

The Democrat is first place winner in State Press Assn. General Excellence Competition this year—the third time in four years.

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER

1969	Hi	Lo	Pres.	Snow	W	W	W	W	W
June 24	81	61							74 60
June 25	83	59	36						81 62
June 26	85	59							85 66
June 27	85	59							75 57
June 28	85	66							69 49
June 29	85	62	02						84 45
June 30	81	60							89 54

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY JULY 3, 1969

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26 PAGES—2 SECTIONS

Freshmen To Get Welcome

The Community-Campus Relations Committee is planning a town-wide welcome for the 1,600 freshmen expected to enroll this fall in Appalachian State University.

Part of the welcome-to-town promotion for faculty, as well as students, will be the posting of five billboards. Also, a Sunday will be set aside when local families will take campus guests home for dinner.



IN THE SHADE was the place to be at "Singing on the Mountain" Sunday. Thousands braved the bright sunshine around the platform, however, to get a closer look at George Beverly Shea, Arthur Smith, Dr. Leighton Ford, and the others who took part.—Morton photo.

Some Stores To Open On Fourth

The manager of the Boone Chamber of Commerce says several Boone stores will remain open Friday, July 4.

Pointing out that a vote of merchants was taken some time ago, Fred McNeal says "Results of the vote were mixed, but it was felt that in the interests of the tourists, the essential stores should be open to serve them."

He did not list which stores voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Richards Takes Over As Supt. Schools

Dr. Swanson Richards, a 38-year-old Surry County educator, took over the helm of the Watauga County School system Tuesday.

Dr. Richards was named to the post in May by the Watauga County Board of Education. He succeeds W. Guy Angell who retired Jan. 1 after 14 years in the position.

In assuming the post, Dr. Richards relieved Willis Moretz who had been acting superintendent since Angell's retirement. Dr. Richards' appointment was described as "another step in upgrading the county school system" by John H. Hollar, chairman of the board of education.

Dr. Richards has been associate superintendent of Surry County Schools since 1962. He is a graduate of Appalachian State University. He received his masters degree from ASU and his doctorate from Florida State University.

County Rural Council Will Meet At Matney

The Watauga County Council of Rural Organizations will meet at Matney Community Building at 7:30 Tuesday evening, July 8.

All rural organizations are expected to have someone from their group present to report activities and help make plans for future projects.

The tentative program is as follows: E. Wade Moretz, presiding; welcome, Matney Community Club; purpose of meeting; reports from rural organizations; discussion period; planning future meetings; and adjournment.

All people who are active or interested in rural organizations are invited to attend says L. E. Tuckwiller, County Extension Chairman.

County Offices To Be Closed Fourth

All county offices will be closed July 4, according to Tax Supervisor James C. Lyons. He said the offices housed in the Courthouse will be open Saturday, July 5, from 8:30 to noon.

Organization Is Completed New Boone Officials Take Office Tuesday

First Official Board Meeting Is Due Tonight

Boone's newly elected and enlarged town board officially took over the governmental reins Tuesday morning when they were sworn into office.

The new board immediately scheduled its first public meeting for 7:30 tonight (Thursday). Among the first items on the agenda will be a review of the new town budget as adopted by the immediate past board.

The new budget calls for a \$1.10 tax rate and an estimated expenditure of \$525,544.03 for the 1969-70 fiscal year which began July 1.

Mayor Gordon Winkler was sworn into office for his tenth term by outgoing Mayor Clyde Greene. Winkler proceeded to swear in the new five-man board of aldermen: A. E. McCreary, Dr. Len D. Hagan, Crater Marsh, Howard J. Cottrell and R. Clyde Wineberger.

Upon nomination by Cottrell, McCreary was named mayor-pro-tem. Wineberger was elected clerk of the board.

Under the new plan for a five-man board, a system of staggered terms will be in effect. McCreary and Dr. Len Hagan, two top vote-getters in the June 17 election, will serve for four years.

Marsh and Cottrell, third and fourth, respectively, will serve two years. In 1971 and thereafter their seats will be subject to election for four-year terms.

Wineberger, fifth high man in the field of 12 candidates, will serve the regular two-year term seat which will be subject to election every two years. This is the seat that will assure a new majority being subject to election every two years.

The new term will be the tenth for Winkler as mayor of Boone. He was in his ninth term as mayor when he was named to the State Senate in 1961.

As usual, the town will get the bulk of its revenue from ad valorem taxes. Such sources in 1969-70 are expected to amount to \$293,508.33. Water and sewer rents are estimated at \$108,000. The balance of revenues will come from an assortment of sources, including \$29,200 from the state for Powell Hill street allocations.

Though the tax rate for the new fiscal year is the same figure (\$1.10) as last year, it will bring in more revenue. Until this year, the town, like the county, had had its property tax rate on 45 per cent of the total assessed property. Since the town gets its tax records from the county, the assessment ratio this year will be the same as for the county.

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SHOWMEN, ALL—These are part of the fancy riders who made the 1969 Daniel Boone Wagon train such a success. They came from towns throughout the Piedmont and mountains to gather in North Wilkesboro last Monday to begin the four-day trip to Boone. (Staff photo)



HEAT OF THE TRAIN—The summertime dress of this horseman as he rides westward in the annual Daniel Boone Wagon Train Parade through Boone suggests that it was a hot morning. The parade climaxed the annual trek of the train from North Wilkesboro to Boone, commemorating the westward trail the illustrious pioneer paved through the area. (Staff photo)



ALL OF THE PRINCIPALS at "Singing on the Mountain" took to their shirt sleeves on the mighty warm day that everybody seemed to enjoy. Left to right: television star Arthur Smith, evangelist Dr. Leighton Ford of the Billy Graham team, noted hymn singer George Beverly Shea, and the co-chairmen of the sing, Joe Lee Hartley and Robert Hartley, sons of the founder of the event.—Morton photo.

No Early End High Interest, Land Bank Meeting Is Told

There's no early end in sight for high interest rates, the annual meeting of the Federal Land Bank Association of Boone was told here Saturday.

A record crowd of 1,220 stockholders attended the meeting held in the Appalachian School Auditorium.

The prediction that high interest rates may not loosen soon came from Robert A. Darr, president of the Federal Land Bank of Columbia, S. C.

Explaining why interest rates today are higher, Darr said that money is a commodity, that is, its cost is subject to change.

He noted that the parent association, the Federal Land Bank of Columbia, expects to pay eight per cent interest on debentures it plans to sell this month. The sale will provide the association with money to lend, he said.

He explained that the higher interest the association must pay comes because money is a scarce commodity.

He pointed out, too, that federal policies are planned to try to discourage borrowing as a means to control inflation. S. C. Eggers, president of the FLBA of Boone, presided.

assisted by John H. Hollar, manager.

The stockholders came from the seven counties served by the Boone association: Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Caldwell, Mitchell, Watauga and Wilkes.

Prediction that agriculture

faces a growing demand to produce, U. S. Rep. James E. Broyhill of Lenoir, told the stockholders that new technology will be needed to meet the demand. And this means credit to utilize new technology, he said.

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Busy Week End Reported At Beech Mtn. Airport

It was a busy weekend at Beech Mountain airport when some 50 visiting airplanes settled down on the facility of the Carolina Caribbean Corporation.

Saturday was fun time for the children at nearby Grandfather Home. Three CCC airplanes were kept busy from 9 to 12 taking the children on extensive free flights across the sprawling hill country.

One youngster, a lad with a fetching snaggle-toothed smile, allowed: "I never had so much fun in my life, even if I was scared half to death."

Sunday, company craft took a number of the residents of the area who had never before been aloft, on short flights.

The field on the former Whitehead plantation, has a paved runway of 4600 feet and has been used by all sorts of craft, including Lear jets.

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Wagon Train Is Called Best In Its Seven Years

MORE PICTURES ON INSIDE PAGE

"It was the smoothest train ever" and it thrilled the parade crowd.

Dewitt Barnett, wagon master for the seventh annual Daniel Boone Wagon Train, reflected back over the course of the 30-mile trip from North Wilkesboro to Boone and said "everybody enjoyed the entire trip."

The trip was culminated Saturday morning with a grand parade through downtown Boone by the entire train. The Wagon Train was joined by several thousand spectators in salute to the pioneering accomplishments of the illustrious Daniel Boone nearly 200 years ago.

Passing in review were 77 wagons and 250 riders on horse-

back, Barnett said. They were led by Chief Scout Hubert Clodfelter of Kernersville.

Last year's contingent consisted of 118 wagons and 282 riders.

The big train has its origin in North Wilkesboro where it makes up for two days. It left the Wilkes County town Tuesday morning. They spent Tuesday night in Ferguson, Wednesday night in Darby and Thursday night in Triplett, before arriving for their last night of camp Friday afternoon in Boone.

Here they were guests at the Optimist Park where the club and the Deep Gap Volunteer Fire Department sponsored dinners on the grounds.

The Wagon Train was begun seven years ago to commemorate the migration of folk led by Daniel Boone, explorer of the trail to the west, from his home in the Yadkin Valley near

Ferguson to Kentucky in 1775. The event has grown each year and has developed into a tribute of national acclaim to the legendary pioneer hero.

Two New Posts Filled At ASU

Officials at Appalachian State University have announced the appointment of two men to fill two newly-created administrative positions on the university campus. Both effective July 1, Richard Carroll Blackburn will assume office as assistant registrar, and Alton Brooks McLeod will become assistant director of admissions.

A native of Ashe County Blackburn was graduated from Healing Springs High School in Ashe County. He received his B. S. degree in biology from Appalachian State University in 1960, and his masters degree, also from the University, in biology and secondary education in 1964.

He has taught in Maryland for two years, and from 1962 until this year, he was a member of the faculty at Ashe Central High School, serving as principal of the school for the year 1967-68. He has also taught extension courses for Wilkes Community College in Ashe County.

Blackburn is a member of the North Carolina Education Association, the National Education Association, the Jaycees, the Ashe County Planning Commission, the Ashe County Executive Industrial Commission and the Appalachian Regional Library Commission.

Married to the former Mary Jean Krider of Boone, the Blackburns attend the Baptist Church. They will be living temporarily in Jefferson where Mrs. Blackburn

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Costs \$10,447,000 To Run Watauga Cars

With many Watauga County families planning to take automobile trips this summer to various sections of the country, the matter of cost gets top consideration.

Will it be greater than it was two years ago, when the American Automobile Association figured that travel requirements for a couple, operating on a moderate budget, were about \$36 per day?

The indications are that it will be noticeably more this year. The basic expenses—for food, overnight lodging, gasoline and highway tolls—have all moved upward.

The trend is to be seen in the latest data on the subject, from the Commerce Clearing House, the AAA and others.

On the basis of their findings, adjusted for price increases, the vacationing Watauga County couple must

expect to spend about \$5 more per day than in 1967.

Their daily outlay for necessary expenditures will run close to \$41. And this does not include any provision for admissions to places of interest, for souvenirs or for recreation.

The cost is based upon 300 miles of travel per day, with the car averaging 15 miles to the gallon.

Provided for, in the \$41 per day budget, are \$15.50 for meals and snacks, which is \$2.50 more than in 1967, \$13 for overnight accommodations, a \$1 increase, \$9 for oil and gas, also \$1 more than before, and \$3.50 for tips and miscellaneous, up 50 cents.

Of even greater importance to the Watauga County car owner than the cost of the vacation trip is how much

it is costing him per year to own and operate his car.

According to the latest estimates, based upon current prices, it comes to \$1,550 for a standard-size car in the popular price range, driven 10,000 miles a year. This is 15.5 cents a mile. It was 14.6 cents two years ago, the AAA reported.

Of the total, \$1,160 is in fixed costs, such as insurance, depreciation and license fees, and \$390 in variable costs, for gas, oil, tires and maintenance.

For the 6,740 passenger cars in Watauga County, car ownership amounts to a hefty \$10,447,000 a year.

Local gas stations have profited from the rising number of cars in the area. Their receipts last year reached \$2,380,000, an increase over the prior year's \$2,190,000.