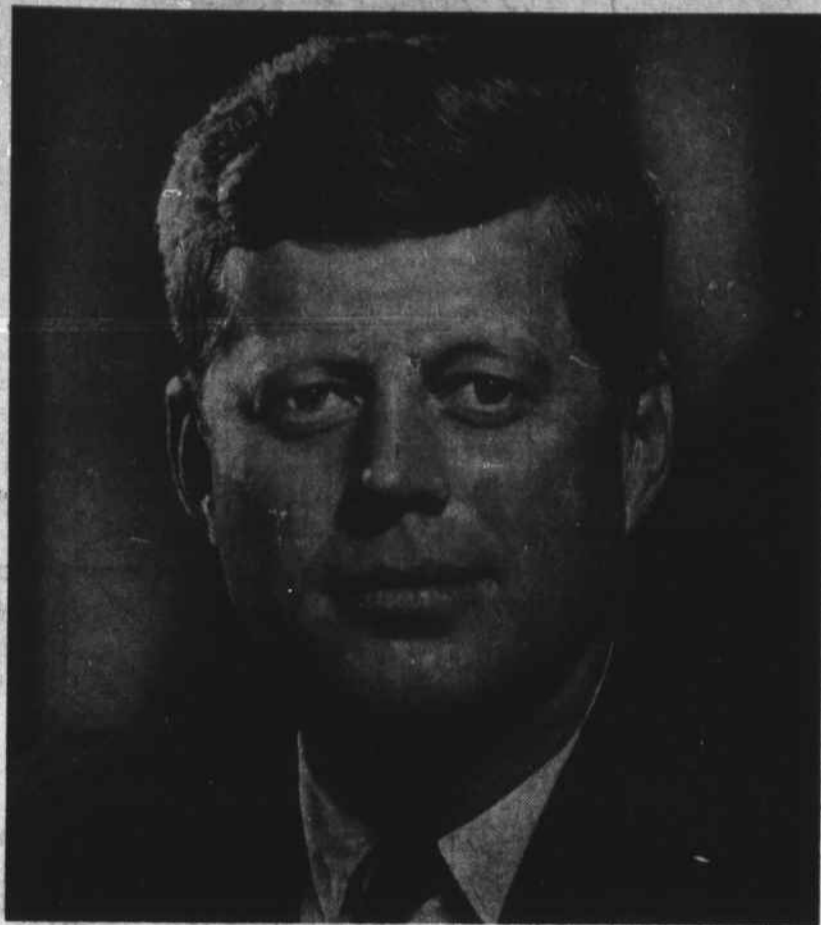


advertisers invariably use the columns of the Democrat. With its full paid circulation, intensely covering the local shopping area, it is the best advertising medium available.

BOONE WEATHER					
1963	Hi	Lo	prec.	'62 Hi	Lo
Nov. 19	60	47	.05	38	27
Nov. 20	47	30		44	34
Nov. 21	61	40	.06	57	33
Nov. 22	59	46		55	32
Nov. 23	58	47	.35	54	25
Nov. 24	52	30	.30	54	31
Nov. 25	47	20		47	30



**John Fitzgerald Kennedy
1917-1963**

AN EDITORIAL

By ROB RIVERS

The parade route was lined with friendly, cheering people as the President of the United States, The First Lady, Governor and Mrs. Connally rode along a Dallas street. Things appeared to be going well in the turbulent political tides which have ebbed and flowed in the Lone Star state. . . . But there was the crack of a rifle, the Chief Executive slumped and the nation was plunged into deep mourning.

finality, often comes as a grim pacifier, as a sort of common denominator and those who'd fought the President, tooth and nail, in and out of the Congress are now united in a common grief, the extent of which has perhaps never been equalled in the nation's harried history.

The mysterious curtain of death has brought an amazing degree of charity and of sadness, even to his former detractors. Some of the debatable policies which he espoused with youthful vigor and without regard to personal consequences, somehow don't seem to be so tremendously wrong now that heads are bared and bowed in the stillness and hush of his tragic leave-taking. So, in the dispensation of the Father of us all, it could well be that Mr. Kennedy's death could be the means of reuniting our nation more solidly than before in these days of our tragic sorrows, and of our common dangers.

President Kennedy was a good and a great man. He had matured in his position of power and of prestige and had met issues of monstrous magnitude with firm decisions and with courage case-hardened in the cauldrons of world conflict.

It is fitting that the President's body, smashed by an enemy of our country, is lying as this is written on the cataflaque which first held the body of Abraham Lincoln, who himself met death as an indirect results of some of the beliefs which President Kennedy espoused a hundred years later. While the Kennedy assassination does not tie in, so far as we know, with the racial situation, most of the hatred which the late President acquired was in his efforts to implement and expand the spirit of the Emancipation proclamation.

The sinews of a great nation are not weakened when watered by its tears, and out of a common grief should come a more purposeful perspective and a renewal of our spiritual and physical might. In our time of sorrowful reflection, we should gain strength from the unchanging purposes and high courage of our fallen President, and tranquility from Mrs. Kennedy who "kneled by the cataflaque which once held the body of Abraham Lincoln, kissed the flag which covered the coffin of her husband", and leading her children, Caroline and John-John, one with each hand, walked resolutely from the hushed rotunda of the capitol into the sunlight.

But, death in its silent, strange

"LIKE THEY SHOT ALL OF US"

Wataugans Grieved At Slaying Of President

Weed Sales Are Opened This Week

Tobacco sales in Boone opened Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock at the Mountain Burley Warehouse No. 1, with first reports listing sales prices as good.

All companies were represented at the auctions, with all expected buyers being present.

After a brief greeting by I. B. Wilson, Secretary of the County Commissioners, and a short devotional period by the Rev. E. F. Troutman, sales got immediately under way. One of the first five baskets which sold brought a price of 69 cents per pound.

Friday, sales move to Farmers Burley Warehouse, on Bristol Road, at 9 a. m., and Big Burley Warehouse, on the Highway 421 Bypass, will open at 10:30 a. m. Friday, at which time approximately 200,000 pounds of the leaf is expected to be auctioned off.

Beginning Monday, sales will be held each day at both Mountain Burley and Big Burley Warehouses.

Seal Letters Bringing Good Local Returns

Early returns in response to the 1963 Christmas Seal Letters are most encouraging according to the Seal Chairman, D. Grady Moretz, Jr., who has full confidence that there will be a great many more responses before the Christmas Seal Campaign ends.

Your contributions for the Christmas Seals will help the TB Association carry out its 1964 programs against Tuberculosis and other Respiratory Diseases. Last year 10,561 free Chest X-rays were provided here in our District as a measure of detection, which was in addition to our programs of education, treatment, patient service and research.

Mr. Moretz pointed out that it was a free choice of giving for the Christmas Seals by firms and individuals, as usual no personal solicitations would be made. "No one will press you, but I do urge your early and generous response to your Christmas Seal Letter, as 93% of the Christmas Seal money stays here in our own community and State," said Mr. Moretz.

Merchants Act To Pay Fees For Customers

Effective Thursday, November 25, the Boone Merchants Association Committee request from their members the following:

Anyone living outside the city limits who parks in Boone, find that they have overparked, and receive a ticket from the Police Department, should present the ticket to a member merchant from whom they have made or intend to make at least a three-dollar purchase. The merchant is requested to take the ticket and pay the fine to the city officials.

This rule will be in effect from Thanksgiving through December 24, 1963. The Committee further request all business people who own cars not to park their cars on King Street, instead leaving the parking space for their customers.



Workers in the process of putting up Boone's first decorative Christmas wreaths for this year, at the west end of King Street.

Yule Decorations Appear

United Fund Drive Will Start Monday

The Watauga County United Fund Drive for 1964 will begin Monday morning, December 2, according to United Fund chairman James P. Marsh of Boone.

Committees for the drive have already been named for this, Watauga's 18th year as part of the United Fund Appeal; and a budget of \$14,520.55 has been approved.

"We feel that within this budget every request will have been taken care of," Marsh said, referring to the 17 different funds which together make up the United Fund.

Some committees have already begun their work in the fund-raising drive, Marsh said. The Industry Committee is sponsoring a Payroll Deduction Plan for workers in county industries, using the slogan, "Give one hour a month to the United Fund."

There will be little house-to-house canvassing, Marsh pointed out, since most citizens will be contacted for donations at their

work or through organizations to which they belong.

Marsh urged, however, that those people contacted for donations should try to make an immediate decision regarding the amount they could give, since asking workers to come back later could possibly keep the maximum number of people from being contacted.

The following budget, prepared by the budget committee under the chairmanship of Clyde R. Greene, was officially adopted last Thursday at a noon meeting at the Daniel Boone Inn.

Youth Activities Group (including Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, and the 4-H Club Council)—\$3,450.
American Red Cross—\$4,292.
Empty Stocking Fund—\$450.
Emergency Relief Fund—\$1,500.

Watauga County Rescue Squad—\$600.
Watauga County Agricultural Workers Council—\$200.

Blind Work (sponsorship of Club)—\$600.

Watauga County's share of the State United Fund Package—\$778.55.

Crippled Children (for the benefit of about 35 youngsters)
(Continued on page two)

Horn Board To Meet Monday

The Horn in the West Board meeting scheduled for Monday was cancelled due to the death of the President, reported Herman W. Wilcox, Executive Vice-President of Horn in the West.

The meeting has been rescheduled for next Monday, December 2, at 12 noon at the Daniel Boone Hotel.

This is a most important meeting and it is hoped that every director will attend. Dr. and Mrs. I. G. Greer will be present.

Watauga's Oldest Citizen To Have 100th Birthday Sunday

Watauga County's oldest citizen, Mrs. Rhoda Teague Greer, will celebrate her hundredth birthday Saturday.

Mrs. Greer, who lives with her daughter, Mrs. Margie Michael, at 1801 Daniel Boone Drive, Perkinville, was born in Ashe County November 30, 1863. Married September 23, 1882, to Larkin Greer, she came to Watauga County with him in 1896. Mr. Greer died in 1940.

Mrs. Greer is still mentally alert, and still gets around the house and yard with very little assistance. "I have to sort of feel my way around, though," she says, because of failing eyesight.

Her poor vision has taken her chief pleasure, from her; but she derives great enjoyment from entertaining visitors and from traveling. At the age of
(Continued on page two)



MRS. RHODA TEAGUE GREER

Business Slows When News Of Death Comes

By CLARK COX
Democrat Staff Writer

Watauga County people took the news of President Kennedy's assassination much as it was taken throughout the country—with shocked disbelief at first, then with anger, finally with immense grief.

Citizens clustered, wearing stunned expressions, to hear radio or TV reports after having learned that President Kennedy had been shot. Occasion-

REVIEW OF TRAGIC NEWS ON PAGE 2, SECTION B

ally the announcer's voice was interrupted by exclamations from listeners, echoing emotions throughout the country: "Why?" . . . "I can't believe it" . . . "How could this happen in a civilized country?" . . . "It must have been a madman."

Business in Boone was practically at a standstill. Many people closed up shop and went home to await further news. Those who remained in stores and offices waited on their few customers in semi-shock, barely saying a word.

Phone calls poured into the radio station and the Democrat office, from stunned people who had just heard the news, hoping against hope that the reports had been wrong.

Phones all over town were tied up as the official news of the President's death was broadcast. One customer at a Boone shop asked to use the phone, dialed a number, and said, "Mother? He's dead now. They just announced it. Yes, mother."

A Democrat reporter, alone in the outer office, moved his car from the rear parking lot to the street, where he could hear radio reports and still keep one eye on the office. Workers all over town were doing the same thing, and soon sizeable crowds were gathered on the sidewalks around the open doors of automobiles.

Upon hearing of the Chief Executive's death, postmaster Ralph Beshears of Boone ordered that the American flag on the post office lawn be flown at half staff for a thirty day period of mourning. Similarly, all flags, both public and private, in the country were lowered to half staff.

The news reached county schools shortly before classes were to be over for the day. All classes came to an abrupt end as students, dazed and shocked, endeavored to find radios where they could hear reports of the tragedy.

Near-panic struck the workers in various factories in Watauga County. Work came almost to a halt, many women employees and a few men broke into tears, and some, unable to work, asked to be allowed to go home.

Panic was never far away as rumors spread rapidly that as many as five or six people were critically injured in the shooting, that the stock market had crashed, that Vice-President Johnson had been seriously wounded. Many voiced fears that Russia, its leaders taking advantage of the national shock and upset, would attempt to launch a bomb attack.

People walked the streets aimlessly, a few brushing tears from their eyes. The highways were crowded as many citizens took to their automobiles for
(Continued on page two)