

THE WAYNESVILLE MOUNTAINEER

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More People Than
Ever Are Reading
The Mountaineer

YEAR NO. 101 12 PAGES

TODAY'S SMILE

There's many a failure
Who'd quickly advance
If someone would give him
A kick in his can't's.



Blind Stage Christmas Party

Four Lions Club of Haywood County conducted their annual Christmas party for the visually handicapped of this area at the High School cafeteria Sunday afternoon from 2 until 4:30. Some 40 blind or near blind people of the county were present for the occasion together with a number of Lions and their families.

OLDEST AND YOUNGEST at the annual Lions Club Christmas party for the blind of Haywood County Sunday at Clyde School were two residents of the Clyde area—J. V. Leatherwood, 89½ and Betty Jean Cutshaw, 2½, being held by her mother. (Mountaineer Photo).

Haywood Wins Its First 'Superior' Milk Rating

For the first time in its history, Haywood County has received a superior rating as a milk shed area, enabling county producers to sell their milk anywhere they choose.

Holiday Store Hours In Force
Stores of this community will remain open all day Wednesday, it was announced by the Merchants Association today.

15 Named To Serve As Tax Listers
Fifteen tax listers, to serve in Haywood County in 1954 have been appointed by Mrs. Mildred Bryson, county tax collector and supervisor, it was announced today.

S. S. Helmick Dies At 71 After Illness
Shelley Simons Helmick, 71, well-known resident of Waynesville, died Thursday in the Haywood County hospital after a brief illness.

CDP To Plan Cage Program
The Haywood County CDP basketball program will be arranged at a meeting at 7:30 p.m. Monday in the commissioners' room at the courthouse; R. C. Sheffield, CDP chairman, and Steve Cassell, assistant county agent, announced today.

State Magazine Using Haywood Scene On Christmas Material
The State Magazine is using a Haywood winter scene, made by William Leinbach, former Mountaineer photographer, as an illustration of the Christmas card folder this year.

West Pigeon Plans Christmas Party Wednesday
West Pigeon community will have a Christmas program at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Bethel School lunchroom, R. C. Sheffield announced today.

Methodists Plan 'Fill The Church' On Next Sunday
Laymen of the First Methodist Church have launched a program for next Sunday, called "Fill The Church Sunday."

Chains Needed On Soco Gap
Crossing Soco Gap is unsafe without chains, it was reported Monday morning by the State Highway Patrol. About three inches of snow are covering ice from yesterday's freezing rain at the highest point on Soco and it is virtually impossible to gather traction without chains.

Community Tree Is Planned For December 23
The annual Community Christmas Tree, sponsored by the Waynesville Woman's Club for needy children, will be held at the Court House, December 23, at 3:30 p.m.

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New Milk Ordinance Is Passed

Fifteen changes are embodied in the Haywood County milk ordinance which was passed by the county Board of Health at its meeting last week.

Visitor Decides Coming Here For Winter After Reading This Paper
The Le Faine Hotel received a letter from Miami Friday asking for the rates as the writer was interested in spending the Christmas holidays in Waynesville. He went on to say that he had read the advertisement of the hotel in The Mountaineer and became interested in seeing Western North Carolina in the winter.

Mrs. McCrary Dies At 93; Funeral Tuesday
Mrs. Callie Lorina McClure died Sunday at the home of a son, W. Jennings McCrary of Clyde, Route 1. She was 93 years of age and spent her entire life in the Crabtree section of Haywood County.

Pigeon Valley Lions Receive Club Charter
A civic organization came into being in this area Thursday night when the Pigeon Valley Lions Club received its charter from the International headquarters.

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SEWER LINE ditches are shown here being dug in Allens Creek for the new community-wide sewer system in that area. Here a steam shovel of Harry Clay's, bites three-quarters of a yard of dirt at a time from the ditch which is averaging about five feet deep. Not too far away, a group of men are putting the pipe in the ditch. The town is putting part of the lines, and Allison Construction Company has a contract for installing 3,700 feet of the trunk lines. The shovel operator is Ward Cole, and the grade checker is R. D. Owen. (Mountaineer Photo).

Town Residents Complain About 'Black Snowfall'

So far this winter, snow has fallen in the Waynesville area only twice—on Thanksgiving and today. However, "black snow" has fallen on the town almost every day since cold weather arrived about the middle of October.

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Number Of Deserving Families In Need Of Help

Agencies geared to spread Christmas cheer during the season, began full-time operations over the weekend in the collection of funds for carrying on their work.

In the meantime, the Welfare Department was busy with details of a heavier case load than last year, according to Mrs. Sam Queen, superintendent of the department.

The Salvation Army plans to take care of about 40 families with Christmas baskets, and 625 children with Christmas tree treats, according to Major Cecil Brown. The traditional red kettle, with the Salvation Army lassie ringing the bell, was on the streets Saturday, and will be on duty from now to Christmas. The demand for cash this year is greater than last year, according to Major Brown.

The Lions Club set up their annual Dime Board on Main Street over the weekend and will continue operations until Christmas-eve.

Mrs. Queen, in listing a number of deserving families from the files of her department, said that due to the lack of sufficient staff the Welfare Department would be unable to deliver any baskets this year. "We will be happy to give complete information as to any family we have on file, including ages, and directions for reaching their home. We are sorry that circumstances make it impossible for us to make deliveries of baskets and boxes this year."

Any person or organization wanting to take one of the families to help this Christmas should contact Mrs. Queen at the Welfare Office, where full and complete information will be provided. Among those families on the current list, and thus far not assigned for assistance, includes these:

- Case 1—Father, mother, 3 children; Girl 5, twins; 5 months.
- Case 2—Widow and 3 children; Girl 12, girl 7, boy 6.
- Case 3—Father and mother, 5 children; Girl 13, girl 12, girl 10, girl 7, boy 8.
- Case 4—Father, mother, 3 children; Girl 7, boy 4, boy 2.
- Case 5—Father, mother, 5 children. (See Needy Families—Page 3)

Officers Continue Investigation Of Fatal Shooting

Officers continued their investigation of circumstances and events which lead to the fatal shooting of Woodrow Wilson Leatherwood, 36, last Tuesday at the Parks Mill, in Iron Duff.

Sheriff Fred Y. Campbell, together with Deputy June Setzer and Agent P. R. Kitchen of the S. B. I. worked on the case and reported "several additional pieces of evidence uncovered."

The officers gave no indication as to what the evidence was, since it was turned over to Solicitor Thad D. Bryson, Jr.

Officers held Joe Parks on a charge of murder in jail until last Wednesday night, when he was released under \$4,000 bond. Also held as a material witness was Mrs. Sue Parks, a daughter-in-law of Joe Parks. She was released on Thursday under a bond of \$1,000.

In continuing their investigation, the officers made a number of pictures of the scene of the fatal shooting, and also of the car owned by Leatherwood. One bullet went into the left door of the car, while the left front tire was penetrated by another bullet. Officers said that a .38 Colt pistol was used.

Highway Record For 1953 In Haywood (To Date)

Killed 4

Injured 50

(This information compiled from Records of State Highway Patrol.)

Weather
COLDER
Clearing windy and cold. Tuesday, generally fair with some snow. Waynesville temperature reported by the State Test

Max.	Min.	Rainfall
58	29	.45
50	22	...
53	37	.52
52	42	.09