

### Letters To The Editor

#### Democrat Publicity Is Noted By High School

Dear Sir:  
On behalf of the student council of Watauga High School, I wish to thank you for the fine publicity you have given our school this year.

I wish to express also our appreciation to the citizens of Watauga County for their unflinching support of the Pioneer basketball team during the current season. This support has meant much to the team and to the entire student body.

We hope to see our sports fans continue their support by upholding our high standards of good behavior. Winning is important to us, but abiding by the rules of good sportsmanship is more important. We wish to encourage everyone to attend the Hickory game on Friday night and to show the visiting team and fans the strength of our team and the true spirit of Watauga High School.

Sincerely yours,  
Mike A. Wilson  
Student Body President  
February 12, 1966

#### Reader Went To School In Boone 80 Years Ago

Dear Mr. Rivers:  
I want to congratulate you and your staff for the deserved honor given you.

It is wonderful for you to have your daughter with you. I got my paper on Friday. It means so much to me. You have always felt near to me—you are our friend.

I am 88 years old. Eighty years ago I went to school in Boone and stayed at Uncle Lewis Bryan's Hotel. He hired a Prof. Warner to teach his children, Jim, George, Carrie, Cora, Bob. Others could go and pay him. The Lovells, Bina Greene, Councils have passed away, but myself, unless Bina Greene is alive. I knew everyone in Boone. Uncle Lewis had to hire his children to go to school, and buy all a watch apiece.

I am so glad you still keep your feet on the ground. Best wishes to you and your family.

Mrs. C. G. Hodges  
New Castle Motel  
Virginia Beach, Va.

#### Former Democrat Employee Writes Of Boone's Growth

Dear Rob:  
Congratulations to you, Mrs. Rivers, Rachel, Ralph, and the entire Democrat staff on the richly deserved recognition you received from the North Carolina Press Association.

It is amazing, in a sense—but not actually surprising, either, when you think about it—how the Boone-Blowing Rock area has come alive in the few short years since I lived and worked there. The potential for progress was there all the time, just waiting to be discovered.

And the Watauga Democrat was not caught napping when it came. On the contrary, it was and is, without question, up front lighting the way.

It is an understatement to say the Democrat has grown since you, Mrs. Rivers, and yours truly did all the office and leg work, with Ernie, Bill and Joe manning the shop. And I like to think that I might have had a small part in helping to pave the way, so to speak, in the Formative Fifties for what is happening in the Sizzling Sixties.

Dorothy joins me in sending personal regards to you all, along with best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,  
V. G. (Stretch) Rollins  
Mullins, S. C.  
February 11, 1966

#### Policeman's Estate

Pittsburgh—While serving 57 years as a policeman, John M. Stack lived simply in a \$1-a-week room and seldom took a day off a vacation. He died at the age of 78 leaving an estate of \$263,485, mostly in cash. Four nephews and four nieces are heirs to his estate.

#### Disc Jockey At 9

Buford, Ga. — Robert P. Joseph bought Station WDXL two years ago and it has become a family enterprise. Joseph's wife is the engineer and his nine-year-old daughter, Kathy, prepares, announces and runs a 15-minute disc jockey program each Saturday.



SEVEN WATAUGA HIGH SCHOOL BAND STUDENTS participated in the Northwest North Carolina Band Clinic at ASTC over the weekend. They are (l-r) Dennis Campbell, Linda Johnson, Randy Hower, Donnie Fidler, Bruce Oland and Mac Stroupe. All students, except Campbell and Kathy Leon, who is not pictured, were in the Symphony Band. The other two were in the Clinic Band. The young musicians are under the direction of Otis Strother at WHS. (Staff photo)

### County Agricultural Workers Have Meeting

The Watauga County Agricultural Workers Council met Wednesday, Feb. 9 in the ASCS office with nine members present.

Due to the resignation of Bruce Ledford, Mrs. Lillian Danner was elected reporter for the Council, and the vice-president was assigned to be in charge of the community development work.

Richard Capps from the Social Security office presented the program. He discussed the medicare program and answered several questions for the members of the Council. He said that all those who are eligible for the program should sign for it.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 9.

France hints at Common Market concessions.

Prince Charles flies off to school in Australia.

### Heart Notes

The National Health Survey, published a year ago, reported that about one out of nine Americans are afflicted with heart and blood vessel disease. Estimates based on the survey would indicate that approximately 2,000 citizens of Watauga County are afflicted by this country's leading premature disability.

The Heart Fund campaign in Watauga County will be conducted during the entire month of February, according to the Watauga County Heart Association.

The leading cause of premature death and disability in Watauga County is heart and blood vessel disease, the Watauga County Heart Association says.

The Watauga County Heart Association is part of the North Carolina Heart Association which, in turn, is an affiliate of the American Heart Association.

#### Test System & Draft

The Selective Service System announced it is returning to the use of a testing system and a class standing as guidelines for local draft boards in granting college deferments. This procedure will affect high school seniors and college students.

#### LBJ On Foreign Aid

President Johnson asked for \$3.39 billion in new foreign aid funds and proposed a major legislative revamping to put the world-wide program on a five-year basis. The funds were down into \$2.47 billion in economic assistance and \$917 million for arms aid.

## Old Skills Are Coming Back To People Of Hill Country

Washington—"The old handicrafts are like hunted animals creeping deeper and deeper into the hinterlands," observed a Virginia mountaineer a few years ago.

But the old skills are now coming back from the hinterlands as more and more travelers discover the beauty and durability of objects made in the Appalachians. Corn shucks, thin oak strips, calico, and cotton ticking are vital ingredients in the booming crafts industry.

Some handmade products fetch fancy prices. Wooden dolls, carved and dressed in the style of a century ago, cost up to \$25; hooked throw rugs bring even more.

#### Art Of Necessity

Since Daniel Boone's time, Appalachian craftsmen have produced handsome articles of wood, clay, cloth, and metal, the National Geographic Society says. Isolated from the rest of America by the Appalachian Mountains, early settlers had to make what they needed or do without.

They learned to weave wood strips into sturdy baskets, braid rags into rugs, and turn corn shucks into belts, chair seats, and dolls for their children.

The forested mountains provided other raw materials: fine hard wood for furniture, berries and herbs for dyeing, clay for pottery, and minerals for metal-working and glassblowing.

The present-day craftsmen take pride in the beauty and usefulness of their products. Chairmakers exert such care in fitting rungs into chair legs that nails or glue are seldom needed. As one oldtimer put it, "When a man buys chairs from me, he gets what he needs, and he is done buying chairs as long as he lives."

The sturdy furniture of Appalachia has proven surprisingly acceptable to modern tastes. The early mountain bench—a slab on four posts—even inspired many of today's benches and coffee tables.

To preserve and encourage time-honored arts, the Southern Highland Handicraft Guild sponsors annual fairs where craftsmen from nine states come to display their skills and sell products. The products range from dulcimers and split-bottom chairs to quilts done in such popular patterns as "Old Maid's Ramble," "Dove at the Window," and "Rob Peter to Pay Paul."

Culture Caravan  
In Kentucky, two railroad

cars were converted into an exhibition gallery and demonstration center to show off the techniques and products of mountain handicrafts. The train rolls throughout the State, making hundreds of stops.

Several colleges in Appalachia believe in an education that teaches hands as well as heads. Students at the historic mountain college of Berea, Kentucky, make and sell furniture, textiles, and pottery to help pay for their education.

## Helpful Hints On Having Warm House Are Given

Raleigh — There are some things you can do to help keep your heating bill under control, now or anytime, Charlotte Womble, extension specialist in housing and house furnishings, North Carolina State University says.

First, be sure the house is insulated. If it is, you've probably already found that insulation can pay for itself in as little as five years. An easy way to check its effectiveness is to put one hand on a partition between two heated rooms and the other on the ceiling, or an outside wall. If both surfaces feel equally warm, insulation is giving effective protection.

Insulation may be blown into the attic or batts may be installed. If you install insulation yourself, follow instructions carefully, to assure maximum heat control. Storm windows and doors will reduce heat loss, especially in older houses. A well-fitted storm window can cut heat loss through a window as much as 50 per cent.

As an alternative, cover windows on the inside with heavy plastic. Tape plastic to window frame. Tape all edges; masking tape does a good job.

Another alternative is to attach plastic to window and door screens. To do this, remove

screens, tack plastic to the inside of the frames, then replace screens. The wind cannot blow plastic off so easily if it is attached to the inside of screens.

Check for heat leaks in the shell of the house, especially around doors and windows, Miss Womble suggests. This goes for storm doors, too.

Replace worn, torn, or otherwise ineffective weather stripping. Doors and windows are likely to warp or shrink, making even comparatively new stripping unequal to the task of shutting out winter's icy blasts.

## Sports Quiz

1. How old is Tony Kubek?
2. What announcement did he recently make about his future?
3. What was the score of the 7th World Series game in 1964?
4. Who is Kipchoge Keino?
5. Who played in the Austrian singles finals (tennis) recently?

#### The Answers

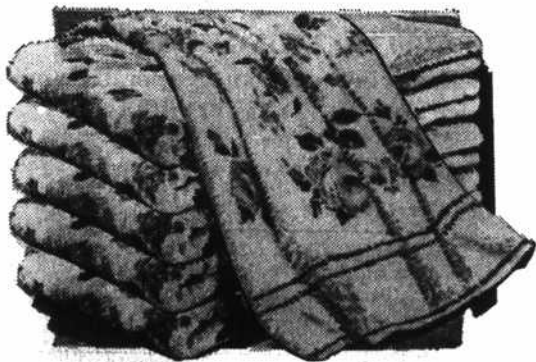
1. 29.
2. He announced immediate retirement from baseball.
3. St. Louis 7, New York 5.
4. Famous miler from Kenya.
5. Arthur Ashe lost to Roy Emerson.

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