

# THE CHEROKEE SCOUT

and Clay County Progress

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## Annexation, Budget Considered

By Wally Avett  
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Annexation and the town budget were the two main items of business to come before the Murphy Town Council in its meeting Monday night.

Town Clerk Charlie Johnson presented a tentative budget, which the council members approved for publication. It appears in full on an inside page of this issue.

Johnson said according to law, the budget has to be published at least 20 days before it is adopted in its final form. Monday night the council members simply okayed publishing the tentative budget

and did not discuss the individual items in it very much, indicating that it could be changed some before it is fully approved.

The tentative budget leaves last year's tax rate of \$1.85 unchanged and also leaves sewer and water rates at their present levels. Johnson said the town will receive some additional money from the new county sales tax.

Included in the budget are \$12,000 for drying beds at the sewage plant, \$5,000 for repairs to the sewage system pumps, \$6,000 for spending on the landfill and \$3,000 for a new town police car.

Dr. K. G. Keenum, chairman of the town planning board, presented maps and a booklet outlining a proposed annexation, which would take into the town a strip of land along US-19-129 about a mile out from the present town limits.

The proposed annexation would take in the section along the highway roughly between O'Dell's Restaurant and WKKR Radio station. It would not include Pleasant Valley nor would it cross the Valley River to include Murphy High School.

Dr. Keenum told the Town Council that under a 1959 act of the Legislature, annexation of this type could be done without a vote of the people involved and without a petition from them if the area taken in is provided with the same services the town has. He added that the services have to be provided, or at least work has to be started toward providing them, within a year of annexation.

The area in question already has town water service, he pointed out, and it will be no problem to expand town police and garbage service to the strip. The expense will come in laying sewer lines, which is estimated at \$42,000, and in putting in street lights,

estimated at another \$2,000.

Dr. Keenum said he thought the town should receive from \$10,000 to \$15,000 in property taxes from the businesses and homes involved in the annexation but Mayor Cloe Moore and others doubted that figure.

Mayor Moore also said he was afraid if the town had to float a bond issue to finance construction of the sewer line, it would be defeated.

The council took no action on the annexation proposal, Dr. Keenum urging members to study the idea for a while. They did instruct Johnson to check out the tax listings on the properties involved so they could get a more accurate picture of how much money the

town could realize in property taxes if the strip is annexed.

In other action, the council heard a request from the Murphy Softball Association for Financial help with the softball program's electric bills. Softball action four nights a week under the lights is running up a sizeable bill, the council was told. The matter was discussed at length but no action was taken.

The town's cable-TV ordinance was amended to prohibit a local cable system from originating any television programs. It was feared that the content of a locally-produced program could put the town, which has granted the cable-TV franchise to Harold Shook, into lawsuit trouble.

## Flames Destroy House, Boat

Fires destroyed a house and a houseboat early this week in Cherokee County.

On Monday night about 11 o'clock, the Valleytown volunteers were called to Rhodo, to the burning house owned and occupied by the Terrell Brady family. The Bradys were in Asheville at the time of the fire and the alarm was turned in by a passing motorist.

The flames had almost destroyed the wooden house by the time firemen reached the scene and there was no chance

of saving it. The house and the Brady family's possessions were entirely consumed.

The firemen theorized that lightning may have started the fire.

At Murphy, the volunteer firemen were called out early Tuesday morning to extinguish a burning houseboat, tied up on the backwaters of Hiwassee Lake, just below the Joe Brown Highway bridge.

The houseboat, owned by Charles Mallonee, was completely destroyed as the fire burned it down to the water line. Cause of the fire is not known.

## Jaycees Plan Jamboree

The Murphy Jaycees are planning a three-day Country Music Jamboree for the weekend of the Fourth of July.

The Jaycees made the announcement this week, saying a large tent has been rented and will be erected on the Murphy High School grounds for the event, capable of seating more than 2,000 people.

The festivities begin on Thursday night, July 1, with a stock car race and fireworks at Tri-County Raceway. Jaycees say it will be one of the biggest ever, with a \$2,500 purse to be divided among the winning drivers.

On the following night, Friday, there will be a clogging contest under the big tent at the high school, with top clog teams from the area competing.

Plenty of country music is on tap for Saturday at the tent, with both an afternoon and evening show, plus more fireworks. Jaycees are now in

the process of signing up performers for the event and will register them until noon on that Saturday.

Sunday afternoon the Jamboree will close with a big gospel sing at the tent.

The outboard motorboat races, a traditional Jaycee event on the Fourth, will be held the following weekend, July 11.

The Miss Cherokee County Beauty Pageant, which has also been held on the weekend of the Fourth in the past, has been rescheduled and will be held sometime in August, on a yet-to-be announced date.

"This is not just another one of our Saturday night dances," one of the Jaycees commented on the Jamboree.

"We've gotten a lot of help from the officials of the Georgia Mountain Fair at Hiwassee and have invited dozens of bands from their listings. It's the biggest thing we've ever tackled and we hope the people of this area will enjoy it."

## Court Docket In Error

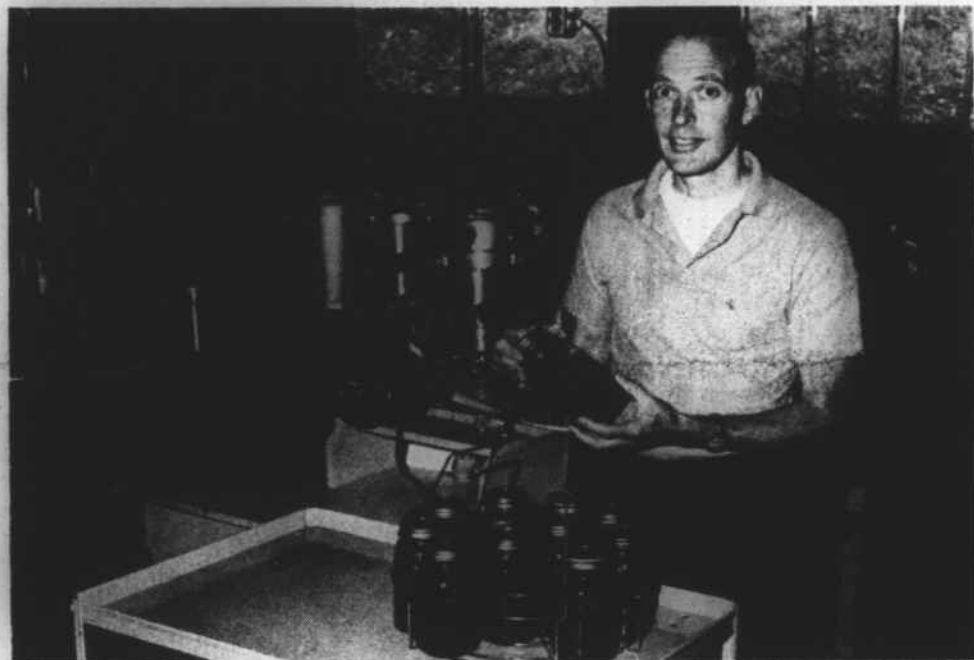
Murphy Policeman Lloyd Stroud was not charged with driving drunk, as the court docket in last week's issue showed.

Stroud was the arresting officer in a case involving twins Floyd and Lloyd Stalcup and through an error in the Clerk of Court's office, the docket was

printed with his last name in place of theirs.

To set the record straight, Officer Stroud arrested the Stalcups, charging Lloyd with driving under the influence and Floyd with aiding and abetting. Both pleaded guilty, both were fined \$100 and lost their driver's licenses.

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Finished Product

Dr. John Ramsay, who heads the Campbell Folk School, shows jars of spinach canned in the new community cannery located at the school. The pressure cookers in the background will accommodate 24

quarts at a time, he says, and trial runs have been made with spinach, pumpkin and even a mess of poke salad. The cannery will open July 7 for public use. (Staff Photo)

## Cannery To Open Soon

The community cannery at Brasstown, serving both Clay and Cherokee counties, is set to open for business on July 7.

Dr. John Ramsay, head of the Campbell Folk School where the cannery is located, says it will be open at first on only Wednesdays and Fridays.

It is hoped that the volume of do-it-yourself canning will increase later in the season so that the cannery will be open five days a week, he said.

Mrs. Cleve Anderson of Martins Creek has been hired as manager and will be on duty to assist those using the cannery and Mrs. Virginia Anderson of Hayesville will also be at the cannery to advise those who use it.

Membership fees are \$1.25 a family a year, Ramsay said, or \$5 for a five-year membership. In addition, a canning fee of a nickel will be charged for each quart processed at the cannery.

On entering the self-service cannery, users will be given a cart to move their materials around from one work station to another. They must bring their own jars and lids.

There are sinks at which to wash food before canning, a sterilizer to steam jars with, food grinders which reduce apples to sauce, two large steam cookers, three smaller atmospheric cookers which use no pressure and five steam pressure cookers.

The pressure cookers are different from home units, Ramsay said, in that they cook with the jars completely submerged in water. Cold water is pumped into the vessel after

the cooking is finished, he said, allowing a canner to cool down the jars in less than 30 minutes.

The cannery and its equipment is valued at a total of \$25,000. The equipment, valued at \$7,000, was donated by the Ball Corp. The Cherokee County commissioners voted \$3,000 in county money for the project and the National Welfare Foundation, a private group, recently gave the cannery \$5,000.

The rest of the project came from local donations in money, material and labor, through the efforts of Mayes Behrman of Brasstown and others. Both individuals and local businesses contributed to the construction of the cannery.

Bergan Moore is president of the cannery organization. Mrs. Pamela Kramer is vice president and Mrs. Janice Carringer is secretary-treasurer.

## Cherokee Miss Hurt, Goes On To Pageant

Miss Cherokee County, Linda McRae, left for the Miss North Carolina pageant in Charlotte on Sunday despite injuries she suffered in a wreck Saturday.

The Volkswagen she was driving went out of control on the Joe Brown Highway late Saturday afternoon and rolled over twice as she was going to get the evening gown she will be wearing in competition this week.

Taken to Providence Hospital after the one-car accident, Miss McRae was found to have suffered various severe bruises and sprains but declined a doctor's suggestion that she be admitted.

With one arm in a sling, she left Sunday for the state pageant, accompanied by her chaperone, Mrs. Max Blakemore.

The finals of the weeklong contest will be held Saturday night in Owens Auditorium in Charlotte and will be carried on a statewide television hookup, including the Asheville station, received here as Channel 5.

WELCOME TO NORTH CAROLINA

## Mildred, Mini And Maxi

We may still have a few bears in Clay and Cherokee but these are not among them. Neither is this, as some wit as suggested, the family left behind by Smoky the fire-fightin' bear. This is Mildred, the famous mascot of Grandfather Mountain, and her cubs Mini and Maxi. She still makes two appearances daily for shutterbugs at Grandfather Mountain but the cubs are rather sowy and uncooperative and their posing days may be over. Hugh Morton, who supplied us with

this color photo, says the cubs recently ran off into the wilderness around Linville and stayed away for five days before returning home to Mama Mildred.



Jamboree Stars

Way back in the 1920's and '30's, there was a legendary country fiddler named Gid Tanner and that's his son above, Gordon Tanner, leading the Junior Skillet-Lickers, who will be appearing at the Jaycee Country Music Jamboree here on Saturday,

## Thieves Hit Anderson's

Anderson's of Hiwassee, Ga. was hit by well-organized thieves early last Friday morning who carried off more than \$12,500 in clothing.

Bob Anderson, who operates the department store, said Georgia Bureau of Investigation agents are investigating the bold raid, adding that the GBI agents estimated the thieves were inside the Hiwassee store no longer than 10 minutes.

Anderson and others were speculating this week that the gang may be the same one responsible for two recent thefts of clothing inside Clay County. Thieves forced open the front door of Palmer's Discount on US-64 recently and made off with a quantity of ladies' clothes.

Also this month a truck was stolen from the parking lot of the Hayesville dress plant, containing several hundred ladies' dresses and several thousand yards of material. The truck was found later, burned near Gatesville, Ga.

Clay County Sheriff Hartsell Moore said this week that it was an interstate case and the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been called into the investigation in Clay County.

Anderson said GBI agents told him the clothing is usually resold through discount outlet stores. "They were just in the store a few minutes", he said. "We found where they dropped an armload of ladies' dresses and didn't even bother to pick them up."

He said the thieves grabbed the "most expensive, best selling items" in his store, including both men's and women's suits, men's jackets, plus the fashionable hot pants for women.

The gang entered by bursting open the front doors of the well-lighted store on Hiwassee's main street, Anderson said. The town has no police force, he added, therefore burglary insurance was almost impossible to get and the loss was not covered by insurance.