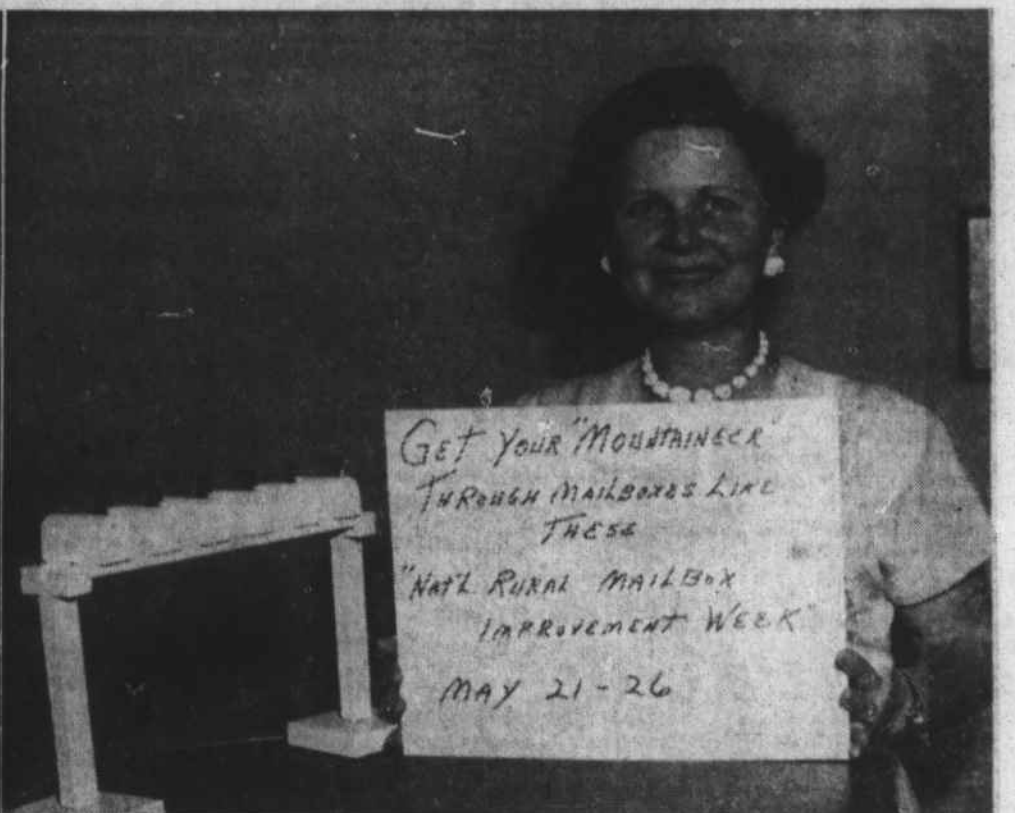




GROUPING OF MAILBOXES like this unit on the Ratcliffe Cove road is recommended in the area's observance of National Mailbox Improvement Week, which starts next Monday. Attractive looking boxes not only improve the looks of property, but also speed up mail service on the county's rural routes.



WEARY AND WORN, these mailboxes on Highway 276 need attention from their owners to conform with recommendations for rural boxes, whose improvement is now being promoted in a national campaign, starting next week. Maintaining attractive mail boxes has long been a major project of Haywood County CDP organizations.



A WORD TO THE WISE is offered by Mrs. Iris Cagle, Mountaineer circulation manager, for county residents who want their paper as soon as possible and in good condition. At left is a model grouping of mailboxes suggested by the U. S. Postoffice Department. The model was made by employees of the Waynesville postoffice. (Mountaineer Photos).

**HODGES
for
GOVERNOR**



VOTE
In the Democratic Primary
Saturday, May 26
for
LUTHER H. HODGES
Candidate for Governor
On TV — May 18 — 8:00 P.M. — Channel 13
On Statewide Radio Network —
May 25 — 7:15 P.M.
(Signed) Harold Makepeace

Rural Residents Urged To Improve Mail Boxes

The Waynesville postoffice will join in next week with the national observance of Mail Box Improvement Week when a concerted drive will be made to better rural mail service by the improvement of roadside boxes.

Postmaster Enos Boyd said: "Many boxes which are the highway billboards of the Postal Service have become unsightly with rust, unserviceable because of a leaky condition, broken doors or no lids, missing signals, no name, supports rotten or bent, weeds and grass grown around the supports and approaches, and rough ground, full of chuck holes."

Mr. Boyd also pointed out: "The rural and mounted delivery is a post office on wheels, and many times these services are taken for granted and not fully appreciated. Your carrier is trying to serve you promptly with as few mistakes as possible. Errors are sometimes caused by patrons' names being omitted on the mail box—especially when a substitute carrier is on vacation or sick leave. The substitute is not acquainted

with the route as well as the regular carrier.

"As a result of conditions which prevent good service at time, the Post Office Department has designated May 21-26 as Mail Box Improvement Week. Postmasters, supervisors, rural and mounted carriers have been directed to invite their patrons to repair and beautify their mail box equipment and approaches to help lend brightness to the scenic beauty of the highways, roads, and drives. This will also help your carrier to serve you better."

Mr. Boyd said rural carriers frequently find the following deficiencies and suggested corrective measures:

1. Box needs a red signal flag, has a broken, sprung or battered lid or none at all. Box is in a leaky condition. Box should be securely fastened to support.
2. Box needs to be painted with a good quality aluminum exterior paint. One pint will be sufficient to paint box and post two or three coats. (white enamel paint will adhere to metal also.) Your name in neat black letters about one inch in height should be on the side the carrier travels. A good coat of clear paint will hold the color and neat appearance of the box longer.
3. Box is too far from the road, too high, or too low. Boxes should be convenient for carrier to reach from the rim of the road. The proper height is about 44 inches from the ground to the bottom of the box. Box should be level and the post firmly planted. Approach to your box should be properly graded, graveled, and unobstructed.

Sub-Station For Vegetable Market Seen Practical For County Area By Cronkhite

A proposal for a sub-station produce market here was made by Phillip Cronkhite, manager of the Farmer's Market in Hendersonville.

The sub-station, Cronkhite said, would help hold buyers for the season, since it would be the means of a larger market and supply of fruits and vegetables.

The Hendersonville set-up, Cronkhite said, was just two years old, and is owned and operated by farmers and buyers, and the only one of its kind in the United States.

The Hendersonville auction, he pointed out, was the highest in the nation, and is growing fast. Last year about 115,000 packages were auctioned on the market, as compared with 35,000 the first year. There are from eight to 35 buyers on the market, and represent almost all the larger stores and chains, he pointed out.

Cronkhite said that "this is truly the garden spot of the vegetable world—it can't be beat. Many stores stress mountain-grown fruits and vegetables, and is only a matter of educating the farmers as to the requirements of the market to get the highest prices."

"A farmer with just 10 acres can make a decent living from fruits and vegetables by applying modern growing and packing methods," the specialist said.

Cronkhite attributed two factors for the growth of the Hendersonville market—quality merchandise and plenty of buyers.

He felt this would be the best growing season in three years. He said that vegetables from Cherokee, Haywood and adjacent areas were sold on the Hendersonville market.

Cronkhite said that apple growers were missing a big opportunity because there were no centralized packing places.

"This is an era of new packaging, and specialization in packaging. Merchandise properly packed demands top prices," he said.

The speaker said that there is opportunity to create a year-round market in this area for mountain-grown produce and fruits.

Virgil Holloway, county agent, said his office was working closely with Mr. Cronkhite in the market.

Naturalist Program Events Announced

The naturalist program for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park will feature a special 30th anniversary talk on Monday on "Our National Park Has a Birthday". Carlos Campbell of the Great Smoky Mountains Conservation Association will be the speaker. The event will be held at Greystone Playhouse, Gatlinburg, at 8:15 p.m.

The program for the remainder of the week is as follows:

- Tuesday, May 22, 5-mile hike to Giant Forest from Cades Cove Parking Area, starting at 9:30 a.m. Bring lunch.
- Wednesday, May 23, nature walk starting at 9 a.m. from Park Headquarters Building.
- Thursday, May 24, illustrated talk on "Mountain Meadows" at 8:15 p.m. at the Andy Huff House.
- Friday, May 25, 2 1/2-mile hike to Laurel Falls from Fighting Creek Gap, starting at 9 a.m.

Some boxes need to be relocated for the safety of the carrier.

Mr. Boyd also stated: "We ask the cooperation of our patrons to effect the close grouping of boxes, especially at or near crossroads, or at other places where a large number of boxes are located. A simple support consists of a shelf or board erected on posts at the proper height—the length of the board depending on the number of boxes to be mounted."

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