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WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Eightieth Year of Continuous Publication

BOONE WEATHER					
1967	Hi	Lo	Snow	Pre.	'66 Hi Lo
Aug. 1	76	61	.23		76 50
Aug. 2	79	57	.12		70 55
Aug. 3	80	61	.03		76 61
Aug. 4	75	62	tr.		70 60
Aug. 5	77	60	.15		76 58
Aug. 6	76	55			75 58
Aug. 7	73	57			76 60

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More than an hour after the water had begun receding, a scene of the Mabel Baptist Church still illustrates the spread of the normally passive Cove Creek (flowing from left). A band of onlookers at right watch as the muddy torrent moves by. (Staff photo)

Cove Creek Rages Flash Flood Does Damage To Crops

Burley Weed Losses Seen In Lowlands

BY RACHEL RIVERS

The gathering head waters of Cove Creek reaped extensive damage in a Watauga farm valley Thursday.

A downpour on Rich Mountain started the water rolling into the Zionville-Mabel communities about 3:30 according to County Extension Agent L. E. Tuckwiller. As the flash flood funneled into the valley from the vicinity of Highway 421 at the Tennessee line, it began to pick up momentum.

And by 4 p. m. the situation was said to be serious. The Creek, flooding onto old Highway 421 at several points, continued to rise until around 5 p. m., then, in Tuckwiller's words, "receded rather rapidly."

DAMAGES

All or part of 20 crops of tobacco were battered in the current. The Agent estimates the loss at \$13,000.

Some home gardens were ruined, some hay, some corn, other field crops. The waters gullied and eroded several acres of pasture and cropland, took out sections of fence, displaced farm bridges and in at least two places, farm roads were washed away.

The state bridge from old 421 to Mabel school dropped off its foundations. Having talked with residents, Tuckwiller described their reaction to the freshet as "great walls of water", which washed trash into culverts and under bridges, forcing the water to widen its course through the narrow valley.

There were a few landslides, one of which slid into the home of Herbert Greer and did minor damage. No livestock were killed, he said, although a man had reported that his milk-cow was washed downstream under two bridges before she was pulled to safety. The cow was said to be uninjured.

Some residents reported that personal possessions stored in riverside sheds were swept off by the rampaging waters.

Down valley, in Cove Creek community, bottles and cans were among the debris deposited on river bottoms.

Tuckwiller described the greatest amount of damage to a farm community since he became County Agent in 1943. He noted, however, that other floods in Watauga have been more widespread.



Visiting Professor Lectures—Mary Hoffman, a public school music supervising teacher from Milwaukee, Wis., is one of the visiting professors who staff the music workshop faculty.

Annual Grandfather Home Day To Be Observed August 13

Banner Elk, N. C.—The hills will be alive with the sound of music—the sound of 25 children from "The Home" as the 49th consecutive Grandfather Home Day is held at Ruple Memorial Presbyterian Church in Blowing Rock, North Carolina.

August 13th will mark the 49th consecutive year that Grandfather Home Day has been held at Blowing Rock to benefit Grandfather Home for Children in Banner Elk. The 8:45 and 11:00 services featuring the voices of 25 boys and girls will bring in gifts to one of the most unique and worthy institutions of the Edgar Tufts Memorial Association. "The Home" largely depends on the gifts and contributions from the Grandfather Home Day to help in the clothing, sheltering, and educating of the 96 children that live at Grandfather Home. The gifts from Grandfather Home Day have made up in the past one of the largest contributions from any source toward providing for the care and welfare of these children in a Christian environment.

"We are grateful for the blessings of friends and for what they have meant to Grandfather Home throughout the year," stated Rev. D. Edward Renegar, Executive Director of the Home. Each year friends of Grandfather Home donate generously

to the "The Home" through the service held in Blowing Rock, a tradition established nearly a half century ago. This year, as in the past, the institution seeks new friends and financial help in "The Home's" labor of love in the mountains of Western North Carolina.

Dr. Anne Bryan, who retired after 36 years as Superintendent of Grandfather Home, stated "Over 96 children are cared for by Grandfather Home. They are children that range in ages from pre-schoolers to high school graduates. Through the years I have watched The Home grow by the love and devotion of its many friends. We hope to show our sincere appreciation for this dedication and support through the children as they present sacred music after the service. What better way can we show our thanks but through the boys and girls themselves."

Presently, as in the past, new cottages and facilities have been completed in order to accommodate the many children that need the sheltering, educational and humanitarian services of "The Home." Grandfather Home, another of the institutions founded by Edgar Tufts has for its motto, "Suffer the little children to come unto

me", and "The Home" strives to accomplish that purpose.

The service will be led by the Rev. Mr. Richard Holsinger, Pastor, Ruple Memorial Presbyterian Church; Mr. Robert G. Hayes, President Grandfather Home, who will offer comments on the story of Grandfather Home; and the Rev. Mr. D. Edward Renegar, Executive Director of Grandfather Home, will offer a brief address on "The Present and Future of Grandfather Home." An ensemble of 25 children will present a choral arrangement of "Strength Through Worship".

The Trustees of Grandfather Home are: Mrs. Samuel McDowell Tate, Morganton, N. C.; Mrs. W. O. Hollingsworth, Statesville, N. C.; Rev. John A. Wilkerson, Jr., Hickory, N. C.; Mr. George L. Bernhardt, Lenoir, N. C.; Mr. Robert Hart, Kingsport, Tennessee; Mrs. W. P. Johnson, Kingsport, Tennessee; Dr. H. C. Evans, Jr., Jefferson City, Tennessee; Rev. Richard P. Keeton, Kingsport, Tennessee; Mr. T. Henry Wilson, Jr., Lenoir, N. C.; Mr. E. E. Stauber, Bristol, Tenn.; Mr. Robert G. Hayes, Concord, N. C.; Mr. L. Young White, Mooresville, N. C.



STATE BRIDGE OUT—District Highway Engineer Tom Winkler estimates the loss of the state bridge from old Highway 421 to Mabel School between \$6,000 and \$7,000. The bridge must be replaced, he said, because of the severe damage done to it in Thursday's flash flood.



A crop of young tobacco lies broken and mud-caked after the flash-flooding in Mabel and Zionville communities. (Staff photos)

Inside...

A look at Watauga County's public school system. News, reviews, back-to-school advertisements. . . . Who's Who and What's What in local education.

Important Meet United Fund Set

An important meeting of the Watauga County United Fund Board is set for noon, Thursday, Aug. 17, at the Cardinal Restaurant. The budget must be approved for 1968 and plans developed for the October campaign. All members of the board are urged to be present.

Bookmobile Operation Expenses Are Tabulated

The Director of the Appalachian Regional Library has released the cost for the maintenance and operation, repairs and costs for the Bookmobile in the Tri-County Region for the 1967-68 fiscal year.

The Wilkes County Public Library's Bookmobile cost was the highest for the three counties because it operated four days per week and covers more territory than those of the Bookmobiles in Ashe and Watauga County. The Bookmobile in Wilkes County serves a county population of 45,255 while Ashe serves 18,259 and Watauga serves a population of 17,559.

The costs for maintenance and operation of the Wilkes County Bookmobile was \$277.97 for gas and oil, and \$397.55 for repairs. The cost for Ashe County was \$130.21 for gas and oil and \$90.08 for repairs, while Watauga's Bookmobile expense was \$104.17 for gas and oil and \$67.43 for repairs, with a total cost of \$1,067.41 for the three counties. The cost of maintenance and operation of

the Bookmobiles are paid by State and Federal funds. The three counties operate 1962 Boyertown mobile units with a capacity of about 3,000 books. The purchase of new and larger bookmobiles particularly for Watauga County has also been recommended. The cost would be paid from State and Federal Funds.

Civitan Meeting To Be Held Here

The first Cabinet-Council meeting of the N. C. District West of Civitan International will meet in Boone, at the Holiday Inn August 12.

The meeting will open with a Cabinet meeting at 10 A. M., followed by a 12 luncheon. The featured speaker for the day will be Dr. Ross Dampier of Bristol, Tenn.

The activities for the day will conclude with the Council Meeting at 2:15.

Appalachia's Unemployed Said To Be Decreasing

The ranks of the unemployed in Appalachia are gradually thinning, the Appalachian Regional Commission was told Friday, and the major reason is the generally thriving economy of the nation.

Between 1962 and 1965, the commission staff reported, the number of unemployed was reduced by 42 per cent (from 555,-

000 to 320,000) and the percentage of the work force unemployed dropped from 9.2 to 5.2.

During the same years, unemployment in North Carolina's Appalachian counties declined less markedly, from about 23,000 to slightly more than 20,000. The unemployment rate dropped from 6.2 to 5.2.

The work of the Appalachian

Regional Commission and other federal agencies was not credited with the over all improvement in the region. The report said federal programs have undoubtedly helped, but said no conclusions about their effect can yet be drawn.

A more important factor, it said, has been national prosperity. The booming economy during the four-year period created jobs that induced people to move out of the region and at the same time generated new industrial and commercial investment in Appalachia.

But the commission staff said the unemployment figures do not tell the whole story. In some areas, it said, hard-core poverty and high unemployment continue. And in still other areas, the unemployment count has been reduced chiefly by migration, not by the creation of new jobs in the mountains.

Nevertheless, the decline in Appalachia's unemployment was far greater than the nation as a whole.

Broyhill To Speak At County G.O.P. Rally

Congressman James T. Broyhill will be the featured speaker at a Watauga County Republican picnic and rally to be held Friday night, Aug. 11.

Republicans from across the county will gather at Valle Crucis School at 6 p. m. for preliminary festivities, followed by dinner and speaking at 7 p. m. The dinner will be a covered

dish supper, with all those attending expected to bring food. The County GOP will furnish soft drinks for the evening.

The event marks the first time in years that County Republicans have had a major rally in a non-election year.

Mrs. Ralph Greene, who is program chairman, indicates that a large crowd is expected.

Music Workshop Personnel To Appear In "Patio Sing"

Watauga Horse Show Sept. 9th

Members of the Cove Creek Riding Club Friday night voted to give away a pony at the Sept. 9 Watauga Horse Show.

A black, yearling filly has been purchased and is being groomed for the event. If the winner of the pony wishes, it will be auctioned off and the money given him.

Final plans were made for the show and a delegation instructed to select trophies for the 31 classes. Six championships will be awarded in the evening. To be eligible, entries must have been entered, shown and judged in the afternoon performance of the championship division.

Entry fee per class is \$1, while championship classes will be \$2. The Club earlier had voted to allow exhibitors a free pass per each horse entered in the Show.

Persons attending the 16th annual Music Education Workshop will appear in a "Patio Sing" outside the W. H. Plemons College Center on the ASU campus at 6:30 p. m. Thursday.

A total of 106 music teachers, representing 14 states, will present a variety program of choral music under the direction of Mrs. Mary Hoffman, supervising teacher in the school system of Milwaukee, Wis.

Miss Judy Pickens, music teacher of Chamblee, Ga., will be the piano accompanist. She is an assistant in the Music Education Workshop this summer.

The public is cordially invited to attend the event.

VISIT WITH BROWNS

Sunday visitors with Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Brown were Mr. Bruce Osborne, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Osborne and children and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Roark, all of Lenoir.