

**WHEREAS**, in the early 1920s, Dr. Mary Martin Sloop learned of plans for highways in the North Carolina mountains; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Mary Martin Sloop understood the significance of having good roads through Avery County in her mission and vision for the area's economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Mary Martin Sloop knew that such roads would enable local farmers on the eastern side of the county to get their produce to market and encourage tourists to travel to Linville and the surrounding area; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Mary Martin Sloop fought year in and year out for a highway on the eastern side of Avery County including spending six weeks in Raleigh working on the Good Roads Committee. She declared as she rode on horse back to the foot of the mountain that she was "going after that good road ... to bring it back in my saddle pockets;" and

**WHEREAS**, the road was built and today is designated as U.S. 221. As Dr. Mary Martin Sloop had envisioned, U.S. 221 is the single most important contribution to Avery County's economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, the Avery County Board of Commissioners requested the North Carolina Department of Transportation honor Avery County's visionary doctor.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

That the North Carolina Board of Transportation dedicates U.S. 221 from State Road 1545 to the east city limits of Crossnore in Avery County as the ***Dr. Mary Martin Sloop Highway*** for her untiring dedication to the citizens of Avery County and the state of North Carolina.

That appropriate signs be erected at a suitable time.

Adopted, this the thirteenth day of July 2006 by the North Carolina Board of Transportation.

  
Chairman

  
Secretary of Transportation

**Approval – Resolution for Grover C. Robbins Jr.**

Upon a recommendation of the Road Naming Committee, a motion was made by Board Member Lakey and seconded by Board Member Collier to approve the following:

**WHEREAS**, Grover C. Robbins Jr. was born in Blowing Rock, North Carolina in 1910; and

**WHEREAS**, Grover C. Robbins Jr. was instrumental in developing Beech Mountain Resort located on the Watauga-Avery County line between Roan Mountain, Tennessee and Boone, North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, Grover C. Robbins Jr. built N.C. 184 from Banner Elk, North Carolina to the crest of Beech Mountain and donated the highway to the state of North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, Grover C. Robbins Jr., as a youth, hooked rides on the Tweetsie Railroad, which ran past Blowing Rock on its way from Boone to Johnson City, Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, Grover C. Robbins Jr. purchased Tweetsie Number 12 locomotive after the East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad Company ceased operation in 1950 and sold the locomotive to railroad enthusiasts in Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, Grover C. Robbins Jr. brought the locomotive from Virginia back to the North Carolina mountains between Boone and Blowing Rock; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1957, the Tweetsie Number 12 made its inaugural run down a one-mile track to the picnic area and ushered in North Carolina's first theme park; and

**WHEREAS**, the Avery County Board of Commissioners requested the North Carolina Board of Transportation honor Grover C. Robbins Jr.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

That the North Carolina Board of Transportation dedicates N.C. 184 from Banner Elk to the city limits of Beech Mountain as the **Grover Robbins Jr. Highway** for his dedication and service to the citizens of western North Carolina.

That appropriate signs be erected at a suitable time.

Adopted, this the thirteenth day of July 2006 by the North Carolina Board of Transportation.

  
Chairman

  
Secretary of Transportation

**Approval – Resolution for Jake Parris Jr.**

Upon a recommendation of the Road Naming Committee, a motion was made by Board Member Burrell and seconded by Board Member Szlosberg to waive the 30 day waiting period and approve the following:

**WHEREAS**, Jake Parris Jr. was born in Jackson County, North Carolina on August 30, 1931, and grew up in the Willets Community; and