

BOONE WEATHER			
1969	73	72	71
Apr. 15	54	55	77
Apr. 16	72	50	1.29
Apr. 17	77	43	31
Apr. 18	69	54	71
Apr. 19	60	44	32
Apr. 20	60	30	06
Apr. 21	66	36	73



BEGINNING OF IMPROVEMENT—This new sign announcing the entrance to Appalachian State University and its sister in the right background are just the start of a beautification improvement program envisioned by officials at ASU. Director of Business Affairs Ned Trivette said that these signs installed last Thursday were handmade by Clyde Smith of Spruce Pine who works for the parks service in Vermont making similar signs. Valued at "several hundred dollars," the signs are

erected at the University entrance on Hardin Street. A hangup in the development program is that utility pole in the extreme right. It is a main junction for telephone service coming into Boone and Southern Bell so far has been unable to move it but has told the University they plan to relocate it. Trivette said sidewalks as well as other improvements will be added. (Staff photo)

Johnny Mathis Visit Topic Local Interest

While on his way to financial security as a physical education teacher, young Johnny Mathis allowed his friends to goad him into singing one Sunday afternoon at a jam session in a San Francisco club.

George Avakian of Columbia Records happened to be in the audience and an hour later his telegram reached the company's New York offices: "Have found phenomenal 19-year-old boy who could go all the way! Send blank contracts."

Burl Winkler Is Injured As Machine Falls

Lanor—A 42-year-old Watauga man was transferred to a Winston-Salem hospital Thursday night shortly after a soft drink machine fell on him at the new Holiday Inn here.

Within a year after signing with Columbia, Johnny Mathis followed his first record—Wonderful—with two more million-sellers, It's Not For Me to Say, and Chances Are.

Caldwell County Ambulance Service personnel identified the injured man as Burl Winkler, Route 3, Boone.

Mathis will be in Boone Saturday night for a performance jointly sponsored by the Boone Optimist Club and Appalachian Men's A Club. Tickets are on sale at the Student Government Association's office in W. H. Plemmons Student Center and at the central office of The Northwestern Bank, East King Street, Boone.

One member of the ambulance service said Winkler had "no feelings in his legs up to his knees" when they began the trip to the N. C. Baptist Hospital about 6 p. m.

Tickets for students and children. (Continued on page two)

Winkler was quoted as saying he was moving a drink machine on a hand truck when his ankle twisted and the machine fell on him.

Democrats To Nominate City Candidates In May

It planned Winkler to the concrete floor and covered him from his chest down. Other workmen removed the machine and ambulance personnel were notified of the accident at 4:58 p. m.

A convention of Boone Democrats to nominate a party slate for the June 17 town election has been scheduled tentatively for Saturday, May 17.

Winkler was first brought to a local hospital for treatment and then was taken to Winston-Salem.

Announcement of the convention was made this week by Dr. Ray Derrick, chairman of the Democratic Party in Boone. The convention will be convened at 7:30 p. m. at the court-



JOHNNY MATHIS, the only singer to have four of his albums listed simultaneously as best sellers on national music charts . . .

house. Dr. Derrick said the executive committee met Monday night to make plans for the convention. Dr. Derrick said the party will nominate at least one candidate for the mayorship and each of the five town commissioner seats. So far, Boone Republicans have not decided about a convention. Cecil Miller, chairman of the Watauga Republican Party, said that no decision about a convention will be made before May. It can be delayed until June 1, he said. Miller noted that candidates for the town board race do not necessarily have to be nominated by party convention. The 1967 (Continued on page two)

To Refine Present Services Blair Says Urgent Needs Of City About \$200,000

Asks Officials To Take Home Lists For Study

City Manager Neal Blair Jr. presented a list of 33 "urgent needs of the Town of Boone" as City Council began wrapping up the agenda of its April meeting.

Blair, who estimated the overall cost at roughly \$200,000, asked Mayor Clyde R. Greene and the three aldermen to take home the lists to study. The city manager also had said the costs he put down were above regular operating expenses.

The five top items are \$30,000 for extensive water and sewer line repair, \$20,000 for extensive water and sewer installation, \$18,000 for an additional back-hoe, \$16,000 for four additional men and \$15,000 for pay raises for town employees.

Ten items are listed under extensive street work and clean-up:

- Vacuum cleaner for sidewalks, \$500.
- Tractor with rotary broom and cycle, \$4,500.
- Tar pot, \$2,500.
- New dump truck, \$4,000.
- Installation of street signs, \$1,500.
- Resurface Depot and College streets, \$2,000.
- Sidewalk rebuilding (three to five dollars per square yard) no price given.
- Four additional men, \$16,000.
- Street lights, 40 at \$50 a piece, total \$2,000.
- And four-lane King Street, no price given.

II. GARBAGE COLLECTION: Additional garbage truck, \$15,000. Three additional men to operate truck, \$12,000. Plastic bags for garbage collection, no estimate. Build road at city dump, \$800.

III. WATER-SEWER DEPARTMENT: Extensive water and sewer line repair, \$30,000. Extensive water and sewer installation, \$20,000. Additional back-hoe, \$18,000. Three additional men (one for plumbing inspection), \$12,000.

Need 300 water meters, \$10,000. Clean and repaint water tank in Junaluska Heights, \$2,500. Air relief valve at dam, no estimate given.

Diaphragm pump-clean Coffey Dam, \$800. One and one-half H. P. pump and pipe—High elevation, \$2,000. Engineers' level, \$350.

IV. POLICE DEPARTMENT: Need two additional men (one officer, one dispatcher), \$8,000. Police training, no figure. New car, \$2,500.

V. CITY HALL: Radio equipment (four mobile units, one transmitter), \$3,000. Copy machine, \$500. (Continued on page two)



UNITED STATES POST OFFICE AT TODD (Weston photo)

Dedication May 4

New Todd Postoffice Is Remindful Of Busier Times

Citizens of Todd, mindful that an important event in the community is approaching, may be doing a little extra painting-up and fixing-up this spring.

Dedication ceremonies for the handsome new Todd Post Office will be held at 2 p. m. Sunday, May 4.

And of course, the proudest gal in Todd is Mrs. Eleanor Moretz, the postmistress. Though the event will bring some mighty important visitors to Todd, like U. S. Sen. Sam J. Ervin Jr. and Rep. James T. Broyhill, Mrs. Moretz is full of the historical significance of the occasion. She has compiled a brief account of the Todd of yesteryear.

It was the deer and elk that crossed through the valley that prompted the first settlers to name the settlement Elk's Crossing. In 1837 the first post office was established.

The community decided to change its name later to Todd, in honor of a local man, a Colonel Todd who was a Civil War hero.

And early in this century, the demand for lumber brought a thriving new aura to the economy of Todd. There were eight or ten stores, a bank, a drug store, Masonic and Elk lodge halls, four doctors, a dentist and numerous enterprising lumbermen. The hotel did a thriving business.

The railroad became Todd's major transportation connection with the outside world. Its rails hauled out millions of board feet of lumber to factories and mills of the nation.

At Todd, the engine got a special treatment. It was the end of the line. Before it began its return trip, the engine puffed onto a large turntable. Crewmen leaned against big poles at

either end and slowly turned the engine back in the direction of Jefferson.

The demand for lumber and the huge areas of virgin timber completely captured the thought's of Todd's citizens. They made plenty of money from the product. In the process, they failed to notice what Mrs. Moretz describes as the "over-dependence of Todd's economy" (Continued on page two)

Local Man Is Victim Of Armed Robbery

An armed robbery, one of the first in this area in quite a while according to Watauga County Sheriff Ward Carroll, was pulled off last Tuesday night (April 15) at the home of a leather goods dealer.

Sheriff Carroll said that Sterling Carroll, was robbed and bound up at gunpoint by three men who pretended to be pro-

spective customers. About 7:30 a lone man came to the door of the Carroll home on the Wilkesboro Road just past Vannoy's Drive-In saying he wanted to buy some merchandise. Carroll keeps his wares in the basement of his house.

The Sheriff said apparently two other men had waited in the car while the first man gained entrance.

In the basement, the man pulled a .38 revolver while he took (Continued on page two)

Marsh Is Given Savings & Loan League Honor

Chicago—James P. Marsh, Watauga Savings and Loan Association, Boone, North Carolina, has been appointed to the 1969 Insurance and Protective Committee of the United States Savings and Loan League.

The appointment was announced today by Tom B. Scott, Jr., of Jackson, Mississippi, president of the League, which is the nationwide trade organization of the savings and loan business and represents more than 5,000 savings associations and co-operative banks.

The Insurance and Protective Committees studies and reports on the latest developments in the insurance field of interest to the savings and loan business and makes recommendations with respect to protective devices against robberies and holdups and the regulations issued under the Bank Protective Act of 1968.

City Registration To Begin May 24th

Boone's Town Board of Aldermen Thursday set a definite schedule for registration for the city election and named Fred Tarleton of Hunting Road, Boone, as registrar.

Mrs. Fred Mast and Tom L. Council already had been appointed judges for the Tuesday, June 17, municipal balloting. City Secretary Bonnie Greene had found a stipulation in the election law that the registrar remain open from 9 to 9 at the polling place, City Hall.

But the Aldermen decided that 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. will be sufficient on Saturdays.

The registration period will run from Saturday, May 24, to Saturday, June 7, excluding Sundays. The books will be open for registration from 9 to 5 at the Fred Tarleton residence, then between those hours at the polling place on Saturdays, May 24 and 31 and on June 7.

Challenge day will be conducted at City Hall from 9 a. m. until 3 p. m. Saturday, June 14.

Social Security Called Good Buy

From a dollars and cents standpoint, how good a "buy" is Social Security proving to be for the average Watauga County worker?

After he retires, does he stand to get back more or less than he paid into the pension fund over the years?

According to studies made by the National Federation of Independent Business and others, Social Security is a real bargain for some, but considerably less so for others.

Those who are now retired, or are soon to be so, are the big winners. They will break even in less than five years and, after that, they will be ahead of the game.

For the young workers, who will be contributing to the fund for many years to come, it is quite a different story.

To refer to the records, the latest official figures show residents of Watauga County to be collecting Social Security benefits at the rate of \$1,836,000 a year.

Only a fraction of that payout, however, was contributed to the pension fund in any one year by the recipients. The remainder came from employers and from workers who are not yet eligible for retirement.

According to the studies, a young man in Watauga County, entering the labor force this year at age 25 and paying the maximum tax for the next 40 years, will personally be paying about \$17,000 toward Social Security.

With interest figured at 4 percent, this will accumulate to a fund of nearly \$38,000, exclusive of contributions made for him by his employer.

What he and his wife will get back, assuming that they live 14 years after reaching 65, which is the normal expectancy at that age, will be approximately \$55,000.

Taking Watauga County's entire 25-year-old population, now numbering close to 160, as an example, their tax payments and interest in the 40 years would amount to some \$6,080,000, and their total returns, if married and living the full span, to \$8,500,000.

In answer to contentions that a person could do better by buying insurance with the money, or keeping it in savings, the Social Security Administration points out that financial aid in cases of disabling illnesses, widowhood, needy children and other contingencies are also included for the worker and his family.