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Planning Board

Deals with dwelling density

The Black Mountain Planning Board Monday night unanimously agreed on multiple family dwellings' density in residential areas. The Planners' decision affecting the town's new zoning ordinance requires approval by the Board of Aldermen.

For the more settled R-10 areas, the Planning Board decided on a minimum of 15,000 square feet properties for three or more multiple units and an additional 3,500 square feet per unit in excess of four units.

In the less settled R-20 areas, the Board decided on a minimum of 20,000 square feet plus an additional 5,000 square feet per unit in excess of four units.

These numbers, according to acting Planning Board Chairman George Venturella, are "very important," and the Planners spent an hour making the decisions, along with lesser changes in the ordinance.

No new business was taken up.

Upon the recommendation of the Planning Board, the Aldermen appointed Mrs. Nancy Anderson to the Planning Board at their Feb. 14 meeting.

Mrs. Anderson resides in Black Mountain with her husband, Walter, and their twenty month old son, Michael.

Before the Andersons moved to Black Mountain three years ago, Mrs. Ander-

son worked as a director of day programs for mentally retarded adults. She has also worked for the youth services division of Henderson County as a counselor for young people. In that capacity she helped them find employment.

About a year ago, she started to go to Planning Board meetings. She felt that citizens needed to get more involved in community activities.

"My husband and I plan to make Black Mountain our permanent home. I am looking forward to serving on the Planning Board," Mrs. Anderson said.

She was unable to attend Monday evening's meeting as she is temporarily confined to bed on her doctor's orders.

Aldermen hold executive session

The Board of Aldermen met in a called session at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 28 in the Town Hall. Mayor Tom Sobol and Aldermen Bartlett, Fox, Stafford and King convened at the request of Kathy Wacaster who is the Director of the Community Development Office. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss personnel matters within that HUD office.

As soon as the meeting began, the group went into executive session upon a motion made by Gay Fox. The executive session lasted until 11:15 a.m. No action was taken.



Lloyd Whitson of Swannanoa stands beside his damaged Comet immediately after a collision with a second car at the intersection of Blue Ridge Road and Highway 70.

Two cars collide at U.S. 70 and Blue Ridge Rd.

A two car collision occurred at 8:25 a.m. at the intersection of Blue Ridge Road and Highway 70 on Tuesday, Feb. 22.

Mrs. Helen Jones Williams of Black Mountain was the driver of a 1977 Toyota Corolla. The other vehicle, a 1974 Comet, was driven by Lloyd Whitson of Swannanoa.

Steve Crisp, an auxiliary officer with the Black Mountain Police Department, arrived on the scene by 8:30 a.m. Trooper J.E. Baker of the N.C. Highway Patrol arrived at 8:42 a.m.

Mrs. Williams told the News that she was struck as she attempted to turn west onto Highway 70 from South Blue Ridge Road. According to the report

filed by Trooper Baker, Whitson was charged with "failure to stop for a red light."

No damage estimates were available. The statistical secretary at Troop G headquarters located on Tunnel Road told the News that the report indicated both parties were slightly injured.

Mumpower 'Tells it like it is' to teens

by Priscilla Hopkins

Carl Mumpower, MSW, spoke to students in the General Biology classes taught by Mrs. Brenda Stevenson at Owen High School on Friday, Feb. 25.

His topic was "Being a Teen-ager." He discussed what it is, what it's like, and how it affects one.

In his informal talk, he dealt with ten topics that are often problem areas for teen-agers: anorexia nervosa, drug and alcohol abuse, depression, suicide, schizophrenia and paranoia, temporary adjustment disorders, learning disorders, anxiety disorders, behavior problems, and homosexuality and sexual promiscuity.

He encouraged "give and take" with the students. He fielded questions such as "Why does someone try to act tough?" The answer was, "Perhaps he's really trying to hide something,

like how insecure he really is."

Mumpower holds a MSW and is the Director of The Asheville Counseling Service. That is a private mental health center. He is also a popular semi-monthly columnist for the News.

Mumpower has something special in common with the Owen students: he used to be one of them.

Mumpower is one of three speakers Mrs. Stevenson has scheduled for her classes. Jo Fisher of the Buncombe County Health Risk Reduction Department has spoken to them about "Smoking, Dipping and Chewing" tobacco and the detrimental effects it has on the body.

John Heatherly of the Buncombe County Crime Prevention office will speak on "Drugs" and their effects, laws concerning their uses and the dependency they cause.



Grogan Lee of Swannanoa is showing Montessori Method teacher Vicki Robertson what she can do by herself. Ms. Robertson is the director of the Warren Wilson Daycare facility. Photo by Sally Rudich.

Montessori Method helps children grow and bloom

Children enrolled in the Warren Wilson College Daycare Center on campus are benefitting from the techniques of center director, Vicki Robertson, who has been trained in the Montessori Method. The classroom, which serves twenty-six, two to five year-olds, is quickly filling up with the special equipment that makes up a Montessori learning environment.

"I'm especially fortunate to have the Warren Wilson students to work with me here in the center," Robertson said of the ten student workers who help with the children to fulfill the college's work requirement of 15 hours a week in exchange for room and board. "The students bring so many new angles and ideas to the center. This year we have six young men which is especially nice since daycare is usually considered a female occupation."

In addition to helping care for the children, the Warren Wilson students build some of the specialized equipment designed by Maria Montessori, and early twentieth century educator in Italy who first developed the "child-centered environment."

"Maria Montessori was one of the first professionals to really look at and work with children to find out what they were interested in. She found that the way children look at life demands certain things of the teacher," Robertson explained. "We must keep in mind that children work for work's sake, to learn what they can do in the world. And all of their play is really serious work in this respect."

Part of every day, the children gather in small groups, usually according to age, to work on special learning tasks using the Montessori equipment. Dressing frames teach children how to buckle, snap, tie, and button. Other materials teach size and spatial concepts, while others develop small motor coordination which is so necessary to writing later on.

Robertson stressed that, while the center has an open concept philosophy, where learning is centered on the individual needs of each child, she does not believe in an "anything goes" approach. "Our classroom has order," she said, as she pointed out how the children returned each piece of equipment to its special place after using it. "Children need structure to make sense out of the chaos of the world. We have rules because children can't do anything they want to; in a group environment, others must be considered."

Children at the center are encouraged to develop independence, a quality that Robertson believes every parent should encourage. "A two-year-old wants to do everything for himself. Show him how to put on his coat, and then let him do it himself. This builds self-esteem. It's disservice to the child to do everything for him."

The Warren Wilson Daycare Center is open every weekday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Currently, the center is full, but there is a waiting list and there will be openings in the summer and fall programs. For more information, contact Vicki Robertson at 298-2670.



Miele is new manager of Rose's

Miele

Mr. Joseph Miele is the newly appointed manager of the Rose's store located in the Ingle's Shopping Center in Black Mountain. He was transferred from the Rose's store in Fredericksburg, Va. Miele has been with the department store chain for the past five years.

Miele is married. Both he and his wife like the mountains and are happy to be locating in this community. They

are even thinking of retiring in eastern Tennessee or western North Carolina when that time comes. They have visited in Asheville in the past.

Miele is a native of West Berlin, N.J. Mrs. Miele comes from Douglas, Ga.

Mr. Sam Woolwine, the former manager of this store, has been transferred to the Rose's store in La Grange, Ga.



Carl Mumpower is seen discussing teen-age problems with members of Ms. Brenda Stevenson's General Biology classes at Owen High School.