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# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

	High	Low	6 pm	prec.	1937—P.L.
June 10	80	57	73	.38	65 57
June 11	82	59	67	.16	70 55
June 12	81	61	78	.53	82 80
June 13	84	62	83	tr.	84 58
June 14	83	68	75	.79	79 55
June 15	77	62	73	.19	81 55
June 16	72	58	65	.38	85 57
Total rainfall for period—1.74 inches.					

VOLUME LXX—NO. 50

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1955

TWELVE PAGES—TWO SECTIONS

## Eight To Seek "Miss Watauga" Crown



LINDA WEY      BETSY RODGERS      MARY DEVERE KELLER      PATRICIA ANN DOWLING  
 LENAH MARY LAWRENCE      MOLLIE AGLE      JANE MORETZ      MARGARET KATHRYN HENSON

## Annual Jaycee Beauty Contest Will Be Held Saturday; Gay Parade Is Planned

The Miss Watauga County Beauty Contest, sponsored annually by the Junior Chamber of Commerce, will be held Saturday, June 21, at 8 o'clock in the elementary school auditorium.

A gay parade through the business district will start at 1:30 p. m., featuring the contestants, the Appalachian High School Band, city officials, other prominent local people, judges, and antique automobiles.

Baxter Hardy, ticket sale chairman, sees a complete sellout for the contest and suggests that those who haven't bought tickets get them at once from him, or from any other Jaycee.

The contestants are:  
 Linda Wey, sponsored by the Swofford's Tire Store.  
 Betsy Rodges, Northwestern Bank.  
 Mary Devere Keller, Farmers Hardware Co.  
 Patricia Ann Dowling, Greene Buick, Inc.  
 Lenah Mary Lawrence, International Resistance Co.  
 Mollie Agle, Moretz Paint Store.  
 Jane Moretz, Watauga Savings & Loan Association.  
 Margaret Kathryn Henson, Boone Tire and Bargain Store and Andrews Chevrolet Co., Inc.

The judges for the beauty contest are:  
 Mrs. Joan Melton Grubb, Miss North Carolina of 1957.  
 Mrs. Gail Stark, Miss Kansas of 1955.  
 Mrs. Harold Deal, Music Instructor.  
 Ralph Tugman, manager Radio Station WATA.  
 Robin Gatwood, Professor of Music, Lenoir Rhyne College.

### Bob Davis Car Gets Publicity

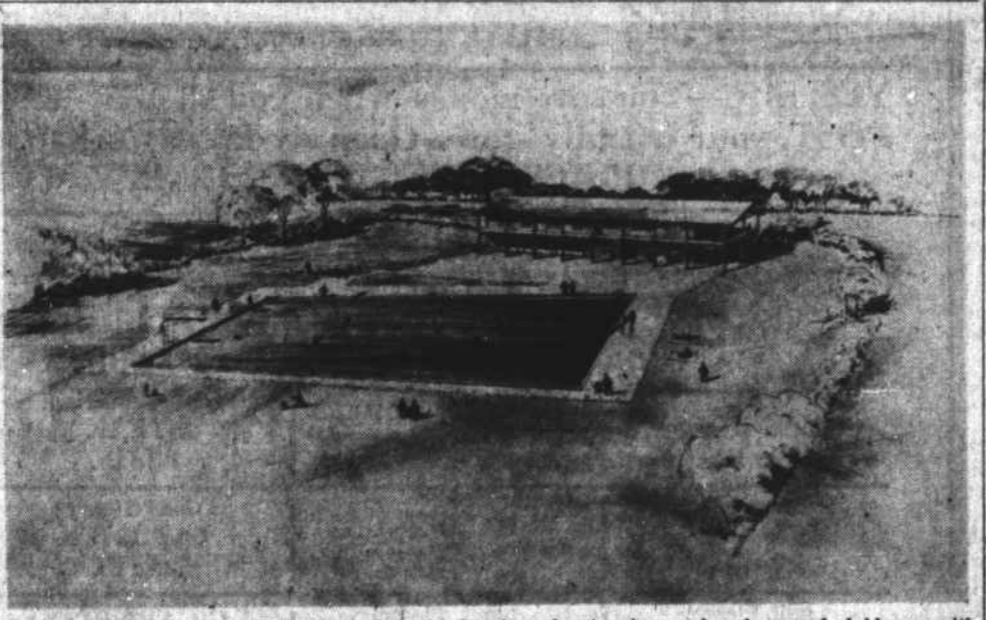
Bob Davis and his "Bob Davis Special" is the subject of a two-page feature in the current issue of the nationally circulated "Hot Rod Magazine." Also featured is Grandfather Mountain and the annual sportscar hillclimb up its 2 1/2-mile twisting course.

The feature was written by John Corey, a free-lance writer-photographer of Boone and Wilmington.

Davis, a Boone auto service manager, built his power-hopped roadster from junk parts. It has won the Grandfather climb for the past three summers, beating top factory-built racers from America and abroad.

Davis' wife is a Cove Creek school home economics teacher.

A small, easily operated computer announced.



DANIEL BOONE PARK SKETCH—Architect's drawing of swimming pool and rear of clubhouse with bath houses in basement which will form the nucleus of a proposed recreation and civic center, including children's playground, log cabin craft center, and other facilities on the city-owned Horn in the West property. A municipal election will be held July 15 when Boone voters will decide whether the Town of Boone will float a \$150,000 bond issue to finance the project.

## Heavy Rains Cause Loss Valuable Soil

Recent heavy rains have caused farmers in the Watauga Soil Conservation District to lose hundreds of tons of valuable topsoil.

Throughout the county, serious erosion damage can be seen on many upland fields, says H. J. Williams, soil conservation technician.

Topsoil that leaves a field is gone for many generations. It takes from 300 to 1200 years to build an inch of topsoil; yet, through improper land use, an inch of soil can be lost in only a very few years.

Farmers in the county have a very limited acreage of land suitable for cultivation. Many farmers find it necessary to work steep slopes to give them sufficient land for a decent living. These steep slopes must be cultivated in such a manner that they will not wash during heavy rains, if these fields are to remain productive for a long period of time. Only by following the very best conservation measures can the farmer keep them producing well.

Many fields with long slopes have been plowed from top to bottom, some have wide strips plowed, and others do not have the rows running on the level.

## Singing On Sunday

Linville.—Holy Mackerel! Joe Lee Hartley will skin us alive.

Singing on the Mountain is this Sunday—June 22.

That's right, June 22, Singing on the Mountain, Grandfather Mountain, Linville. Mark that date!

Two news stories have gone out stating that the famous Singing on the Mountain is next Sunday, it ain't. It is next Sunday, this Sunday, June 22. Founder and chairman Joe Lee Hartley is excited.

"For 34 years we've got along okay. Then some city slicker sends out stories with the wrong date!" he said.

Hartley, a man of his word, has "threatened" to shoot the next man who writes that Singing is not June 22. (Please get that date correctly, please.)

By the way, Edwin Gill, the fluent state treasurer, will be the featured speaker. And musicians include Arthur Smith, the Melody Masters, the Blue Ridge Quartet and others.

And before we sign off—get that date down, friends.

Singing on the Mountain—this Sunday, June 22.

## Vice-President Nixon To Visit Blowing Rock

### Executive To Speak At Roan, Banner Elk

Vice-President Richard M. Nixon will visit Watauga county and other points in this area for the first time this week end.

On Saturday June 21 Mr. Nixon will be the speaker at the 12th annual Rhododendron Festival held on top of Roan Mountain, following which he will speak at groundbreaking ceremonies for the 100-bed, \$1,600,000 Grace Hartley Memorial Hospital at Banner Elk, and then will attend a reception at Blowing Rock in his honor, given by J. Ed Brophy, Republican National Committeeman.

The Vice-President's schedule has been set up as follows:

Mr. Nixon's caravan is due to arrive on Roan Mountain from the Tri-Cities Airport at about noon Saturday. He will have lunch with the Roan Festival Committee and the Queen contestants from North Carolina and Tennessee, and will make his remarks at 1:30 p. m.

He will be introduced by Representative Charles Raper Jonas of Lincolnton. Hugh Morton, owner of Grandfather Mountain will be North Carolina master of ceremonies, and other addresses will be heard by Governor Frank Clement of Tennessee and Rep. Carroll B. Reece of Tennessee.

Various radio and television stations are making plans to carry the festival this year, the committee has announced.

Mr. Nixon will depart from Roan Mountain about 2:30 p. m. and will arrive in Bakersville at 3 p. m. where he will greet the people who gather to see him.

The Nixon caravan is due to arrive in Spruce Pine at 3:30 where the Vice-President, Representative Jonas, and other State and national leaders will be welcomed by officials of the Chamber of Commerce, various civic clubs and the school band.

The entourage will move on US 19E, and 221 to Linville, arriving there about 4:30, and from Linville they will travel around Grandfather Mountain to Blowing Rock for the reception, following a stop at Banner Elk for the hospital ceremonies.

It is predicted by the Roan Festival Committee, the chambers of commerce in the towns through which the caravan will pass, and area businessmen that the streets will be lined with people eager to see the Vice-President.

He is to return to Washington from the Hickory airport by the same military plane which will bring him to the mountains.



STONE MASONRY enhances beauty of structures on Parkway. This picture was taken at intersection of Scenic and Triplett Road, where overpass is being built.

## Band Members Asked To Parade

Attention of Appalachian High School Band members is called to the fact that they have been requested to assemble for a parade in connection with the Miss Watauga County contest Saturday.

J. Perry Watson, director, asks that all band members meet in the band room at 12 o'clock noon Saturday, dressed in white shirts and blue jeans.

## Lions Install Officers At Annual Meeting

A. E. Hamby, Jr., was installed as president of the Boone Lions Club in ceremonies conducted Tuesday night at the club's annual Ladies Night and installation of officers dinner meeting in the dining room of the Daniel Boone Hotel.

He succeeds Dr. J. H. Workman of Appalachian State Teachers College.

Also inducted into office for the club year beginning July 1 were H. W. Wilcox, first vice-president, succeeding Guy Hunt, retired; Dr. J. R. Melton, second vice-president, moving up from third; Conrad M. Yates, third vice-president; W. Ralph Tugman, secretary (re-elected); John B. Robinson, treasurer, succeeding J. H. Thomas; O. K. Richardson and V. G. Rollins, tail twisters, succeeding Frank M. Payne and the Rev. J. K. Parker, Jr.; and W. G. Hartzog, lion tamer, succeeding Dr. W. S. Hoffman.

New directors installed to serve for a two-year term were O. R. Sutton and J. H. Thomas, succeeding C. M. Yates and V. G. Rollins, whose terms expire at the end of June.

Guest speaker was Fred L. Barkley of Newton, immediate past district governor of District 31-B and an International Counsellor of Lions International, who also conducted the installation ceremonies.

Dr. William M. Matheson acted as toastmaster, and outgoing President J. H. Workman and Dr. R. H. Harmon, chairman of the awards committee, presented attendance and achievement awards to various members of the club.

The meeting was adjourned with the traditional Lions Toast.

## Chest Mobile X-Ray Unit To Give Free Service In Watauga County

A chest x-ray is no cure for tuberculosis, but it could save your life.

When the mobile x-ray unit comes to this community soon, offering free chest films, you are taking a chance with your life.

## Watauga Is Promoted At Memphis Meeting

W. Herman Anderson, assistant county agent, and Stanley A. Harris attended the Rural Development Program conference this week in Memphis, Tenn.

The conference was arranged by national directors of rural development activities. These include True D. Morse, undersecretary of agriculture; L. I. Jones, federal director of Extension Service; Dr. Harry Reed, federal rural development coordinator, with the primary purpose to encourage people of this nation to find their place in the rural development program, aimed at widening "the doors of opportunity — for the good our country and all our people."

Mr. Anderson and Mr. Harris were two of the four persons from North Carolina attending the meeting, which was also attended by representatives of governors, presidents, deans, and others of universities and colleges, civic and service organizations from more than 32 states and Puerto Rico.

Mr. Anderson put on an exhibit depicting what has been accomplished and what is being planned in the area of rural development in Watauga county. Watauga is one of four counties.

(Continued on page eight)

June 27 through July 12, Boone	Tuesday through Saturday	Hours—11:00 to 5:00
July 10 - 12, Blowing Rock	Tuesday through Saturday	Hours—11:00 to 5:00

## Charles Church Taken By Death

Final rites were conducted Saturday at the Valle Crucis Methodist Church for Charles A. Church, 70 years of age, who died early Thursday morning.

Services were conducted by the pastor of the church, Miss Geraldine Surratt, Rev. Ralph Surratt who is Methodist pastor at Mabel and Matney churches, and Rev. E. Dargan Butt, Episcopal minister. Burial was in the Mast cemetery, near the Joe C. Mast homestead.

Pallbearers were Henry Taylor, Frank Mast, Baxter Farthing, Edward Baird, Dexter Yates, and Carl Pressnell.

Surviving are his widow, Mary Maud Church, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Taylor, Mrs. Laura Church, two grandchildren, Milton and Charles Church; three sisters, Mrs. Mamie Billings and Mrs. Sue Davis of Johnson City, Tenn., and Mrs. Estelle McCoy of Kingsport, Tenn.; one brother, Alec Church of Roan Mountain, Tenn.

His only son, Milton Ralph, preceded him in death.

He was a life-long resident of Watauga County, and was a member of the Valle Crucis Methodist Church.

Cutting excess forage not only provides extra livestock feed, it also reduces the severity of attacks by plant diseases.

## Prof. Howell's Picture Given To Local School

The picture of Mr. Howell, principal, now hanging in the lobby of the Appalachian Elementary School was presented to the school by the eighth grade at the exercises held May 31.

Barbara Sherrill and Be Miller, speaking for their classmates, presented the gift as a token of appreciation for the many educational opportunities and personal help that Mr. Howell has provided throughout their elementary school years.

During the exercises in which sixty-four students received certificates, special awards for reading achievements and citizenship were made. Mrs. Fred Gragg representing the Laurel Book Club, presented books to Joe Lowman and Robert Cook as awards for their achievement in reading for the year.

Mr. Earl Petry, assistant principal, presented certificates for outstanding citizenship in the classroom and on the school grounds to Margaret Gragg, Barbara Sherrill, Johnny Taylor and Larry Gragg.

## C. E. Ulery Is Taken By Death

Mr. C. E. Ulery, a former summer resident of Boone, died of a heart attack near his home in Jacksonville, Fla., about 2:30 Monday afternoon.

Surviving are a son and daughter, Buddy and Elsie Marie Ulery.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete.