expands to prevent leaks. That surface is covered with stones and is very easy to repair, Green said.

Another feature of the building is a little theatre with carpeted risers for seating and a projection room at the rear. A music room, completely insulated, will hold a piano and several classes at once.

Behind the tiled entrance foyer are a teacher's room, adjacent showers, and social service rooms for speech therapy, guidance counseling and other services.

Calling the project "very practical construction," Green said. "I think

we're lucky to get all we got; I really do." The total cost of the project, including furniture and equipment, is about \$1.6 million. The building was designed around several beautiful trees on the school grounds, and it is hoped, Green said, that community groups will help with the final landscaping.

Kindergarten and first grade will remain in the old section of the school, with second through fifth grades to be housed in the new part. Green said it is possible that the fifth grade will not move to the new school this fall, but will definitely be there in 1982. One room in each pod is expected to remain empty in the fall, allowing for a larger enrollment as the community continues to grow.



Mary Marétt, member of the Black Mountain Primary School Advisory Council, Pat Woodcock, president of the Advisory Council, Tom Blizard Jr., Advisory Board member and Alice Capps, PTA president received a guided tour of the new building from school principal, Jerry Green, Monday.

## Community Development Week April 11 - 17

A week dedicated to encouraging people to get involved and to participate in the affairs of their local communities is coming up. April 11 through 17 has been designated as "Community Development Week" in Western North Carolina. The theme of the special observance is "Help Yourself and Your Community."

The special Community Development Week is based on the belief that the more people who get interested, the better communities we will have. Also, that folks should be interested in what happens to the communities in which they live.

An annual event, the week will focus special attention on the outstanding accomplishments made during the past 31 years by organized community development clubs in the 18 western counties. In addition, it will spotlight opportunities for other areas to organize and take part in the community development program and encourage greater activity in existing community clubs.

Community Development Week is sponsored by the Western North Carolina Development Association and the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service. These two groups sponsor the Western North Carolina Community Development Program through which much of the rural areas of this region of the state may be attributed.

A self-help, locally operated and

financed grass roots effort, the WNC Community Development Program is recognized as one of the pioneer rural development programs in the nation. Not to be confused with programs financed through federal or state funds, this program encourages community residents to get together and do things for themselves.

It is the results of these community efforts upon which Community Development Week is centered.

This past year, approximately 100 communities in 16 of the western counties were organized and took part in the WNC Community Development Program. Communities in Buncombe County that participated in the Community Development Program last year were Avery's Creek, Beech, Bee Tree, Big Ivy, Broad River, Buckeye Cove, Busbee, Cane Creek, Dix Creek No. 1, Dix Creek No. 2, Historic Montford, Leicester, Newfound, Ox Creek, Sandy Mush, Scenic Mobile Home Association, South Hominy and Spring Mountain.

This year, over \$10,000 in recognition awards will again be offered on an area basis by business firms and industries. Another \$15,000 to \$20,000 more will be provided by local sponsors in county contests. Award monies received by winning communities are channeled right back into making more community improvements.

## Agenda meeting cancelled

### Items to be discussed include lake fence

Due to illness and other necessary absences, Town aldermen could not produce a quorum for Monday night's agenda meeting.

Items to be discussed at the April 13 Town Council meeting will include the following:

- Repairs to the swimming pool.
- Policy manual changes recommended at the last meeting.
- Lake Tomahawk fence survey.
- Farmer's Home resolution paper work.
- Well bids-ARC grant.
- Report on Community Development by Kathy Wacaster.
- Ordinance on auxiliary police force.

-Renewal of contract for PIN network.

-Bridge inspection contracts.

-Letter from Billy Rose, Department of Transportation, concerning proposed speed limit change on State Street from Dougherty to New Bern from 35 to 20 mph.

-Presentation by Fire Chief Gary Bartlett on Lukas rescue tool.

-Presentation by George Venturella on a youth program.

-Letter from Chamber of Commerce.

-Mrs. Slagle has requested streets (speed limits and signs) to be on the agenda.

Town Council meets at 7:30 p.m.



Black Mountain Alderwomen Margaret Slagle and Ruth Brandon receive autographs from Miss North Carolina, Janet Ward Black, last Tuesday morning at the grand opening of the Black Mountain Ingles Shopping Center. (Photo by Rennold Madrazo)

# BLACK MOUNTAIN NEWS

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## Golf course concerns Chamber



by Cynthia Reimer  
Citizens' complaints caused the Black Mountain Chamber of Commerce to take a good hard look at the golf course last week, and some of the conditions they found did not please them.

Chamber President Margaret Slagle toured the course with Alderman Ruth Brandon and Town Manager Earnest Hudgins last Friday to check on complaints concerning drainage on the course and maintenance at the club house.

Drainage problems began, according to Mrs. Slagle, "years ago when we didn't have the money for good quality drainage pipes." The first nine holes of the course were built in the late 1930s.

Also complicating the drainage problem are the springs located on the course.

"Money has been a deciding factor, that's for sure," Slagle said, adding that weather had also kept planned repairs from being done as quickly as expected.

Indoor maintenance problems occur

when golfers walk on carpeted with cleated golf shoes, leaving a trail of mud. The club house does not have a janitor, Slagle said. Also in the club house, supplies are stacked in aisles and restrooms, making it difficult for golfers to use these facilities.

Some improvements at the course are under way. All fairways are being aerated. In the past, the course did not have an aerator, Slagle said. A deck on the club house is expected to be finished before summer, and drainage problems are being worked on constantly.

Mrs. Slagle will bring a letter from the Chamber to Town Council at the April 13 meeting suggesting possible changes and improvements at the course. "We need it upgraded so we can capitalize on it," Slagle said, citing the 17th hole ("longest in the world") as one of Black Mountain's tourist attractions which the Chamber would like to include in their brochure promoting the area.

## Cover your truck; laws enforced

Owners of uncovered trucks are being nabbed as part of April Clean Sweep. The roadsides should stay much cleaner as a result of N.C. State Statute 14-399 and Buncombe County Ordinance 16459 being enforced. These laws for sanitation and solid waste control deal with vehicles transporting loose materials on roads.

Studies show that a large portion of litter along roadsides is blowing from vehicles.

Any truck, big or small, must be covered or the material in the truck must be 6 inches below the sides. No material is allowed to blow from a commercial or personal vehicle.

For two weeks Jerry Hechler, Buncombe County Environmental Officer, is instructed by County Commissioners to be stationed at the landfill entrance. He has already issued 35 warnings or citations. Surveillance will continue after this period.

Individuals are requested to help stop this form of litter by reporting vehicles carrying material being blown onto a road. Write down the license, date, time, location and what was blowing. Call Quality Forward's Clean Community Division, 254-1776. If the license number is correct there will be a follow-up investigation.

The Buncombe County ordinance was adopted in June, 1979 through the efforts of the Clean Community volunteers.

Pete Winslow, chairman of the committee that developed the local law says, "The only way to really stop litter is to change people's attitudes and habits."

Many drivers of the trucks that have been stopped have been transporting

loose material for years without knowing it was unlawful.

According to Hechler, owners as well

as drivers will be made aware that uncovered trucks are unlawful.

Hechler reports that one business

called to thank him for this reminder adding they would be glad to help keep this community a cleaner place to live.

## Optimist stickers remind bus drivers to drive safely

Stickers reminding school bus drivers to use safety procedures have been placed on Owen District school buses by the Swannanoa Valley Optimist Club as part of a national effort to promote school bus safety by the Optimists.

The safety stickers remind drivers to count their riders, to check mirrors carefully, to look before backing the bus up, to keep the eyes moving and never to tailgate.

According to Owen Principal Charles Lytle, bus drivers of Buncombe County

drove nearly two million miles last year, using 2,400 gallons of gasoline each day in 276 school buses.

In the Owen District there are 30 bus drivers this year driving a total of 879 miles daily. Ten of the 13 Owen High School bus drivers are students.

To qualify to drive a bus, drivers go through a training program which includes two days of class work taught by a certified Driver Education Special-

ist. They must then pass a written test before they are put behind the wheel for two more days of training. The state also requires a valid N.C. driver's license with six months experience and no tickets.

During the current school year, there has not been a single serious accident involving a school bus, Lytle said. The N.C. Optimists hope that their safety reminders will keep the record that way.

## Weather review

- March 31-high 80, low 38 degrees.
- April 1-high 68, low 49 degrees; .07 inches precipitation.
- April 2-high 78, low 49 degrees.
- April 3-high 74, low 32 degrees.
- April 4-high 72, low 48 degrees.
- April 5-high 70, low 58 degrees; .45 inches precipitation.
- April 6-high 55, low 39 degrees.

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



Tracy Wright and Keith Harris, Owen High School juniors and school bus drivers, attach safety stickers donated by the Swannanoa Valley Optimists to remind them of their responsibility for the safety of their passengers.