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# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Seventy-Eighth Year of Continuous Publication

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Snow Given To Nearest Half Inch

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 1966

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Members of the Design and Location Committee, and others interested in entrance signs to Boone talk over a location situated on the property of Mayor Wade E. Brown. They are

(l-r): Mrs. Vivian Reynolds, Mrs. Constance Stallings, Herman W. Wilcox, Dr. Lee Reynolds, Mayor Brown and Fred McNeal. (Staff photo)

## “Daniel Boone Country” Is Theme Of New Entrance Signs

### Town Of 8,000?

Boone's growth in the decade of 1950-1960 has been considered remarkable, expanding from 2,975 in 1950 to 3,686 in 1960, according to census figures.

However, it took more than Boone's growth to offset the loss of the County's population, which embraces the municipalities of Boone and Blowing Rock. In 1950, there were 18,342 listed in Watauga; in 1960, only 17,529, for a loss of 813. Boone's gain in the decade was 713.

Some optimistic estimates as to the Town's current population go as high as 8,000, not counting the college's student population of some 4,000.

However, in July of 1964, Engineer Richard H. Moore of Asheboro—who has been hired to oversee Boone's water and sewer project—estimated the populations of three areas, which were officially annexed last July, to be: Perkinsville—1,500 acres north and east of Boone, 1,070 persons; Blowing Rock Road—670 acres roughly south and east of Town, 345 persons; Poplar Hill—400 acres plus, east and south on Highway 105, 385 persons.

Annexation added an estimated 1,800 persons to Boone's Population.

The Boone Entrance Sign Committee, in session at noon Thursday at the Daniel Boone Hotel, approved study material submitted by the design and location committee and authorized the design-location group to contract with Clyde F. Smith of Spruce Pine to construct four entrance signs to be mounted on native stone bases.

Smith had proposed that the signs be made of clear heart redwood, that lettering be cut into the surface of the boards and painted off-white or in a color scheme blending with stone used in the foundations.

Lettering, as approved, reads: Boone, North Carolina, Daniel Boone Country, Elev.—3333. The four lines of wording are proportional in size, with Boone being the largest.

Twenty persons, representing gardening, civic and historical organizations were on hand for a meeting Feb. 9, at which time the Boone Sign Committee was selected. Fourteen persons were able to attend Thursday's meeting. On hand for the first meeting of the design-location group (Mrs. Vivian Reynolds, David Spainhour, Jim Sawyer, Herman Wilcox, Fred McNeal and Rachel Rivers) were Smith and Ted Pease, who is with the Park Service.

Pease said redwood has been an excellent material for Parkway signs, and endorsed the use of Elk stone, which has many colorations, for the foundations.

Smith said each sign would cost \$85, and gave estimates with various lines of words left off. Originally, he said assembly of each sign, ready for installation in the bases would cost \$10 extra. Later he offered to assemble the signs without charging the additional \$10.

The committee agreed that a great portion of the cost will be in the rock foundations. Fin-



ORVILLE H. FOSTER

### Foster Files Again For Court Clerk

Orville H. Foster has filed as a candidate for the office of Clerk of Superior Court, on the Republican ticket subject to the May primary.

He is serving his fourth year as Clerk of Court. He is married, has two children and resides in Vilas.

### Many Fires Reported In Month

Several hundreds of dollars property loss was incurred in fires in Boone and Watauga County in a four-week period.

Volunteer Fireman Phil Vance reported that \$3,500 damage was done to three pianos being hauled in a pickup which caught fire in Vilas on Feb. 14. On Feb. 22, \$150 to \$200 damage was done to the old Agriculture Building, now vacant, which stands behind the former Appalachian High School.

Minor damage was done to the home of Nero Anderson in Junaluska Heights on March 9 and a grass fire on the property of O. K. Richardson at Bamboo was put out on March 11.

The Boone Fire Department also answered a call to Boyd Miller's chicken house in Deep Gap about 6 a. m. Friday morning. The blaze was controlled by the Deep Gap Department. Saturday afternoon, City Hall

has gone up," the Postmaster noted. "For example, 10 years ago revenue was \$1,851.40 compared with \$3,352.87 today." When Deep Gap Post Office was established in 1891, its receipts ran only about \$25 a year. Beshears said the Deep Gap Post Office is leased to the Post Office Department, thus

## Busy Day At Hospital Six Are Injured In Crash On 421 West

### 2-Car Collision Occurs Monday Near Vilas

Six persons were injured, some seriously in a crash on Highway 421, three miles west of Boone Monday.

Investigating Patrolman W. G. Teem said the wreck occurred about 11:15 a. m. when a 1959 Chevrolet pickup truck, owned and operated by Ted Reece Jr., 55, of Sugar Grove pulled into the path of a 1960 Cadillac driven by a Kingsport, Tenn., woman.

Teem said the truck was traveling west when it came up behind a car stopped to make a left turn. Reece was unable to stop, the Patrolman said, and swung left to avoid hitting the stopped automobile. The truck slammed head on into a 1960 Cadillac, owned and operated by Mrs. Betsy Edwards Exum, 44, of High Ridge Road, Kingsport.

Traveling with Reece were his wife, Velma, his 14-year-old son, Dale, and Mrs. Dora Dugger, Reece's mother-in-law, age 62, Teems said.

Teem listed Charlene Bartholomew, age 44, of No. 2, Longview Lane, Kingsport, as a passenger in Mrs. Exum's car.

As of Tuesday, two witnesses had not been interviewed and Patrolman Teem said a charge will be made upon completion of his investigation.

The Watauga Rescue Unit ambulance assisted Reins-Sturdivant in transporting the injured to Watauga Hospital.

A Hospital spokesman said Mrs. Exum suffered a fracture and lacerations and was transported to Kingsport for further treatment Monday afternoon. Mrs. Bartholomew sustained a fracture and contusions and was released after treatment.

Ted Reece was released after treatment of contusions; Mrs. Reece sustained contusions and was admitted to the Hospital; their son, Dale, suffered lacerations and abrasions and was released.

Mrs. Dugger was treated for contusion and abrasions and sent home.

### Emergency Cases Congest Hospital

Watauga Hospital was buzzing Monday between 11 a. m. and 3:30 p. m.

Mrs. Virginia Groce, administrator, said four fractures were set over the period, and all victims of the morning wreck were x-rayed, examined and treated.

Other emergency cases added to the rush, and Mrs. Groce said the full staff of nurses was

### Floyd Tester Given Bail In Fatal Shooting

Floyd Tester of Sugar Grove, who was last week arrested in connection with the shooting of William McKinley Presnell, was released Monday afternoon on \$10,000 bond on the authority of the solicitor.

Sheriff Dallas Cheek said a hearing has not yet been set.



Two Tennessee women were injured in this pickup owned by Ted Reece Jr. of Sugar Grove. (Staff photos)

## Holshouser Named N.C. GOP Chairman

James Holshouser, Watauga County Representative in the State Legislature, was elected Chairman of the State Republican party at the State Convention in Charlotte Saturday.

At 31, Holshouser may be the youngest man ever to head the G. O. P. in the State.

W. A. Armfield of Forsyth County received strong support from outgoing Chairman James Gardner of Rocky Mount, and from the most conservative elements of the party in Eastern Carolina, but the Watauga man won 1,634 to 1,339, with the support of western delegations and a large segment of the Piedmont.

### Minority Leader

Chairman Holshouser, a son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Holshouser of Boone, graduated from Appalachian High School in 1952 and received a BS degree in history at Davidson College in 1956. He got his law degree at the University of North Carolina in 1960, and entered law practice in Boone with his father, a former District Attorney for the Middle Federal district of North Carolina.

In 1965 during his second term in the House, he was elected minority leader. He is a member of the Boone Presbyterian Church, and the Boone Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Holshouser is married to the former Miss Patricia Holshouser, and they and their two-year-old daughter, Ginny, live on Westbrook St. in Boone.

Other officers were: vice-chairman, Mrs. A. E. Ver-

byla of Lenoir; secretary, Dorothy Presser of Mecklenburg; assistant secretary, James Johnson of Sampson; treasurer, Russell Barringer of Durham, and general counsel, Ken Thomas of Hickory.

Congressman H. H. (Bo) Callaway of west-central Georgia's 3rd District was the keynote speaker for the convention.

Callaway said the U. S. was in great danger today because "its philosophy and basic values seem to be slipping away more this year than in any other."

He cited as danger signals a rising crime rate, a vague policy on Southeast Asia, and inflation.

"There is a whole new attitude that the world owes us a living . . . that those who produce must support those who don't produce."

He accused the Johnson administration of pulling budget-

ing tricks—"trying to prove we're solvent when we are not."

Callaway said he supported the U. S. position in South Vietnam, but criticized what he termed a lack of support for the fighting men there.

(Continued on page six)



JAMES HOLSHOUSER

## Weed Growers Retain Program

The following tabulation shows the results of the burley acreage - poundage referendum held on March 10 by communities in Watauga County. The first figure in each case is for, the second against:

Beaver Dam—24, 202; Brushy Fork—41, 46; Cove Creek—135, 107; Laurel Creek—47, 106; Meat Camp—85, 16; New River—34, 8; North Fork—23, 14; Shawneehaw—40, 5; Stony Fork—17, 0; Watauga—39, 43; Absentee Ballots—11, 7; Challenged Ballots—32, 5.

Totals are: 538 for; 559 against.

The present acreage program will remain in effect since the referendum did not carry by the required majority for the entire burley belt. Notices have already been mailed to farmers showing a 15 per cent decrease in allotments for all farms except those protected by the minimum provisions.

Farmers having questions about their allotments for 1966 should contact the Watauga County ASCS Office.

## Deep Gap Post Office To Be Dedicated Next Sunday

The new Post Office at Deep Gap will be dedicated at 3 p. m. on March 20, with ceremonies beginning at Parkway School and proceeding later to the new facility. Guest speakers include Congressman James E. Broyhill, O. H. Martin, Deputy Regional Director, and Mayor Wade E. Brown of Boone.

Postmaster W. F. Beshears explained that the new quarters is part of the Post Office Department's lease construction program under which investment financing is used to obtain needed facilities that remain under private ownership, pay local taxes and are leased to the Federal Government. "Mail business in the area

has gone up," the Postmaster noted. "For example, 10 years ago revenue was \$1,851.40 compared with \$3,352.87 today." When Deep Gap Post Office was established in 1891, its receipts ran only about \$25 a year. Beshears said the Deep Gap Post Office is leased to the Post Office Department, thus

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## Dimes Drive Ends; \$2,602 Contributed

The 1966 March of Dimes drive in Watauga is being brought to a close and is considered to be the most successful since the days of polio.

An increase of \$669.11 over the 1965 campaign was noted. This increase is contributed to public education, George C. Thomas, chairman, stated.

An audit of the 1966 March of Dimes shows the total of \$2,602.50 thus far with more mailers expected. There is approximately \$58 from schools to be received by the chairman, which will be added to the total thus far.

Thomas stated that there had been splendid co-operation with all who were called upon to help in this year's campaign and that the people of Watauga County were due hearty thanks for their generous response to the call to help.

He also commented that thanks is due a number of people who not only gave of their money, but gave freely of their time to help make this campaign a success.