

# Week Of Aging Held In Watauga County

Watauga County's observance of the statewide annual Week of Aging, during the week of September 16-21, was called a huge success by Public Welfare worker Mrs. R. H. Harmon, who was in charge of the week's itinerary.

"The weather was perfect, the programs and tours were entertaining, and everyone seemed to enjoy himself immensely," Mrs. Harmon reported.

The Week of Aging, sponsored by the Watauga County Public Welfare office in conjunction with the county's five rest

homes, is held each year for the purpose of seeing to it that elderly people all over the county remain in contact with local changes and local entertainments.

Highlights of the week for many elderly Wataugans included free rides on Tweetsie Railroad, a free theater party, a tour of the Daniel Boone Botanical Gardens, and a trip to Grandfather Mountain. Meetings of elderly citizens' organizations were held, and the Boone Women's Club and the Brotherhood of Perkinsville Church presented a songfest in which old favorites were the featured songs.

In addition, many other tours to various places of interest were conducted; many elderly people were transported by special request to cemeteries where they could view the graves of relatives; cook-out suppers were held at all rest homes; and personal visits by the dozen to the homes were often heralded by the gifts of baskets of fruit.

Inhabitants of the rest homes were also offered special rates on group pictures of themselves which were taken during the week by Mrs. Ruby Weston, of Weston Studios.

Mrs. Harmon should be given special credit for the week's success and popularity. She had planned for the event for months in advance and its actual taking place, and had worked out all the necessary arrangements beforehand. No effort was spared in making the week of September 16-21 a truly memorable one for all its participants.

Mrs. Harmon was lavish in her praise of the job which is being done by the rest homes of the county, and stated that much of the credit for the Week of Aging should also be given to the operators of these homes. "They are really homes—not just institutions," Mrs. Harmon said, "and they rank among the finest in the state. We should be proud of the services which they carry out so well."

# Sgt. Carlson Back Home

Sgt. and Tank Commander Lance D. Carlson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Carlson of Boone, returned home August 1 from three years of overseas duty with the U. S. Army. Stationed with the Heavy Armored Division at Hanau, Germany, Carlson covered 14 countries in his tour of duty, winning Berlin Occupation ribbons and a Good Conduct Medal in the process.

Carlson placed fifth among 567 men from British, French, and American tank divisions in a speed and accuracy contest involving firing of the heavy 120-mm. TK gun, for which he won a medal as First-Class Gunner. Carlson has also won medals as Sharpshooter with the .45-caliber pistol and Expert with the M-1 rifle.

Carlson has gone to Wilson to take a special course in handling of heavy agricultural equipment at the Wilson Industrial Center, where his father teaches. Following this course, he expects to spend the remainder of this year teaching in the eastern section of the state.

A former student at Appalachian State Teachers College, Carlson plans to return next summer to complete the quarter of work he lacks toward the completion of a degree in vocational agriculture.

Laws are passed to be enforced but some people seem to have forgotten that they—especially as it applies to them.



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# Oldest Members

Dr. J. D. Rankin, former president of Appalachian State Teachers College, and Mrs. Ben Council, longtime leader in community activities, last Sunday were awarded flowers and recognition as the oldest members of

the Boone Methodist Church. The ceremony was held in connection with Watauga County's observance of a special Week on Aging.—Flower's photo.

# Marriage Counselors Will Visit Watauga

By A. BLAKE BRINKERHOFF

"Bill and Doris are high school students who have been dating for almost a year. They met when Bill was in the eleventh grade and Doris in the tenth. Now he faces graduation in a matter of months, and though she has another year in high school, Doris and Bill plan to be married in June. The parents of Doris are happy that she is dating someone they respect, but Bill's are very troubled, particularly since they had hoped he would finish college before getting married."

Quite naturally Bill and Doris need a sympathetic ear, and this will be supplied when Dr. and Mrs. David R. Mace arrive in Watauga County on October 22-

23. Though Bill and Doris are fictitious, their problem is not. Many young people and parents in our county face similar difficulties in their relationships, and need trained counselors to help them.

Dr. Mace is currently executive director of the American Association of Marriage Counselors, and is widely read and heard as a foremost authority in the field of family relations.

While here Dr. and Mrs. Mace will speak to students in all high schools, and give special addresses to parents and all interested adults. More specific details on places and times will be forthcoming.

The conference is sponsored by a Special Planning Commit-

tee of which the Rev. J. Boyce Brooks, minister of First Baptist Church of Boone, is chairman.

# TALL GET-WELL CARD

Central Isle, N. Y.—Affectionately known as "Ma" to her senior English students, Miss Margaret Mannix got an unusual get-well card, while ill in the hospital.

"MA, GET WELL," was painted in gigantic letters on a 200-foot water tower. Nobody knows who painted the card and they aren't trying very hard to find out.

# Watauga Red Cross Chapter Joins In Celebrating 100th Anniversary

This year, a world-wide volunteer army of mercy observes its 100th anniversary. It was in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1863, that the Red Cross movement began.

In the past century, the Red Cross on a field of white has silenced guns in a multitude of battles. By international treaty, the Geneva Conventions, this neutral symbol shelters wounded and ill combatants, those caring for them, those taken prisoner, and those whose homelands have been occupied by enemy forces.

The Watauga Red Cross Chapter makes this statement:

"In peace, it is the universal symbol around which we rally to aid and comfort the victims of earthquakes, floods, storm and other natural disasters.

"Today there are some 90 Red Cross, Red Crescent (in Moslem countries) and Red Lion and Sun (in Iran) societies. They

have a total of more than 157,000,000 members. That is quite an army. It averages out to one Red Cross member for every 20 persons in the world.

"We belong to this nonpolitical, nonideological, nonsectarian army of mercy through our American Red Cross. Our local branch is the Watauga County Chapter. Although charged by Congress with specific responsibilities (to aid members of the armed forces and disaster victims), our Red Cross relies solely upon our volunteer support. Through it, we keep the

world-wide Red Cross strong with contributions of our money, time and talents.

"Our Chapter, during the Watauga Campaign of the United Fund last fall, raised the funds to carry out local, national and international Red Cross programs. And again, it is conducting a campaign to increase our understanding of and voluntary participation in Red Cross work.

"Let us take this opportunity to assure that, whenever or whatever it is needed, the Red Cross is 'always there . . . with your help.'"



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