

Five Shopping Days Until Christmas—Trade At Home



WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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

BOONE WEATHER			
1969	Hi	Lo	Prev. Snow '68 '69
Dec. 9	37	24	27 14
Dec. 10	39	28	35 10
Dec. 11	41	31	40 7
Dec. 12	37	24	40 18
Dec. 13	40	30	44 1/2-in.
Dec. 14	42	30	49 15
Dec. 15	33	22	— 8

VOL. LXXXII—NO 24

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1969

10 CENTS

28 PAGES—2 SECTIONS



SHERIFF WARD CARROLL, on white horse and two unidentified horsemen head the annual Christmas parade along King Street, Saturday crowds lined the parade route to enjoy the bright floats, the marching bands and

the many unusual features that made up the gay spectacular. (Photo Weston Studio.)

Colorful Procession

Parade Of Floats And Bands Greets Arrival Of Santa

Chilled Crowd Gathers For Annual Event

The Christmas shopping season officially arrived in Boone Saturday when a 50-minute-long parade of floats and bands ushered Santa into town.

Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and staged by the Boone Parks and Recreation Commission, it was one of the most colorful processions ever staged through downtown Boone.

The array of 51 entries began moving westward on King Street from Horn in the West Drive at 3 p. m.

Recreation Department Director Jim Hastings said the parade, headed by Sheriff Ward Carroll, reached its final block on West King Street, 50 minutes later.

Assisting Hastings were Nelson Storie and Mark Hodges. G. D. Barnett was parade marshal.

Jimmy Kilgo of WSOB-TV in Charlotte was honorary parade marshal. He was accompanied by his five Kilgo Girls of Kilgo's Canteen.

It was a chilled crowd that lined the sidewalks in downtown Boone as the 3 o'clock marching time approached. But a chilling wind failed to hold back the glee on children's faces as the units marched by.

Hastings issued a public "sincere thanks to everyone who had a hand in the Christmas parade. And we'll work toward an even bigger production for next Christmas season," he said.

Yule Trade Is Said To Be Good

Boone merchants are reporting brisk sales as the Christmas shopping season gets into full swing.

Most of them interviewed are expecting gains over last year's business.

One merchant, a clothier, reports more Christmas shopping by students than in previous seasons. However, he notes that men's suits are moving slower than before.

"Sales are going good," at one department store. "Up to expectations . . . no weak spots."

Another department store notes that sales are a "little over last year." "Customers," he said, "want quality. They're a little more choosy in their selections, and they don't complain about prices."

A hardware-sporting goods merchant says this Christmas volume is "fine with us. We've shown a little increase so far. We're well satisfied."

A men's furnisher reports that sweaters, ties and fancy colored shirts are moving rapidly. He says "there're a lot of lookers" for larger items such as men's suits.



NAMED PRESIDENT—Former Gov. Terry Sanford has been named president-elect of Duke University. He is pictured here with Mrs. Sanford during dedicatory ceremonies last summer of the Terry and Margaret Rose Sanford Hall classroom building on the ASU campus.

Sanford Named Head Of Duke University

Former Governor Terry Sanford of Fayetteville and Blowing Rock, known as North Carolina's education Governor, has been named President of Duke University.

He succeeds Dr. Douglas M. Knight, who resigned to become a vice president of the Radio Corporation of America.

Sanford, 52, was selected Saturday by a committee given the task of finding a new head for the "Harvard of the South," respected private institution with Methodist Church support. His selection "irrevocably" dispelled rumors that Sanford would be a candidate for the U. S. Senate or the governorship again in 1972.

"I have turned in a different direction," Sanford said. Sanford said he would assume office on a fulltime basis in mid-April, adding he would give up his partnership in the Fayetteville law firm of Sanford and Cannon and "get off of almost every board I am connected with."

Robbers Break Into Valle Crucis Store

A shotgun and a case of shells were stolen Tuesday night, Dec. 9, during a break-in at Howard W. Mast's store in Valle Crucis. Mast estimated that the robbery occurred between 2 and 4 a. m. on the morning of December 10.

He said the eye bolts that held the padlock on the front door had been cut off and entry made through the door. He said the drink box had been entered but nothing was missing. Sheriff Ward Carroll said Monday that no arrests have been made yet.

Sanford ruled out a change in the administration structure but said he had some ideas for other changes. He did not elaborate, saying the ideas were too

(Continued on page two)

Yule Edition To Be Early

Plans are for the Christmas week edition of the Democrat to go to press next Monday afternoon rather than on Tuesday as has been the case for some years.

"This is being done in order that the publication may be of the greatest value to advertisers and to insure its delivery in the environs ahead of Christmas day. The Democrat asks that all contributions and ad copy be in hand by Friday of this week. Only hard news copy can be handled Monday morning.

There will be many Christmas greeting ads in the edition. Many of these have already been sold. Advertising solicitors may not be able to see every business place, if you aren't called on shortly let us know. Advertising copy, art and messages for these ads are supplied without cost.

When the edition is mailed the staff at the Democrat will take its annual holiday for the rest of the week. However the business office will be open daily, except Christmas Day and Saturday until noon.

Above State, National Average

Local Retail Sales Mount

Nearness Of Christmas Deepens Sorrow Of Child

If it weren't so near Christmas, little Mike Baumgardner of Zionville wouldn't feel the loss of his friend so much.

Mike is the five-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Baumgardner. They buried Bill, Mike's pony November 19.

To Mike, Bill was a "gentle little pony" who had a special manner with little boys. He asked his mother to write the following:

" . . . Bill had lived with us for years. I loved him dearly. He was not only good to ride, he could even cultivate my daddy's tobacco. I not only rode him when daddy worked him, but outside work, he loved me and I loved him."

Mike explained that Bill had been shot. He had a simple, five-year-old question. "Was it an accident or was it intentional? If it was an accident, please come forward and tell us. We can understand."

With Christmas almost here, the lonesome feeling gnaws deeper in Mike. He had it from some mighty reliable sources that Santa had planned to bring him a saddle for Bill.

Mike concluded his note with a plea for the truth about Bill's gunshot wound. "We are not bad, we will forgive you so Santa will bring me a new pony and saddle."

Some indication of the economic growth that has been taking place in Watauga County in recent years comes from the government's new Census of Business.

The survey, which concerns itself primarily with retail business development since 1963, when the previous survey was conducted, shows that there was a 40.1 percent rise in sales locally in the subsequent four-year period.

The progress that was made in this direction exceeded expectation. It was believed that the war in Vietnam, the tensions of the domestic scene, the increase in taxes and the rising cost of living would have caused consumers to cut down appreciably on their spending. Nothing seems to have stopped them, however.

As a result, the sales volume in local retail stores rose \$7,327,000 in the four years. Part of this increase was due of course, to higher prices for merchandise.

Watauga County's 40.1 percent rise compared favorably with the rise chalked up in many sections of the nation. In the United States it was 27.0 percent and in the State of North Carolina, 33.6 percent.

Related to the local population, the retail sales represented a spending rate of \$5,598 per family. This was well above the figure elsewhere in the United States, \$5,203 per family.

Nearly every phase of retail business participated in this growth as the consumer, encouraged by steady employment, rising wages, a record backlog of savings and pension and social security protection, gave free rein to his spending.

As a consequence, retail stores sold more and better clothing, finer furniture, more cars, household equipment, electrical appliances and food.

The bulk of this consumer demand was supplied through the 153 retail outlets listed in the local area.

The 637 men and women employed in these stores and the

size of their payrolls kept pace with the increase in business.

The Census Bureau's figures show payrolls rose in the period to \$2,456,000 from the former total of \$1,491,000 per year.

Preliminary figures for 1969 indicate that the American economy is still on its upward course, but at a slower rate of growth than in 1968. The buying public appears to be waiting for a resolution of the Vietnam war and for a check on inflation.

Burley Mart To Close For Yule

The Boone Burley Tobacco market closed out its pre-Christmas sales yesterday (Wednesday) with its sights set on sales of 3 million pounds.

The market will re-open on Monday, Jan. 5.

Local warehouses will be open during the holidays to accept tobacco for future sales.

Stanley Harris Sr., sales supervisor of the Boone Tobacco Board of Trade, said that Monday's sales totaled 334,000 pounds, pushing the season's total to some 2,634,000 pounds.

The Boone market, which registered an opening day average of \$73.54 on Monday, Nov. 24, closed out Monday's sales with an average of \$67.48. Harris predicted the local mar-

(Continued on page two)

More Travel On Parkway

Travel on the Blue Ridge Parkway during November was up 41.95% over November a year ago, according to figures released by the National Park Service.

During last November 708,130 individual visits were tallied as against 498,730 in November 1968.

The calendar year 1969 compared to 1968 indicated an increase of 6.3%.

The breakdown of the November travel by districts follows, the first figure in each case being for 1968, the second 1969:

James River, Va., 91,116, 88,739.

Rocky Knob, Va., 176,434, 133,519.

Bluffs, N. C., 86,724, 53,179.

Asheville, 359,356, 234,293.



JOHN T. WINKLER

Thos. Winkler Is Given Area Highway Post

John Thomas Winkler, 50, a resident of Boone, has been promoted to the position of Area Maintenance Engineer, Paul Du-Pre, state maintenance engineer announced today. Winkler will take the new post on January 1, succeeding James H. Councilll who is retiring on that date.

A native of Watauga County, Winkler joined the highway commission in 1940 and has been with the state ever since except for four years spent in the U. S. Army (1941-45) where he attained the rank of staff sergeant. During the years he has risen steadily through the ranks and since 1958 has been a district engineer with headquarters in Boone.

In his new position he will oversee maintenance in highway divisions No. 11, 12, 13 and 14, which embraces the section of North Carolina from Gaston and Surry counties west.

Winkler is married and he and Mrs. Winkler have two children. They belong to Boone United Methodist Church.

Jurors Selected For Court Term

The jury list for the January 19, 1970, criminal session of Watauga County Superior Court was announced this week by Orville Foster, clerk of Superior Court.

Judge W. K. McLou as Asheville will preside. The jury list follows:

Boyd Harmon and James E. Love, both of Route 2, Viles; Jessie L. Moore of Boone; Roland Johnson and Mrs. George M. Suddreth, of Blowing Rock; G. D. Barnett of Boone; Stanley Lewis Bowlin of Route 2, Boone; Estel Waggoner of Boone; David Hingham of Sugar Grove; Boyd James Cook of Zionville; Mrs. Belle Hillers of Viles; Jasper Lee

Thomas of Zionville; Everette Hubert Welch of Triplett.

Also, Robert Ted Edmiston of Sugar Grove; Louise Howell of Route 1, Boone; Kenneth Miller, Wade H. Moretz and Mrs. Stella Trivette, all of Route 2, Boone; Monroe Critcher and Jefferson Max Dimeo, both of Boone; James Greer of Route 2, Boone; Roy L. Madlin of Boone; Robert Wayne Thomas of Route 2, Trade, Tenn.; James Parlier Jr. of Deep Gap; Charles Elmer Aldridge and Dillard Reese, both of Route 1, Banner Elk; Harold T. Keisman, of Route 2, Boone; Lanny Rogers Glenn of Sugar Grove.

(Continued on page two)