

## \$5,350,000 Spent For Food By Local People

# Retail Business In Watauga Sets Records In 1967

(Special to the Democrat)

NEW YORK, June 15—Incomes were up in Watauga County in the past year and the improvement was reflected in the volume of retail business that was done.

Sales of food, wearing apparel, furniture, household appliances and other items were at a record level.

As a result, according to the final tabulations, most retail stores had a top notch year.

Just how well they made out is detailed in a new report on consumer buying, released by the Standard Rate and Data Service. It shows how people in the

local area and in other parts of the country spent their money during the year.

In Watauga County, a large portion of it went for food. Approximately 20 cents out of every dollar spent in local retail stores was for such purchases.

As a consequence, bakeries, butcher shops, grocery stores, supermarkets and other food outlets in the area had a sales volume of \$5,350,000, a gain over the prior year's \$4,957,000.

This was solely for take-home food. Expenditures in restaurants and in other eating and drinking places are excluded.

If the amount that was expended in food stores were to be divided uniformly among the local population, it would be equivalent to \$1,171 per household.

This was more than was spent in that direction in most other parts of the South Atlantic States. The average was \$1,141 per household. In the State of North Carolina it was \$1,110.

Other retail stores in the local area also profited from the big consumer spending.

Those selling cars, motorcycles, boats and other automotive equipment and supplies had receipts totaling \$5,949,000, against the previous year's \$5,594,000.

Department stores and variety stores carrying general merchandise had a sales volume of \$1,492,000. Their 1966 total was \$1,296,000.

Specialty and apparel shops, including those selling hats, shoes, dresses and other articles of clothing, ended the year with \$1,736,000, as against the prior year's \$1,588,000.

Furniture and home furnishings stores accounted for \$2,273,000 compared with the former year's \$1,987,000.

### AWARD WINNER

In last 3 years Democrat has won 14 State Press Assn. awards. Eight of them are first place awards.

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Eightieth Year of Continuous Publication

BOONE WEATHER							
1968	Hi	Lo	Snow	Prec.	77	Hi	Lo
June 11	79	58				74	49
June 12	78	60	.49			76	50
June 13	72	56	.15			79	53
June 14	78	42				81	54
June 15	81	51				80	56
June 16	80	52				81	55
June 17	79	55			tr.	82	55

VOL. LXXX— NO. 51

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 1968

10 CENTS PER COPY

24 PAGES—3 SECTIONS

## Archie Pierce Named Acting WAMY Official

Archie Pierce of Ashe County has recently been named Acting County Co-ordinator for the WAMY Community Action program.

He succeeds Hugh Wire who resigned to return to his native California where he will be working with the Presbyterian Church in Los Angeles.

For the past two years, Pierce has worked with the program as community organizer. In addition to the many projects he has helped communities organize, he was instrumental in the development of the county housing co-operative.

A native of Ashe County, Pierce received his B.S. degree from N.C. State College and has taught school in Maryland and Kansas. He says he feels that the community action program has made a lot of progress in the three years that it has been functioning and that the potential for the program is very great. "People in general," he says, seem to be more and more interested in seeing the program make the progress that is so needed to help all our citizens achieve a more effective and productive life."

## Chambers Of Commerce To Host Highway Commission

The chambers of commerce of Boone, Blowing Rock and Lenoir will be host to the North Carolina Highway Commission Wednesday and Thursday, the 26th and 27th.

The Hon. Dan K. Moore, Governor of North Carolina, will be featured speaker at the Wednesday night banquet at the Green Park Hotel in Blowing Rock.

Assembling at the Hotel with Commission Chairman Joseph M. Hunt Jr. will be 14 commissioners and a total of 80 other Highway Department officials.

Wednesday evening at 7 a social hour will be held and at 8 the banquet will begin. Master of ceremonies will be Ty Boyd of Charlotte and the welcome will be given by Bill Williams, president of the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce. The Rev. Richard Holshouser will have the invocation.

Thursday morning at 10, the Commissioners will conduct their business meeting, after which they and their wives will be taken on a red carpet tour of the area. During the two-day event, each chamber of commerce will be represented by 15 members. Gov. and Mrs. Moore are to be entertained at Hound Ears Club while here.

The Blowing Rock Chamber has arranged a program of mountain music for the banquet.

## Courthouse, Ambulance Provided For

# Commissioners Set Tax Rate At \$1.23 As Budget Is OK'd

## Rate Increase Is Necessary, Officials Say

The Watauga County Commissioners Friday gave final approval to the 1968-69 budget estimate which was set at \$572,784 and which necessitates a tax levy of \$1.23 as against the present \$1.10 rate.

Of the amount requested from the Commissioners by the various agencies \$85,500 was cut.

Of the additional levy over one-half of the amount is imposed as a result of bonds sold for the construction of the new courthouse. A levy of 7 cents is required for this purpose. An additional 3 cents is necessary for repairs to county buildings and construction not covered by the bonds, while 5 cents is added to meet the obligation incurred by providing county ambulance service.

By cutting down on some other items, the school fund was increased from 25 cents to 30 cents.

Of the total budget which is published in the Democrat today, 34% is for debt service, 24% for school fund, 18% for health, welfare and social security and 24% for the operation of county affairs and county offices.

Final approval of the budget means, the Commissioners pointed out, that they cut 19 cents from departmental requests. The requests would have brought a levy of \$1.42 and the levy will actually be \$1.23.

## Boy Injured At Horse Show

With the evening performance of the Cove Creek Horse Show barely under way Saturday, the horse race collided head on with entries in the just-completed pony race.

David Aldridge, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Aldridge and grandson of the Lee Andersons of Villas, took a serious fall, stood almost upright, then fell again.

Until the Watauga Ambulance Service arrived, young Aldridge was in the care of a registered nurse who was in the crowd. Meanwhile, plans were made for the necessary destruction of a pony ridden by Ricky Isaacs. The pony's left rear leg was shattered by the impact, although the pony ridden by David Aldridge was not seriously hurt.

After treatment and examination, (Cont. on page 7, Sec. C)



FAMILIAR SCENE AS HORN IN THE WEST IS STAGED

# All Wataugans Are Invited To Attend Horn Opening At No Cost

Every citizen of Boone and Watauga County is being invited to attend—free of charge—the opening 1968 performance of Horn in the West on the night of Saturday, June 29.

The Board of Directors of the Southern Appalachian Historical Association, sponsor of the popular outdoor drama, announces that each and every resident of the county is cordially asked to view the opening production as guests of the management.

"We wish to urge and encourage everyone to take advantage of Watauga County Night at Horn in the West, for this production actually belongs to the people of this county," said drama managers Dick

Barkley, Lewis Gaston and Bob Snead.

"The drama depicts the history of this county, and there are just too many Watauga County citizens who have not seen a performance in several years," they added. "We want everyone to witness this outstanding production for their

own personal enjoyment and so that they may serve as supporters of the drama to the many visitors of the county during future years."

Tickets for admittance to the opening night performance may be picked up in various business establishments throughout Boone and the county's scatter-

ed communities between June 20 and 27, and at the Horn in the West office at the Daniel Boone Theater off Blowing Rock Road.

Children under 12 years of age must be accompanied by an adult to attend the special Watauga County Night performance.

## Col. Carmel Shook Is New Commander Jet Fighter Wing

MacDill AFB, Fla.—U. S. Air Force Colonel Carmel M. Shook, Chief of U. S. Strike Command's Joint Operations Division, departed MacDill AFB June 10 with his wife and three children to accept his new assignment at Nellis AFB, Las Vegas, Nevada, as Commander of the 474th Tactical Fighter Wing—the U. S. Air Force's first F-111 "swing-wing" tactical jet fighter unit.

The 49-year-old fighter pilot has served in tactical air operations assignments throughout most of his Air Force career which began January 1940 at Langley Field, Va. He earned his commission as a 2nd lieutenant in November 1942 through the Aviation Cadet Program.

In subsequent assignments, he served in the European Theater during World War II and flew 112 combat missions in the P-47 "Jug" aircraft.

Other highlights of his Air Force career include a tour in Korea as commander of an F-86 fighter squadron; and F-104 aircraft flying assignment as vice commander of the 479th Tactical Fighter Wing at George AFB, Calif., and a tactical flying tour in Southeast Asia prior to his assignment at U.S. Strike Command Headquarters in July 1966.

To date Colonel Shook has earned the Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, 19 awards of the Air Medal, and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

His family include his wife, Pat, and three children—Sandra, 17; Kathy, 15; and Bobby, 8.

Colonel Shook was born in (Continued on page two)



COL. CARMEL M. SHOOK

## Watauga YDC Meets Monday

The Watauga County Young Democrats Club will hold its regular meeting at the temporary Courthouse Monday evening, 7:30, June 24.

Eddie P. Norris, president, stated that there will be a speak-

er and that the club will make plans for the summer and fall. The possibility of Watauga County having the next State President of the YDC will be considered.

All members and interested persons are urged to attend.

## Graham And Broyhill To Be Speakers At Land Bank Meet



JAMES A. GRAHAM



CONGRESSMAN BROYHILL

James A. Graham, North Carolina's Commissioner of Agriculture, and Tenth District Rep. Broyhill will be special guests at the annual stockholders' meeting of the Federal Land Bank Association of Boone. John H. Hollar, Boone FLBA manager, says the program will begin at 11 a. m. Saturday, June 29, in the auditorium of the Appalachian Elementary School. A couple of years ago, the starting hour was moved forward to give stockholders an opportunity to see the Daniel Boone Wagon Train Parade beginning at 9:30 a. m.

More than 1,100 persons were (continued on page three)