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A cutter head used to chop up fiberglass displayed by Frank Wright on a Chamber of Commerce tour is a product of Wright's Machine Monday. Chamber President Margaret Slagle looks on.

Swannanoa company has international business

by Cynthia Reimer

It was an emergency at the Astrodome in Houston, Texas. The lights kept vibrating and shaking themselves loose. An important game was going to have to be cancelled, when Wright's Machine in Swannanoa saved the day. In two days, Wright's designed and built a part to tighten up the lights, testing it carefully on a shaker machine. The part worked . . . and the game went on.

Wright's has its products all over the world, including Italy, Ireland, Japan, Costa Rica and Brazil.

The company has machined parts for ejection seats in F-16 fighter planes and pistons for pumping distilled water in nuclear submarines.

Members of the Swannanoa Valley Chamber of Commerce were guests of Wright's for a tour Monday, led by owner Frank Wright.

Generally, parts are designed and the designs sent to Swannanoa for manufacture, but, Wright said, "Lots of times we'll improve it as we go along."

Although there are about 60 employees in five departments, much of the work at Wright's is done by computer-programmed machines costing up to \$200,000. While there is no R2-D2 version of Rosie the Riveter, there are machines that even change their own tools when they finish an operation.

The eight year old company was begun by Frank Wright on Bee Tree Road. After accumulating experience at several area industries, Wright felt ready to open his own. "I always wanted to get in business," he said.

Representing an investment in the millions of dollars, the manufacturer covers 28,000 square feet. Wright has begun an addition of 12,000 square feet which will house an assembly area, maintenance shop, holding area for materials and a monorail system.

A quality control area at the plant checks and inspects finished products by computer. One machine, which can read in metric or English measurements, is accurate to within a 50 millionth of an inch.

Fire engine rides at open house

Open house will be held from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4 at the Black Mountain fire station in honor of National Fire Prevention Week. Rain date is Oct. 11.

Fire equipment will be on display. Fire prevention programs and demonstrations will be given. Literature on fire prevention will be available. Refreshments will be served.

The highlight of the afternoon, according to Fire Chief Gary Bartlett, will be fire engine rides for kids (and the "kids at heart" Bartlett said). The whole community is invited.

Slagle and Begley seek another term

Margaret Slagle

Margaret Slagle will seek re-election to Black Mountain Town Council, she announced this week.

"My main interest is equality for all in making decisions, including the budget. I am willing to voice my opinion on issues," Mrs. Slagle said. "I will work for a total water system and



Slagle

getting the most coverage for the dollar."

Mrs. Slagle has been on the town council since 1970. She served one term as mayor. Her grandfather was mayor of Black Mountain in 1893.

Mike Begley

Incumbent alderman Mike Begley announced he will run for a third term on the Black Mountain Town Council. Begley, 29, is a lawyer with the firm Brock, Begley and Drye, P.A.

Begley stated, "I would like to help direct Black Mountain out of its current financial crisis and help plan sensibly for our future so that such a crisis does not ever happen again.

"Secondly, I believe responsibility should be restored to the department heads for administration of department affairs and managing department budgets. Furthermore, I think it is critical for the Council to start listening again to

Teenager saves accident victim

A 16-year old fishing at Lake Sherwood in Swannanoa is credited with saving the life of a 46-year old man Saturday.

Donnie Osley was fishing with a friend Saturday morning when he heard a pick-up truck go into the lake. According to the Buncombe County

Sheriff's Department, the pick-up hit the lake about 10:14 a.m. and went about 80 feet out into the lake, turning completely around.

The victim said later that he felt a sharp pain in his lower back and momentarily lost consciousness. A Swannanoa emergency medical technician said the victim was subject to seizures and had apparently suffered one while driving the truck, causing the accident.

Donnie Osley swam out to the truck and attempted to release the victim. He was unable to open the door or break the glass in the window, so he swam back to shore.

After stopping a passing car and advising them of what had happened, Osley again swam back to the truck. He was able to get the window down slightly, open the door and free the victim.

Osley's companion called the Swannanoa Rescue Service, and when they arrived Osley had the victim on shore.

"Very definitely, the boy saved the man's life," the investigation officer stated.

The water level was about halfway up the window of the truck when Osley pulled the man from the water, and just inches from completely covering the truck by the time emergency medical technicians arrived.

Osley is the son of the David D. Osleys, Reed Road. He is a student at A. C. Reynolds High School.

The accident victim was treated at Memorial Mission Hospital for minor injuries and remained there in satisfactory condition at press time.

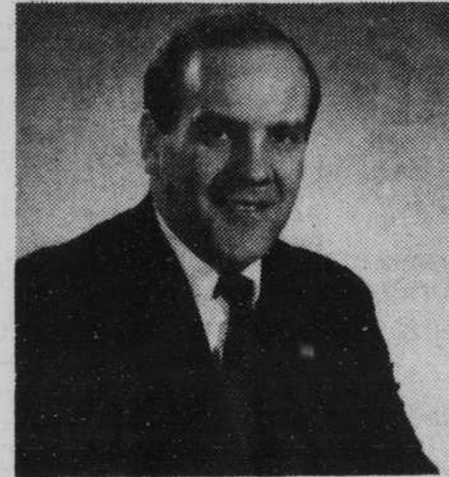
Congressman Hendon to speak on Social Security

Social Security will be the topic for the AARP meeting at the Black Mountain Library on Friday, Oct. 9. The speaker will be Bill Hendon, Congressman from this district, who will speak and respond to questions. The social hour at 9:30 a.m. will be followed by the program at 10.

Bill Hendon was born in Asheville and attended public school and Edwards High School. He went to the University of Tennessee, earning both bachelor's and master's degrees. He taught for a time, at Tennessee and Western Carolina Universities. Going into business, he became general manager for H. Putsch & Co. of Asheville. He has served on the boards of many Western Carolina organiza-

tions, including Memorial Mission Hospital, the Transit Authority, Chamber of Commerce and Republican Party.

Mr. Hendon was elected to Congress



from the Eleventh District in 1980. He is a member of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, and of the Select Committee on Aging. He has opportunity to investigate and oversee the Social Security Program, the Older Americans Act, and other programs of special interest to Senior Citizens.

Questions from the audience will be presented by a panel consisting of Lois Cook, Fred Lamb and Ed Torrence. The entire program has been prepared by the Legislative Committee which includes, in addition to the panel members, Paul Griffith, Winston Jennings, Sibyl Thompson and Hugo Thompson, chairman.

All people interested in Social Security problems are urged to attend.



Western Carolina Center

Employees receive awards

by Theresa Dillingham

The employees of the Western Carolina Center, Black Mountain Facility celebrated their Second Annual Awards Ceremony on September 25 at the Monte Vista Hotel. Staff members enjoyed a buffet dinner and music of ragtime pianist Eckhardt Calder.

Black Mountain Facility Director Wayne M. Williams served as master of ceremonies. Representative Gordon H.

Greenwood delivered the keynote address. Mayor Tom Sobol extended greetings on behalf of the Town of Black Mountain to the employees of the Black Mountain Facility. Other special guests included Representatives Marie Colton, Navel Jim Crawford, Martin L. Nesbitt, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Seagle, chairpersons of the Facility's parents' Association, Ms. Mary Lynne Morrissey, past chairperson of the facility's Human Rights Committee, and Sheriff Tom Morrissey.

Outstanding employees from units within the facility received a plaque of recognition. Kathleen Twitty, a licensed practical nurse, received the "Employee of the Year" award. Kathleen was presented a plaque and also had her name added to the "Employee of the Year" plaque displayed in the administrative lobby.

Outstanding employee awards were presented to Harold Conner, Lou Karnas, Wesley Rice, Bonita Bartlett, Pat Gray, Homer Bradley, Mary Ellen Smith, Alice Mayhew, Althea Buckingham, Jeannie Pack, and Evelyn Harwood.

Green Stamp Awards were also presented during the ceremony. Judith F. Benfield, standards and certification specialist, was presented the Green Stamp plaque as the employee receiving the most green stamps during the 1980-81 fiscal year. Jane Duncan, recreator on the Raspberry 1 unit, was recognized for sending the most green stamps. The Green Stamp is the Facility's incentive program for docu-

menting employees' outstanding performances.

The awards ceremony was sponsored by the Evaluation and Incentive Committee. Members of the committee are: Theresa Dillingham, chairperson, Rob Thornberry, vice-chairperson and treasurer, Mike Orndoff and Ned McGinnsey. Fund-raising efforts by the Evaluation and Incentive Committee made the ceremony possible.

Bartlett to enter town council race

Carl Bartlett, long-time community leader and local businessman, announced as a candidate for the Board of Alderman in the municipal election in Black Mountain this week. Bartlett is a veteran of 20 years in the financial business and is presently vice president and city executive of the Northwestern Bank in Black Mountain.

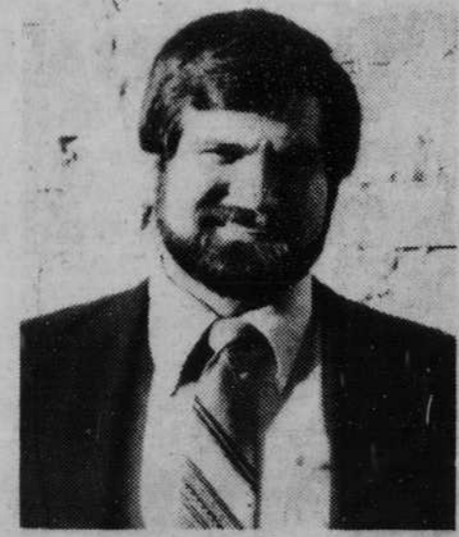
In announcing his candidacy, Bartlett stated, "We must have better financial planning. The Board should set policy, guidelines and long range goals for the town. Department heads should be allowed authority to competently manage daily functions of their department. The town has consistently gone from

Theatre seminars offered here

The Theatre Arts Department of Mars Hill College will offer a series of seminars this fall at the Black Mountain Public Library for anyone interested in developing a better understanding of theatre and drama. The eight informal meetings will focus on play production from an audience's perspective, including discussion of dramatic structure, rehearsal techniques, theatre history, and such other activities as might help people broaden their appreciation of drama.

The seminars, supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and led by Professor James Thomas, chairman of the Theatre Arts Department of Mars Hill College and managing director of Southern Appalachian Repertory theatre, will include attendance at rehearsal and performances of area theatres. The seminars will be held on Thursday afternoons from 3:30-5:30 in the Black Mountain Library Oct. 1-Nov. 19.

For further information, write or call Jim Thomas, P. O. Box 53, Mars Hill, N.C. 28754, (704-689-1203), or call the Black Mountain Public Library (669-2652,) or Jed Bierhaus (669-6711).



Begley

crisis to crisis before action is taken. We must plan for people's needs, cares and concerns."



Bartlett