



WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER				
1966	Hi	Lo	Pres.	Show
Sept. 23	68	48		
Sept. 24	67	47	30	
Sept. 25	70	55		
Sept. 27	71	47		
Sept. 27	72	48		
Sept. 28	63	33		
Sept. 29	65	34		

VOL.—LXXXII—NO. 13

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1969

10 CENTS PER COPY

22 PAGES—5 SECTIONS



GREETING WATAUGA VOTERS Friday was Congressman Jim Broyhill of the 10th Congressional District. With Broyhill for this photo at the Watauga County Courthouse in Boone were Stacy Eggers III (left) and the Rev. Theodore Hellman, an evangelist who resides in the Beaver Dam community. (Staff photo)

County Schools To Get Half Million Bond Cash

One-half million dollars worth of the proposed \$1.4 million school bond issue has been earmarked for improvements at the seven county elementary schools.

Watauga County voters will decide the issue on Nov. 4 at the same time they cast bal-

lots on the proposed one-cent local option sales tax.

The improvements would include projects ranging from re-

2nd Grader Sells Her Pumpkins For \$6 To Give To Debbie's Cup

Andrea Martin, a second grader at Appalachian Elementary and daughter of the Wilcox Martins of Ferrell Drive in Boone, has become the youngest known contributor to Debby's cup.

The fund was started in June to raise money for plastic surgery for little Deborah Coffey, age 3, who was severely scarred when she hit into a power cable while playing near her Blowing Rock home.

Andrea learned about the situation and after she had raised her pumpkins, she decided to sell them and donate the proceeds to Debby Coffey. Monday, she came to the newspaper office in Boone and left \$6 to be forwarded to Blowing Rock for the worthwhile cause.

The campaign has attracted donations from far and wide and Mrs. Jake Jones of The Northwestern Bank of Blowing Rock reported last week that contributions had reached \$4,762.83. Civic groups, clubs and individuals from throughout the area—and some from foreign countries—answered the call for a family in need.

According to the Sept. 25 issue of The Blowing Rocket, Debby will now have the medical attention she needs.

During the first week in October, she will be taken to Charlotte for the first in a series of operations. "Debby still has a great deal of pain and hardships to endure before she is back to normal," the Rocket reported, "but with the help of everyone who contributed her suffering will be a lot less."

Cards and letters may be addressed to Debby in care of The Blowing Rocket, Box 802, Blowing Rock, N. C.

The fund-raising campaign got another big boost Monday when employees of the Daniel Boone Inn turned in \$48.85 for Debby and Mrs. Ann Whitaker, operator of the Inn, matched the amount for a total of \$97.70.

Patrons of the Inn gave an additional \$58.74 for Debby during the past few weeks.

ASC Convention Elects Committee Members

Delegates to the Watauga County ASC Convention re-elected M. L. Shepherd of Sugar Grove to serve as county committeeman for a period of three years. Elected as alternate for the 1970 committee year were first alternate Ned Glenn of Sugar Grove and second alternate J. C. Winebarger of Zionville.

These newly elected committeemen took office Oct. 1. M. L. Shepherd was re-elected to serve as chairman and J. M. Wilson as vice-chairman for 1970. Vaughn Tugman will serve as regular member of the County Committee. The alternates will serve whenever a vacancy occurs on the county committee.

Chairman Shepherd lives in the Laurel Creek section of Watauga County. He served as ASC

office manager 16 years, retiring in 1962, and served on the ASC County Committee the past three years.

J. M. Wilson, vice-chairman, operates a farm in the Mabel community of Cove Creek. He produces burley tobacco, livestock, truck crops, beef cattle and sheep.

Vaughn Tugman, regular

Local Gorilla Still Missing

Watauga County's only known gorilla is still "at large." He's a hulking seven-foot tall. And if you see him, don't shy away. He won't harm you up, he's not real.

The missing gorilla, along with two vultures, are statues that have been part of the scenery at the local miniature golf course, Around the World,

member, operates a general farm in the Green Valley Section of the county. He produces burley tobacco and livestock. He has served on the County Committee the past 12 years.

First alternate Ned Glenn lives and farms in the Laurel Creek section of the county. He produces burley tobacco, beef

(Continued on page two)

BREMCO Tour

Directors, staff managers and district managers of the Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation will leave Lenoir at 9 Friday morning for a bus tour of the Caldwell, Watauga, Ashe and Alleghany districts.

The 10-hour tour will wind up with a 7:30 dinner at the Holiday Inn in Lenoir.

Those Failing To Register To Be Denied Vote

Wataugans who have not registered to vote will get another chance starting Saturday, Oct. 11.

John D. Winebarger, chairman of the Watauga County Board of Elections, announced that registration books will be opened a total of 13 days during October.

The books will be open to allow those not registered to complete the process in time for the Nov. 4 school bond and sales tax votes.

Winebarger reminded citizens that state law requires a new voter registration in Watauga County. This means that only those who register anew can vote in any future county, state or national elections.

The board of elections called for the new registration last summer. A total of 4,543 persons have registered since then under the new registration plan, which includes a loose-leaf system.

The new registration schedule calls for books to be open by precinct registrars also on Saturday, Oct. 18 and Saturday Oct. 25.

In addition, anyone may register at the board of elections office on the second floor of the courthouse on the following days: Oct. 13-16 and Oct. 20-24.

When the final count was made last month on total county registration, Winebarger reported that 2,298 Republicans had registered and 2,060 Democrats had registered. Independent registrants totaled 185, he said.

Registration on Saturdays in the respective precincts will be from 9 a. m. to 6:30 p. m. Registration, open to anyone in the county, at the board of elections office will be from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. during the two five-day periods.

The order for the new voter registration was part of the legislative requirement for setting up the loose leaf system of voter books throughout the state. The order automatically wipes out the use of any previous voter registration.

Included in the requirement is a simple literacy test which registrants must take in order to complete their registration.

Under the loose-leaf plan, the Watauga County Board of Elections is required to keep duplicate sets of books with registrants' names filed on individual cards in alphabetical order. The books are kept in the elections office except during periods of registration and voting. The board is keeping a third set of books on hand to facilitate transfers and new registrations.

Saturday, Nov. 1, will be challenge day.

Winebarger said the total new registration to date is just over half the total of 9,033 votes cast in the 1968 presidential election.

Old Books Can't Be Used

People Yet Have Chance To Register For Voting



LITTLE WOMAN, BIG PUMPKIN—The harvest award of the season should go to Mrs. Harve Brown, who weighs only 70 pounds, and who grew this monstrous pumpkin—which is 66 inches around, 31 inches high and tips the scales at a fraction over 119 pounds. A resident of Zionville, Mrs. Brown grew six

pumpkins, all of which were heavier than 100 pounds, and all of which sprang from 50 cents worth of seed sent to her by a son living in Maryland. And she says she didn't even use fertilizer on them. (Weston photo)

Planning Board Is Urging School Bonds And Sales Tax

Watauga County's school bond proposal and the method for financing it got a healthy pat on the back last week from the Watauga County Planning Board.

The board endorsed the proposed issuance of \$1.4 million in bonds to carry out improvements and additions at county schools and to help pay for a new elementary school in Boone.

The board also urged voters' approval of the one-per cent additional sales tax for Watauga County as a means for paying for the bonds.

Both questions will be put to voters during a special election on Tuesday, Nov. 4.

The planning board also asked for trustees to be appointed

to see that the school board's allocation of the bond monies are carried out. However, present school board members agree that they will be able to have all of the county school projects either built or under contract well before their present terms of office expire.

The planning board will meet again on Tuesday, Oct. 21, with its 40-man advisory committee in the courthouse. The meeting will be held at 7:30 p. m.

At its September meeting, the board met with Mathey A. Davis of Salisbury, director of the Piedmont Area Office of N. C. Department of Local Affairs, to review the board's four-point study program in

Watauga County. Davis will assist the board in carrying out its studies in housing, land utilization survey, recreation and a sketch development plan.

Total cost of the comprehensive study will be about \$12,000, Davis said. This is some \$3,000 under initial estimates. It will take up to two years to complete the project.

Davis said the state department will apply to the U. S. Housing and Urban Development for \$3,000 of the total. The local outlay will be \$4,000 to match the federal grant plus overhead expenses of some \$1,200. The board of county commissioners have agreed to underwrite the local contribution

by appropriations of \$2,600 for two years.

The sketch plan would be aimed at showing the most appropriate location for future industrial, commercial, residential and rural land use. The plan will show proposed location of parks, schools, fire stations and other facilities. A system of roads (thoroughfare plan) to serve the proposed development plans also will be shown.

The minimum housing study will seek to identify housing problems in the county. Obstructions to solving the housing problems as well as major actions taken already toward solving the problems will be organized. Objectives for housing during the next three years will be included.

Davis proposed that the sketch development plan include an analysis of the following: soils and their suitability for use, topography, population projects throughout the county, utility service areas, community facilities, urban growth areas and barriers to growth, and highway traffic counts.

He proposed that following the sketch development plan, the land utilization survey be made. It would be aimed at determining the best means of insuring and regulating compatible development in Watauga County.

Also, Davis' office will assist the county in the formation of a county recreation commission and in the preparation of a county-wide recreation plan. It also will assist the county in applying for matching federal grant funds.

The topics of study were selected by the planning board from among some 25 problems presented during a meeting of the board last summer with leaders of local and community clubs and organizations.

"Broadway Tonight" Rare Potpourri Entertainment

A dazzling potpourri of excerpts from Broadway's biggest hits will be presented free of charge to the general public Thursday in the 8,000-seat Varsity Gymnasium at Appalachian State University.

Staged by the professional road company of "Broadway Tonight" and sponsored by Appalachian's Popular Programs Committee, the two-hour spectacle of costume and song begins at 8 p. m.

Selections in the show will span the history of American musical theater ranging from tunes of the Ziegfeld Follies era to the modern sound of the musical, "Hair."

Highlighting the evening will be song and dance selections from shows such as "Oklahoma," "Gypsy," "Show Boat," "Hair," "Cabaret," and "Hel-

lo Dolly." A special attraction is a sequence which recreates the tense magic of "West Side Story."

"Broadway Tonight," with its present company of four women and two men, has played across the country during the past two

years. Side trips have taken the group to standing ovation crowds in Canada, the Far East, the Philippines and Vietnam.

Ample parking for campus visitors is available behind the University's Physical Plant adjacent to Varsity Gymnasium.

Is Honored By Optometrists

Dr. C. Ray Lawrence of Boone has been appointed as a coordinator for the 47th Annual Southeastern Educational Congress of Optometry next February at the Marriott Motor Hotel in Atlanta.

He will serve as local advisor and liaison with optometrists in the area for the Congress, one of the world's largest optometric educational meetings. An attendance of more

than 2,000 is expected.

Dr. Lawrence has been active in his profession and the community since beginning practice here in 1948.

He received his O. D. degree in optometry at Southern College of Optometry, Memphis, Tenn.

He has served as president of the North Carolina State Optometric Society and president of local and community clubs and organizations.

(Continued on page two)