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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Seventy-Seventh Year of Continuous Publication

BOONE WEATHER					
1964	Hi	Lo	Prec. '63	Hi	Lo
Dec. 8	41	11		44	30
Dec. 9	46	31		30	23
Dec. 10	38	21		34	21
Dec. 11	50	32	1.04	38	26
Dec. 12	56	41	.05	38	21
Dec. 13	58	30			
Dec. 14	46	23	tr.	37	19

VOLUME LXXVII—NO. 25

CONTENTS COPYRIGHTED 1964
RIVERS PRINTING CO. INC.

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1964

10 CENTS PER COPY

24 PAGES—3 SECTIONS



WHAT GOES HERE? Wataugans passed the joint school-hospital bond issue in the fall of 1963. The construction site, formerly the Greer property which is located on Deerfield Road, stands vacant, except for this sign. A great deal

of work has been put into planning the new hospital during the last several months. Ground-breaking is set for spring. (Rivers photo.)

"A Complicated Building"

Technical Job Of Planning New Hospital Is Going On

BY RACHEL RIVERS

When the staff of Watauga County Hospital moves into the hospital, to be constructed on Deerfield Road, even the food and linen supplies will be there.

It will be furnished down to the paper on the desks; all equipment will be in operating order. Upon arrival of staff and patients, the new hospital will house a functioning organization.

Yet ground has not been broken. The site selected for hospital construction still is pasture land. The question arises: "Whither our hospital?"

Whither Away

Since Wataugans voted yes for the \$500,000 hospital bond issue in the fall of 1963, work has not ceased. Staff members at Watauga Hospital and hospital board members have worked daily to organize the advisory material at hand and to put it to effective use toward hospital construction.

"A hospital is one of the most complicated buildings an architect can build," says Mrs. Jack Groce, hospital administrator. "There's a lot of difference in building a hospital and in building a standard structure."

Bob Bumbaugh, technical foreman at International Resistance Company and chairman of the building committee says it has taken seven months to work up the specifications. Preliminary plans were approved in May.

"Planning involves the co-operation and communication of the local Board of Trustees, the North Carolina Medical Care Commission and our architect," he said.

Bumbaugh listed the history of events connected with building a new hospital:

September, 1962 — Negotiations with Appalachian State Teachers College, the State Property Officer and the Watauga Hospital property committee, to sell the present hospital building to the state of North Carolina.

October, 1962 — Trustees of Watauga Hospital and the state property officer agreed to the sale of the hospital to ASTC for \$300,000.

September, 1963 — Bond issue for \$500,000 to build new hospital passed by qualified voters of Watauga County.

November 9, 1963 — First meeting with the North Carolina Medical Care Commission (Continued on page six)



STUART G. MORETZ

Quits Postal Service After Over 39 Years

Stuart G. Moretz, former Boone resident, will retire from the postal service December 30.

Mr. Moretz started work in the Railway Postal Service in March, 1925, as a substitute Railway Postal Clerk. His first four and a half years were spent on the Norfolk and Hamlet and Washington and Hamlet lines. He was then transferred to the Lynchburg and Durham RPO, where he served until June, 1935. He was then transferred to Washington and Charlotte RPO, where he was regular clerk until January, 1957, when he was promoted to the position of foreman. In 1962, he became general foreman, which position he still holds. His total postal service will be 39 years and 10 months.

Mr. Moretz, who was educated at Appalachian College, and his family have made their home in Alexandria, Va., for many years. After his retirement (Continued on page six)

Bah, Humbug! ! !

The outdoor Christmas lights at the Cline home on Edgewood Drive won't turn on.

J. C. Cline reports that when he flipped the switch Monday night and the large tree on the lawn remained dark, he went to investigate.

All the colored bulbs he'd so carefully draped around the tree had been stolen. "Scrooge" even took Cline's extension cord.

Development Group Meets Watauga Is Winner In Travel And Recreation

Timbered Ridge, Valle Crucis Given Awards

Watauga county won the \$100 first-place prize in the travel and recreation category at the annual meeting of the Northwest North Carolina Development Association in Raleigh last Thursday evening.

Among the activities which aided Watauga in getting the award which was accepted by Herman Wilcox, President of the Boone Chamber of Commerce were: the opening of a million and a half dollar recreation golf and ski club, the beginning of a camping-recreation facility near Grandfather Mountain, a 570-acre residential and recreational area, improvements to the Daniel Boone Theatre, 162 new motel units, and area promoting extending to Europe.

At the same time two communities in Watauga county gained distinction. In farming community division, Timbered Ridge received a \$75 award, while in the rural non-farm classification, Valle Crucis won a \$50 award.

Duncan Is Elected

Edwin Duncan, Jr., North-western Bank president, was elected president of the Development Association, succeeding Dr. W. H. Plemmons, of Boone, President of Appalachian College.

Plemmons, who will take over as board chairman of the association, praised the area's achievements in industry, agriculture and community development, but said there still is much to be done.

In a report distributed to the more than 800 at the 11th annual dinner at Gilvin Roth YMCA, the outgoing president said the Northwest must attract new industry, diversify farming, raise per capita income, promote tourism, improve educational opportunities and provide cultural advantages.

"We must seek better roads and better means of transportation," he said. "It profits us little to know how to provide service and produce goods if these goods and services remain land-locked and in isolation."

The new president lives near Sparta, his home town, and maintains an office at the Northwestern Bank in North Wilkesboro. His father, head of the Northwest association's industry division, is president of the bank chain.

Among the new directors named by the Association is Sam Dixon, Executive Vice-President of the First National Bank of Boone.

Postmaster: "Mail Now"

"It's too late to mail early, so please mail now," Postmaster Ralph Beshears said today. "The biggest mail explosion in history is upon us and we need the cooperation of everyone to make sure that the holiday mail is all delivered before Christmas," the Boone Postmaster said.

Mr. Beshears suggested the use of air mail and special delivery to guarantee pre-Christmas delivery, especially for out-of-town mail.

In all instances, the use of ZIP Code will be helpful. The codes generally mean that mail moves in a more direct route and is handled fewer times. Parcels with ZIPPED addresses may be delivered 24 hours (Continued on page six)



BOONE'S AMBASSADORS, the Appalachian High School Band, brought the sound of music to King Street Saturday as the annual

Christmas Parade, officially opening the Christmas season, moved through town. (Rivers photo.)

Tobacco Sales Near 3 Million Pound Mark

Babson Report Feature Of 31st

The Watauga Democrat will publish "Babson's Business and Financial Forecast for 1965" December 31.

We are calling this feature to your attention because 1965 will be a year of many changes.

This Babson Forecast will contain predictions covering such important topics as:

Business Volume, impact of Excise-Tax Cuts, Developing Profits Squeeze, War or Peace in The East, Britain's Plight, Worldwide Credit Problems, China on The Nuclear March, Farm-Price Prospects, Silver Coinage Crisis, and Inflation vs. Deflation.

Stores Will Be Open At Night

At the Dec. 8 luncheon meeting of the Boone Chamber of Commerce, A. E. McCreary, chairman of the Merchants Association Committee, said it is their recommendation that chain stores remain open until 9 p. m. nightly until Christmas.

Such stores will close on Christmas, and may reopen on Saturday. The banks have indicated they will be closed both Friday and Saturday.

The Association recommends the same procedure be followed for the celebration of the New Year.

Will Seek Winner Of Jaycee Service Award

The Boone Junior Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with National Jaycee Week, will be seeking a young man of this community to be the recipient of the 1964 Jaycee Distinguished Service Award.

The award will be presented at the Annual Awards Banquet on Jan. 17, 1965, which climaxes the observance of National Jaycee Week. The Distinguished Service Award is extended annually by

Tobacco market statistics on poundage sold and receipts theretofore have been released by Stanley A. Harris, sales supervisor.

Figures turned over to Harris by the Mountain Burley Warehouse Company and the Big Burley Warehouse for the week, Nov. 30-Dec. 4 show 1,465,067 pounds of tobacco sold in both houses.

This poundage produced \$862,269.06 in sales. For the week, Dec. 7-11, the market turned over 1,450,682 pounds at \$831,507.88.

The per-hundred-pound average, Nov. 30-Dec. 4, was \$58.85; for Dec. 7-11, it was \$57.32. To date total poundage sold is 2,915,749 lbs.; total cash receipts are \$1,693,776.94; and the average per hundred pounds is \$58.40.

Breakdown
At Mountain Burley, Nov. 30-Dec. 4: Monday — 213,435 pounds, \$131,435.22; Tuesday — 213,316 pounds, \$128,508.22; Wednesday — 186,682 pounds, \$112,070.40; Thursday — 204,484 pounds, \$114,213.72; Friday — 189,098 pounds, \$109,828.40.

Mountain Burley totals: 1,007,015 pounds; \$596,055.96.

At Big Burley, Nov. 30-Dec. 4: Monday — 78,792 pounds, \$48,352.51; Tuesday — 85,544 pounds, \$52,761.76; Wednesday — 107,040 pounds, \$62,199.72; Thursday — 93,288 pounds, \$50,695.34; Friday — 93,388 pounds, \$52,203.77.

Big Burley totals: 458,052 pounds; \$266,213.10.

At Mountain Burley, Dec. 7-11: Monday — 207,144 pounds, \$125,651.51; Tuesday — 214,118 pounds, \$124,920.08; Wednesday — 206,262 pounds, \$116,837.62; Thursday — 200,996 pounds, \$110,004.46; Friday — 192,142 pounds, \$110,627.50.

Mountain Burley totals: 1, (Continued on page six)

Democrat Will Publish Early For Christmas

The Democrat will come from the press next Tuesday morning, rather than on Wednesday, as is usual, in order that members of the staff may have some time at their homes for Christmas.

Plans are to close the Democrat office at the end of business hours Wednesday, to remain closed Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

This is the only time in the year when all the Democrat family are away from the place at one time. The cooperation of the contributors and advertisers is asked in getting copy and ads in during the current week so that the early edition may come out on schedule.

Christmas greeting ads will be featured in next week's edition. Copy and art will be supplied for these messages, when desired. If a solicitor doesn't reach you by the end of the week call 264-3612 or 264-8527.

Mrs. T. B. Moore Funeral Held

Mrs. Martha Blair Moore, 90, of Boone, died last Wednesday at a Lenoir hospital.

Mrs. Moore was born in Caldwell County, but had spent most of her life in Boone, where her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William T. Blair, operated the Blair Hotel for many years. She was the widow of Thomas B. Moore, Statesville native, and a pioneer Boone printer.

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon at the Boone Methodist Church by the pastor, Rev. Richard Crowder. Burial was in the community cemetery.

Surviving are a son, Major Thomas B. Moore of the U. S. Army at Fort Lee, Va.; five grandchildren; and two sisters, Mrs. G. M. Suddreth of Blowing Rock and Mrs. Blanche Williams of Jonesboro, Tenn.

County Offices To Observe Holidays

All the County offices will close for the Christmas holidays at Thursday noon, December 24 and reopen Monday, December 28.

Used Clothing Sought For Co. Children

Clothing is desperately needed for Watauga County's pre-school and elementary school children.

Mrs. Thomas Tedford, chairman of the "Clothing Closet" of the Junior Woman's Club, says that coats and sweaters are especially needed.

As chairman of her club's project, Mrs. Tedford is assisting local organizations by contacting them for lists of items urgently needed. Presently, she says, a play pen is needed for a small child who sleeps on the floor of its trailer home.

In the past two months, she has collected more than 500 items of clothing for children. Mrs. Tedford asks that persons with clothes to donate contact her at 264-2625.

WAMY Project Will Bring Christmas Jobs To 60 Youths

WAMY Community Action, Inc., has announced plans to sponsor a unique Youth Works Project that will put some \$3,180 in the pockets of sixty unemployed, out-of-school youths between 16 and 21 years old. WAMY, Inc., is the community development organization now operating in Watauga, Avery, Mitchell, and Yancey counties under the sponsorship of the North Carolina Fund.

The Employment Security Commission, in cooperating with the county welfare departments, will handle recruiting for the program. A major factor in selection will be the economic needs of the youths who apply.

The Watauga County group will lay out and clean up a new, proposed park area for the town of Boone. The area is

Grandfather Gifts Sought

Those who have not yet contributed to the Christmas fund for the Grandfather Home are asked to leave their contributions with either of the following:

Guy Hunt, Hunt's Department Store; James Marsh at Watauga Savings & Loan Association; W. W. Chester at Belk's Dept. Store; Rob Rivers at Watauga Democrat.

next to the present site of the Horn in the West drama, and will be an additional tourist attraction, as well as a facility for local citizens.

Avery County officials will use their team in Newland, where a few years ago, fire almost wiped out the town. The group will tear down remaining burned-out buildings and clean up vacant lots that remain as town eye-sores.

The Mitchell program will be a general clean up of the Bakersville area, including a cemetery, water storage, and ditch bank clean up, as well as street cleaning and painting. The Yancey County group will clean up and beautify a town park located near the Health Department in Burnsville.

Eppley says the Youth Works Project will be an experimental program to establish guidelines for a proposed Neighborhood Job Corps which WAMY, Inc., hopes to finance later under the Economic Opportunity Act. The (Continued on page six)