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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

Table with weather data for Boone, including dates and temperatures.

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NYCCamp Is Assured For Boone

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U. S. Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz told the Democrat today through the Atlanta office that Boone, North Carolina has been slated for approval as the site for a Neighborhood Youth Corps (NYC) project.

The Boone Project, sponsored by W.A.M.Y. Community Action, Inc. will have a total of 320 enrollees. Of these, 273 will be in school and 47 out-of-school enrollees. The total cost of the project is \$114,800. The NYC of the U. S. Department of Labor will furnish \$88,800 from Federal funds, Secretary Wirtz said.

The Boone Youth Corps enrollees will work as assistants and aides in various school and non-school activities.

The primary purpose of the NYC is to provide the necessary income to our young people so that they may remain in or return to school. As President Johnson indicated in his message to Congress, education is the backbone of our efforts to eradicate poverty in the nation. I am convinced that through the NYC scores of young people will be given an opportunity to lift themselves out of the world of poverty and take a rewarding and constructive role in our economy," Secretary Wirtz stated.

The Boone project is one of 30 announced today by the Secretary of Labor and brings the total announced to date to 197 in 43 states and District of Columbia.

These 197 projects will provide jobs and work experience for 104,200 young people ages 16-21 years.

Brother Of Mrs. Billings Dies

Ira Hope Brown, 65, of Jonesville, an employee of Chatham Manufacturing Co., and brother of Mrs. Rena Billings of Vilas, died last Friday at his home after a heart attack.

Mr. Brown was born in Iredell County to Houston and Mary Fincannon Brown.

He was a member of First Baptist Church of Jonesville and the Beagle Club of Ronda.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Lavard Hartsell Brown; a daughter, Mrs. Helen Holten of New Bern; a brother, Marshall Brown of Carolina Beach; a sister Mrs. Rena Billings of Vilas; and a half sister, Mrs. Tom Bass of Charlotte.

The funeral was conducted at 2 p.m. Sunday at Jonesville Baptist Church at Jonesville by Rev. Kenneth Wilson. Burial was in Sunrise Cemetery at Jonesville.

Coffee Day To Aid Crippled

Saturday, April 10, has been designated as "Coffee Day" for the benefit of crippled children and adults. Soda fountains and restaurants in the county will be contributing coffee money for the worthy Easter Seal cause.

Money collected from the sale of Easter lilies Saturday, April 17, will also go for the same purpose.

Community Good Friday Service A Youth Project

The Watauga County Ministerial Association will sponsor the annual Community Good Friday Service at 7:30 p.m., April 16, in the First Baptist Church of Boone.

This service has been gaining in attendance for several years and the program committee feels this year's service will be the most noteworthy of all, since it will be presented entirely by the youth of the churches.

The program and its participants will include: Organist, Sara Hagaman, First Baptist



With the use of the New River Light & Power Company's "snorkle" truck, a fireman was hoisted above the store with a hose. Firemen said the truck was invaluable in confining the blaze. (Flowers photo)

Motel Assn. Executive To Address Chamber

The program committee of the Boone Chamber of Commerce has invited Ed "Duck" Lewis, executive vice-president of the North Carolina Motel Association, to address the April program on travel.

The luncheon which will be held on Tuesday, April 13, at the Daniel Boone Inn, will adjourn promptly at 1 p. m.

Born in Tarboro, Lewis attended the University of North Carolina and was connected with the chambers of commerce of Tarboro, Burlington and Roanoke Rapids for 10 years.

He was a member of the late Gov. Umstead's Industry Speakers Bureau, a member of the former Gov. Hodges Speaker's Bureau for Traffic Safety and on the Bureau for Traffic Safety under the Sanford Administration.

He has been with the Motel Association since September, 1958. Other organizations to which Lewis belongs are the Raleigh Public Relations Soc-



ED "DUCK" LEWIS

ety, of Association Executives and the Highway Users Conference.

He is the director of the Travel Council of North Carolina and vice-president of the National Council of State Motel Executives. His program is expected to relate to travel in Northwestern North Carolina.

Mrs. Wanda Lamkin Dies In Car Crash

The funeral services for Mrs. Wanda Gragg Lamkin, 46, wife of Clarence R. Lamkin Sr. of Valdese and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Allen Gragg of Boone were conducted at 2 p. m. Sunday at Grandview Park Baptist Church by the Rev. Dean Herrold, the Rev. Cecil McFelia and the Rev. W. L. Sorrels. Burial was in Bellevue Cemetery.

Mrs. Lamkin was killed Thursday when her car overturned on U. S. 321, several miles north of Lenoir. She was traveling south when her car

left the road on the right side, came back to the left and overturned down a 75-foot embankment.

She was a former resident of Caldwell County.

Surviving besides her husband are two daughters, Mrs. Bobby Price of Lenoir and Mrs. Johnny Coffey of Granite Falls; a son, Clarence R. Lamkin Jr. of the home; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Allen Gragg of Watauga County; a sister, Mrs. Earl Ward of Asheville; and a brother, Merrill Gragg of Tuskegee, Ala.

7 Engine Companies Respond Winn-Dixie Store Razed Sunday In \$200,000 Fire

New Building To Be Erected On Same Spot

According to information received from Charles Blackburn Jr. and Woodrow Merritt, loss of the Winn-Dixie building and company fixtures, such as meat counters, display counters, coolers and the like, will run in excess of \$100,000.

These figures have not yet been verified, as the extent of the damage has not been thoroughly investigated.

Merritt is with the Winn-Dixie office in Greenville, S. C. Blackburn, his wife and Mrs. Lucy Carroll owned the Winn-Dixie building and adjoining parking facilities.

Harvey Trivette, manager of Boone's Winn-Dixie, said, "I am sure the company will be back as soon as they possibly can. All full-time help has been placed in the Lenoir Morganton and Hickory Winn-Dixies for the time being. I contacted the A & P Store and Thrift Food Center about our part-time help, and they said they will absorb all that they can."

Trivette said the Lenoir Winn-Dixie invites Boone patrons to come down when it is expedient. The Lenoir store is 30 miles from Boone. Trivette said he will be working with Winn-Dixie in Morganton.

Blackburn's comment on construction: "Plans are under consideration for rebuilding at the (Continued on page 4, Sec. C)



FLAMES BURST THROUGH THE ROOF OF THE WINN-DIXIE STORE on Highway 221 Sunday night. Several fire departments rushed to the aid of Boone's department standing by with extra hoses, on call to assist in case another fire were to break out.

The torch-like spout pictured was seen from the corner of Hardin and East Howard streets. Both the Shirley & Ragan Easo Serivcenter and Kirk's Restaurant, adjacent to the food store, received heavy smoke damage. (Flowers photo)

April Court Term Convenes Monday April 19

The April term of Watauga Superior Court will convene April 19 with Judge W. K. McLean of Asheville presiding.

According to Clerk of Court Orville Foster, approximately 200 criminal cases have been docketed for hearing in this session of court, including two manslaughter cases.

Easter Sunrise Service To Be Held At Conrad Stadium

The annual Community Sunrise Service, sponsored by the Watauga County Ministerial Association, will be held at 6 a. m., April 18, at Conrad Stadium on

the campus of Appalachian State Teachers College.

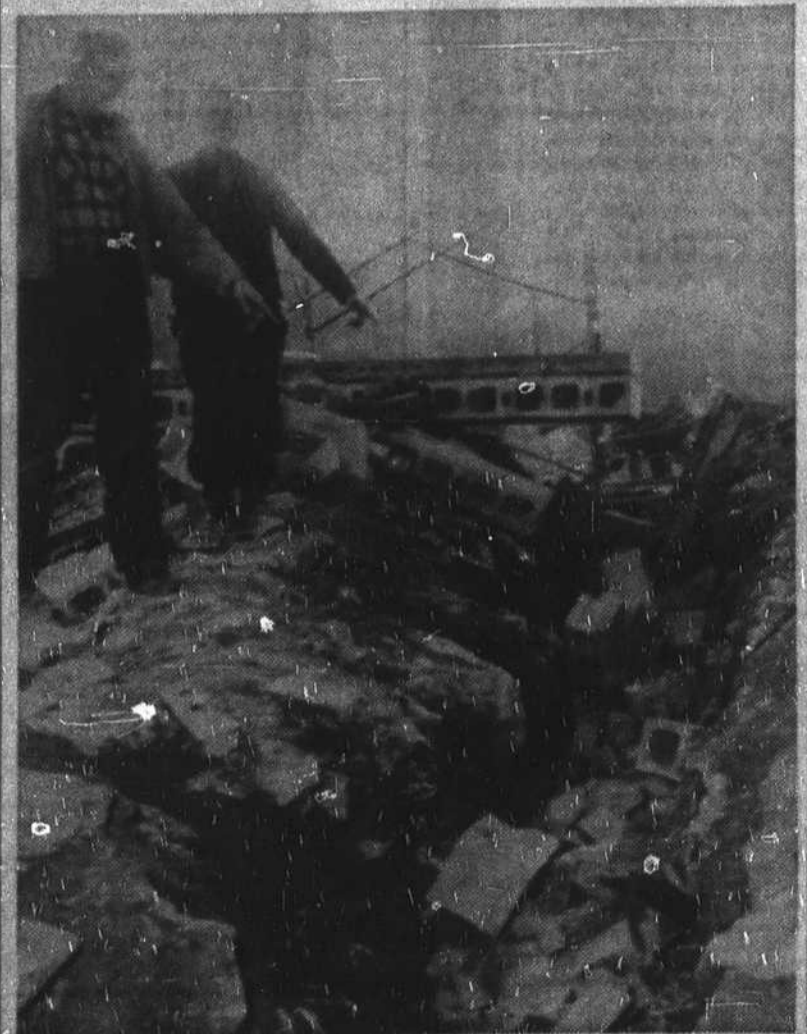
The program will consist of music presented by a brass ensemble from the Appalachian High School Band, Mr. James Shugert, director; an anthem presented by a choir from several local churches, under the direction of Dr. William Spencer, head of the Music Department at Appalachian State Teachers College; call to worship and prayer, led by Rev. E. S. Morgan, pastor of Oak Grove Baptist Church; Scripture reading by Mr. Herman Wilcox, former director of the Boone Chamber of Commerce; responsive reading led by Rev. Garland Smith, Boone Circuit of the Methodist Church; Easter Meditation by Mr. Henry Greer, Baptist campus chaplain at ASTC and president of the Ministerial Association. In case of rain or extreme

cold, the service will be held in First Baptist Church sanctuary. The public is invited.

Ray D. Hayes Takes Own Life, Coroner States

Ray Donald Hayes, 46, of Route 1, Vilas died instantly by a shot from a .22 calibre rifle at approximately 5:15 a. m. Tuesday, at his home.

According to Coroner Richard Kelley, the shot was self-inflicted and death was instantaneous. Reports are that Mr. Hayes had been in bad health for some time. Funeral arrangements were incomplete Tuesday.



WORKMEN POINT TO THE DITCH in which two fellow workers were injured on Friday, when portions of a wall of the new school building off Highway 105 blew down. The wall was said to have fallen about 8 a. m. A Watauga County Hospital spokesman said that Randy Aldridge of Route 1, Banner Elk, was admitted to the hospital. His condition was satisfactory on Monday. Edward Vines of Route 2, Vilas, was the other man involved in the accident. He was not admitted to the hospital. (Flowers photo)

Board Of Education Bill Seems Assured

The Watauga County Board of Education bill, which has been the topic of strong dis-sension in the General Assembly, has been passed by the House, approved by the Senate Committee, and final passage is expected today.

The bill which would decrease the Board of Education from five members to three, eliminating Republicans John H. Hol-lar and F. D. Bumgardner from the Board, retaining Democrats Dr. Charles Davant, H. W. Mast, Jr., and A. E. South, had met

with strong opposition from Rep. James Holshouser who offered arguments to retain the present school board.

However, his objections were not heeded, and according to Mr. Holshouser, the bill will be passed by the Senate as a matter of routine procedure.

Mr. Guy Angell, County Superintendent of Schools, advises that swearing in of the Board members will be forthcoming following final passage of the bill.

Many Answer Call To Save Nearby Houses

BY RACHEL RIVERS

The fire which destroyed Boone's Winn-Dixie Food Store Sunday night attracted five volunteer fire departments, in addition to the Boone and Blowing Rock forces. Through combined effort, they were able to save adjacent businesses and residences.

Unofficial estimates place the loss at \$200,000.

The alarm sounded about 6:15 p. m., brought approximately 75 firemen and more than 400 on-lookers to the scene. Although under control by 8 p. m., the blaze continued until about 10:30 p. m., according to Boone Fire Chief R. D. Hodges.

A number of firemen stayed until 4:30 a. m. Monday, and more returned at daybreak to put out spot fires.

The Blowing Rock Fire Department was said to have been particularly helpful in keeping the flames from spreading to the Shirley & Ragan Easo Serivcenter and Kirk's Restaurant, which are adjacent to the southeast wall of Winn-Dixie.

Other fire departments which answered the call were Newland, Deep Gap, Jefferson, Crossnore and West Jefferson. Chief Hodges said two of the departments stood by to check fires which might have broken out simultaneously in the county. The Newland Fire Department stayed with extra hoses in case additional hook-ups into the town water system were required, he said.

Mayor Wade E. Brown checked the city's reservoir and said it had dropped only four feet Sunday night.

Nothing was salvaged from the food store. Steel beams sagged between unsteady walls. The mounting heat had caused large cracks in the brick front and sides and merchandise lay soaked and singed among the counters.

R. D. Hodges said Monday the fire was as yet of an undetermined origin. Three pumps were kept running until about 10:30 p. m. The Watauga and Wilkes County rescue squads were on the scene.

Soon after the alarm was sounded, Boone firemen broke out one of the plate glass panels in the store front to reach the blaze with a hose. Internal combustion burst out the remaining plate glass, although no injuries were sustained among the milling spectators.

A squad of Citizen Band Radio operators relieved the Boone police from directing traffic. Eleven CB operators (Continued on page 4, Sec. C)

Holshouser School Bill Is Made Law

The General Assembly finally passed into law Friday Rep. James Holshouser's bill to continue an educational agreement in Watauga County.

The legislation allows Appalachian State Teachers College and the Watauga County Board of Education to continue a long-standing practice of having students at the college teach in the local high school.

Holshouser is a Republican and the bill had been held up on several occasions in the legislature although there was no stated opposition to it.

It was passed by the Senate without a dissenting vote.