

AWARD WINNER

In last 3 years Democrat has won 14 State Press Assn. awards. Eight of them are first place awards.

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

An Independent Weekly Newspaper . . . Eighty-First Year of Continuous Publication

BOONE WEATHER						
1968	Hi	Lo	Snow Prec.	'67	Hi	Lo
July 16	83	63			74	47
July 17	78	59			72	57
July 18	78	59	.14		75	51
July 19	76	61	.09		75	54
July 20	78	59	1.31		73	58
July 21	81	56			76	58
July 22	82	59			75	51

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JULY 25, 1968

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26 PAGES—3 SECTIONS

\$2,190,000 For Gas, Oil, Repairs In 1967

Automobile Ownership Up 41% In Watauga Co.

The average Watauga County resident has become more dependent upon the automobile in his daily life than ever before, according to a new survey.

It shows that a relatively small percentage of local families are now without cars. Many families, on the other hand, have more than one.

The net result is that car registrations are higher in the local area. The rise is attributed to the income gains of the last few years, which have brought bigger and better cars within reach of more people.

The figures on car distributions show an average

of 142 cars for every 100 families in Watauga County as of the first of this year, which is more than was reported for many sections of the country.

The data is contained in the current consumer markets study, released by the Standard Rate and Data Service. It covers every county in the United States.

An increase in the auto population has a direct impact on the economy as a whole, it is shown. More money is spent in the purchase and maintenance of the additional cars, more people are needed to service them and more roads and parking areas are needed to contain them.

The amount of business done by Watauga County service stations alone in the past year, for gas, oil, accessories and repairs, came to \$2,190,000, as compared with the 1963 total of \$1,886,000, according to the report.

A number of factors are listed by the automobile industry to account for the increased number of cars. One is the nation's economic strength, which has produced higher incomes and better living standards.

Another is the expanding networks of roads, which have made suburban living more feasible. Also cited

is the car-hungry teen-agers, who have made the second car a necessity in many families.

In Watauga County, the effect has been to raise car registrations from the 4,610 reported five years ago to the 6,500 listed now.

It was equivalent to a net increase of 41.0 percent, after allowing for those that were discarded.

In the rest of the United States, the gain in the period was only 23.6 percent and, in the State of North Carolina, 31.2 percent.



In a combined demonstration-improvement session on a mid-town parking lot, Mrs. Rachel Hartley (named from left), Mrs. Constance Stallings, Mrs. Lowell Furman and Mrs. Melissa Richardson gather up assorted trash and take a cut at the weeds. Mrs. Hartley is chairman for civic improvement in Boone. (Staff photo)

Richardson gather up assorted trash and take a cut at the weeds. Mrs. Hartley is chairman for civic improvement in Boone. (Staff photo)

Civic Group Has "Working"

Town Parking Lot In Bad Shape

BY RACHEL RIVERS

An off-street-parking sign at a downtown streetlight welcomes visitors and shoppers to use the North Depot Street city parking lot, but it is in poor condition.

Jerry Perry Is Controller At University

Jerry Perry, who joined the administrative staff of Appalachian State University as budget officer in September of 1965, has been given the new title of Controller.

Perry, a native of Bailey, N. C., is to be responsible for budget preparation and control, accounting, internal auditing and all cashing activities.

"It is felt that the new title more clearly defines the duties of the position," said Ned Trivett, Director of Business Affairs at the university.

Perry, who earned the A.B. degree in accounting at Duke



JERRY PERRY

The upper level was closed by weeds a couple of years ago and sports an all-day parking sign which is immediately preceded by an abandoned car.

The lower level, which has of late become popular with business people, has an abandoned car and an abandoned truck and snaky patches of grass working up through cracks in the concrete floor. One entrance to the lower lot has a not-insignificant hole, which at a slow speed, results in a clash of concrete and front bumper and in turn, a knock to the exhaust pipe.

Owners of the property generously allowed the Town of Boone to be responsible for the lots and their use until such time as they are privately developed. But weathering two city administrations, the off-street land was half-abandoned and that part still in use has not recently been tended.

The Boone Civic Improvement group began thinking about the

parking lot and on Wednesday morning, July 17, a few garden club members turned out for a "working." Their purpose was to demonstrate their interest in any and all projects which might add to the attractiveness of the town.

As one commented, they were unable to fill the hole or move the abandoned vehicles, but they got a start by cutting out weeds and this added to the parking lot's attractiveness.

Made up of the Boone clubs of the Watauga Council of Garden Clubs, the Civic Improvement people have arranged for the distribution of litter bags, for one thing. The Blue Ridge Garden Club is responsible for the flower boxes hung along King Street, but a spokesman said finances prohibit their putting up any more just now.

Other plans for civic improvement may include a dogwood trail from Boone to the Horn in the West grounds, cleaning up creeks and provid-

ing flower plots. That's just part of it, but already, certificates of participation are being given for outstanding contributions to community beauty and improvement.

In the near future, representatives of the group hope to meet with City Council to get advice and make suggestions on restructuring several of the Town's old ordinances and to propose some additional ones.

Bell Employees Banquet Guests

Employees of the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company Plant Department in Boone were recognized for their outstanding industrial safety record at a recent banquet.

The department has operated without a motor vehicle or personal injury accident over a three-year period which began in February, 1965. During this time, local company employees worked 82,748 manhours and drove 226,824 miles in company vehicles. J. D. Phillips, District Plant Manager from Asheville, presented a plaque commemorating the safety record.

Boone exchange employees who were honored were K. D. Shook, S. C. Swanson, Plant Foreman, W. E. Rucker, J. D. Bodenhamer, Plant Manager, C. E. Reiley and R. P. Haas. J. H. McGarity, Division Construction Supervisor from Charlotte, presented a similar plaque to Boone Construction employees T. M. Conley, J. A. G. Eller, D. L. Watson, W. L. Waters, E. E. Chambers, J. E. Riggins, and J. W. Stanberry.

Newland Fire Dept. Slates Horse Show

The Newland Volunteer Fire Department will sponsor its second annual Horse and Pony Show July 27th at 2:30 p.m.

It will be held the same location as last year, beside the Newland Knitting Mill.

The show will feature English and Western events with both horse and pony. Events consist of: Lead in Line, English Five and Three Gaited, Ladies and Men's Western Pleasure, Key Hole Race, Model Colt, Rescue

Race, Parade Horse, Ladies and Men's Horsemanship, Western Five and Three Gaited, Basket Weave, Tennessee Walking Horse, Junior and Senior Barrel Race, Egg and Spoon Race, Pole Bending, Ride-A-Buck, Western Pleasure Pony, Trail Horse, Pony Driving Pleasure, Potato Race. There will be a 100 yard race at intermission. Bring your horse and ponies for an afternoon of fun and pleasure. A pie eating contest will also be featured.

Another Mystery Develops

Smelly Water Poses An Unsolved City Problem

Officials Say No Danger To The People

The Town of Boone has another mystery on its hands. According to hundreds of calls to City Hall, city water smells like sewerage, cucumbers, watermelon rind, fish, Chlorox, Texize, disinfectant, dead cows, dead horses and fish scales. In short, it's bitter.

And according to Jack Austin, supervisor of streets and water for Boone, the stench began showing up last week, when he himself thought a sample of water vaguely smelled of cucumbers. To counter the unknown impurity, Austin said he stepped up the chlorinator and the situation began to clear up.

Then about noon Saturday, Austin was called by Ray's Kingburgers, who reported that the chlorine in their water supply was too heavy. Next came a call from photographer George Flowers, who said his water tanks had an odor about them. At Flowers' studio, Austin found that the water was a rusty color and contained residue.

Calling in Jack Cobb, District Health Department Sanitarian, Austin was in touch with State Health Department Engineers in Raleigh. Determining that city water was safe to drink because of chlorination, local and State officials began seeking the cause of the weird occurrence.

Boone Mayor Clyde R. Greene took water samples to Raleigh Monday where an analysis was to be made and reported by telephone at the earliest date. No information was available by Tuesday morning, but Cobb, Austin and the Raleigh engineers continued their on-the-spot probe into the mystery.

Meanwhile, Austin had attempted to draw the city's water from the main reservoir's feeder stream, but found this source was not substantial enough to keep the chlorinator going.

The supervisor said a change in water temperature can cause a shallow lake to "turn over" so that clear and heavy water mix, "just like stirring it with a stick."

In any case, the foul-water problem caused many Boone residents to think their plumbing systems were rusting out or otherwise unfit while others are using less drinking water, pending the officials' findings.

The first problem encountered with the new water system was a shortage which was traced to a major break in an underground line.



THE GREER FAMILY—Competing with 26 bands at the seventh annual Fiddler's Convention in Elkin, the Greer Family of Triplett won second place. At left is William Hartley, electric guitar; Janice Greer playing a six-string guitar; and James Greer with his harmonica. Making appearances on request, the three have performed at several local functions including the Boone camp of the Daniel Boone Wagon Train and talent shows.

Parking Meters Will Bite You, Apt As Not

Parking meter tickets, in a manner of speaking, now have teeth in them.

After several years quietly abiding the whim of the violator, the Town of Boone has instructed its traffic division to enforce the penalties provided for delinquency in paying parking meter fines.

Under the new system, the bite is as follows:

Fifty-cent parking tickets must be paid within 48 hours, as required by city ordinance. Stubs from unpaid tickets then are collected and bills made out in an amount double the original fine. If the owner of the car fails to pay within seven days, a warrant is issued and he is summoned to Mayor's Court.

If found guilty there, the violator will receive an additional fine plus court costs.

For 10 fifty-cent tickets, the statement will read, "Payment of \$10 for the above tickets will close your case." The doubling is done after expiration of the 48-hour deadline for payment.

An estimated 150 statements have been mailed to Boone residents.



CHARLES L. YOUNCE

Chas. L. Younce New Principal Lenoir Jr. Hi

Lenoir, July 16—On August 1, Charles L. Younce will assume duties as principal of Lenoir Junior High School.

A native of Boone, and a resident of Lenoir for the past 17 years, Mr. Younce has served as a teacher at Lenoir Junior High School, principal of East Harper Elementary School, and as a teacher in the Surry County School system.

He had previously served as sales manager of the Lenoir Mirror Company, Union Mirror Company and was connected with

(continued on page two)

"Diary Of Adam And Eve" At Powder Horn Theatre

"The Diary of Adam and Eve," the first segment of the recent Broadway hit musical "The Apple Tree" will be presented by Powder Horn Theatre Friday and Saturday, July 26 and 27. The play is based on a short story by Mark Twain.

The role of Eve will be played by Phyllis MacBryde of Boone.

Phyllis serves as Nancy Ward's understudy for Horn in the West. Tony Lewicki of Green Bay, Wis., will portray Adam. He is the Horn's Jack Stuart.

Roger Howell of Weaverville, N. C., the Horn's Col. MacKenzie, is cast as the snake.

All three cast members have

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