

1969	Hi	Lo	Precip.	Snow	'68	Hi	Lo
July 8	81	65	24		76	58	
July 9	73	60	19		72	55	
July 10	81	63			68	60	
July 11	74	62			75	55	
July 12	79	61	2.19		73	57	
July 13	80	61			73	57	
July 14	80	52			60	60	



TWO AFTERNOONS IN ROW without rain brought a crowd larger than ever before to the Highland Games at Grandfather Mountain Saturday and Sunday. The gathering is shown witnessing a performance of the famed Black Watch of Canada Bagpipe

Band. The 1969 gathering of the Scottish Clans was considered a complete success by the sponsoring Scottish societies, Hugh Morton photo.

Work To Start Immediately Parkway Contract Let On Grandfather Link

2.9 Miles To Be Built For Over Million

Blowing Rock, July 14—Superintendent of the Blue Ridge Parkway, Granville B. Liles, announced this week that the contract for 2.9 miles of the Parkway, over the newly acquired Grandfather Mountain section has been awarded to Charles Blalock and Sons of Sevierville, Tenn.

In making the announcement, Mr. Liles said that this was the first of two sections over the Grandfather area to be contracted. The contract includes the area from near Holloway Mountain Road south of Blowing Rock toward Beacon Heights, a total of 2.9 miles.

"We also hope," Liles said, "to start construction soon from the other end, but I must point out that the rate of construction will depend on appropriations from the Congress."

The National Park Service let the contract for \$1,027,440. The Blalock firm has 300 days in which to complete this project.

The strategic piece of land needed to complete the Grandfather Mountain link of the Parkway was given without cost to the federal government June 18 by the owner, Hugh Morton.

The Grandfather Mountain link is just a little over seven miles and is the only uncompleted section of the 470-mile mountain highway which runs from the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina.

Two bridges costing in excess of \$390,000 are now under construction at each end of the Grandfather Mountain section, at Blowing Rock and at Beacon Heights. The contractor is Troitino and Brown Construction Co. of Asheville.

Liles told the Blowing Rocket that both bridges are expected to be completed by the fall of 1970 and that the target date for completion of the road around Grandfather Mountain is 1972 when the National Park Service celebrates its 100th anniversary.

"Now that this first section of new parkway is contracted, we have only an additional four miles to complete the entire Parkway, some 470 miles," Liles said.

Work is expected to begin immediately.

Jack Newton Plays With Texas Band

Denton, Tex.—Jack Newton of Boone is playing clarinet in the North Texas State University Summer Concert Band which includes personnel from 11 states and Mexico.

Made up of 73 students ranging from freshmen to seniors.

(Continued on page two)



HOME TOUR—The Blowing Rock home of Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Newton will be one of the five stops on the annual home tour planned Saturday, July 26, in Blowing Rock. The tour is sponsored by the Women of the Church of St. Mary's of the Hills Episcopal Church as a fund-raising project. The Newton home was built about 40 years ago of native rock. It is situated in the midst of acres of private grounds on the highest site in Blowing Rock, with an unobstructed view across the John's River Gorge.

Eleventh Tour Of Homes Is Set At Blowing Rock

The eleventh annual summer tour of homes in Blowing Rock will be held Friday, July 25, from noon to 4:30 p. m.

The tour is sponsored by the Women of the Church of St. Mary's of the Hills Episcopal Church. Lunch will be served by the Women of the Church in the parish hall starting at 10:30 a. m.

The Democrat Recognized By Heart Assn.

Chapel Hill—The North Carolina Heart Association recently recognized The Watauga Democrat for distinguished journalism in the cardiovascular field by awarding it the Association's 1969 Willard G. Cole Award.

This award, presented annually, was named after the late Pulitzer Prize-winning Tar Heel editor, who prior to his death in 1965 issued the challenge that "the public and its news media should unite under the banner of education for survival to combat the tragic waste of human resources resulting from cardiovascular disease."

The Watauga Democrat was one of two newspapers receiving the Willard G. Cole Award this year. The other recipient was The Zebulon Record.

This year's tour will include five visits, according to Mrs. John Gaumer, chairman of the tour. All transportation from the church and on the tour will be furnished by the Women of the Church.

Tickets, \$3 each, will be on sale at the church or by contacting Mrs. Spencer Percival, ticket chairman.

Highlights of the tour will be the following: the home of Mrs. Virginia Bell Rhodes on Fairway Drive, home of Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Newton on Pinnacle Avenue, home of Mr. and Mrs. Pinckney Rankin on Rankin Road, Gorge View Condominium Apartments, and the summer shop of Montaldo's.

Two Area Students On W. F. Dean's List

Two students from Boone qualified for the second semester dean's list at Wake Forest University.

They are Sandra Joy Cook, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Billy J. Cook of Route 4, and Jenny Lou Robinson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Robinson of Route 1.

Miss Cook was a freshman during the past semester. She has been elected to the Honor Council.

Miss Robinson was a sophomore. She was a majorette, secretary of the Young Democrats Club, and song leader of Laurels Society, women's social organization.

The complete tour is expected to take two hours. Refreshments will be served at the last stop.

Child Is Hurt When Struck By Truck On King

Seven-year-old Ronald Wayne Warren of Clawson Trailer Court was in satisfactory condition Tuesday after being struck the day before by a panel truck on East King Street.

Ronald was struck by the WAMY panel truck in front of Lowe's, some 300 feet from the NC 194 intersection. He suffered a fractured skull and fractured right shoulder, according to Boone Police Chief Clyde Tester.

The accident occurred at 2:30 p. m. Monday, according to police reports. Ronald was struck by a truck driven by William W. Carruth, 22, of Box 96, Sugar Grove.

Carruth was traveling east. He told police that he first saw the Warren youth about 20 feet away. Marks indicated that his truck skidded 54 feet on the highway, according to police.

Tester said that no charges have been filed. Investigation is continuing.

The youth was taken to Watauga County Hospital where his condition was reported satisfactory Tuesday.

Housing Problem Is Faced At ASU

With an expected enrollment of just under 6,000 students for fall quarter, Appalachian State University faces its usual housing shortage.

In light of this fact, the university officials are asking those who have rental facilities available to contact the campus housing office to register their facilities for incoming students.

Appalachian State University is not empowered to act as a negotiator between the renter and tenant, but ASU will supply

the available information to prospective tenants.

An active list of available housing is kept in the housing office. No actual listing can be taken by phone, but a form will be mailed to the person having housing available if so requested.

Those desiring information on having rental housing listed with the Office of Student Housing should contact T. Richard Tickle, Director, at 264-8571, extension 340 at the university.

Dr. Eggers To Be Speaker As 450 Get Degrees At University

Dr. Graydon Poe Eggers, the retiring chairman of the Department of English at Appalachian State University, will deliver the graduation address at ASU's summer commencement exercises Saturday Aug. 16.

Scheduled to retire at the end of Appalachian's summer session, Dr. Eggers will culminate a 42-year teaching and administrative career at Appalachian, ASU's senior faculty member

for the past several years. Dr. Eggers came to Appalachian in 1927 as an instructor in English. He assumed chairmanship of the department in 1946.

Dr. Eggers, 40 years ago, coached the institution's first

football team, and in 1945 he headed the Mountaineer basketball team. He prefers to be remembered, however, as a teacher of English, and as a department chairman who emphasized high academic standards and effective teaching.

He remarked when he announced his retirement last fall: "This has been a most rewarding career for me because I believe that teaching is one of the great professions. I have said before that it is on a par with the ministry and with medicine. If you have taken care of a person's mind, body and spirit, you have done justice to him."

Dr. Eggers' research has concentrated on Middle English (Continued on page two)

Mrs. Harvey Ayers Named March Dimes Chairman

Mrs. Harvey Ayers of Eagle Drive, Boone, has become chairman of the Watauga County Chapter, The National Foundation—March of Dimes.

Mrs. Ayers succeeds George C. Thomas, who has been chairman for the last five years. As a volunteer, Thomas has been named director of The Blue Ridge Council of Chapters which he will assist in fund-raising programs, recruitment and motivation of volunteers.

The new chapter chairman states she is gratified that she was chosen to take "such a responsible position with the March of Dimes. We have children and look forward to having grandchildren some day. I hope that by the time this day comes, we will have sufficient knowledge so that we can anticipate the 'blessed event' without any great fear."

Mrs. Ayers continued, "Over 700 babies being born each day with birth defects . . . should cause us great concern. Even today, we know the causes of a number of birth defects and most of these can be prevented."

"The history of The National Foundation is one that we all can be proud of," she said. "First, the Foundation supplied the respiratory equipment, braces and other necessary equipment to make life more bearable for those stricken with polio. Then came the Salk Vaccine and later the oral vaccine for the prevention of this great destroyer of our young."

"Now in the fight against

birth defects, over 105 Birth Defects Treatment Centers are in operation," Mrs. Ayers said. "Only last year a vaccine was developed to prevent Rh blood disease in babies born to Rh negative mothers. Now we have just last month had the Rubella (German measles) vaccine licensed. With proper use of this vaccine, expectant mothers can have no real concern about contracting this virus that could kill or cripple her unborn child."

Jon A. Kaigler III, field representative for Western North Carolina, said that Mrs. Ayers brings to the organization a wealth of experience, having served as Mothers March Chairman, teen advisor and chapter advisor. "It is devoted volunteers like Mrs. Ayers that makes the March of Dimes the great voluntary health organization that it is," he said.

In his new post, Thomas also will direct the public education on birth defects while continuing to handle all aid requests and referrals to centers for Watauga.

Horn In West Far Ahead In Ticket Sales

Paid attendance at Horn In The West has surpassed last season's record box office totals by 21.7 percent through the first 15 performances of the Kermit Hunter outdoor drama.

Through the first 15 dates last year, 7,460 mountain vacationers had seen the drama; this year the Horn has drawn 9,528 in as many performances. Nearly 3,200 persons attended the show last week as opposed to 2,428 in the corresponding week in 1968.

Nightly, except Monday, performances of the exciting Daniel Boone saga will continue through Aug. 23.

\$1,166,000 Of Federal Aid Locally

To what extent is Watauga County sharing in the distribution of Federal funds going to states and localities across the country under the grants-in-aid programs?

Of the nearly \$18 billion handed out by Washington in the past year, how much went to the local area?

Judging from figures released by the National Industrial Conference Board and from a state-by-state analysis made by the Tax Foundation, a non-profit organization that does research in public spending and taxation, Watauga County's share was relatively large.

An estimated \$1,166,000 in grants were awarded for local purposes under a number of aid programs covering such needs as housing, child welfare, hospitals,

schools, roads, education and urban renewal.

Throughout the State of North Carolina as a whole, the grants totaled \$398,000,000 as compared with the previous year's \$330,100,000.

The figures refer only to grants-in-aid and do not cover Federal spending in local areas for goods and services, it is noted. Nor do they include the matching funds that must be provided locally to qualify for many of the grants.

The cost of the benefits is met, in whole or in part, by each community through Federal income and excise taxes that are allocated to the grants-in-aid programs.

Watauga County's contribution to the programs in the past year was approximately \$633,000, according to a

breakdown of the Tax Foundation's figures. The statewide total amounted to \$318,300,000.

In some states, the contributions exceeded the aid that was received and, in others, the reverse was true. No attempt was made to balance the two. Awards were made on the basis of local needs and requirements.

The reports show that the number and the size of Federal grants to states and communities have been multiplying in recent years. During 1968 nearly \$18 billion was distributed, close to three times the 1960 total.

The biggest expansions have been for medical care, community development, housing, commerce and transportation and aid to elementary and secondary schools.