

Expired parking meters up for bids

by Cynthia Reimer

The Town of Black Mountain has the perfect gift for a hard-to-shop-for, hard-to-please person who has everything.

It's a collectors' item, a real piece of Black Mountain history.

You can make it into a unique lamp, a bank, a yard post to display the family name.

For the cook it's the world's largest egg timer. For the art connoisseur, it's a Pop Art sculpture.

Your budding mechanical genius can take it apart to see what makes it tick--and maybe even put it back together again, if you're lucky.

There are only 50 of them available. Each will have a registered number with a certificate available attesting to its origins, signed by the Mayor of Black Mountain.

Mountain.

Give up?

Fifty parking meters will be auctioned off by volunteer auctioneer Wiley Morris Saturday, Feb. 20 at 3:30 p.m. at the Lakeview Center. The meters were recently removed from the streets of Black Mountain.

Morris, a well-known local musician, said he will conduct the auction "like an old-fashioned cake walk."

Proceeds from the auction will go to the Economic Development Committee for use in beautifying the downtown area.

Ben Pace of the Country Food Store will pass out "something sweet," he said. Graphic Associates is donating the certificates, which will be lettered in calligraphy by Joe Fox. Gordy's Lock and Key of Swannanoa will donate keys for the meters.



Wiley Morris (left), who will be auctioneer for next Saturday's parking meter sale, and his brother Zeke recorded "Salty Dog" in Danville, Va. in 1938.



Mayor Tom Sobol examines the merchandise.

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Montreat raises \$400,000 for new conference-worship center

The Presbyterian retreat facility in Montreat with no permanent fund-raising staff has raised more than \$400,000 in less than a year to build a conference-worship center and finance several other projects.

The campaign for the William Black Lodge, a facility of the Presbyterian Synod of North Carolina located at the conference center in Montreat, surpassed its \$400,000 goal on the last day of 1981. In doing so, it attained an additional \$25,000 challenge gift, conditioned on the campaign's reaching its goal by the end of 1981.

The successful campaign was guided by a steering committee and directed by Dr. R. Paul Kercher of Hickory. The Lodge's board of trustees, which voted last February to undertake the campaign, appointed the steering committee of eight people.

Kercher is a Presbyterian minister who serves as a full-time development consultant and solicitor of major gifts for Presbyterian colleges and agencies.

The Rev. John Mack Walker of Montreat, chairman of the steering committee, said the campaign's quick success was "a pleasant reassurance of the support of the Synod's work."

Raising such an amount in less than a year is a major accomplishment because unlike colleges and many other kinds of institutions, the facility has no alumni and does not annually conduct fund raising, he said.

The campaign sought funds for construction of a conference-worship center for Presbyterian groups in North Carolina, with a capacity of 85 which will be the only such Synod-wide center; extensive renovations in the existing

Lodge building; retirement of a \$50,000 debt; and creation of an endowment for cash reserve.

The \$25,000 challenge gift will be used to provide additional parking.

Two major gifts on December 31 pushed the total amount pledged or given to \$419,000, campaign officials announced in January. The challenge gift is in addition to that figure.

The Lodge received additional good news recently with the donation of \$50,000 in honor of Sarah Belk Gambrell to be used for the facility's new endowment. At the request of the donor, the anonymous gift was not to be counted in the \$400,000 goal Mrs.

Gambrell, of New York, is a member of the steering committee.

Construction of the conference center began in November, and renovations are also underway. The new center should be open by this summer's conference season. It will be dedicated at the end of August.

Members of the campaign's steering committee in addition to Walker and Mrs. Gambrell were Charles Boney of Wilmington, Mrs. Peter Cromartie of Fayetteville, Karl G. Hudson Jr. of Raleigh, Mrs. Raoul Jones of Candler, the Rev. Harold McKeithen, formerly of Albemarle, and Mrs. Miriam McNeely of Mooresville.

Town Board votes to lime golf course

by Trina O'Donnell

In a special called meeting of the Black Mountain Board of Aldermen Monday night, the board moved to appropriate approximately \$3,100 for lime for the golf course. An estimated 180 tons is needed at \$17 per ton. No action will be taken on the purchase of fertilizer until soil test results are returned.

At the suggestion of Alderman Carl Bartlett, board members will inspect the golf course grounds later this week to determine the present condition and maintenance needs of the municipally-owned course.

As a result of several complaints by persons paying a \$3 service charge for each dumpster garbage pick-up, the board reread the contract and determined that this charge is not in accordance with the original contract between the town and Hyder Corporation. As the board interprets this contract, dumpster users should be entitled to one free pick up per week, paying the \$3 fee for any additional pick-up.

Since September dumpster users have been required to pay the pick-up service charge, plus a dumpster rental fee of approximately \$21 if they did not own their dumpster.

After a Tuesday morning meeting with officials of Hyder Corporation, Mayor Tom Sobol reported the contractors refuse to provide one free dumpster pick-up per week. They suggested individuals leasing dumpsters use cans instead if they wish a free garbage pick-up.

Board members plan a workshop session with Fire, Police, Water and Street Department heads to review the January financial statement. These department heads will be responsible for their own budgets, according to a resolution passed in December.

The scheduled hearing for police department personnel was postponed at the request of the persons who had called for the hearing.

The closing date for bids on the golf course lot will be 5:30 p.m. March 8, rather March 1 as previously reported. Bids will be opened that night at the regular meeting beginning at 7:30.

Aldermen went into an executive session to review the applications submitted for the position of town manager.

Mayor Tom Sobol reported Tuesday that by 8 p.m. the board had narrowed down the 48 applicants to five. These applicants will be interviewed by the board next Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. All five are men. Most either are or have been town managers in other cities or states.

Next Monday, Feb. 22 at 5:30 p.m. the board will hold another special called open meeting. Items for discussion will be the golf course and whether to allocate funds for a recreation director.

Planning board

Draft of sign ordinance read

by Ernest F. Schmidt

The Planning Board of Black Mountain met Feb. 9th at Town Hall. Members present were Chairman Travis Childs, Wendell Begley, Secretary, Naomi Brigman, Richard Capps, Walter Hall, Lillian Roberts and George Venturella.

Twenty-five very interested citizens were also present to listen and participate in the three-hour discussion of the draft reading of proposed regulations to control public signs in the town of Black Mountain.

First on the agenda was a showing by Venturella of color slides depicting a wide variety of signs in our area and in California. Clearly shown, especially in the western slides, were the many ways signs could either improve or debase a city or a neighborhood. Tony Caudle, a regional planner from the Land of The Sky Regional Council, read the 13-page draft document of "Article X-Sign Regulations" to the Planning Board. Caudle, who has been working with the Board for five months, said the purpose of the proposed regulations was to regulate and control signs and their placement throughout Black Mountain. The regulations he said were designed

to enhance the health, safety and visual communication of the residents within the area and to preserve the natural beauty of the surrounding environment.

Caudle said the input of the many citizens at the meetings he had attended had been most helpful.

Chairman Travis Childs pointed out the proposed regulations were indeed restrictive, but that the Board was responding to the expressed feelings of a large number of the people of Black Mountain.

Caudle said he and Childs had made an informal survey of the Black Mountain business district and that many present signs are not only poorly positioned, but are in serious need of repair and maintenance.

Childs added that many existing signs are not in compliance with the present sign ordinance.

Copies of the proposed regulations may be seen at the Town Hall.

Next meeting of the Planning Board will be held at 7 p.m. Feb. 22 at the Town Hall. This will be a workshop session.

Final action on the ordinance by the Town Council is tentatively scheduled for late spring.

Free countries must stick together, Israeli tells students

by Cynthia Reimer

Israel has much to be proud of, the Consul General of Israel, Yehoshua Trigor, told Montreat-Anderson students Monday morning.

Israel has created a country in an atmosphere of war. She has absorbed people from all nations of the world, making them useful citizens.

Under these less than ideal conditions, Israel has created one of the 30 democratic countries in the world.

Trigor spoke to the Montreat students and faculty on the subject of peace and security. The small country of only three and one-half million citizens is geographically vulnerable, Trigor said, able to be destroyed by its neighbors "in a matter of hours."

Because of its size, Trigor said, Israel is not able to maintain a standing army "of any consequence" but does main-

tain an effective call-up system.

"Ninety percent of the problems we're facing in the Middle East," Trigor said, "is our neighbors are not willing to cooperate with us in our quest for peace."

Egypt, Trigor said, is the exception to this, although they "didn't do it out of the love of Israel, but because they had much to gain by peace with nothing to gain by farther warfare."

Israel, Trigor said, is expected to fight sophisticated Soviet-equipped forces on their borders, as well as modern British tanks owned by Jordan.

Answering a question from a student, Trigor said the controversial sale of AWACS missiles by the U.S. to Saudi Arabia is a frightening prospect for Israel.

The missiles would "make Israel completely transparent" to her enemy,

he said. And, they could be 200 miles away, deep over Saudi Arabian territory, before Israel could give chase.

Perhaps the most alarming aspect of the sale, he said, is the potential security problem. "Saudi Arabia is not internally a strong country," Trigor said. The possibility of an AWACS missile being hijacked and delivered to the Soviets for inspection is strong, he believes.

It is difficult for Israel and America to understand each other because of the vast differences in their countries, Trigor said. He told this story.

A Texas farmer visited an Israeli farm. The Israeli proudly showed the Texan his acre of vegetables and half acre of flowers. The Texan did not appear to be impressed.

The Israeli showed him his two acres out back not yet under irrigation, and

the Texan still showed no enthusiasm. "Aren't you impressed with my farm?" asked the Israeli finally.

"Back in Texas," explained the Texan, "I get in my Jeep in the morning and start driving, and in the evening I'm still on my farm."

"Yes," responded the Israeli sympathetically. "I too had such a car once, but I sold it."

Trigor urged democratic nations of the world, only 30 out of the 150 countries which are members of the United Nations, to "stick together and help each other."

"There is nothing more Israelis would like than peace," Trigor told the students. "When we finally achieve peace, that will be the greatest day of our lives."



Black Mountain Middle School sixth graders display their Jaycee award and the macrame candy canes that helped them win it.

Santa's helpers receive award

by Cynthia Reimer

When Mrs. Whitson's sixth grade class at the Swannanoa Middle School made and sold macrame candy canes to raise money for the Jaycee Christmas Cheer project, they weren't looking for a reward. They were just concerned with helping out some kids less fortunate than themselves.

They did get a reward, though, one

they're very proud of--a framed certificate from the Black Mountain-Swannanoa Jaycees, the 1982 Young Citizens Award.

Mrs. Zella Whitson had been teaching the class to make the candy canes as a classroom Christmas project when it occurred to her they might sell them. The students "jumped on the idea," she said, selling 88 of them to the community, their neighbors and fami-

lies. Top salesman was Alison Hilbert, who sold 13.

The students gave the \$88 they took in to the Jaycees, who used it to give 100 needy area children a Christmas party, gifts from Santa and a shopping trip to Roses.

The students will hang their certificate in their classroom to remind them that sometimes it is more rewarding to give than to receive.



Israeli Consul General Yehoshua Trigor.