

Black MOUNTAIN NEWS

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Sign issue debate to continue June 28

by Bill Anthony

The Black Mountain Board of Aldermen June 14 seemed on the verge of approving a request from Kentucky Fried Chicken for a business identification sign larger than the town's Planning Board prefers when William Fass, owner of the restaurant under construction on N.C. 9 near the I-40 interchange, withdrew his request.

Fass declared he wished his request be tabled until a "workshop" scheduled

between the Aldermen and Planners June 28. This came after some 45 minutes of discussion between the Aldermen with Fass who at the Board's agenda meeting last week insisted on a formal vote at the Board's action meeting this week.

Alderman Carl Bartlett had just moved the request be granted, with the observation: "The major industry of Black Mountain is tourism. These people are willing to invest money in our community." Steve King had seconded.

Earlier, Gay Fox had argued for an ordinance that would permit business signs at the interchange be different from those downtown.

Only Michael Begley had vocally opposed the proposed Kentucky Fried Chicken sign of 84 square feet with a 30 square foot message board, on a 20 foot pole. According to Begley, "If we permit Kentucky Fried Chicken to have a large sign, it would become the standard. We should take this opportunity to design what this community should look like."

The Planning Board recently approved square footage of free standing business signs at 50, with message boards at 25, and 25 feet tall. This proposal is part of a comprehensive zoning ordinance to come before the Aldermen at the workshop.

Alderman Doug Stafford, during the discussion with Fass, observed, "We want to get you open and still support the Planning Board."

Fass, who in the discussion had mentioned the possibility of legal action, expressed appreciation for the

Aldermen's comments and asked that the request be tabled, as it was, with Bartlett again making the motion and King the second.

In other business, the Aldermen resolved to issue \$500,000 notes, in compliance with a 1980 water bond referendum, toward financing the town's water project. The Aldermen also agreed not to stick landlords with unpaid water bills of previous tenants, but to cover the loss through a non-reimbursable \$20 fee for all new water hookups after July 1.

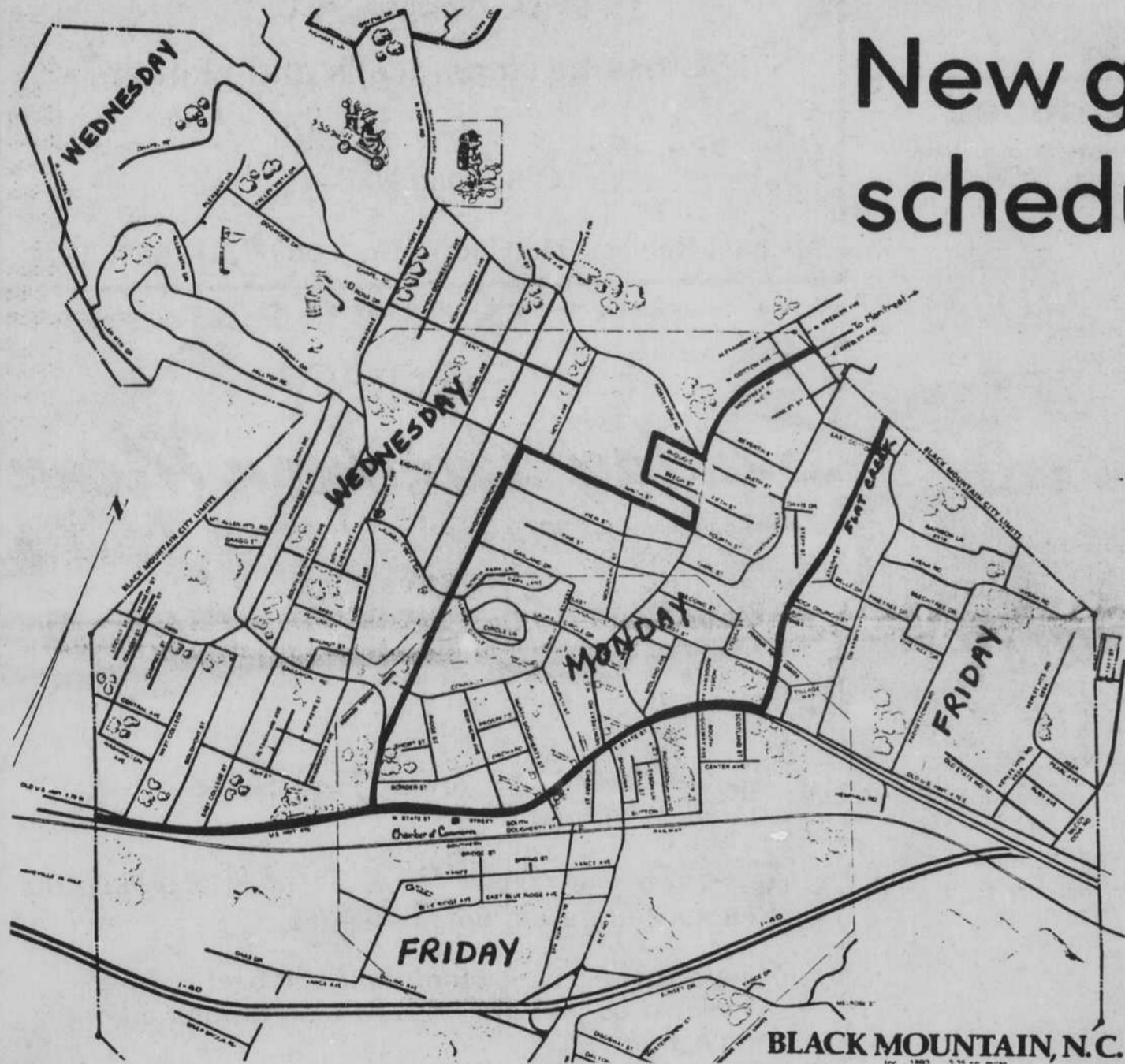
They also approved a resolution of intent to approve new building regulations and fees pending clarification whether a state law requires the seal of a registered architect or registered engineer on plans for building or remodeling structures over \$20,000, before permits could be issued.

They heard downtown merchant Rick Spaulding criticize the Board's procedures of announcing its meetings through notices posted at the Town Hall. Spaulding suggested they also be posted at Ingle's, the Black Mountain Drug Co., the Old Depot, the Post Office, and be offered to radio stations. He also asserted he was denied the opportunity to read the Planning Board's draft zoning ordinance.

In response, Mayor Tom Sobol declared the Town was meeting its legal requirements, but instructed Town Manager Al Richardson to investigate broader means of announcing meetings. And Planning Board member Joe Tyson, in the audience, acknowledged "there have been some problems in communications with some merchants." But, Tyson added, the draft ordinance sections have been in various stages of finality, hence the Planners' reluctance to distribute them.

The Aldermen appointed Dr. Tom Cannon to the Board of Adjustments. They also approved permitting Kenneth Burnette to operate a cab service, on completion of security formalities.

The Board of Aldermen was praised in a letter from Wayne M. Williams, director of the Western Carolina Center, for allowing use of the Town's pool for therapeutic purposes by the Center's residents. A letter of congratulations also was received from Bill White Jr., president of the Black Mountain-Swannanoa Chamber of Commerce, for "improvements" being made at the golf course. Alderman Bartlett reported that the golf course, previously some \$17,000 in the red, was now in the black due to a cash flow improvement related to the purchase of golf carts.



New garbage pick-up schedule set

Effective July 1, the following garbage pick-up schedule for the town of Black Mountain (inside the city limits), will be followed:

Monday--All residential pick-ups following the line north of State Street, east of Rhododendron Avenue, south of Ninth Street to Montreat Road, east of Montreat Road to the town limit line, and west of Flat Creek to the point that the creek meets State Street. The exception is that Beech Street and Iriquois will be included in the Monday pick-up.

Tuesday--Commercial pick-up only.
Wednesday--All residential pick-ups from the city limits north of State Street, west of Rhododendron to Ninth Street, North of Ninth Street to Montreat Road and west of Montreat Road (with the exception of Beech Street and Iriquois) to the town limits.

Thursday--Commercial pick-up only.
Friday--All residential pick-ups south of State Street (HWY 70) and east of Flat Creek following Creek to town limits line.

Garbage must be set out on road by 7 a.m. on the day specified. Any questions regarding the new pickup schedule can be directed to City Hall.

The Town of Black Mountain Street Department will also follow the same

schedule for brush, limbs, leaves, etc. It will no longer be necessary to contact City Hall to request pick-ups for these items.

Weather review

June 8--high 85, low 55 degrees.

June 9--high 87, low 54 degrees.

June 10--high 82, low 56; .39 inches rain.

June 11--high 80, low 53 degrees; .01 inches rain.

June 12--high 81, low 63 degrees; .02 inches rain.

June 13--high 76, low 54 degrees; .94 inches rain.

June 14--high 79, low 52 degrees; trace rain.

Total rainfall from Jan. 1-June 10 is 25.26 inches.

Weather information courtesy of WFGW radio station, Black Mountain.

Five amendments on June 29 ballot

by Cynthia Reimer

Democrats will enter the polls Tuesday, June 29, to vote in the Democratic primary election.

Republicans and non-partisans will join Democrats to vote in the same primary election for school board officials and for or against five constitutional amendments.

Proposed amendments to the Constitution include:

--an amendment making the terms of members of the General Assembly four years, beginning with members elected in 1982.

--an amendment authorizing the General Assembly to provide for temporary recall of retired Supreme Court justices or Court of Appeals judges to serve temporarily on either appellate court.

--an amendment giving the Supreme Court authority to review, when authorized by law, direct appeals from the N.C. Utilities Commission.

--an amendment permitting the General Assembly to grant appropriate powers to develop new and existing seaports and airports, including powers to finance and refinance seaports, airports and related facilities and improvements.

--an amendment permitting the General Assembly to authorize the state, or any state entity, to issue revenue bonds to finance the cost of acquiring, constructing and financing higher education facilities for nonprofit private corporations, regardless of religious relationships.

Candidates for the Board of Education are: Enka--Robert E. Greene, Jack

R. Hawkins, Terry Eugene Herren and George A. Patton; Erwin--Vernon E. Dover and Bruce Dean Pike; Reynolds--T.G. DeWeese and Jim Lewis.

Democratic candidates for the 11th Congressional District are James McClure Clarke and John Garfield Kleibor.

Candidates for judge in the Court of Appeals are James P. Crews, George W. Lennon, Bert M. Montague, Eugene H. Phillips, H. Horton Rountree, Sidney S. Eagles Jr., Zennie Lawrence Riggs, Paul Wright, E. Maurice Braswell and Marvin Schiller.

Vying for District Court judge in the 28th District are James O. Israel Jr. and Talmage Penland.

Candidates for the Senate in the 28th District are Zeb R. Sheppard, Robert S. Swain and Dennis Winner.

Running for the State House of Representatives are Dan M. Cathey, Marie W. Colton, Narvel J. Crawford Jr., Doris P. Giezantner, Gordon H. Greenwood and Martin L. Nesbitt.

Candidates for Buncombe County Sheriff are Tench F. Dula and Thomas H. Morrissey.

The polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. June 29.

In Swannanoa voting will take place at the fire station and the Swannanoa Middle School.

In Black Mountain, polling places are Owen High School, Black Mountain Middle School, Lake Tomahawk Clubhouse and Christmount.

Montreat voters are reminded that their polling place has been changed from the Assembly Inn to Christmount. Ridgecrest residents also vote at Christmount.

Wood textures, layers create landscapes

by Cynthia Reimer

Several years ago artist Wayne Wilhelm of North Fork Road got a load of scrap wood to use for kindling.

"No two pieces were the same," Wilhelm said. "I got intrigued with the textures."

From the scraps he constructed four large, intricate scenes, carving the figures, layering them into what he calls "a slice off the three-dimensional," coloring them lightly with pastels which let the grain of the wood dominate.

One of the scenes which hangs in the Wilhelm living room was done from a sketch he made 30 years ago of Perkins Cove at Ogunquit, Maine. Using the texture of the plywood for the swirl of the tide, Wilhelm recreated the spit of land on which lobstermen beach their boat, the fisherman cleans his catch and the gulls await the entrails.

Over the edge of the boat, a fisherman has tossed his jacket. In a wooden barrel, cod liver oil ferments.

Rocks are created from tree bark, bushes from lichen and driftwood is a branch Wilhelm spent hours in the woods searching for.

"Someone said, time is no object in a work of art," Wilhelm said when asked how long he spent on each. "I couldn't sell them. I wouldn't get 50 cents an hour."

Another wood pastel is a fanciful reproduction of the Wilhelm home and its setting. In the foreground, a bird

brings a worm to her children in a bird house.

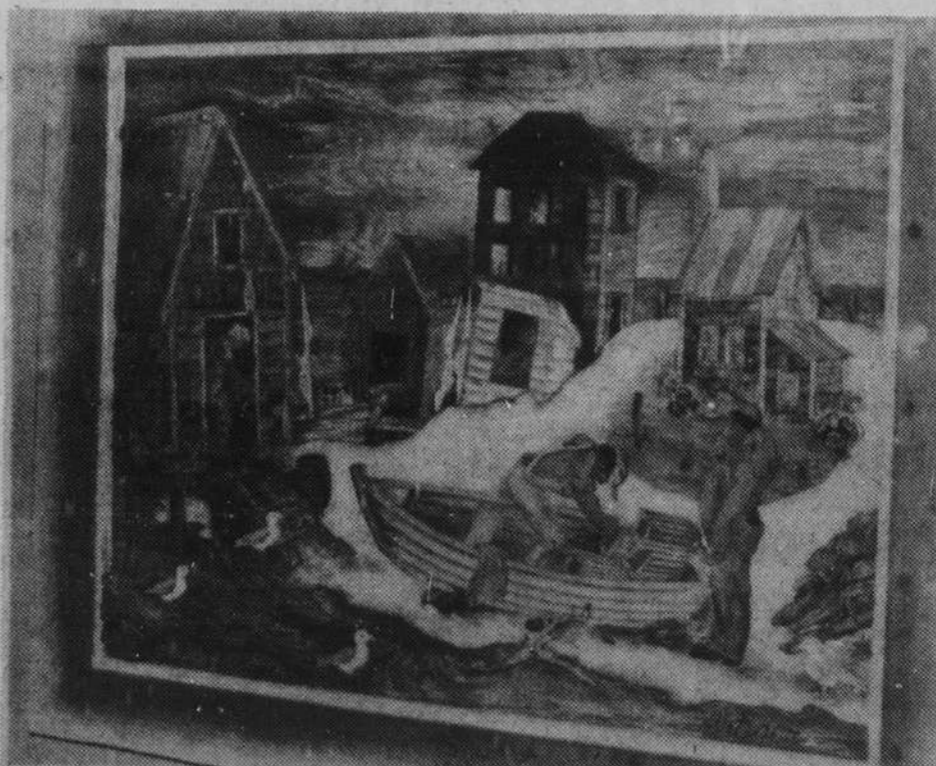
The bird house sits atop a cedar pole, which, according to Mrs. Wilhelm, held the real bird house in the yard until her husband appropriated it for the picture.

Wilhelm has designed four scenes from the wood scraps and says he will make no more. The work is "too demanding," he said. "I wake up at three o'clock in the morning thinking, I

have to get that right."

A cartoon, or diagram, is the first step in the process. This is then traced to the plywood background and must, he said, be accurate to one-sixteenth of an inch or the pieces will not fit together.

Next he cuts the shapes with a band-saw and carves each one with chisel and hammer, making and remaking the pieces until they fit and he is satisfied.



The work is then colored with pastels, a type of chalk. "The color of the wood underneath has to be taken into effect," Wilhelm said, in mixing the colors.

Last, he applies his signature--also in wood.

Wilhelm taught art in the New York City Schools, attending art school at night. He began showing his own paintings in one-man shows in the late 1920s, collecting reviews in the New York Times, Christian Science Monitor, New York Herald Tribune and other prestigious publications.

Desire to get their children out of the New York City schools brought them to Black Mountain, and Wilhelm and his wife retired from teaching. Here, after a 20 year lapse, Wilhelm began to take up brush, pen and chisel again.

Wilhelm's creations have spilled over into the yard, onto the brick walls of his home. The angel Gabriel, carved of weathered wood, trumpets into the wind on a weather vane. Other carvings and Bible verses in wood mingle with

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Perkins Cove, Ogunquit, Maine was the model for this work, carved from wood scraps and colored with pastels.