

BOONE WEATHER			
1969	20	21	22
Jan. 21	41	31	.47
Jan. 22	52	31	.45
Jan. 23	46	38	.08
Jan. 24	59	39	.08
Jan. 25	49	20	.30
Jan. 26	34	15	.00
Jan. 27	30	21	.04

Well Ahead Of National Average

Watauga County Spending Averaging \$5,882 Per Family

The Watauga County economy moved ahead in sturdy fashion in the four-year period since 1964, in line with advances made at the national level.

The progress was especially evident in the increased volume of business done by local retail stores. Their sales rose 36.5 percent in the period, according to figures released by the Standard Rate and Data Service.

The overriding credit for the gain goes to the local consumer and to his ability and his willingness to spend freely.

Neither the talk of a possible recession, nor the hike

in Federal taxes, nor the various national problems at home and abroad deterred him.

He spent confidently, with the feeling that he had a job he could count on, an income that was steadily rising and a future that was financially protected, thanks to pensions, health insurance and personal savings.

In the four years, as a result, the sales volume in Watauga County retail stores rose from \$19,691,000 to a total of \$26,880,000. Part of this increase is attributed, of course, to higher prices for merchandise.

The 36.5 percent rise topped the United States rise

of 20.6 percent and that in the State of North Carolina, 26.4 percent.

Related to the local population, the retail sales were equivalent to spending at the rate of \$5,882 per family, which was well over the \$5,290 per family elsewhere in the United States and the \$5,105 in the South Atlantic States.

Nearly every branch of retail business shared in this growth. People bought more cars, more and better clothing, finer furniture, food, cosmetics, household equipment and electrical gadgets.

Directly affected were the 105 retail stores in the local area and the 620 people employed by them. Their payroll rose from \$1,280,000 a year to \$1,912,000 in the period.

With the beginning of the new year, the consensus among economists is that the American economy will continue on its upward course in 1969, as it has for the last eight years, but at a somewhat slower rate during the first few months.

Much depends upon the progress made in settling the Vietnam situation and upon putting the brakes on inflation, they say.

Work To Start On Building March 1

Federal Programs Group Is Told Of Vocational Plans

Various Classes To Give Vital Training

The Watauga County Federal Programs Committee Monday night saw Project IMPACT spring from idea to action in a 16-minute video tape.

It also learned that the Vocational Education Center to be funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission will be put under construction March 1 and completed in time for use in the fall. Title III directors Robert Danner and George Ragan introduced the vocational education and occupational guidance programs, and the work in Project IMPACT (Nov. 21 issue).

Mrs. Charlotte Cole, guidance supervisor in Watauga, told the group that guidance is moving into the elementary schools to provide students with occupational information and promote healthy self-concept, social growth and personality development in the individual. Of slightly more than 50 such

counselors in the State, Watauga has six, whereas the Charlotte-Mecklenburg system has only one, she said.

The program concluded with a talk by Dr. John Goode, coordinator of Title III, N. C. State Department of Public Instruction. Dr. Goode said Title III money in the State comes out to only \$3 per child and Watauga competes with 167 other school units for funding of its programs.

For example, last year 55 proposals were submitted. Only 12 were approved, with Watauga getting two of the 12. Dr. Goode said his office finds that when a school succeeds as Watauga has, "at some point, something happens, something starts to mushroom." School systems find new sources of funds and equipment, often in their own communities.

He feels "This is starting to happen here."

LIAISON

In the fall, the County Board of Education named the 36-member Federal Programs Committee and an eight-member supplement group to participate in federal programs planning and act as liaison between ESEA programs and the people whose children benefit from them.

The first meeting (Nov. 20) was on Title I funds. Prior to the Title III program Monday, Committee Chairman John Marsh appointed Mrs. Sue Murray, Mrs. Rachel Hartley, Ray Minton, Edsel Hodges and Clyde S. Greene as the Review Committee. They will go over proposals for the next school year and may help in formulating summer programs, Marsh said.

Title III differs from Title I, which is for deprived students, in that it serves all children and best succeeds by its innovative aspects.

Danner announced that the Vocational Education Center at Watauga High School will contain four classrooms and three laboratories and allow expansion of some courses and addition of others.

The Center will house a cosmetology course, graphic arts, auto mechanics, and such construction industry classes as carpentry, and masonry. Drafting, introduction to vocations and a distributive education (or co-op work program) also will be included.

George Ragan, the county's other Title III director, discussed IMPACT, the project which employs modern teaching aids.

The Resource Center in the Board of Education Building involves seven people, has a work area where transparencies and 35 mm film strips are made and where printing is done. The county's 81 educational films are stored.

Mrs. Gale Wood is in charge (Continued on page two)



Standing in the living room of their new home in Bethel are Mr. and Mrs. Ted Tester. Because of orthopedic surgery a year ago, Mrs. Tester (the former Edith Anderson) is now able to walk. She and her husband are native Wataugans. (Staff photo)

"The Neglected Disease"

Watauga Woman Feels 10 Feet Tall, Now That She Can Stand

BY RACHEL RIVERS

One North Carolina physician has described arthritis as the neglected disease.

Two years ago the Surgeon General of the United States declared arthritis to be a major national health threat and called for continued and expanded research. And in Chapel Hill, Robert Pace tells why.

As executive director of the North Carolina Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation, Pace says the medical world does not yet know the cause of arthritis "in any of its forms except gout," which is now controllable but still incurable, as are all other forms.

Nationally, there are 16,800,000 arthritics. The number in North Carolina is 446,000 persons. According to the late Dr. Russell L. Cecil, these men, women and children suffer from at least 84 different types of arthritis. Rheumatoid arthritis is the most crippling form, strikes hardest between the ages of 17 and 35.

To add economic insight, a government study reveals that the farmer suffers most; 717,000 of all farm operators and managers have arthritis; 230,000 women farm laborers and 118,000 male farm laborers also are stricken.

Furthermore, with so many unanswered questions at hand, arthritics regularly fall prey to quackery. Pace said that last year, \$315 million was

spent for quackery—medicine, "immune" milk and fake treatments such as copper bracelets. By comparison, only \$15 million was put out for research and programs for arthritis. This includes money from foundations and the Federal Government.

The main work that Pace and his secretary do for the four-year-old organization in Chapel Hill is stay in touch with the

State's 20 branch groups, concentrating primarily on educating the public to the great need for research and community participation toward that goal. Watauga County is not among the few participating communities of Tarheelia.

'BEAUTIFUL' When Mrs. Ted Tester of the Bethel Community stood up one day last year, she re-

members she felt "10 feet tall." She was recovering from orthopedic surgery to relieve the crippling effects of rheumatoid arthritis which struck her when she was 29 years old. Mrs. Tester had not walked a step in 18 years until three days after her January (1968) operation at Charlotte Memorial Hospital.

Her first problem with arthritis (Continued on page two)

Joe Miller Is Winner Of Jaycees' Top Honor

The Boone Jaycees' top honor, the Distinguished Service Award, was presented Monday night to Joe C. Miller, 29, of 103 Hillcrest in Boone.

It was presented at DSA Banquet at Holiday Inn by the 1968 recipient, Glenn Hodges. Miller is pharmacist who is co-owner of the Boone Drug Company and East King Street Pharmacy. He was nominated for the title by the Rev. Robert T. Young, minister of Boone United Methodist Church. After outlining Miller's community activities, Mr. Young wrote of Miller's seven years service as a Scoutmaster, pointing out that some 400 or more young boys have been in his troop and under his influence. "Many of his boys have gone



JOE MILLER IS DSA WINNER

on to win outstanding college and university scholarships and awards and to be real leaders in their high school and colleges." Mr. Young pointed out. "At least five of his boys have gone on to earn their Eagle Scout Awards". Miller is a member of the

District Scout Committee and last year was selected Scouter of the Year. He helped organize and set up Camp Roaring Fork, a Scout camp of some 80 acres which will be available for use by the youth of this community, the minister wrote. "His interest in the young people . . . reveals a willingness to serve unselfishly that I think is unequalled."

Miller is married to the former Joyce Tucker and they have two sons, Joseph 5 and David 1. Son of Mr. and Mrs. F. Cecil Miller, Joe was educated at Appalachian High School, the University of Iowa and received his B. S. in pharmacy from UNC at Chapel Hill. He is a Jaycee, a Mason, (Continued on page two)



If you buy a second car, watch the first one. It may not be there when you get back. So admonishes Glenn Isaacs of Grove Street, Boone, who bought his wife, Carol, a 1966 Chevy II last Tuesday. His own car also was a '66 Chevy II. After taking her car for a spin last Tuesday night, the couple returned home to find his car had been "straight-wired" and driven away. It was abandoned in West Jefferson where it was found Thursday. It had been driven onto a steep bank and the transmission and carburetor taken off. The glove compartment was pried open and emptied of papers. Holes had been punched into the back seat, which was torn out so thieves could get the spare tire out of the locked trunk. The Chevy then was pushed over so a couple of wheels could be removed. (Staff photo)

Rash Of Auto Thefts Is Apt To Raise Insurance

The high auto theft rate which has hit Boone in the last several days could cause the cost of theft insurance to shoot up.

Since October, police have told the newspaper of 10 thefts.

YDC Will Name Officer Slate

The Watauga County Young Democrat Club will meet at 7:30 Friday night at the Courthouse, according to Eddie P. Norris, president. Officers will be elected for the coming year.

781 Signers Ask For Repeal Airport Law

Deerfield and Bamboo community residents concerned with the Watauga County Airport Commission's selection of a site in their area this week delivered a petition to Legislative Representative Jim Holshouser of Boone.

Above 781 signatures was: "We the undersigned citizens of Watauga County are opposed to the condemnation rights vested in the Watauga County Airport Commission and do

hereby petition our elected member of the General Assembly of North Carolina to introduce legislation to repeal House Bill 1397, North Carolina Sessions Law 1967, the amendment to Chapter 470, N. C. Sessions Law 1961."

Sponsors of the petition say as many as 300 more are willing to add their names to the list. Holshouser left for Raleigh Monday and could not be reached for comment.

minor was found on Howard Street in a car that would not start, Harmon said.

Trivette and two minors were later taken into custody. Trivette is being held under \$2,000 bond in the county jail.

Harmon said that 8 and 9 cars were stolen in one weekend but all were recovered. He said one of the minors also was the same one arrested in connection with early December car thefts.

A hearing in the cast against Trivette will come up in District Court session. Agents say that comprehensive coverage is one of the cheapest protections available. A late-model vehicle may be insured for theft, glass breakage, vandalism, fire and other damages for around \$15, the cost varying with the make of car and its point on the depreciation schedule.

That cost could reap a \$3,000 benefit as was the case in September when a car was taken from the Greene-Buick-Pontiac lot in Boone and completely stripped.

Jerry Coe, insurance agent for 23 years here, serviced that and two other claims, one being a \$600 repair job. He also worked with an insured whose planned marriage trip was complicated. The boy woke that morning to find his car had been stolen.

Representing some 12 insurance companies, including Aetna (Continued on page two)