

Hospital Climaxes Ten Years Of Civic Effort

The need for better hospital facilities for Watauga County was recognized as early as 1956, when a survey was begun to see if the existing hospital could be altered to meet local needs.

Now, 10 years later, a new hospital is being prepared for occupancy and soon will be ministering to the sick.

Intensive study revealed additions to the hospital facing Blowing Rock Road would not be feasible, thus officials called on the N. C. Medical Care Commission for advice.

First plans called for a 100-bed institution. Several building sites were studied before the Deerfield Road location was selected. The Commission, and

the Duke Foundation — sources of money, as well as much-needed advice — approved the site.

Holloway-Reeves of Raleigh were chosen architects on the basis of recommendations and their long experience in hospital designing.

As to finance, in 1963, County Commissioners James Lyons,

S. Bynum Greene and John F. Greene authorized a bond issue election for the voters. The Hill-Burton Act would furnish 55 per cent of the cost, funds to be administered by the N. C. Medical Care Commission. The Duke Endowment, and others, would also furnish funds.

Voters passed the bond issue, but because of limitations the

County is allowed by law to make, the 100-bed plan was cut to 83 beds.

The new hospital, estimated to cost approximately \$1,800,000, was to be financed thus: \$500,000 by the County; \$890,000 by Hill-Burton funds; \$160,000 by the Duke Endowment; \$50,000 by the Reynolds Foundation; \$50,000 by Mrs. Gilbert

Reynolds Verney; and \$500 by the Dickerson Foundation of Mt. Holly. The rooms would be furnished by gifts of \$1,000 per room.

Additionally, the Economic Development Fund furnished \$50,000, to be administered by the Medical Care Commission.

Some of the equipment is being furnished by donation,

while other equipment from the old hospital will be used. This will be replaced by new equipment as funds become available. The hospital will operate under a board of trustees designated by the County Commissioners.

At the time, Trustees are Wade E. Brown, chairman; A. T. Adams, Robert M. Bum-baugh, Jack D. Cobb, John H.

Council, Stacy C. Eggers Jr., George C. Greene Jr., R. D. Hodges Jr., A. E. McCreary, Mrs. James B. Winkler; and a member of the Board of Commissioners, Glenn Hodges.

James C. Lyons was a Trustee, but was replaced by Hodges after the general election last fall. Jerry Coe resigned from the Board and his post has not been filled.

AWARD WINNER

In 1966 and 1967 the Democrat won 10 State Press Assn. awards for General Excellence, Excellence in Typography, Local News, Advertising, Columns and Photographs.

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER				
1967	Hi	Lo	Snow Prec.	'66 Hi Lo
Feb. 14	57	27		54 34
Feb. 15	60	41		45 42
Feb. 16	56	36	.02	49 38
Feb. 17	39	29	.25	48 22
Feb. 18	40	29	.61	38 22
Feb. 19	45	28		45 26
Feb. 20	43	30	.23	40 25

Snow given to nearest half-inch.

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Architect's drawing of a new library to be constructed on the ASTC campus.

\$4.5 Million Cut

\$10,408,368 Recommended For New College Buildings

The N. C. Advisory Budget Commission last week recommended that more than \$4.5 million be sliced from the "B" and "C" budget requests of Appalachian State Teachers College for the next two academic years.

The college had sought a total of \$14,942,882 for capital improvements and new-expanded programs during 1967-68 and 1968-69. The commission recommended \$10,408,368 and rejected requests for \$4,534,514.

Capital improvement requests recommended were: Four new residence halls, \$4,080,368 (self liquidating); addition to Rankin Science Building, \$2,640,000 (which includes \$880,000 in federal funds); housing for faculty and married students, \$2,000,000 (self-liquidating); electrical system expansion, \$300,000; campus development, \$300,000;

air conditioning for Duncan Hall offices, the new administration building and new library, \$231,000; central warehouse, \$104,000; Home Economics Building foods lab, \$16,000; steam plant elevator, \$50,000; tennis courts, \$40,000; and laundry expansion, \$100,000 (only if self-liquidating).

Rejected capital improvement requests included a \$1,672,000 classroom building to house the business and economics departments, \$500,000 for the acquisition of land, \$800,000 for renovation of the old Appalachian High School building, \$112,000 for the completion of Duncan Hall and \$37,000 for additional tennis courts.

In the "B" budget category, the college requested \$2,076,882 for new and expanded programs over the next two years. Only \$664,368 was recommended by the Commission.

A total of 36 new faculty positions, to cost \$338,466 per year, were requested. Only five, at a cost of \$47,140 per year, were recommended.

Academic salary increases of \$193,571 for 1967-68 and \$383,861 for 1968-69 were requested. Recommended were increases of \$193,571 for the

coming year and \$337,205 for the following year.

The Commission recommended \$7,656 for a new position of assistant to the president. The amount of \$12,000 had been requested.

The college sought \$19,709 for each of the two years to update the existing computer center. Only \$7,500 per year was recommended.

ASTC asked for \$8,000 in each of the two coming academic years to compensate the Town of Boone for sewage plant operations. The Commission recommended only \$4,000 per year.

Rejected by the Commission were the following: \$120,000 in 1967-68 and \$128,000 in 1968-

(continued on page three)

One Is Hurt In Accident On 321

Patrolman W. D. Teem investigated a wreck at 11:45 Saturday morning in which Mrs. Faye Cornell Greer was thrown from the vehicle in which she was a passenger and suffered head injuries.

Teem said a 1957 Dodge operated by Mabel Calloway Mast pulled out from the Greenway Trailer Park on Blowing Rock along the path of a 1966 Chevrolet pickup driven by James Council Greer of Route 2, Boone.

The pickup was traveling South on U. S. 221-321 and struck the left side of the car, he said.

Mrs. Greer was thrown out of the truck at impact and later transported to Watauga Hospital.

Mrs. Mast was charged with failure to yield right of way, Teem said.

Three members of the Watauga Rescue Squad provided the February program for the Chamber of Commerce membership at Gateway Restaurant, Oscar Danner Jr. began the program with a brief history of the Squad, a resume of its activities in 1966 and reported that fund-raising events within the Squad help maintain it.

Last year's total expenses were \$2,677.40. The unit re-

ceives some support from the United Fund.

Danner said the unit is available for calls 24 hours a day, and hopes to have two men on round-the-clock-duty sometime soon. The volunteer organization does not compete with ambulance services, but is designed for emergency missions.

The Rev. Gordon Noble told the group about some of the

equipment maintained by the Squad.

A 1961 station wagon, converted into an ambulance, contains a resuscitator, stretcher, arm and leg splints, 20 pound fire extinguisher, \$50 first aid kit, rubber body bag for special handling of the injured, blankets, handlights, limited weather gear, walkie-talkies, and citizens band radio among other aids.

Equipment maintained by the Squad.

A 1962 panel truck, dubbed the "crash" truck, Mr. Noble said, "can handle practically the same situation as an ambulance."

This one is outfitted with a large resuscitator, five 50-foot lengths of 5/8 inch nylon rope, asbestos suit, two block and tackles, a four-ton power jack, a stainless steel wrecking bar, hammers, shovels, sheets, a 48-inch pipe wrench, hand-

lights, an ax, 20-foot ladder, hacksaw, oxygen, walkie-talkies, serval kits, 12-ton jack, rain suits.

And the Squad has ordered a 1967 ambo-wagon, a customized vehicle with the most modern, up-to-date equipment, which will be available to the non-profit Squad at a good discount.

Mr. Noble said the 1955 panel truck donated by Zeb Kirk was sold three weeks ago to help

finance the new wagon.

Cost of present equipment is estimated between \$8,000 and \$10,000.

Squad member George Flowers spoke on the aids and devices individuals who come onto the scene of an accident can employ to save someone's life.

First, he said, be calm. This (continued on page three)

to help stifle the violations, bus drivers will be asked to take down license plate numbers of cars passing them when children are being picked up or unloaded and will turn in this information to the proper authorities.

The law says vehicles following and approaching a bus must come to a complete stop when the bus does, and may pass only when the bus is in motion and its stop sign and lights are not showing.

The Sheriff emphasizes that the law does not make allowance for slowly passing the school vehicles and noted many complaints are being leveled at drivers in Boone where the buses stop for children.

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\$1,800,000 Medical Center Watauga Hospital Slates Open House

Citizens Are Invited To Tour Facility

Open house will be held at the new Watauga County Hospital Sunday afternoon, and the Board of Trustees extend an invitation to the people of Watauga County to tour the structure between 2 and 5 o'clock.

Ground-breaking ceremonies were held in April, 1965, and construction of the \$1,800,000 medical center began the following June. Early this month, the building was accepted from the general contractor.

Sunday, visitors will see some of the latest equipment available, according to hospital spokesmen.

The rooms are private and semi-private, all with bathing facilities, and some are equipped with electrically-controlled beds. All rooms connect to a central communications system in the nurses' station on each floor.

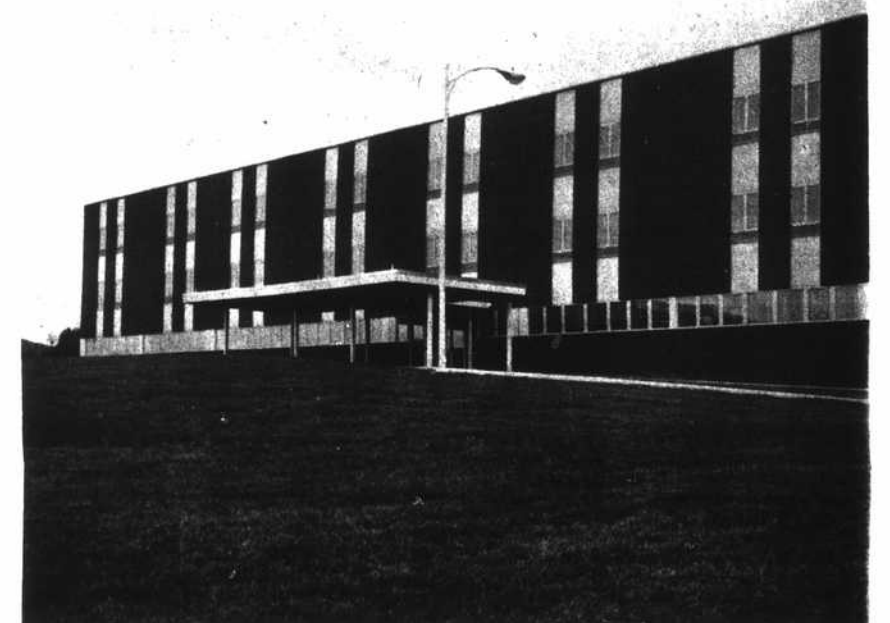
The first-floor lobby, finished in marble, features bronze plaques giving information about the hospital and staff at the time the building was being constructed. The 83-bed hospital was authorized by a County bond election in Sept. 1963, when voters also approved the consolidated high school, now in its second year of operation.

The main plaque states "The Watauga County Hospital was erected in 1966, 'To Heal The Sick.'" It lists the County Commissioners in office when construction began, the Board of Trustees and other pertinent information.

Hospital officials, doctors, staff and Red Cross volunteers will be on hand Sunday to greet visitors, according to Mrs. Virginia A. Groce, administrator.

Nearly all the rooms have been furnished by individuals or groups who gave at least \$1,000. Plaques are on order, which will be placed on doors of the rooms, showing who furnished the room and in whose memory or honor, Mrs. Groce said special thanks are due those who so generously helped with the furnishings.

She added the new facility will be occupied early in March if plans go as scheduled.



Hospital officials and staff will greet area residents at the new hospital on Deerfield Road Sunday. Flanking the newly-built edifice are two large parking

lots. Workers this week will complete their preparations for the big event. (Staff photo)

GOP Solons To Speak At Local Lincoln Day Dinner

Watauga County Republicans will hold a dinner meeting at Daniel Boone Inn Saturday night at 6:30 p. m. to commemorate the birthday of President Lin-

coln which was earlier this month.

County Chairman Clyde R. Greene will preside, and will be assisted in the program by Vice Chairman Mrs. Lura Greene, the women's organization and the Young Republicans' club.

Hon. James Johnson, State Representative of Cabarrus County, will be the principal speaker. He is an outstanding young attorney, and prior to his recent election to the General Assembly was judge of Domestic Relations Court. He was a Jaycee Young Man of the Year for 1965.

In addition to Rep. Johnson, State Sen. T. R. Bryan of Wilkes County is expected. Rep. Mack Isaacs of the local district, which includes Watauga County, will also take part in the program.

Hon. J. E. Holshouser Jr., State GOP Chairman, will in-

roduce the main speaker for the occasion, as well as speak briefly.

Those who have not yet obtained tickets may have a place reserved by calling either 264-3656 or 264-3927.

One Jailed, 1 In Hospital After Fracas

Sheriff Ward Carroll Monday took a badly injured man to Watauga Hospital after he was called to look into a fight at a Meat Saw mill.

The Sheriff said George E. Moffitt of Route 1, Watauga, Tenn., sustained a broken nose and other injuries in what was reported as a four-man fight. Moffitt was employed by the mill, owned, the Sheriff said, by a Mitchell County concern.

Carroll said he jailed an unidentified man and will charge Moffitt with being drunk and disorderly.

Rescue Squad Story Heard By Chamber

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