

"All the News Most of
The Time — The Most
News All The Time."

THE WAYNESVILLE MOUNTAINEER

Published Twice-A-Week In The County Seat of Haywood County At The Eastern Entrance Of The Great Smoky Mountains National Park

TODAY'S SMILE
A pedestrian is a man
with two cars, a wife and a
son in high school.

71st YEAR NO. 24 20 PAGES

Associated Press

WAYNESVILLE, N. C., THURSDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 22, 1956

\$3.50 In Advance In Haywood and Jackson Counties

Bethel Man Killed Early Today When Car Crashes

(Other picture on Page 8)

Sherrill Plemmons, 41, of the Edwards Cove road a West Pigeon, became Haywood County's first 1956 traffic fatality when his new car plunged into a rock cliff at the intersection of Highways 110 and 276 shortly after midnight Wednesday.

Plemmons was found in his car at 12:45 by Roy Caldwell of the Lake Logan road and five companions, who took him to the Haywood County Hospital. He died a few minutes after his arrival at the hospital.

Cpl. Pritchard H. Smith of the State Highway Patrol said that Plemmons was returning from Canton in his 1956 Chevrolet and apparently entered the intersection at a high rate of speed. The vehicle ran almost straight across Highway 276 and struck the cliff on the south side of the road, finally coming to rest on its wheels on the Lovejoy Road, according to the corporal. When found, the car was turned back toward Canton, he added.

Cpl. Smith said that tire skid marks were discovered at the site of the wreck and that the right turn-signal was blinking when Plemmons was found, but he was never able to actually start his right turn.

Parts of the wrecked car were found within a radius of 60 feet of where the vehicle finally stopped, the officer said.

Adding an ironic note to the scene, he added, was a driving manual found lying on the highway which bore the printed message on its cover: "How Did It Happen? Could It Have Been Prevented? Drive Safely and Save a Life."

Cpl. Smith said that the car was (See Bethel Man—Page 8)

56 Scouts Get Awards At Ceremony

Fifty-six Boy Scouts were presented insignia of rank and merit badges at the monthly Pigeon River District court of honor Monday night.

The awards made included: Tenderfoot—William B. Hawkins of Troop 7, Canton; Charles R. Border of Troop 5, Hazelwood; David C. Nix of Troop 12, Bethel, and Ronald E. Bailey, James W. Trantham, David C. Crisp, Robert W. Sparks, all of Troop 16, Canton.

Second Class—Charles Barton of Troop 16.

First Class—David Coman of Troop 1 and Lawrence Clark of Troop 16.

Merit Badges—William Stamey, Stephen A. Cox, J. B. Hill III, (See Boy Scouts—Page 8)

Troutmans Recovering From Wreck Injuries

Mrs. Ted Troutman, daughter of Cecil A. Mauney of Hazelwood, and the late Mrs. Mauney, is still convalescing at the Louise Obici Memorial Hospital in Suffolk, Virginia. Mrs. Troutman received fractures of both legs, severe head injuries, cuts and lacerations, in an automobile wreck on February 25, in which accident her mother was fatally injured.

Mr. Troutman and their four year old son, Teddy, were also injured in this wreck but have been discharged from the hospital and are now recuperating at their residence at 103 Roxdale Road, Hampton, Virginia.

Mr. Troutman is the son of Mr. Frank Troutman of Hazelwood.

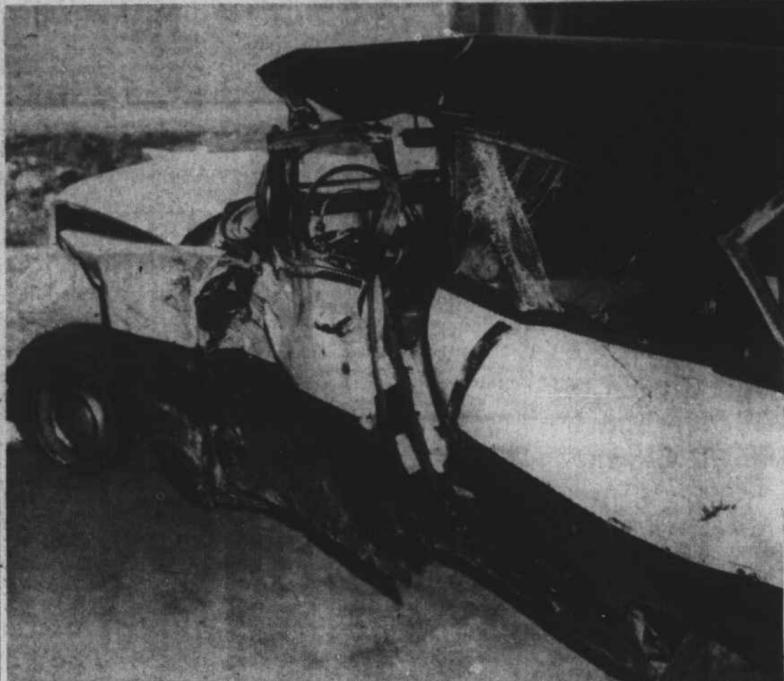
The Weather



Mostly cloudy and warmer with a chance of occasional rain in the afternoon.

Official Waynesville Temperature as reported by the State Test Farm:

Date	Max.	Min.	Pr.
March 19	41	23	.04
March 20	38	17	01
March 21	53	14	



SHERRILL PLEMMONS of West Pigeon met death in this 1956 model car last night at midnight when the vehicle plunged into a rock cliff at the intersection of Highways 110 and 276. He was en route from Canton to his home on the Edwards Cove road. (Mountaineer Photo).

Highway Beautification Meeting Set Early In April

Waynesville Soil Judging Team Takes Top Honors

(See Picture Page 1, Sec. 2)

The Waynesville FFA soil judging team took top honors in the district contest in Bryson City Tuesday. The team of three scored 382 points of a possible 540.

The Waynesville team was one of eight teams in the Balsam Federation taking part in the contest Tuesday. Fines Creek with 369 points was second and Sylva came in third with 367 points.

John Evans, of Fines Creek, was the high individual scorer in the district meet.

John Nesbitt, vocational teacher here, said the local team will enter the state contest in Asheboro, April 7.

Mr. Nesbitt said he plans to take the 3-man team, plus the two alternates to the state contest. This is the first year of the program, and much interest is being shown in the work.

Three soil specialists have been coaching the five teams in the county — at Waynesville, Bethel, Crabtree-Iron Duff, Fines Creek and Clyde. Those assisting the vocational instructors were Roy Beck, soil conservation specialist, Jack King, soil scientist, and Carlyle Davis, soil conservation aid.

Members of the Waynesville team included: Tom Franklin, a sophomore, who scored 126 points; Eugene Christopher, freshman, scoring 128 points; Douglas Christopher, senior, scoring 128 points; with alternates, Jack Farmer, senior, scoring 122 points, and Eugene Frady, freshman, scoring 108 points.

There are 11 items to be checked in scoring each soil sample, with special emphasis put on the capacity of each sample of soil.

Leatherwood Favors Aid To Schools 'Without Strings'

Lawrence B. Leatherwood, superintendent of county schools, told the Central School PTA Tuesday night that he favors federal assistance to state schools "if the funds can be obtained as grants-in-aid without strings attached."

He added that he would be opposed to federal aid, however, if it meant control of public schools by the U. S. government.

At the PTA meeting, Mr. Leatherwood discussed federal aid and its relation to the schools, and outlined some of the major needs of the Haywood County school system.

He said some of the chief needs are additional classroom space at Bethel and Waynesville high schools, and pointed out that a state survey panel two years ago recommended that the present auditorium at WTHS be made into

classrooms and a new auditorium be built at the school.

He said further that the agricultural shops at Bethel, Crabtree-Iron Duff, and Fines Creek need repairs, and that most buildings in the county system need some minor repairs.

A particular need at some schools, he said, is for more paved walkways and covered shelters where children can board school buses without getting out in the rain.

He said that such shelters would be economical to build and mentioned one at the Clyde Erwin High School in Buncombe County which is 200 feet long and accommodates a number of buses at one time.

Glenn W. Brown gave the devotional at the meeting. PTA president Harry Whisenhunt presided.

A cooperative program for the beautification of Haywood County roadsides will be discussed at a meeting of Soil Conservation District supervisors and State Highway Department officials at the courthouse the first week in April.

Setting of the exact date of the meeting is pending notification by the highway officials as to when they can be here.

Expected to represent the State Highway Department are F. H. Brant of Raleigh, landscape engineer; D. R. McMichael of Winston-Salem (title not given), and H. A. Coggins of Sylva, 14th District landscape supervisor.

The meeting will deal with a request by the Haywood Soil District supervisors that the Highway Department furnish planting stock to be used for seeding of highway roadbanks.

The Soil District would, in turn, handle distribution of the planting material and arrange for community participation in a program of roadside beautification.

Roy R. Beck, soil conservation specialist for Haywood County, pointed out that seeding roadbanks would reduce erosion which is filling up streams and lakes, and also would considerably improve the appearance of the highways—which is especially important in a tourist area.

Mr. Beck recently estimated that from 15 to 25 per cent of the silt going into Lake Junaluska and Wal-

Strawberry School Slated; Plants To Arrive Thursday

A meeting on the production of strawberries in Haywood County will be held at the courthouse at 10 a. m. next Thursday in conjunction with the distribution of 90,000 strawberry plants ordered by county residents from a Chattanooga nursery.

County Agent Virgil L. Holloway, extension horticulture specialist, said that Henry Covington, extension horticulture specialist, will be here to discuss the latest research on strawberry production, including transplanting, fer-

Whiskey 'Planted' In Several Out-Buildings

Sheriff Fred Y. Campbell said today a well-known bootlegger is having a hard time keeping stock these days.

The man dares not keep liquor on his premises, and instead, places it under bushes, under nearby out houses, in ditches, culverts, and in shrubbery.

Tuesday night Chief Deputy Gene Howell while looking around the area, pulled a gallon and a half from under a chicken house.

Last night Sheriff Campbell went back to the same vicinity and found two gallons under a smoke house.

It was all white liquor, in quart jars.

The man has lost about 12 gallons in the same manner, officers said.

County-Wide Safety Program To Be Set Up By Committee Monday Night

Much Interest Being Shown In Youths' Proposals

A group of Haywood officers, school authorities, CDP representatives, ministers, and civic leaders will meet Monday night, 7:30, to formulate a county-wide highway safety program, it was announced this morning by C. T. McCuiston, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce sponsoring committee.

McCuiston this morning said "the proposals of the young people as presented Monday in The Mountaineer is one of the most refreshing things that has yet come before this community."

"While I do not know the identity of the young folk who worked out this program, I have urged that they attend Monday's meeting and discuss the details and mechanics of the program with the county-wide committee."

"Since I am chairman, it is not up to me to say just what the program of the county-wide group shall be, but it appears that right now, the program will be built around the proposals of the young folk. I feel they have something solid, and a workable program all the way through."

Some of the leaders who helped formulate the proposals for the young people have indicated they will attend and gladly help in working out a county-wide plan.

McCuiston said that every person he had contacted to attend Monday's meeting was enthusiastic, and promised to attend.

Lt. H. C. Johnson, Asheboro, will attend, and assist in the program.

A mass meeting was called some 15 days ago to discuss highway safety, and some 600 citizens attended. Since that time, a number of civic clubs have discussed the program, and last Monday, a group of young people of Waynesville high presented some ideas of a safety program to The Mountaineer. The proposed program has brought much favorable comments from people in all walks of life.

Several officers said it was the best thing that has happened thus far in the safety campaign.

McCuiston said presidents of student bodies of the county would also attend the meeting Monday night.

Arnold Robinson, president of the W.N.C. Safety Council, will attend, and present plans for forming a Haywood County Safety Council, it was announced by McCuiston.

Hewin Morris Is Smith's Manager

Hewin Morris is now manager of Smith's Drug Store.

Mr. Morris came here over four years ago, and succeeds R. L. McKittrick as manager of the firm.

No changes in policy or personnel will be made, according to Morris.



OLD MAN WINTER left his calling card in this woods on the south shore of Lake Junaluska just one day before the arrival of spring. The snowfall, which began Sunday night, ranged from a light covering in some portions of the county to five inches at Max Patch. Since this snow, temperatures have been low, but the weather is expected to start moderating today. (Mountaineer Photo).

Three Posts In County To Be Filled In May Primary

Harry Kent Dies At 40 Of Heart Attack



Thomas Harry Kent, formerly of Waynesville, died unexpectedly Wednesday night about 10:30 o'clock at his home, 1316 Miller Street, Winston-Salem. According to reports received here, he was stricken with a heart attack while watching television and died within a few minutes. He was 40 years old.

Kent, who went to work with Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Co., at the age of 20, left Waynesville in February, 1955 after (See Harry Kent—Page 8)

The approaching primary came into the spotlight more today, following the announcement of Rep. Jerry Rogers that he would not seek re-election for the Haywood seat in the General Assembly.

Following Rogers' announcement came the usual flood of rumors of prospective candidates for the post.

Some of the rumors were analyzed as "feelers" for would-be candidates, while other names were put into the political whirlpool by friends for their favorite candidates.

As of noon, no formal announcements had been made for the post. Along with the discussions about the race for the Legislature, there was more than usual speculation over two places to be filled on the county board of education.

There are two districts whose representation expires this term, and will be up for election on a county-wide vote. The nominees will be confirmed by the 1957 Legislature, and will take office probably about May of next year.

The term of Jarvis R. Caldwell, representing the Crabtree-Iron Duff area expires this term, as does Hugh McCracken, of Clyde. McCracken is serving the unexpired term of the late Tom Leatherwood.

Both terms will be for four years. Caldwell recently moved to Allens Creek, which means he will not be a candidate for re-election. He is now serving as chairman of the board, and is spending considerable time getting the last of (See Election—Page 3)

Plans For Two Projects About Ready

Plans are nearing completion for the new board of education building, which will be constructed on the lot at the rear of the Courthouse.

Lawrence Leatherwood, county superintendent of education, said he had been assured that the plans for the building would be ready by April 1.

Plans are to have 6,000 square feet of storage space, plus offices for the county education staff in the new building. The project will be paid for from funds received for the old Central Elementary School, it was said.

Leatherwood said plans for the expansion of the Cruso school were nearing completion, and should be ready within a short time. The project has already been approved by the state, and is estimated it will cost between \$35,000 and \$40,000. The improvements will include a cafeteria, kitchen and new heating system.

Dr. and Mrs. Frank Hendricks have returned from Atlanta where Dr. Hendricks attended the Thomas P. Hinman Mid-Winter Dental Clinic.

Thickety CDP To Organize Volunteer Fire Department

At a meeting Monday night at the Oak Grove Baptist Church, members of the Thickety CDP voted to organize a volunteer fire department and set up a central fire alarm system in the community.

In order to establish a fire department, buy equipment, and construct a fire house, two committees were appointed Monday night: a ways and means committee, and a nominating committee to arrange for the election of a 12-member board of directors.

On the ways and means com-

mittee are Dock Cannon, chairman; Mrs. Lloyd Parham, and H. E. Wright, Jr. The nominating committee includes Earl Cabe, chairman; Troy Ford, and Lloyd Parham, Sr.

The Thickety CDP will have a special meeting next Monday night to elect a 12-member board of directors for the volunteer fire department.

When the subject of rural fire protection was first brought up, members of the Thickety CDP discussed a proposal to encourage all residents of the community to purchase (See Thickety—Page 8)

Highway Record For 1956 In Haywood (TO DATE)	
Killed 1 (1955 — 0)	
Injured 25 (1955 — 11)	
Accidents 52 (1955 — 32)	
Loss . . . \$18,024 (1955 — \$11,534)	
(This information compiled from records of State Highway Patrol.)	