

Black MOUNTAIN NEWS

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Governor Hunt honors Black Mtn. Volunteers

by Priscilla Hopkins

Gov. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Jr. awarded certificates of merit and lapel pins to outstanding volunteers from thirty-six western North Carolina counties during a ceremony held in the sanctuary of the First Baptist Church of Asheville at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 2.

This year, awards were given in eleven categories. Miss Gertrud Rath of Swannanoa received an award in the Senior Citizen Award for her work in co-ordinating the fifteen regular and several relief drivers for the Meals-on-Wheels program of ABCCM-E. Miss Rath has served in this capacity for six years, ever since the program began. Three routes are followed each Monday through Friday annually: Old Toll, Cragmont - North Fork Roads and one in Swannanoa area to insure that elderly shut-ins receive at least one hot, nutritious meal a day.

The Asheville-Buncombe County Christian Ministry-East located in Black Mountain received an award in the Church-Religious Volunteer Group category. Mrs. Lois Nix accepted the award on behalf of that group. Other members who accompanied her were: Helen Shook, Lib Harper, Alva Snypes, Irene Hutchins, Gladys Jones, Gladys Snypes and Kristy Nix.

Mrs. Nix has been the director of the ABCCM-E group for six of the seven years of its existence. She co-ordinates the efforts of nine regular volunteers and ten other substitutes and drivers who provide transportation for clients. The organization provides emergency financial aid, food, clothing and household items when needed, transportation to and from medical appointments or medical facilities and deals with referrals. Mrs. Nix indicated that the organization anticipates an increase in the services it will be called on to provide this coming winter in view of the current economic situation and the prediction of harsh weather in the months to come and she asks for continued community support for the work of the group.

Eight churches in the Swannanoa Valle formed the nucleus of the group. Since 1975, that number has grown to 24.

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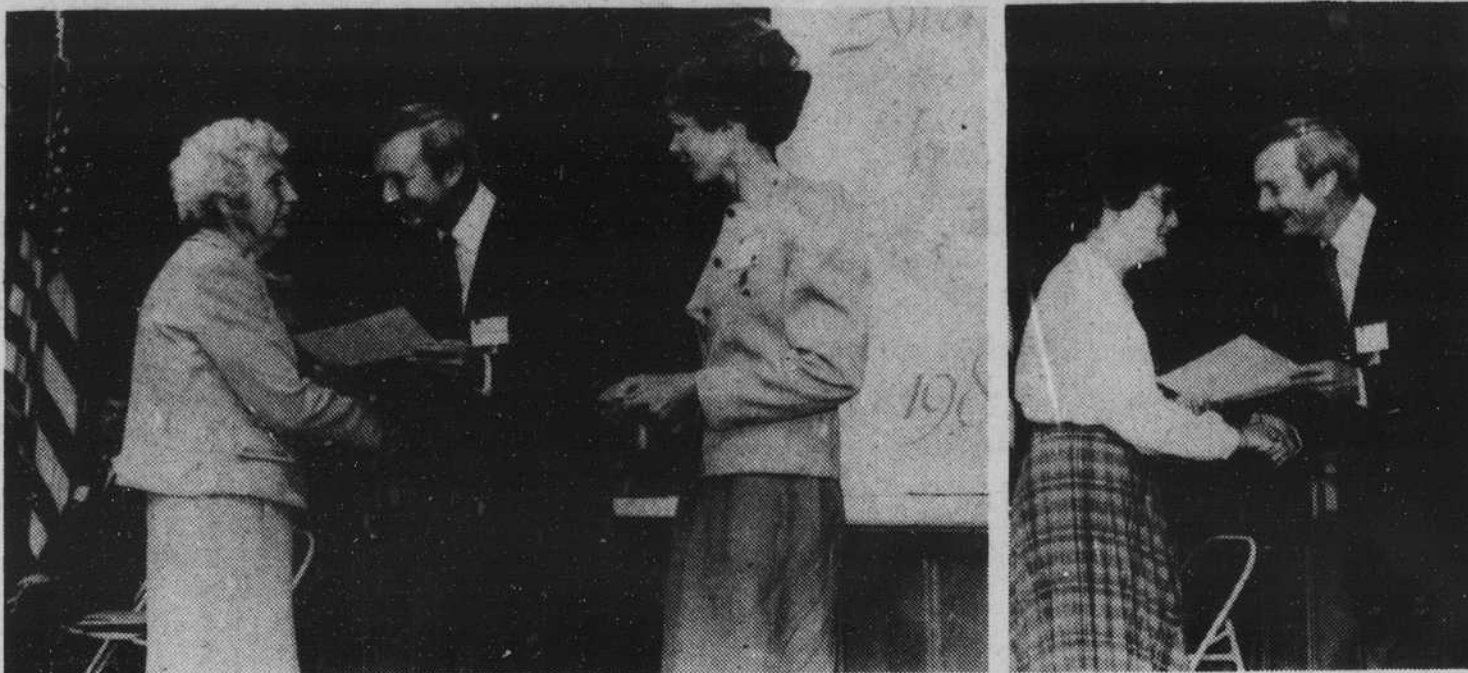
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Gertrud Rath accepts her certificate of merit from Gov. Hunt as an outstanding Senior Citizen Volunteer.

Lois Nix accepted an award on behalf of ABCCM-E at the annual Governor's Volunteer Presentation.



Mayor Tom Sobol and Alderman Carl Bartlett officiated at ribbon cutting ceremonies at the Western Steer Steak House Tues. morning. Pictured are [l-r] Mgr. Richard

Adkins, Mayor Tom Sobol, Alderman Carl Bartlett and Ass't. Mgr. Rick Caulder. [Priscilla Hopkins photos]

New steak house opens here Tues.

Mayor Tom Sobol and Alderman Carl Bartlett shared ribbon cutting ceremonies at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 5, at the Western Steer Steak House located in the Ingles Shopping Center, Black Mountain.

Manager Richard Adkins and Assistant Manager Rick Caulder announce

that the steak house offers a 40 item menu featuring 25 regular items, a salad bar, soup bar and hot apple, peach or cherry cobbler that can be topped with soft ice cream.

This Western Steer is number 162 in a chain that is franchised out of Claremont, N.C., but are all locally

owned. The Black Mountain restaurant is owned by J. Baker McCullagh and associates who also own the area Holiday Inns. Seating capacity is 258.

Business hours for the steak house will be: Sunday through Thursday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

WNC Sanatorium bids for Historic Register

Friends of Western North Carolina Sanatorium have formed a Committee for the Historic Preservation of the Buildings of the former Western North Carolina Sanatorium, presently the Black Mountain Center. The state Professional Review Committee for Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places has approved a study because of the architectural significance of the property. The main buildings of the sanatorium and the original part of the nurses' home was designed by the architects who planned and designed the restoration of colonial Williamsburg in Virginia. Much of the woodwork in the original buildings was hand-crafted in keeping with the Williamsburg architecture.

It takes much time to complete work on properties that have been approved for study. If anyone in this area has any old photographs, historical or traditional information concerning this property, please send same to Jane Allison, TB Control Office, Black Mountain Center, Black Mountain, N.C. 28711, telephone 669-3117.



Should be preserved

The Administration Building at the W.N.C. Specialty Hospital shows the influence of Colonial Williamsburg Architecture. The facility is being studied to qualify as a nomination for the National Register of Historic Places.

Board okays mobile homes; sets hearing

by Bill Anthony

The Black Mountain Planning Board again voted Sept. 30 to recommend to the Board of Aldermen permission be granted for development of mobile home parks in both high and low density residential areas (R-10, R-20), and in areas zoned for offices and institutions (O-1), but, as before, developers must meet certain conditions to place the parks in these areas.

In a separate action, the Planning Board approved single family dwellings in the downtown business district, under conditions, and double and multi-family homes in both the downtown and R-20 areas, also under conditions. All are permitted in the R-10 areas, but without conditions.

Behind the two votes is the conviction by the planners that decisions on mobile home parks and other residences for more than one family in certain areas should not go to the elected aldermen, and hence become political considerations. Rather they should go to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. The latter is appointed and makes its recommendations to the Planning Board based strictly according to seven criteria. These relate to health and general welfare of the neighborhood, interests of neighbors, surrounding property development, architecture congruent with the community, adequate utilities, and minimization of traffic congestion, among other restrictions.

The Board of Aldermen had asked the planners to review the section of a draft zoning ordinance regarding mobile home parks. The review was requested following development of a controversy

before the aldermen over a proposed mobile home park in the vicinity of S. Blue Ridge Road and Brier Brook Road, an R-20 zone.

The aldermen have scheduled another public hearing Oct. 25 on the zoning ordinance.

The Planning Board is also engaged in modifying the town's existing zoning map to conform with current land use practices and planned community development.

At the Board of Aldermen's monthly agenda meeting Oct. 4, Mayor Tom Sobol called for postponement of a scheduled public hearing on the draft zoning ordinance from Oct. 7 to Oct. 25 to permit time for the changes to be publicized. Mayor Sobol also warned the aldermen they would be faced with "tough decisions." He advised there "is a groundswell of pressure from both sides—those who are anti-mobile homes and those who can't afford to live in conventional homes but don't want to live in parks." He predicted it may be as late as December before the aldermen could pass a complete ordinance, a year since the Planning Board undertook the redrafting task.

The public hearing on the proposed amendment to the Black Mountain zoning ordinance scheduled for Thursday, October 7, has been cancelled.

The meeting will be held Monday, October 25 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall. All interested persons are invited to attend.



The residence of the Lee Henson family at 118 Walker St. suffered extensive damage in a fire on Sept. 30.

Walker St. house destroyed by fire

The Black Mountain Fire Department responded to a house fire at 118 Walker Street at 8:36 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 30, with two engines and an equipment truck. A total of 28 men fought the fire for a total of 3 hours and 10 minutes. Three rooms were destroyed and there was extensive damage to the remainder of the house and its contents. Total damage is estimated to be in excess of \$30,000.

No one was at the residence of Lee

Hinson at the time of the fire; the family had left the premises some 15-20 minutes before the fire began. A next door neighbor, Mrs. Hemphill, reported the fire to the authorities.

Carl Bartlett of the Mountain Fire Department was in charge of the investigation to determine the cause of the fire. While he was able to determine that it had begun near a stereo in a back bedroom, he was unable to pin-point the exact cause, he said.