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# Sourwood Edition

## Sourwood Festival promises fun for all

Competition, sightseeing and a large variety of family things to do highlight the Fifth Annual Sourwood Festival in Black Mountain. This year's events begin on Monday, Aug. 2 with a tennis tournament and conclude Saturday, Aug. 14, with 5,000 and 10,000 kilometer road races.

Most events conclude by Saturday, Aug. 7. Included are such craziness as an ugly and unusual pet contest, slowpoke bike races, and the like. Other crowd pleasers will be dancing, flea market, carnival with rides, hot air balloon rides, homemade boat races, and a recreational vehicle and camper show.

The first days—Monday, Aug. 2 through Thursday, Aug. 5—are sport and competition days. The tennis tournament starts Monday and goes through Sunday. A men's gold tournament will be held on Wednesday, the women's Thursday. Tournaments will be played on the world famous Black Mountain Golf Course, featuring the par six 745 yard 17th hole, the longest anywhere.

On Tuesday, Aug. 3 there will be an indoor miniature golf tournament.

Horse shoe pitching begins Wednesday, Aug. 4 and runs through Saturday. The state champion will demonstrate his skills, and local players will compete against each other. An informal swimming meet will be held Thursday, Aug. 5 at the town pool.

Family fun events will take place during the entire Sourwood Festival.

The carnival will open Wednesday, Aug. 4 with the full slate of rides and games, such as ferris wheel, merry-go-round, giant slide, and many others.

The Old Depot will feature art and crafts all week, with demonstrations, exhibits, refreshments and music.

Shoppers will find bargains at the merchants' in-store and sidewalk sales. The big flea market on Cherry Street, Friday and Saturday, promises to satisfy everyone's desire for that certain something.

Also on Friday will be the ugly and unusual pet contest, street dancing, trout fishing, a display of law enforcement equipment and techniques by

local and county officers, flower and garden show, arts and crafts displays on Cherry Street, and "picking and singing downtown.

Saturday, Aug. 7 will be another full day, with a parade, hiking and climbing, slowpoke bike race, rides on Mr. Bill's hot air balloon, youth and senior

citizens' fishing contest, homemade boat races, recreational vehicle and camper show, and other events continued from Friday.

The pace slows a little after Saturday. On Sunday there will be a Jaycee Sing-along and the Art League's opening tea at the library, beginning their

week long exhibition.

The final event of the Sourwood Festival is not until the following weekend, Saturday, Aug. 14. The 5,000 and 10,000 kilometer road races were delayed to avoid conflicts with other running events competitors might wish to enter.

All in all, it's a big time and fun for everyone in the Swannanoa Valley. Thousands of people will attend just as they do every year. For more information contact the Black Mountain-Swannanoa Chamber of Commerce, 411 W. State Street. The phone number is 669-2300. Call before noon.



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## Townlift designers show more plans

by Cynthia Reimer

Specialists in landscaping and traffic flow problems presented plans Thursday for the next steps in the Townlift program for Black Mountain.

Planners from the Tennessee Valley Authority showed designs for aligning Broadway and Montreat Road at the State Street intersection by moving the intersection to the left. Striping, marked crosswalks and curb extensions would also help ease conditions there.

Cherry Street and Broadway were drawn with landscaping and a "meandering traffic system" which would slow down traffic and widen the existing lanes to the state recommended 12 feet.

The planners recommended off-street landscaped lots to replace some of the parking which would be lost on Cherry and Broadway.

Landscaping, including deciduous trees, evergreens, shrubs and ground cover "to soften the view," were recommended. Much of the landscaping would be placed inside the curb extensions, where seating could also be built.

Some of the storefront renovations recommended in June are already under way. "We're really making progress on this. It's nice to see when you drive into town," Developmental Planner John Smalling told merchants and Chamber of Commerce officials gathered for lunch.

Steve Roberts has removed signs and awnings from the Black Mountain Drug Co. Removing the paint from the decorative arched windows on the building, Roberts found some etched glass and copper trim. He has ordered new signs and a domed canopy for his doorway.

Tyson's Furniture has begun renovations, planning to have painting completed for the Sourwood Festival next week.

Black Mountain is the first North Carolina town to receive the assistance of the TVA professional planners in a Townlift program.

Objectives, according to Smalling, include historical preservation, integration of the geographical setting, smooth traffic flow, availability of parking and pedestrian access, including for the handicapped.

## Chemical spill in Saturday fire

A fire at Charles D. Owen Manufacturers Saturday morning resulted in a chemical spill according to Jerry VeHaun, director of the Buncombe County emergency services. Swannanoa Fire Department responded to the call at 5:15 a.m.

A fire in a small building next to a tank of hydrogen peroxide heated the tank, causing a gasket to rupture. About 1,500 gallons of the chemical leaked out before it could be stopped, VeHaun

said. The tank held about 5,000 gallons. Swannanoa firemen called in the county Hazardous Material Accident Team to assist them.

The hydrogen peroxide is used in the

bleaching process at the plant. The 50 percent solution could be toxic and even fatal when the fumes are breathed, VeHaun said. The chemical spill did not reach the lake at Owen Park.

"The Swannanoa Fire Department did a good job, calling for the Red Team (Hazardous Material Accident Team) as quickly as they did," VeHaun said, praising the fire department.

## Benefit dance for Gary Davis

A benefit dance will be held Saturday, Aug. 7 at the Lake Tomahawk Clubhouse from 8 p.m. to midnight. All proceeds will go to Gary Davis to assist him on his trip to Russia for medical treatment.

The dance is sponsored by WONO radio station. The WONO Zoo Crew and the Boogie Machine will provide entertainment.



The Sourwood King, Perry Stone, is flanked by some of the members of his court: Brandon Netherton, 20 months; Kimberly Merrill, 4; Janell Aycock, 5; Keith Merrill, 6; and Glenna Aycock, 3. Not pictured are Merritt Albion, Kimberly Shook and Johnny Blevins.

## Sourwood Saturday at shopping center to feature balloon rides

Get ready for sights, sounds and sales as the Sourwood Festival spreads to Black Mountain's newest shopping center.

The merchants of the new Black Mountain shopping center got their first taste of Sourwood excitement during last year's festival. This year they have planned to add some excitement of their own.

Roses, Ingles, Eckerd's and McDonalds have combined their efforts to provide what promises to be one of the most memorable "Sourwood Saturdays" on record.

On Saturday, Aug. 7 the excitement begins at 9 a.m. when Mr. Bill sends his hot air balloon aloft to provide a sky high view of the valley and the day's events.

For those whose dreams of travel are more down to earth, there will be a recreational vehicle show in the center lot sponsored by Wray Frazier of Swannanoa.

If being a participant rather than a

spectator is your style, you are invited to test your skill at the "slowpoke bike race," a popular event from last year's festival that has moved to the shopping center this year.

The sounds for the Sourwood Festival will be provided by "The heartbeat of the Valley, WONO." Don Taylor will broadcast from Roses sidewalk from 10

a.m. until 4 p.m. Stop by, and you may win your own "heartbeat T-shirt" or one of the many other prizes provided by the shopping center merchants.

Along with the other events, savings will be found in the Sourwood sidewalk sales provided by the shopping center merchants.

## Error made in listing

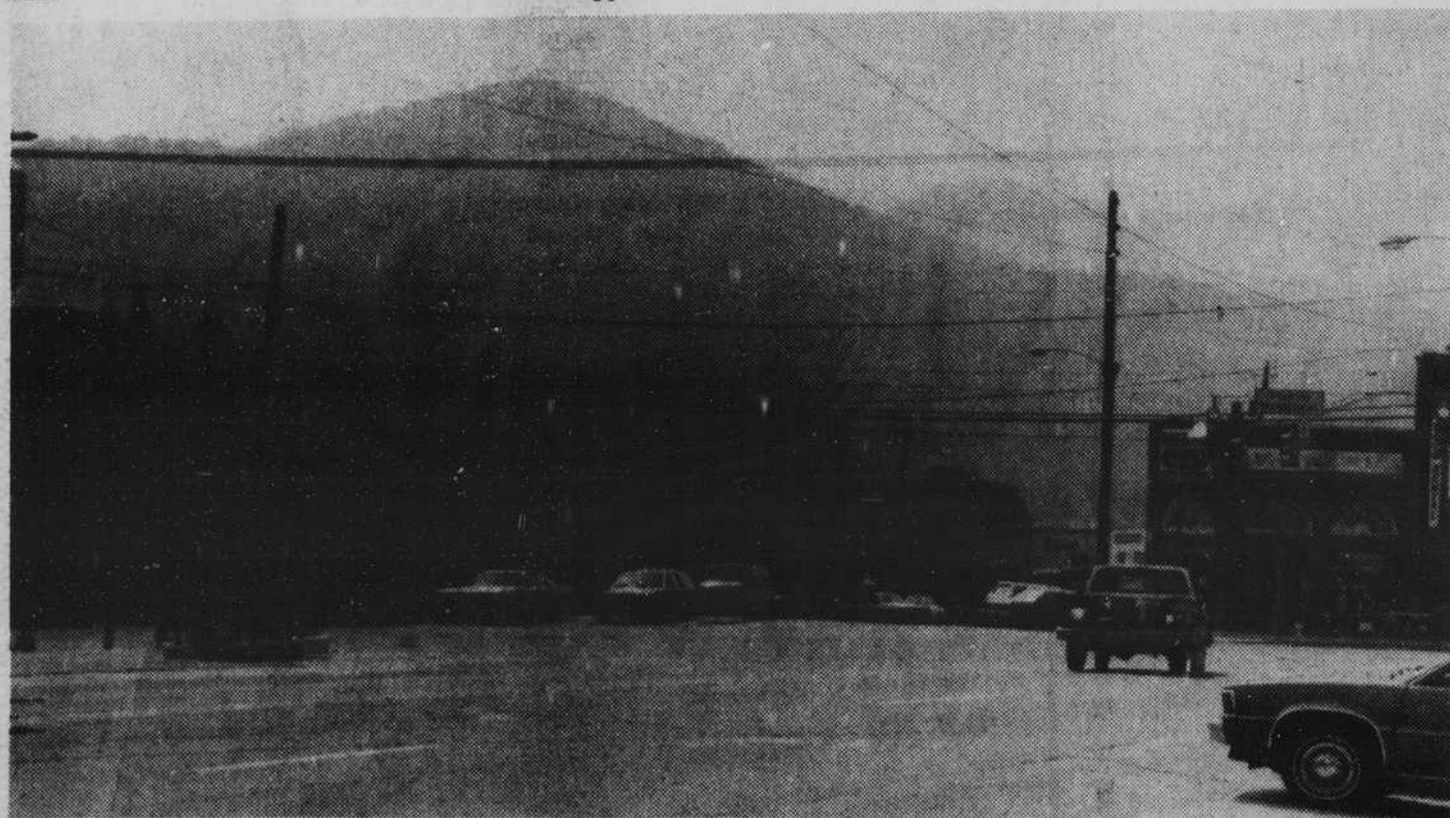
The Board of Adjustments reported an error in the public notice made at Town Hall about a public hearing to be held Thursday. The Board of Adjustments will consider a request for conditional use for a recreational vehicle campsite, not a change in zoning for an area off South Blue Ridge Road.

"There can be no question of changing the zoning at this meeting because the Board of Adjustments does

not have power in such matters," stated Robert J. Fischer, chairman of the Black Mountain Board of Adjustments.

Only the Board of Aldermen, at the recommendation of the Planning Board, has authority to change a zoning ordinance.

The public meeting will be held at Town Hall Thursday, August 5, at 7:30 p.m.



Improvements are under way at Tyson's Furniture and Black Mountain Drug Company on the corners of State and Broadway in the Townlift program.

## Overnight hike to historic Mt. Mitchell area

This year's exciting outdoor adventure for the Sourwood Festival will feature a hike and overnight camp to the Pinnacle Spring area near Mt. Mitchell. Participants will meet Saturday morning, August 7, at 11:30 a.m. at the Black Mountain Savings and Loan parking lot. From there they will travel to the trailhead at the end of Appalachian Way in Montreat.

The experience will involve a moderate eight mile climb along the historic "Black Mountain-Mt. Mitchell Railroad" bed. Elevations from the trail-

head to the campsite will range from 2,800' to 5,000' respectively. Scenery is spectacular and hikers should be prepared for an unforgettable outdoors adventure, according to trip coordinator Wendell Begley.

The return trip Sunday morning will be by vehicle from the campsite to Black

Mountain. All hikers should provide for their own lunch, dinner, and Sunday breakfast. Transportation of heavier equipment to campsite will be available.

Due to limited access and the fragile wilderness environment space will be limited and pre-registration is required. For reservations contact Wendell Begley, hike coordinator, at 669-7991 or 669-9170.

The hike is sponsored by the Sourwood Committee of the Black Mountain-Swannanoa Chamber of Commerce



An audience of about 300 enjoyed the second Sunday in the Park at Lake Tomahawk last Sunday. Story on page 14.