

JEC crabapple is champ

Students and staff at the Juvenile Evaluation Center have always enjoyed the flashy spread of pink blossoms put forth every spring by an old crabapple tree on campus. But it wasn't until recently that they knew they were looking at a national champion of trees.

The crabapple was registered on the National Register of Big Trees on February 23, 1981, by the American Forestry Association.

On hand to record the champion tree's spring extravaganza last week

was photographer and reporter Henry Groskinsky of Life Magazine. The crabapple will be featured in an upcoming issue of this national magazine.

The tree was nominated for honors by Joe Hinshaw, a N.C. Forest Service special projects forester, for its measurements rather than its spring beauty. Hinshaw noticed in January that the crabapple tree in the front of the JEC campus was larger than most of the species *Malus Angustifolia* or

southern crabapple.

Hinshaw submitted the tree's measurements—circumference, 77.5 inches, height, 35.5 feet, spread, 48.5 feet—to the North Carolina Forest Service. While the tree sounds puny for say, a poplar or an oak, Hinshaw says it is about twice the size of most crabapples.

Although the tree reached its peak bloom last week, many of the rosy blossoms remain.



Discussing the best angle to photograph the national champion crabapple at the Juvenile Evaluation Center were (left to right): Henry Groskinsky, Life Magazine photographer; Don L. Pagett, director of the Juvenile Evaluation Center; Alan Woody, Buncombe County Ranger; Alma Groskinsky, photographer's assistant; and Joe Hinshaw, special projects forester and nominator of the tree. (Photo by Larry Landis)

Special Olympics 'first' to be held

The 10-meter crawl, the 25-meter wheelchair race and the bean bag throw for distance and accuracy will be some of the events for participants in the first Special Olympics for the severely and profoundly handicapped to be held in Western North Carolina. Events will begin with opening ceremonies at 10 a.m. May 6 at the Owen High School field.

Over 60 residents from the Western Carolina Center-Black Mountain Facility will participate. They will be part of a national study to determine events for the severely and profoundly handicapped in the International Special Olympics.

The event is sponsored by the Swannanoa Valley Optimist Club.

Other volunteers, a total of about 150, will assist, including Owen High School students and students from the Juvenile Evaluation Center.

Jeannie Pack, coordinator of the Olympics, explained the large amount of help needed: "Besides timers and scorers, we have things like greeters and huggers." The participants, children and adults, all need continuous supervision.

Practice for the Olympics began in February at the Western Carolina Center, Pack said. All who participate will win either a first, second or third place ribbon, she explained.

The public is invited to attend the events at Owen High School.



The Special Olympics involves participants, timers, scorers, as well as huggers and greeters.

County day care faces cuts

Parents with children in Buncombe County Child Development day care centers are concerned about the effects of a possible cut in Appalachian Regional Council (ARC) funds.

"If the service is not here," Buncombe County Child Development director, Doug Michaels, said, "parents won't be able to work. Many will go on welfare."

ARC provides over a third of the funds for the program used to subsidize day care for anyone who needs it, Michaels said. Parents pay for care according to income, with the difference in the actual cost of providing day care made up in ARC funds.

Another source of funding, Title XX, which Michaels calls "welfare money," could also be cut as much as 25 percent next year. Because new rules could govern the apportioning of Title XX funds, state and local governments may not be required to match Title XX funds as they have in the past and the day care program could lose those monies, too.

Michaels said the centers offer children an environment where they can develop physically, mentally and emotionally. Each child is assessed monthly and group and individual activities are planned according to the assessments.

"It is not a school; I think that's important," Michaels said. "We assist in the economic and social stability of families," Michaels explained. "We're not here to replace families but to support them."

The centers also provide a third of the nutritional requirements for each child for the day.

Faced with program cuts, Michaels said parents are already paying as much as they can pay. For many the sent requirements are difficult to

meet, so a raise in fees would not be feasible.

"We're making a strong effort to continue as is until we know what we have to do," Michaels said. "We may have to start selecting who gets day care, what components of day care we continue to provide."

Parents, teachers and others involved in the Child Development Program have written letters to Congressmen asking them to support the program. Parents will go to the Buncombe County Commissioners this week, asking them to draft a resolution in support of Child Development. What else can be done to save the program? "We need the support of people in the community," Michaels said.

Weather review

April 14—high 80, low 49 degrees; trace precipitation.

April 15—high 71, low 40 degrees; .07 inches precipitation.

April 16—high 71, low 33 degrees.

April 17—high 60, low 51 degrees; .41 inches precipitation.

April 18—high 78, low 46 degrees; .10 inches precipitation.

April 19—high 78, low 47 degrees.

April 20—high 68, low 47 degrees; .33 inches precipitation.

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

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Three years and a 'pile of stone' went into his first arrowhead



Indians make a 'most enjoyable hobby'

by Cynthia Reimer

Jim Creasman has been fascinated with the life of the American Indian for 16 years. What began when his father brought home pockets full of arrowheads after a day's plowing in the Georgia fields, has grown to an interest in reproducing Indian tools using the same methods the Indians did.

It took Creasman three years and "a pile of stone" to make the first arrowhead he was satisfied with. "I read books by the thousands," Creasman said. "That's all I do nearly, study Indians."

In the way of the Indian, Creasman heat-treats his rocks first by putting stone chips in a pit, then covering them with dirt and building a fire on top. The length of heating varies, depending on the kind of rock being used, from 12 to 38 hours.

The heat changes the stone so it will split in crystals, making shiny, sharp edges.

Some of Creasman's rocks have such descriptive names as wonder stone and blood stone, while some are more ordinary, such as flint and jasper and agate. The colors range from golden to red and blue and green.

There are two methods, Creasman said, the Indians used for shaping the stone into arrowheads or spearheads or knives: percussion or pressure flaking. Tiny chips are removed by either striking the edge of a chip of stone with a piece of bone or antler, or by pressing with the same tools on the edge of the stone which rests on a heavy piece of leather.

True arrowheads are very small,

Creasman explained. The larger points were used on spears and knives, although people mistakenly call them arrowheads now.

Creasman uses animal sinews to make threads to attach the arrowheads to the shaft. Up the shaft of an arrow he carves a zigzag design, an Indian symbol for swiftness. Below the feathers, he paints black and red stripes, symbols for night and day which represented accuracy to the Indians. For feathers, he uses those from turkey, grouse and owls.

War points were dipped in rotten liver, Creasman said, so that if the arrowhead itself did not kill, the man would later die of gangrene.

Spear points were often attached with glue the Indians made of pine pitch or animal hooves.

Creasman sees an Indian story in every fragment of the stone he has collected from Indian camps and trails in the area, even those that look like the uninteresting driveway variety to the uninitiated. He sells the arrowheads and spearheads he makes to collectors and hobbyists, and is happy to share his knowledge of Indian lore with all who come to his workshop on Montreat Road.

When he has had experience in using his spears and arrows, Creasman would like to take his knowledge of Indian living into the woods. "I'd leave here for six months, go to the mountains and stay and not take a thing but some stone and my antlers."

"It's about the most enjoyable hobby I've ever had."

Ben Lippen School to relocate on gift tract



Dr. Billy Graham

A 1,447 acre tract of land in Porter's Cove, Oteen, is being donated to Columbia Bible College by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, it was announced at a Monday press conference.

The South Carolina college operates the Ben Lippen School near Asheville, which lost a main campus building, "The Inn," in a fire last December. Plans call for the 1,447 acres to include a new campus for the Ben Lippen School, as well as a training center where laymen can study the Bible in depth and a summer camp for Ben Lippen Bible conferences.

John L. Layman, headmaster at Ben Lippen, said the high school is held to its current enrollment of 170 students because the 140-acre campus has no room for expansion.

Dr. Robertson McQuilkin, president of Columbia Bible College, said, "As you may know, we have been very limited at Ben Lippen—no room to

expand, aging buildings and a noisy, bustling community fast closing in on all sides. But we had never thought of moving until God let our 'past' go up in smoke, clearing the way for something far better."

The Porter's Cove land was purchased in 1975 by the World Evangelism and Christian Education Fund to be used as a training center for laymen. After purchasing the land, Dr. Billy Graham said, "My colleagues and I in the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association realized that we had never been involved in these areas to any significant degree and sensed that perhaps we were not the right organization to develop this project."

Dr. Graham said that other building has also depleted the organization's funds.

He began discussing the use of the Porter's Cove land with Dr. McQuilkin of Columbia Bible College about two years ago. Last December after the

fire at "The Inn," Dr. Graham offered the possibility of relocating Ben Lippen at Porter's Cove.

Dr. McQuilkin said plans will begin immediately and construction will begin as money becomes available. Plans include construction of energy-efficient buildings, he said.

Ben Lippen School is a Christian high school which has had special emphasis on educating the children of missionaries and other Christian workers.

"I am convinced," Dr. Graham said, "that this (gift) will be of special interest to the people of Western North Carolina because it means that additional hundreds of people will come to these mountains both summer and winter."