Black Mountain News

A Coffee Break was held at the Swannanoa School, Saturday Feh7 in cooperation with the Swannanoa Volunteer Fire Department. More than 1500 people attended. Some \$750 was given in prizes and \$500 was raised for the underprivileged Children's Fund Project Co-sponsored by the CB Radio Club and the

Swannanoa Fire Department. The CB group met with the Sheriff's Department last week to finalize plans for participation in the National Neighborhood Watch Program. The club will be cooperating with the Sheriffs Department and the local Police department reporting unusual traffic in the area, suspicious persons and vehicles. This includes

summer residences as well as the local neighborhood.

The Club is still engraving valuable possessions free of charge.

They also render a new program in cooperation with the Juvenile Evaluation Center which has aided in the return of twelve runaway

Tommy Gentry was presented a plaque for monitoring Channel 9. The most hours in 1975.

The Club monitors Channel 9, 24 hours a day, seven days a week on a volunteer basis.

They have handled reports on 73 wrecks, assisted 46 motorists to obtain gas in remote areas and reported three fires and six breakings

AND NOW FOR THE

THRIFTY ONE-MINUTE RATES

CAN HELP YOU CONTROL YOUR

LONG DISTANCE COSTS.

When a minute is all you need to share the

good news, take advantage of our money-saving

direct-dial* one-minute specials ... and

save anytime of the day or night.

60 SECOND NEW

PENLAND & SONS **FUNERAL HOME** 125 South Avenue Swannanoa, N.C. 24-HOUR AMBULANCE SERVICE 686-5447 or Asheville 252-1536 Managers: Jerry F. Penland Paul Adkins governo monte

. . . Board Members Call

Continued from Page 1

stated it was on the tape recording and she would attempt to produce it for the

Alderman Sobol at this point

stated he felt a recent Letter

To The Editor (Feb. 5)

deserved some comments. He

stated the letter had brought

embarrassment to him and his

family. He then set a sequence

of events leading up to this.

"In June or July of this year

the then City Manager Charles

Lindsey was advised by his

doctor to retire due to physical

disability. At August 7th

meeting of the Board Mr.

Lindsay presented his

resignation to the Board, but

said he would work on for free

until a new manager could be

secured. This was on the

assumption that it would only

be for a few weeks. Later the

Board felt that it was the

wrong time to hire a new City

Manager until after the

election, which as it turned

out did put in a new Mayor and

Board and instead of serving a

few weeks, Lindsey served for

approximately four

months." Sobol continued. "In

November Mayor Stone called

the Black Mountain Board

members by phone to see if

they would agree that \$4,5000

be paid to Mr. Lindsey for his

services and the entire Board

agreed. This technically did

not require a Board action, as

the money was already ap-

proved in the budget. There

was nothing out of the way in

Sobol went on, "there was

nothing unusual in the way

this appropriation was made

Only five weeks ago we voted

in this same way to buy a police car. One other question

I'd like answered, there seems

to be a lot of figures everyone

has or seems to know, where

did they get them? Did the

Mayor Slagle replied, "One

time, at the Mayor's request,

Mrs. Brandon removed the

1973 records for study Mrs.

Gilliam was present when the

books were taken. We later

learned there was some

question as to whether this

action was ethical and since

there was some question in the

Town Clerk's mind they were

returned immediately. They

had already been audited and

were taken only for the pur-

pose of study. Alderman must

do their own studying and

resource when all they get

from the office staff is "I don't

knows in answer to questions

about procedure. On the ap-

propriation of the money for

Mr. Lindsay, I never gave full

sanction. Although I felt, it

was deserved, I questioned it

because Mr. Lindsay had said

it would jeopardize his Social Security. Mayor Stone in-

formed me at the same time

on November 28 that they

were making out Christmas

Bonus Checks because quote

(A) Southern Bell

Only Mrs. Knight and Lind-

books ever leave the office?

the payment to Lindsey.

next meeting.

say knew what the proper amount was." This I felt should have been public record. As to the information Mr. Hudgins had any citizen who asks me a question about Town affairs will receive an honest answer.

Alderman Greenwood declared "A man who lives out of town has raised all these questions, has attacked men elected to do this job. If this keeps on we are going to be another Williamson County. Ill. right here in Black Mountain. I don't know who's doing it but I wish they would

Alderman Don Hoefling declared "We were elected to do a job, we must go forward and not digging the past.'

Again the question was raised "Who gave information." This time from the floor by Michael Sobol.

Ernest E. Hudgins, rose to

his feet and stated, "In case there is anyone here who does not know I'm the man who wrote the letter and I take full responsibility for its contents." He went on "I could not understand why Lindsay had not been paid every two week as he had in the past instead of a lump sum in November. It looked like a Christmas present to me. Mr. Hudgins stated that all the facts he had presented were public record, or should be. and public records were open to any citizen. I have undeniable records he declared. Mr. Hudgins refused to reveal his sources of information

saying they were confidential. Bill Hickey former Alderman, then arose to state, "Bitter as I am I must get this off my chest. I have a certificate of commendation for services from the Chamber of Commerce, Region "B" Land Of The Sky and from the Town, yet we are accused of being dishonest and underhanded, i served 30 years in the banking business and never once was accused of being dishonest. I resent the whole thing. I have dealt with the old Board in banking and on the Board and would be a character witness for any of them anytime. To you Tom and Gordon forget the audacity of one who dares ask you to resign from the Board, stay in there and do a good job. This man is not a citizen of the Town of Black Moun-

tain.' Dan Respass, Jr. then made the statement. "If the citizens of the Town are too blind to see the need for questions perhaps it becomes necessary for an outsider to enlighten them."

"It is a shame major expenditures in the Town must be revealed through Letters To The Editor, they should always be recorded in the Town minutes as soon as decided." was the comment of Joe Tyson a young C.P.A.

Mrs. Hickey said "I support my husband one hundred percent, but I raise the question in this our "Bicentennial Year" are we coming together or growing apart."

Dr. Hugo Thompson one of our most qualified retirees observed, that in a time when many people were suspicious of those in the government, that the outcome of the telephone poll should later have been made a part of the council's official minutes. He suggested such a policy for future board actions.

Former Alderman Begley stated "We have a monthly meeting to discuss and run the business of the Town. We do not want anyone leaving here thinking we are thieves or

rogues but this meeting tonight is very much out of order and too time consuming to be wasted on items of this nature of useless rhetoric but I where he got his information?

Mr. Hudgins again replied it was confidential and he would not reveal his source or sources.

Mrs. C.T. Sobol, Sr., mother of Alderman Sobol asked why Tom and Gordon were singled out while there were others on the Board at the time. Mr Hudgins replied it was a 4-1 vote and they were the only ones still serving on the Board.

Vice Mayor Tyson com-mented he had served before as Alderman but this had the roughest campaign and term he had ever served. I feel the question has been sufficiently aired. "I'm much more interested in making sure I do something right myself than to hunt for mistakes of others. I think it is time we get down to the business of running the affairs of the Town.

Still not satisfied with the answers given Wendell Begley declared he still felt those involved deserved an explanation of where the information came from.

"It's time for us to start to work together, we must quit "nit picking" and tearing apart each other. We must ge together as a Board and work for the betterment of Black Mountain. Anyone who doesn't want to do so should go somewhere, was the observation of Alderman Greenwood.

Mrs. Garnet Greenwood, asked that all of us work together for the good of the community to make the wonderful place it can be."

The general consensus was expressed by Alderman Greenwood in his statement "If there was an impropriety committed it was not an illega or criminal act, just the method used was questioned.

Everyone agreed the action should have been put in the minutes.

Tom Sobol made one of the most astute comments of the evening in his closing statement, "If this kind of thing is to continue, it will be impossible for the citizens of the Town to get anyone who thinks anything of themselves to run for office - no one will set up here and take this kind of abuse for \$5 a month and free water.



THE BIG WINNER at Big Buy this week was Oscar R Norton, second prize James Morris \$25 and Tom P. Daugherty, \$10.

Northwestern Bank **Declares Dividend**

On February 4, 1976, the Directors of Northwestern Financial Corporation declared a quarterly dividend payment of \$0.75 per share. The dividend will be payable on April 1, 1976, to lders of record March

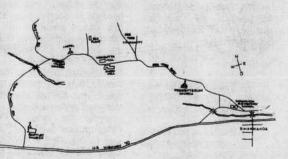
Miller FUNERAL HOME Dear friends, Have you heard the remark, "I just can't make a personal call of sympathy when my friends are bereaved. I never know what to say." We have observed that it isn't necessary to say anything. Your presence speaks for itself. Friends mean more to a family, in time of bereavement, than anything else. The act of sharing their grief is deeply comforting. , Respectfully, Bat Miller

This Land We Love

During the past several years, Americans have been made abruptly and acutely aware of a rapidly growing number of items which were once taken for granted that now appear on a lengthening list of limited resources. Oil, natural gas, and unpolluted water and air are prominent on this list and are being dealt with in what is many times a highly crisis-like and emotional atmosphere amid charges and counter-charges made by various groups seeking to use the same resources. In order to avoid some of the pressure and chaos attendant in these situations, The League of Woman Voters wish to call a possible future problem area to the attention of the public while there is still time to consider intelligent alternatives of decision and action without the heat of partisan positions. With a growing and highly migratory population, constructive iand use that will

of this valuable and limited natural resource.

To this end, the League is sponsoring five public neetings during the month of March in Buncombe County_; one will be held in Asheville and in each of the main compass points in the county The eastern meeting, which will encompass the area east of Azalea through Black Mountain, is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 2, 1976, at the Swannanoa Presbyterian Church (Piney Grove). It is fitting that the regional meeting be held on a location that was one of the first developed areas of the valley and where some of the earliest settlers are buried. At 7:00 p.m. the doors will be open for an art-photo exhibit of this beautiful region, an automatic slide presentation of man's impact upon the land and music. At 7:30 p.m. the formal meeting will begin; it will consist of a panel of speakers who will make in-



best serve all interests needs to be considered before impending land use legislation suddenly confronts one. Zoning proposals, other land use limitations, a possible land use tax and a myriad of other proposals have already been introduced elsewhere and locally. Much of the public is unaware of this and often reacts strongly pro or con to pectedly confronted with them. The League is NOT sponsoring any position: it is not proposing a panicky maintainance of the status quo nor is it for unrestricted and possibly detrimental land development. Its intention is merely to call public attention to begin to consider various possibilities for the future use dividual and brief remarks appropriate to the theme. This ortion of the program will be followed by a "town meeting" type of discussion led by a moderator with questions and comments welcomed from the

Next week's Black Moun tain News will carry a second article on this meeting dealing with some land use in the valley in the past and some of the earliest settlers. The following week's paper will have an article with detailed information on the moderator and panelists.

If you are a newcomer to the valley and are unfamiliar with the location of the Swannanoa Presbyterian Church, the sketched map accompanying this article should be of benefit

Potpourri Presents February Festivals

Potpourri Presents, a series of Story Hours presented by The Friends of the Black Mountain Library, will have its next program this Saturday, Feb. 14th from 2-4 p.m. in th Education Room of the library. Any five through twelve year old who is living or visiting in the Swannanoa Valley is welcome to attend this free, exciting educational and entertaining program. Registration, attendance stars, and name tage will be the lobby just outside the

Education Room. This month's program Festivals" and will include a

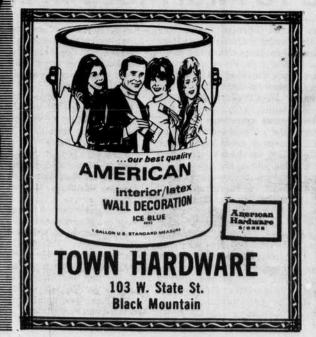
colorful display of books especially selected for this orogram, a film on Nancy Hanks (who was Abraham Lincoln's mother), stories about Lincoln, Washington, St. Valentine and other famous February personalities and an activity period during which individual Valentines will be designed and made. Seasonally appropriate refreshments will be served near the conclusion of the program after which the youngsters will have an o portunity to select and checkout library materials for home use. Come and bring a friend and your library card.

17 Year Olds Registration Schedule

The Buncombe County Board of Election has issued the following announcement to help in clearing up the Judge's ruling on Feb. 5, prohibiting 17 year olds from voting in the March 23 Primary.

We would like to emphasis what the 17 year olds may do to participate in this important Presidential year. They may register and vote in the August 17 primary for

state and county offices, however they can only register during a thirty day period, June 18th to the deadline of July 19th. There is the same restriction on those who wish to vote in the November 2nd General Election but who did not register for the primary, in that they can only register from Sept. 4th up to the deadline of October 3rd.



Kiwanis Roundup

Dr. Craigan L. Gray, a gynecologist - obstetrician, is one of three specialists in this field of medicine now serving our area at the Swannan Valley Medical Center. The others are Dr. Jean Slate and Dr. Catherine Wilson. On Tuesday and Thursday of each week one of these three doctors is available for con sultation at our Medical Center. Dr. Gray was guest speaker at the Kiwanis

meeting of Feb. 5. Dr. Gray, a mature person who has not lost his good sense of humor, grew up in a Vermont mountain area. A year ago the doctor and his wife were looking for a place to live and to establish a professional business after his European tour of U.S. Army duty in Frankfurt, Germany. Flying out of the Asheville airport, they looked out at the lovely surrounding hills and turned to each other and almost simultaneously said. "This is it." They had previously come to the conclusion that here they would be with friendly honest, down-to-earth peop Dr. Gray stated, "We are glad that we came, and we want to stay." Kiwanis as part of the community welcomes Dr. Gray and his wife and wish them the very best.

He observed that European socialist administered health care systems are not as good as the U.S. system, with all its faults. Our system - "is patient oriented, run on a local level, and more sensitive to the needs of the people and is insulated from a hovering administrative mantle." He believes that the human concern for other humans is paramount to the solution of the ever increasing problems of human needs versus big medicine and big government medicine. Dr. Gray said, "We need change, and let us not be resistant to it - but we also need caution.'

Dr. Gray's talk pointed out the sophistication of medical care in our area and county and explained the meaning of obstetrics, and gynecology With all the specialization and technical improvements there has come improved medical care through more accurate diagnosis. However, we must not let the 'machine' become a wedge between patient and physician who is the critical

factor. Dr. Gray has learned much from older physicians and does his best to keep the machine in proper perspective. As he says, "People are still number one.'

After hearing about such things as cardiographs, blood flow, X-ray, monitors, temperature and heart rate. labor, delivery, electronic helpers, government versus private or local participation, increase costs, it was refreshing to hear. "I think that the leaders of this community have caught the vision American Government had in mind for the citizens when the Swannanoa Valley Medical Center was built. A local problem was recognized, and important local money, the problem was solved."

Kiwanis says, "For more information see your doctor and continue to support your Swannanoa Valley Medical Center when called upon for

Buncombe County Sheriff's Report

During the week of January 26, thru February 2, the combe County Sheriff's Department served a total of

42 criminal papers. The arrests are as follows: communicating threats 1, non support 2, order for arrest 3, worthless check 4, capias 6, assualt on female 1, detention order 1, damage to real property 1, assault with a deadly weapon 3, assault shoplifting 1, damage to property 1, violation of parole 1, temporary taking of vehicle 1, following too close 1, assault with a deadly weapon, inflicting serious injury 1, failure to appear on traffic citation 1 and assault 1.

Deputies also served 2 writ of habeas corpus, 9 juvenile summons, 245 criminal subpoenas, 107 civil summons and investigated 117 reported crimes.

-s- Thomas H. Morrissey **Buncombe County**

ROBO SHELL

NOW OFFERS U-HAUL TRAILERS AND EQUIPMENT

We feature automotive and manual wash. Equipment for Trucks, Cars, Motorcycles. Including Vacuum Service.

AND OF COURSE

SHELL GAS & PRODUCTS

See Mike Hoover

Black Mountain State Street, 669-9392

GET YOUR SMOKE DETECTOR TODAY

G.E. and Nutone **U.L.** Approved

 Battery Plug In and Direct

BLACK MOUNTAIN LUMBER COMPANY

Lumber & Building Supplies 100 Sutton Ave. Black Mountain

669-8409

*Direct-dial (without an operator's assistance) rates apply on all calls within the U.S. (except Alaska). Direct-dial rates do not apply to person coperson, coin, hotel guest, credit card, collect calls, calls charged to another number, or to time and charge calls. For direct-dial rates to Hawaii, check your operator.