

Wild Morning, Weird Day Weatherwise

Written by Steve Frank

It was a wild morning weather wise, with rain showers passing through the area freezing in many areas, especially along the eastern edge of the High Country. Boone Police reported a half-inch of ice on the lot of a local condo complex off Old East King, an trouble for Medics trying to reach a patient there. Watauga reported that it took two hours to reach a patient in the Heavenly Mountain area overnight due to ice, and that a slag truck got stuck trying to help out. Areas close to the Blue Ridge Parkway saw icing from Blowing Rock to Deep Gap, one motorist sliding across the Canyons parking lot, his vehicle teetering on the edge of the lot, looking down the John's River gorge, and the responding wrecker had to put on chains to make it to the scene. Schools across the High Country delayed their starts, Watauga and Avery calling off schools, while others waited for a predicted warm up, and even schools off the mountains delayed their starts as the colder air was sinking to lower areas while many mountain tops well above freezing. The freezing came just before several days of much warmer weather—maybe even thunderstorms, to be followed by the chance of more snow by week's end.