

# FORUM

## Good Samaritans, 1983 Style in the Carolinas

Last week, five friends and I spent a few wonderful days at Pawley's Island. We sat in the sunshine, ate some delicious seafood, and rocked on the porch. We exchanged anecdotes and ghost stories prompted by retelling "The Gray Man" legend. In conversing, we got to know and like one another more.

In short, it was a much needed break in strenuous schedules for the six of us. In just two or three days, my body felt relaxed and my mind rested.

Two of us had to come back a day earlier than the other four because of work obligations. We started early in the day so we would arrive back in Black Mountain before dinner time.

At least, that was the plan. But then everyone knows what Robert Burns said about them.

What happened was that we had several different problems with the van.

Instead of arriving home in about six hours' time, it took us closer to fifteen.

When the van first began to buck badly, we lurched off the interstate into Camden, S.C. It was after three in the afternoon and all the garages had closed at noon. Luckily, we noticed a police patrol car next to us at a stop light. He not only directed us to a mechanic, but followed to make sure we got there.

"Tuffy"—that was the name on his shirt—was pleasant and helpful. Unfortunately he was already tied up with another broken down car. After waiting three hours, he got to us. "Tuffy" had missed a family picnic by staying to help us, but was cheerful to the end.

Another incident occurred about 10 p.m. when we had stopped to have a cup of coffee. When we returned to the van, it wouldn't start. I pushed it into the roadway in an attempt to let it roll into a start. By the time we realized that

that wasn't going to work this time, a group of men had come out of the restaurant and helped with jumper cables.

Again we headed for home. We made it as far as 99 percent up the Saluda grade when the engine just quit. Rolling back onto the shoulder was rather exciting in the dark, especially when the brakes didn't take hold at once!

As the two of us sat in the dark on the shoulder discussing what the most sensible solution to our predicament might be, a truck towing a boat pulled off in front of us. It was the same group of fishermen who had helped in the parking lot. They had recognized the van and stopped.

They called the highway patrol for us on their C.B. and waited until Trooper "Butch" Kennedy arrived before heading on to Virginia.

Trooper Kennedy had the same make

of van that we did and checked to see if he could fix the problem. When he realized it was serious, he called a wrecker for us. The wrecker driver found that we needed a new fuel pump and called a friend who has an auto parts store to bring us the part. He arrived within half an hour and was both efficient and civil, which is more than I would have been if called from a warm bed at 1 a.m.

At last we were really "on the road again" under our own power, but Trooper Kennedy followed us for several miles, just in case.

When we got home about 2.30 a.m., my body and mind were both a bit weary from the harrowing day.

But my spirit was refreshed to find so many strangers who were willing to help. That might be a good thing to think about with the tourist season upon us in the Valley.

PAH

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**Edwin Andrews**  
**Apropos**

## Letters to the editor...

### Girl Scouts need adult volunteers from the Swannanoa Valley

Letter to the Editor:

Thank you for the news coverage given to the Girl Scouts of Black Mountain-Swannanoa. Community awareness is a key ingredient in our efforts to make Girl Scouting more visible to all. It is important that people are aware of some of the activities that girls in Scouting are doing for and in the community. Therefore, it is also important that the community know that

without adult involvement Girl Scouting cannot exist, in turn crippling many young girls wishing to join.

Volunteers can be male or female, who believes in the principles of the Girl Scout movement, and are willing to take the training necessary to learn, in order to offer a well-balanced program to girls. Black Mountain-Swannanoa is in need of volunteers willing to be leaders-co-leaders of troops, or adults to serve

as consultants to leaders of troops.

There is a growing need for more adults, as more girls are wanting to join. Please, if you as an adult, parent or non-parent are interested in the development of girls to be such that they learn values; learn about themselves as individuals; learn to help others—please be a volunteer in Girl Scouting. Contact Phyllis Stone, Service Unit Coordinator for Black Mountain-Swannanoa at

669-2481, or Ann Hunting at 252-4442, Pisgah Girl Scout Council.

I would appreciate if you would print this item in the Black Mountain News, in an effort to help us as we strive to recruit effective volunteers for Girl Scouting.

Sincerely,  
 Pisgah Girl Scout Council, Inc.  
 Ann R. Hunting  
 Field Executive

### Alderman plan to correct low water pressure

The May monthly meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen of Black Mountain was held on Monday, May 16, in the Town Hall from 7:30 - 9:15 p.m. Present were Mayor Sobol, Aldermen Fox, Stafford and Begley, the Town Manager, three department heads and about a half dozen others.

Two sets of sealed bids were opened and awarded by vote of the Board. A paving contract was awarded to Paving Enterprises. In the awarding of this contract, it was noted in the discussion that preceded the vote that this firm has done satisfactory work for the town on previous occasions.

A contract for sidewalk removal and replacement in the downtown business district that will include work on Cherry Street and on a corner of State and Broadway was awarded to Jim Brown Construction. Brick sidewalks will be continued on Cherry Street, but concrete will be used on State Street because vehicular traffic sometimes comes up onto the sidewalk and the concrete is stronger and will withstand such abuse better than the brick.

Informed bids for the purchase of two trucks for the water department were discussed. The board voted to purchase the vehicles from Woodcock Motors of Black Mountain.

In response to a number of complaints about low water pressure, Mayor Sobol asked Jon Nilsson to comment.

Nilsson first pointed out that the

recently completed improvements to the town's water system - that included line replacement and the construction of a new reservoir did not address pressure problems.

He stated that in the areas where customers are experiencing low pressure, lines were old. Many lines laid in those areas were put in place 20, 30, 40 years ago. In the intervening years, the lines have become clogged. Also, the lines were of a much smaller diameter initially than those just laid.

After extensive discussion in a question and answer form between the Board and Nilsson, the consensus was that further study of the situation is needed before a solution that will be both economically sound and practical can be recommended to the Aldermen for action.

Nilsson was asked to study the situation with Al White until the June meeting of the Aldermen and then to make recommendations for rectifying the low pressure problem.

In other business that came before the Board, Ellen Johnson, Rebecca Stafford and Kelse Lytle were appointed to three year terms on the Recreation Commission.

Also, Richard Hudson was approved to conduct the 1982-3 audit of the town's books.

Frances Berry from the Land of the Sky Regional Council gave an up-date report on services available from that agency.

## Proclamation

For nearly thirty-four years, the American Business Women's Association has been building a tradition based on its continuing efforts to provide opportunities for educational advancement to women. Business, economic, and social analyses indicate that as women continue to enter the work force and attain increasingly responsible positions, they will contribute to the betterment of business and communities.

The members of the American Business Women's Association recognize that education and skilled training are crucial in today's technological society. Last year ABWA's more than 2,000 local chapters awarded over \$2 million in scholarships to women. In addition, the Association's national scholarship fund has awarded scholarships surpassing \$2.4 million since its inception in 1953.

In salute to the more than 110,000 ABWA members for their supportive efforts in helping women advance through education and for developing an informed and responsible citizenry, I, C. T. Sobol, Jr., Mayor of the City of Black Mountain, North Carolina, proclaim May 1983, ABWA EDUCATION MONTH IN BLACK MOUNTAIN.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Black Mountain, to be affixed at Black Mountain, this 2nd day of May, 1983.

*C. T. Sobol, Jr.*  
 MAYOR

"When a fellow says, 'It ain't the money, but the principle of the thing,' it's the money."  
 Kin Hubbard

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