

# Black MOUNTAIN NEWS

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## 'Ye shall find the babe...lying in a manger'



Area churches pooled their talents in a pageant depicting the birth of the baby Jesus in Bethlehem. Over two weeks, the characters were depicted by different actors. Here Bryan Fulton is Joseph, Jan Post is Mary, William

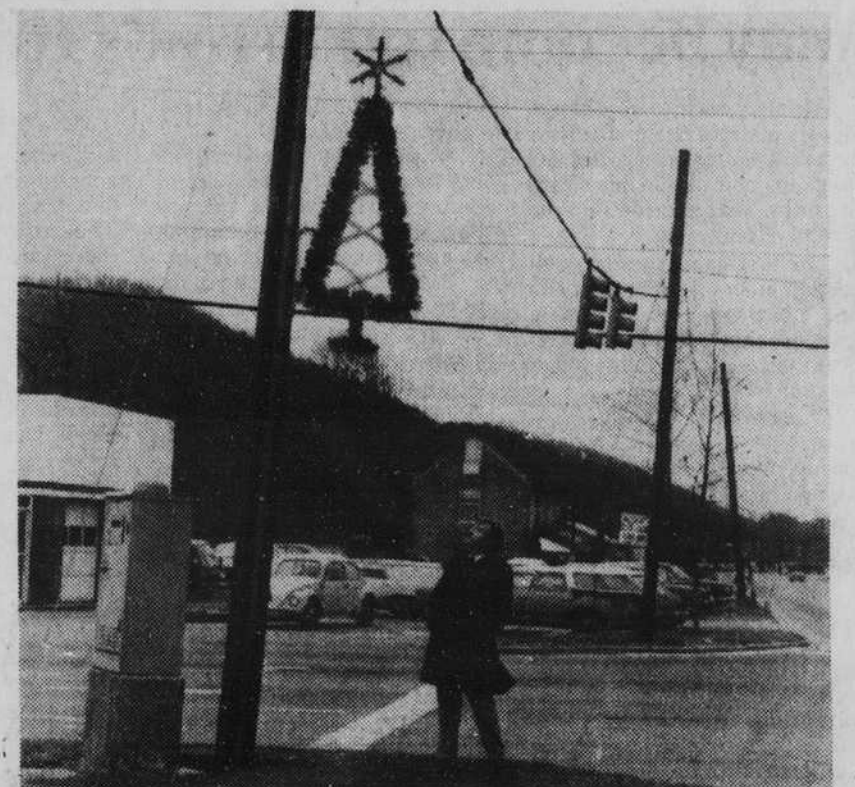
Stafford is a shepherd, Margit Brem is an angel and Mark Hopkins and Al Wilson are kings.

## Swannanoa has its holiday decorations

by Ed Weber

With the approval of the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and through hard, fast and concerted efforts of President Bill White, George Ventur-ella, Charles Royston, the Valley's Jaycees and the town of Black Mountain, Christmas street decorations were erected in Swannanoa for the holiday season.

These decorations are expensive and many local merchants have contributed to help defray the cost involved. Those who haven't and wish to do so should call Charles Royston at 686-3801. He will pick up your contributions, or send a check to him made out to the "Chamber of Commerce."



Swannanoa got Christmas street decorations a few days ago. Charles Royston, manager of NCNB in Swannanoa, checks them out. Contributions to pay for the decorations are being solicited.

## Jill Hamilton studying under prestigious program

Jill B. Hamilton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Hamilton, Old U.S. 70, Black Mountain, is one of the outstanding scholars at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill studying this year under the prestigious James M. Johnston Scholarship program.

"The Johnston awards program is intended to open wide doors of the University to the ablest young people who apply and who need financial assistance," said Eleanor S. Morris, UNC-CH director of student aid and program administrator.

The James M. Johnston Scholarship program is the largest in the University of North Carolina system in the amount of money awarded and number of students enrolled. It provides over \$500,000 each year for students.

The program has 383 students enrolled at the three participating campuses. In the program's 12 years of existence, 1,752 students have received Johnston scholarships.

James M. Johnston, who provided

the funds for the program, was born and raised on a farm just north of Chapel Hill. He moved away to become an influential figure in the field of investment banking in Washington, D.C.

Jill Hamilton is a graduate of Charles D. Owen High School. She will graduate from Chapel Hill in 1982.



Jill Hamilton

"Childhood knows the human heart." Edgar Allen Poe

## Weather review

- Dec. 14--high 38, low 31 degrees; .51 inches precipitation.
  - Dec. 15--high 41, low 34 degrees; .58 inches precipitation.
  - Dec. 16--high 41, low 25 degrees; .02 inches precipitation.
  - Dec. 17--high 51, low 22 degrees; .02 inches precipitation.
  - Dec. 18--high 28, low 21 degrees; trace precipitation.
  - Dec. 19--high 22, low 10 degrees.
- Weather courtesy of WFGW radio station, Black Mountain.

## Inside Today's Edition... Greetings from Area Merchants

## Season's greetings!

The Black Mountain News office will be closed Friday, Jan. 1 for the New Year holiday. Deadlines will be as usual, 5 p.m. Monday for news and noon on Tuesday for advertising.

## N.Y. police seek help in locating lost plane

A \$1,000 reward is being offered for information concerning the whereabouts of a downed airplane, the search committee of the South Jefferson Rescue Squad in New York announced this week.

On Dec. 1, Kenneth E. Wade and Mrs. Frederick (Doris) VanWaldick, left the Jacksonville, Fla. airport enroute to Adams, N.Y. They had been at the VanWaldick home in Jacksonville, where Wade had flown Mrs. VanWaldick's father-in-law, and were returning to New York. They have not been heard from since.

The single engine Beechcraft Siera 24-N8019 Romeo was apparently lost between Jacksonville, Fla., and Virginia. The plane had fuel for about this distance, officials said, and there is no record of a refueling along the way.

The plane may have iced up and crashed in swamp, forest or other remote areas of the Appalachians, along the coast or on the middle course, authorities speculate.

Their families and citizens of their community are offering the reward for information leading to their recovery. Anyone with information about the plane should contact the Watertown, N.Y., police (315) 782-2112.

Owen High School has its first computer class for juniors and seniors this year. The computer used is an Apple II Plus with disk drive. Students are learning BASIC program writing.

A new Computer Club, sponsored by Ms. May Matthews, who also teaches the computer classes, has about 30 members. Their activities include learning programming, playing computer games and discussing careers in computers and computer applications to science, engineering, drafting and music.

A second computer will be obtained second semester.

Mike Piemmons and Nathan Thielman, two members of the computer class, enter program information on Owen's Apple II computer.



## High death forecast will bring out patrol

The N.C. State Motor Club estimates 28 people may die in traffic accidents on North Carolina streets and highways over the upcoming Christmas and New Year's holidays, two of the most meaningful holidays of the year.

The state will count its toll from 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 24 through midnight Sunday, Dec. 27 for Christmas; and from 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31 through midnight Sunday, Jan. 3 for New Years.

Last year 19 were killed and 1,015 injured over Christmas holidays, while 17 were killed and 826 injured over the New Year holiday.

"This prediction, as well as every other holiday prediction, is always an unpleasant job, and we are always hopeful that our predictions will far exceed the actual loss of life at the end of the holidays," stated Dr. John G. Frazier, president of the statewide motor club. "However, statistics cannot

be ignored, and with each holiday we are hopeful that our message will reach more and more motorists, making them aware of the dangers and the fact that only the drivers themselves can help reduce the needless number of deaths that occur on our streets and highways," Frazier added.

The problem strikes at all segments of the population--infants, the elderly, drivers, riders and pedestrians. The facts show the tremendous loss of young people in their most vibrant and productive years. Approximately half of all highway fatalities are under 30 years of age.

Local and State Highway Patrol officers will be out in full force during the holiday period, concentrating on the speeding and drinking driver.

"Have a safe holiday," Frazier stated, "and help keep you and your loved ones out of the collision statistics."