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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER			
1965	Hi	Lo	prec.
Nov. 30	29	15	0.00
Dec. 1	30	14	0.00
Dec. 2	53	26	0.00
Dec. 3	47	33	0.00
Dec. 4	43	28	0.00
Dec. 5	52	25	0.00
Dec. 6	45	28	0.00

VOLUME LXXVIII—NO. 24

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1965

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32 PAGES—4 SECTIONS



THIS SHOT ON KING STREET SATURDAY shows part of the crowd who turned out for the Christmas parade despite extremely disagreeable winter weather. Thousands watched from the intersection of East King Street and Horn in the

West Drive, through town and lined Water Street, Rivers Street and part of Faculty Street where the procession disbanded. (John Dinkins photo)

Sheriff's Officers, Federal Men Seize Still, Arrest 4

After watching an illegally-operated whiskey still for three days and two nights, Federal agents and the Sheriff and his deputies closed in on four men.

Sheriff Dallas Cheek said he was called out at 4 a. m. in 14-degree temperature on Dec. 2, and walked about two miles into the woods near Sampson Road where he and his men met Federal agents and proceeded to the still.

They had been communicating with walkie-talkies. Two agents slept near the still all night, waiting for the violators to return to their enterprise. The local men were taken into the area by car and left to continue on foot.

Cheek said Jack Coffey and John Coffey, both of Route 4, Boone, Claude Vickers of North Wilkesboro and James Fletcher of Purlear were arrested, taken to North Wilkesboro and released on bail. The men were charged with illegal operation of a whiskey distillery, the sheriff said; a Federal warrant had been issued for their arrest, he added.

The four will be tried in North Wilkesboro's Federal Court in April.

The still was said to have been in operation about a month. Water was pumped to it 600 feet up a mountain-side from a creek.

Two radiators had been welded together to form the 180-gallon still. The double boiler was fired with coke—a form of coal which produces no smoke.

The Federal agents made an inventory of all goods connected with the operation, Cheek said. The following were destroyed, (Continued on page three)

Monday Burley Average On Boone Market \$69.67

The Boone tobacco market paid an average of \$67.85 per hundred pounds of burley for the five sales days from Tuesday, Nov. 30, through Monday, Dec. 6.

Total pounds sold in that period, 1,641,796; price, \$1,114,033.05.

The break-down, beginning Tuesday, Nov. 30: 339,964 pounds at \$229,854.54; Wednesday, Dec. 1—337,454 pounds at \$229,883.70; Thursday, Dec. 2—315,620 pounds at \$214,590.85; Friday, Dec. 3—308,208 pounds at \$208,452.04; Monday, Dec. 6—340,565 pounds at \$231,252.31.

Average price received per hundred pounds of burley on Monday, Nov. 29, was \$69.67. Total sales were 340,294 pounds at \$237,046.67.

Through Monday, 1,982,090 pounds of tobacco had been sold for a total of \$1,351,079.87.

Harris-Teeter Opens Super Market Today

The Harris-Teeter Super Market is stocked and ready to open tomorrow (Thursday) at 8 a. m., according to Bob Clements, who has been here several days supervising the completion and stocking of the new building on East King Street.

Clements, who works with Harris-Teeter in Mooresville, said the brick structure is 128 feet by 83 feet and will house groceries, fresh meat and fresh produce as well as items such as pet foods and supplies.

Meat and poultry cases will take up 84 feet of space; frozen meat, 12 feet; frozen foods, 48 feet; and health and beauty aids, 32 feet.

Clements added that there will be many items under the Harris-Teeter label among the merchandise. The Harris-Teeter chain comprises 40 super markets in North Carolina and South Carolina.

Register Deeds Office To Close

The Register of Deeds office will be closed Friday, Dec. 24, through Monday, Dec. 27, in observance of Christmas.

Shriners Sell Dolls On King For Children

Dr. James B. Graham, president of the Appalachian Shrine Club, reports that perhaps as much as \$1,200 was received Saturday by Shriners who sold dolls on King Street.

The Shriners, who live in Ashe, Avery and Watauga counties, will send the proceeds, less the cost of the dolls, to the Shrine Crippled Children's Hospital in Greenville, S. C., he said. A thousand dolls were ordered for the project, and each was put up for sale for \$1. However, Dr. Graham said many persons paid more than a dollar for a doll.

Saturday night at the Appalachian Elementary School, the Shriners will hold their annual Christmas party, at which time each member will bring a gift for a child hospitalized in Greenville.

Dr. Graham said the three crippled children in the Christmas parade Saturday had been treated in Greenville and returned to their homes. The youngsters represented the three counties from which Appalachian Shrine Club draws its membership.

Carson Tate Funeral Sunday

Carson Maynard Tate, 57, of Blowing Rock, Rt. 1, a retired construction worker, died Friday afternoon at Watauga Hospital after a long illness.

He was born in Watauga County to Floyd and Emma Brown Tate.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Hazel Tate; a son, Maynard Tate of Blowing Rock; his parents of Blowing Rock; four brothers, Sam and Dawson Tate of Boone, Bruce Tate of Salisbury and Edsel Tate of Myrtle Beach, S. C.; and four sisters, Mrs. Edna White of Belmont, Mrs. Lola Benfield of Boone, Mrs. Van Carroll of Asheville and Mrs. Jean Bean of Pinehurst.

The funeral was held at 2 p. m. Sunday at Middle Fork Baptist Church. Burial was in the church cemetery.

School Closing Dates Are Set

Students of County schools will be dismissed at the end of the school day, Tuesday, Dec. 21, for the Christmas holidays. Classes will resume on Wednesday, Dec. 22.

Appalachian State Teachers College faculty and students will observe the holidays beginning at noon on Friday, Dec. 17. Classes will resume at 8 a. m. on Monday, Jan. 2.

To Provide 12 Channels Two Firms Seek TV Antenna Franchise

City Council Is Checking Into Proposal

BY RACHEL RIVERS

Two private enterprises capable of establishing community antenna television (CATV) petitioned the City Council last week for a franchise in Boone.

Mayor Wade Brown said CATV would not be compulsory to the public should the Town Board pass an ordinance granting a franchise here. "Subscription to such a service," he said, "is entirely voluntary. If we should grant a franchise, they must, of course, work out their own arrangements with the power and telephone companies."

In return for the franchise the CATV organization would give the Town of Boone three and a half per cent of profits, or a minimum of \$1,000 a year, whichever is greater. Installation fee for the service, which operates through a cable network much like telephone wires, would be \$10, Brown said. Representatives of the two groups also said that service fees after installation would be \$5 a month, and estimated total cost of installing the system to be \$150,000.

FM Radio

In addition to twelve television stations which could be received locally, F M radio reception also would be available, Brown said, under the same franchise.

One of the reports submitted to the City Council stated: "It should be noted that our proposed CATV system will make it possible for hundreds of Boone homes to receive Charlotte's two UHF television stations on their present VHF-only sets. UHF signals are changed to VHF channels for (continued on page three)



Marion Douglas Boone died Thursday while operating this car on Highway 105 South of Boone. The 58-year-old man was a salesman for a Chevrolet-Buick dealer in Burnsville, N. C. (Flowers photo)

Burnsville Man Killed In Accident At Foscoe

Watauga's fifth fatality of the year happened at 2:30 p. m. Thursday, eight miles South of Boone on Highway 105 in Foscoe Community.

Marion Douglas Boone, 58, of Burnsville, was killed instantly when the 1966 Chevrolet he was driving met head-on with a 1961 Ford truck operated by Rex Nathan Renfron, 45, of Route 2, Green Mountain, N. C., according to Patrolman George Baker.

The driver of the truck, and three passengers, all were hospitalized at Watauga Hospital.

Passengers were Sam Blevins and son, Harold Blevins, and Roy Laws, all of Green Mountain.

Baker said an eye witness to the collision said the truck, which was traveling South on 105, cut left into the path of the Chevrolet and hit the car head-on. Baker said Renfron and another passenger said they attempted to steer the truck back to the right, but failed. Both vehicles were damaged beyond

their market value, he said. Mr. Boone was a car salesman with Roberts Chevrolet and Buick, Inc., of Burnsville.

Charges are pending completion of investigation, Baker said.

Scott Norris Hurt By Truck

At 2:25 p. m. on Monday, Dillard Scott Norris, believed to be 76, who lives on Route 2, Vilas, was struck by a truck as he was crossing West King Street in front of Smithey's Store, according to Police Chief Hubert Thomas.

Thomas said the truck was driven by George Elliott Bingham. No charges have been made.

Mr. Norris, who was said to have undergone surgery, is under the care of a private physician. A statement of his condition was not available from Watauga Hospital.

Stores To Open Nights In Boone

Chamber of Commerce Manager Fred McNeil has given notice that several retail businesses in Boone expect to be open for shopping on week nights up until Christmas.

Some businesses will remain open until 8 p. m. or 8:30 p. m., while others will be open until 9 p. m., and some will be open at night during the week before Christmas only.

Mrs. Greer, 102, Has Lived Under Tenure 21 Presidents

BY RACHEL RIVERS

At the time Mrs. Rhonda Teague Greer was born—Nov. 20, 1863—the political cartoonist Thomas Nast was giving form to a jolly, rotund Santa Claus, the Tammany Tiger and drew an elephant and a donkey which are today symbols of the Republican and Democrat parties in America.

She was born under the ad-

ministration of Abraham Lincoln, first United States President to be assassinated, and one hundred years later heard the news of John Kennedy's untimely death. Mrs. Greer has lived under the administrations of 21 presidents.

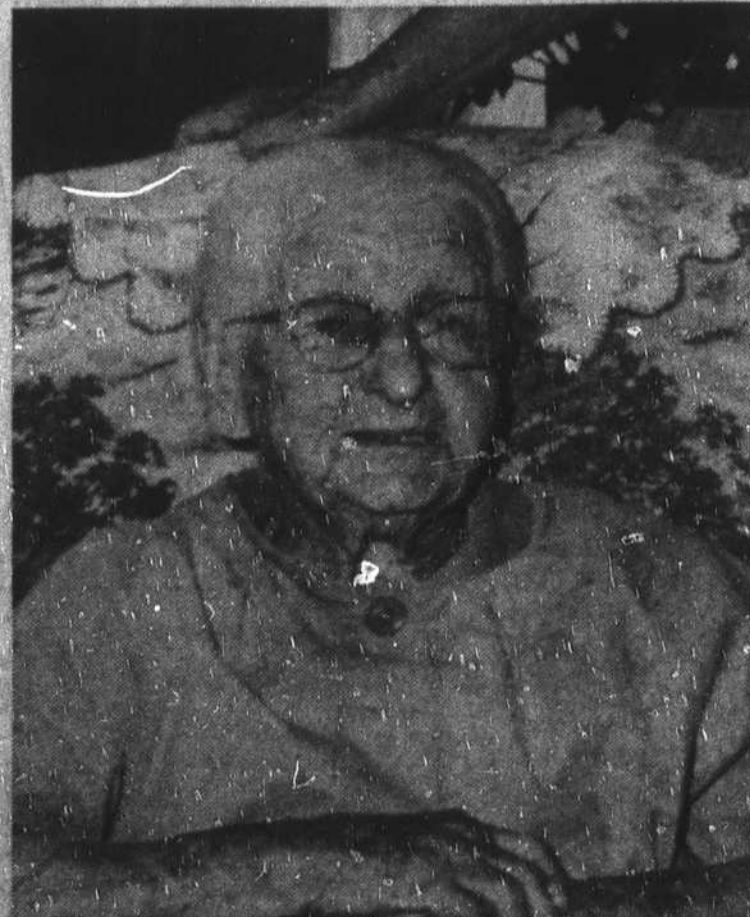
In her lifetime, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, the First and Second World Wars and the Korean

War were fought. She is perhaps not only the oldest citizen of Watauga County, but the oldest citizen of surrounding counties and possibly the state of North Carolina.

62 Descendants

Mrs. Greer, who reached the remarkable age of 102 last week was visiting Thursday with her son, Raleigh Greer, age 78, in Deep Gap. Of her six children, two are still living. In addition to Mr. Greer, Mrs. Margie Michael, age 69, Mrs. Michael and her mother reside at 1601 Daniel Boone Dr. in Perkinsville. Bath are charter members of the Rutherford Baptist Church.

Amazingly, Mrs. Greer—who has 24 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and 11 great-great-grandchildren—has never been a patient in a hospital in her life. When asked how she (Continued on page three)



Mrs. Rhonda Teague Greer, who lives on Daniel Boone Drive in Perkinsville, celebrated her 102nd birthday last week. She is Watauga County's oldest citizen and is perhaps the oldest citizen in North Carolina. (Staff photo)

Operation Santa Claus Is Asking Help For Mentally Ill

Operation Santa Claus is again asking for help, in order that Christmas may be brought to patients in our institutions. Without your gifts many of these patients will be forgotten.

Gifts for all ages are needed. Mental illness does not choose its victims by age, sex, creed, race or social status.

The value of the gift is not measured in dollars and cents. Its worth is in being remembered. Would you join the Mental Health Association in this endeavor? If so you may bring gifts of any kind, for either sex, (no glass), to the AAAW Mental Health Authority Office, W. King Street, Home Demonstration Agent's Office, Courthouse Annex; Home of Mrs. W. W. Littleton, 486 Farthing Road, or call 264-2619 and the gifts will be picked up. The deadline is December 15th.



Sheriff Dallas Cheek pours white liquor from a gallon jug after he, his deputies and Federal agents from North Wilkesboro stormed and destroyed a whiskey still located off Sampson Road early on Dec. 2. All goods at the site of the operation were destroyed according to a Supreme Court ruling, Cheek said.