AWARD WINNER

In 1966 and 1967 the Democrat won 10 State Press Assn. awards for General Excellence, Excellence in Typography, Local News, Adver-tising, Columns and Photographs.

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 1968

18 PAGES-2 SECTIONS

Vital Passing Lanes On 321, 421 Included

Governor Acts To Provide \$1,250,000 Highway Improvements For This Area

AirportHangarRoof Crushed By Snow

The large hangar at the Deerfield Road Airport collapsed Saturday night crushing three planes inside it.

Speaking for the corporation that owns the facility, build-ing contractor Jack Norris of Boone said utility poles buried six feet in the group snapped "like matchsticks" under the weight of snow accumulated on the roof since Wednesday.

Although the hangar roof was slightly slanted, Norris said sleet adhered to it and the snow packed down and did not shed as it was designed to.

Insurance reports on the overall loss had not been completed as presstime.

Norris said he worked until late Sunday shoveling snow off another building to prevent its

First Baby Of Year **Born At Sugar Grove**

He was a little ahead of schedule, but Watauga County had a New Years baby on New

600 New Phones In Boone Makes **Total Of 5,075**

Southern Bell today announced a record gain in the number of telephones in service in Boone during 1967.

B. B. Leazer, the company's local manager, said the in-crease of 600 brought Boone's total of telephones in service to 5,075.

B. B. Leazer said, "We at Southern Bell are happy to report such a gain, because it represents one more progressive stride for Boone, And as Boone continues to keep pace with the economic growth of North Carolina and the South we are going to continue to provide you the best possible tele-

Mr. Leazer pointed out that Southern Bell spent a record amount of money in Boone for construction and development alone. Among the projects and construction the company undertook here in 1967 four cable projects and additional equipment in the Central Office located on East King

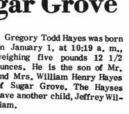
Vice President and General Manager John J. Ryan, head of the company's North Carolina operations, said 1967 was a milestone year throughout the state. In November Southern Bell installed its one millionth telephone in North Carolina,

Gregory Todd Hayes was born on January 1, at 10:19 a. m., weighing five pounds 12 1/2 ounces. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Henry Hayes

"As long as he was here and-was healthy, I was happy." Dr. Hadley Wilson delivered the

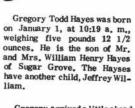
Being the first baby in the County for the new year, the family was honored with gifts from various merchants through promotion sponsored

Gifts were given to the fam-ily from Stone Jewelers, Trailway Laundry and Dry Cleaners, Town House Restaurant, Skyline Bakery, McNeely Furni-ture, Hunt's and Flowers' Photo Shop. Other participating merchants were First National Bank, Dixie Music Shop, Crest Store, Carolina Business Ma-chines, Burgess Furniture Company and Boone Drug.

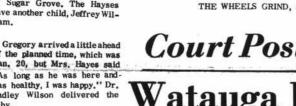


of the planned time, which was Jan. 20, but Mrs. Hayes said

come as the schedule main- ton to handle the direction and tained he should have, it might promotion of the drama during have been more than a week 1968,



WATA presented the family



grader, snow was moved by

States weather-watcher Joe Minor had counted 22 inches

still were dim. Umbrellas were put up against

Horn Group Accepts Resignation Wilcox

The Board of Directors of with a tape recording of Grewith a tape recording of Gregory crying, Mrs. Hayes said torical Association Monday aclaughingly, "As good as he is,
the nurses must have had to tion of Herman W. Wilcox, genpinch him to get him to cry," eral manager of "Horn in the
West." and named Robert Snead. West," and named Robert Snead, If Gregory had decided to Richard Barkley and Lewis Gas

before the county's first baby
was born, Mrs. Hayes said that
tive vice-president of the assoto her knowledge there was not ciation, announced that the three interim basis in conducting the business and promotional aspects of the non-profit organization,

Since Wilcox had earlier announced his intentions to resign. committee had been appointed to consult with him for the purpose of making a recommen-dation for the engagement of supervisory personnel to carry

h his work. Wilcox, who has served as general manager of the drama for the past 12 years, recomname Snead, Barkley and Gaston since each has been closely

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Horn Dates For This Year Set

The performance dates for the 17th season of Horn In The of Directors of the Southern Appalachian Historical Association, the non-profit organization which sponsors the out-

The story of Daniel Boone and the western expansion of America will run June 29 through Aug. 24, nightly except Mondays in the Daniel Boone Amphitheater. Last year the drama played nightly except

Dr. Robert L. Randall, newly elected president of S. A. H. A. who succeeds the late Dr. I. G. Greer, noted that only 49 performances of the drama will be staged this year compared to last year's 56, Dr. Randall is director of placement at Appa-



THE WHEELS GRIND, and the motor roars as ASU men help a friend out of his sticky predicament.

Court Postponed, Schools Closed

Watauga Digs Out From Under Mountainous 22 Inches Snow

Jan. 10. That was the Wednesthe thousands of tons, but it

day that Watauga's schools reand by Tuesday, the prospects

the dense precipitation which at first ranged from sleet to snow, en back again. The sleet base challenged every form of vehicle known to man, lying dangerously deceptive under each new coat of snow.

Tom Winkler, District High-way Engineer, said "It's been a hard one to handle." But by Tuesday, "Most all the main roads and most of the secondary roads were clear."

In addition to state equip-

ment, Winkler said seven or eight pieces of locally owned machinery such as motor graders and dozers also were in use and "will continue around the clock until the thing is cleared up, regardless of how long it takes."

moving operations were slowed down right much "because of the fact that truck plows on our force have not been able to handle it. It is a heavy, sleet-type snow that's hard to move and takes heavier equipment than regular snow plows."

At the corner of Hardin and Howard streets, the accumu-lated snow was higher then the street sign. Tractor-trailers maneuvered with considerable difficulty and in many cases were stranded awaiting the help of wrecker services overloaded

with calls. County court was postponed along with nearly every other public function. Court is to convene Wednesday morning.

Moore Taps Surplus To Get Extra Money

Funds totaling \$1,250,000 have been allocated through Gov. Dan K. Moore for road improvements in the immediate area.

Announcement is made to the Democrat by J. Raymond Smith, Commissioner for the Eleventh Highway Division which embraces Watauga. Money other than that earmarked by the Governor from the Highway Surplus Fund comes from the Primary Highway Bond Funds, Smith says.

Thos. Triplett Named To Ga. School Board

Thomas O. Triplett, Port Wentworth, Ga, alderman and assistant manager of the West Savannah branch of the Citizens and Southern National Bank was appointed to a six year term on the 12-member Board of Education by the County Commissioners recently.

Triplett succeeds B. U. Doublas, vice-president of the Board, whose term expired December

31.
Triplett is vice-president of worth and is a member of the West Chatham Hospital Committee. He and his family are active in the Bonnie Ridge Baptist Church where Triplett serves as deacon, Sunday School superintendent and choir di-

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THOMAS TRIPLETT

lists an allocation of \$250,000 to Caldwell County "to provide passing lanes at short, carefully selected sections, on the mountain portion of U.S. 321 between Lenoir and Blow-ing Rock." This is a major artery into Watauga County from points south. In Watauga County, the Com-

Under Highway Surplus, Smith

missioner lists \$50,000 avail-able for the resurfacing of U.S. 421 from a point near Parkway School to Deep Gap and from U.S. 221 from its junction with U. S. 421 near Deep Gap to the Ashe County line. The resur-facing will be done with a nonskid type of material, as these highway links have been determined safe in dry weather but cause for several wrecks at other times.

Smith says the main concern here is increased public safety. A third allocation from the Highway Surplus Funds is \$50,-000 to supplement \$144,000 already set aside for the pro-posed widening and improving of Faculty Street, Known as the Boone Thoroughfare Plan, the project will traverse the campus of Appalachian State University where officials have asked for underpasses to convey students

from dormitories to class. It is reported that with the increased traffic load of Fac-ulty Street, the underpasses would be urgently required. Also, the street will be rerouted at the upper tennis courts so to involve partial or whole replacement of them. From the Primary Highway

Bond Funds, \$900,000 has been earmarked for a joint Wilkes-Watauga project "for the pro-posed widening and provision of passing lanes on the mountain ortion of U.S. 421 from a point

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Storied Snows Of 1960 ... Hopefully They Won't Be Repeated

Whenever it snows in Boone, the people who lived here in 1960 say a little prayer that it will not turn into a winter like the one Although the story has grown some with the telling in the

With the weather giving a hint of 1960, the Democrat is doing a little reminescing.

It all started on Feb. 12, 1960. That first weekend, 16 inches of snow fell and temperatures ranged from 9 to 34 degrees. Schools were closed and downtown Boone looked a

The following Thursday, Feb. 18, eight more inches was dumped on the area, just as folks were beginning to get dugout. Again schools were closed with drifts piling up to 8 feet and some reaching to 30 feet and more.

The first week of March, the temperatures dipped to minus one degrees adding an ice crust to the melting snow.

Already the mails were being delayed, although not because ilmen weren't trying their best. Oftentimes they would be able to get through some of the roads but were unable to find

The week of March 9, an additional 22 1/2 inches of snow

came down bringing the grand total to 70 inches of snow on the

There had been more snowfall than the 70 inches but because of the warm weather, much of it had melted and refrozen, packing it down.

On March 10, Gov. Luther Hodges declared the four counties of Watauga, Ashe, Avery, and Alleghany as disaster areas. The Red Cross was called in and set up headquarters in

The National Guard also was called and men came into the area from Lenoir and Hickory, Many people volunteered from the town and college and these included Civil Defense forces.

Helicopters from Ft. Bragg flew missions over the disaster area dropping coal, food and hay to isolated areas. Gov. Hodges made a trip to Boone in the heart of the rescue operations to check on the progress and thank the many people who had given their time and energy to the digging out operations.

The snowfall and weather this year may not equal that of 1960, but for some it is fun now to remember the days without school for the children and the adventure of inconvenience, For others, however, there are no fond memories of that winter and hopes are that the present trend will end before it becomes a real comparison to 1960.

Mrs. Henry Hayes is seen here with her son Gregory Todd, the first baby born in Watauga County in the new year, Gregory was born at 10:19 a, m, weighing 5 pounds and 12 1/2 ounces.