

THE CHEROKEE SCOUT

and Clay County Progress

12
PAGES
15¢ Per Copy
2 SECTIONS

Volume 79 - Number 49 - Murphy, North Carolina, 28906 - Second Class Postage Paid at Murphy, N. C. - Thursday, July 22, 1971



Crane drops 3-ton weight on junk car... flattened bodies then hauled away for scrap.

Town Ends Junk Car Cleanup; County Preparing To Begin

The Town of Murphy ended its junk car cleanup drive this week as a Tennessee scrap dealer hauled away the last crushed autobody.

Town Clerk Charlie Johnson said the drive saw about 200 abandoned autos hauled to the site near the town sewer plant on the backwaters of Lake Hiwassee over the past 60 days.

The cars were hauled in by the use of a special truck furnished by the TVA, he said, and practically all the abandoned cars on private lots in town were hauled away. Some cars were hauled away from junk yards, he said, but local dealers insisted on keeping some of their junkers which still have value as a source of parts.

The inside of the cars were burned out, Johnson said, and the scrap dealer brought in a crane with a three-ton steel weight attached. The weight was raised and then dropped on the cars, crushing them, and the flattened bodies were then hauled away on a flatbed tractor-trailer rig.

The collection site, which is U.S. Forest Service land, will now be planted in grass and returned to its original condition, Johnson added.

Cherokee County commissioners want to have a

similar cleanup of junked cars in Andrews and the rest of the county and County Attorney Lonnie Hoover is now making the legal arrangements for the

Club Tourney Starting At Cherokee Hills Course

The Cherokee Hills Golf Course Club championship tournament for members only begins play on Saturday, to continue through Labor Day. Players will be grouped in flights according to their 18-hole averages and the match play will be on a single elimination basis. Registration is \$3 per player. Proceeds go to improving the club facilities. A schedule of play will be posted Saturday at the clubhouse.

Trophies will be awarded on Labor Day for the first and second places in each flight. Tentative plans are for a Scotch foursome tournament on Labor Day and a pot luck supper at the clubhouse.

R.E. Harmon, lending officer of Wachovia Bank in Murphy, has taken over the club's membership committee

chairmanship since the former chairman, Methodist minister the Rev. Thornton Hawkins, has moved away.

Harmon said the club currently has about 150 members but needs about 200 to put it on a solid financial basis. He is urging each member to try and bring in a new member and to assist in signing up new players, is issuing playing privilege cards to members. These can be given to any prospective member and are good for two weeks of free play at the course.

Harmon said the course is now "a community asset that is beginning to bloom." Roughs have been trimmed, he said, and the 18-hole course is assuming a manicured look. The struggle to save the greens on No. 1 and No. 9 has been successful, he said, the problem diagnosed as an acid build-up in the soil.

"Underbrush has been removed and streams have been stripped of weeds and growth," Harmon said. "We have a picturesque championship course that very soon will rival the best - it isn't a run-of-the-mill converted pasture."

Brown Named To FHA Board

James T. Johnson, State Director of Farmers Home Administration, has announced the appointment of Medford Brown of Warne, to the Clay County Farmers Home Administration County Committee for a three-year term. Brown succeeds Frank C. Moore, Sr. whose term has expired.

Brown's term of office began officially on July 1, 1971. He will serve on the three-member committee with Clyde Ashe and Frank Bumgarner.

The Farmers Home Administration County Committee certifies eligibility of applicants for Farmers Home Administration loans and recommends action in making and servicing loans to the FHA County Supervisor. The Committee also advises on other activities connected with the varied programs offered by Farmers Home Administration.

Brown lives in the Warne Community of Clay County and owns and operates a farm in this area.

Christy Moving To Graham

William L. (Bill) Christy has been named assistant branch manager of the Robbinville office of Wachovia Bank & Trust Company, N.A., according to Hugh Gentry, senior vice president and western region executive.

Christy joined Wachovia in 1966 in the Andrews office and has since been manager of the cashiers office, a loan officer and assistant vice president in Murphy.

He has been on the board of directors and treasurer of the Murphy Hospital Authority for the past two years and is past president of the Murphy Jaycees and Parent-Teacher Association.

A graduate of Gainesville High School in Gainesville, Ga., Christy attended Perry Business School where he received a certificate in accounting and then graduated



Bill Christy

from Carolina School of Banking in 1969. He is also a retired master Sergeant of the Georgia National Guard.

Christy is married to the former Louise Stargel and they currently live at 117 Mauney Street in Murphy with their three children. They will be moving to Robbinville.

Tomato Pack House Opens

The tomato packing house here in Murphy opened for the 1971 season on Wednesday, an event that will mean several hundred thousand dollars to the local economy.

Way Abel, who operates packing houses in both Canton and Murphy, said prospects are good for a bumper year.

"It looks good from what I've seen," he said. "Growers here are taking good care of

their tomato fields, they've put good preparation into their tomato-growing."

Abel went on to praise growers in this area as being top producers. "You've got some here as good as any in the business," he said. "And you've really got the potential here for growing tomatoes - lots of good clean land for rotating the tomato fields."

Last year's market was depressed by good tomato crops in all sections of the country and local tomato farmers were hit hard by low prices. Abel said this week that bad as last year's market was, the appeal and quality of Western North Carolina tomatoes still counted.

"Western North Carolina tomatoes were sold last year into states which has unsold tomatoes on their own hand," he said proudly.

Abel's brand is Pigeon Valley Tomatoes, which covers the vine-ripened tomatoes grown both in the Murphy area and around Canton. The local tomatoes are marketed in the Midwest, up North and in the Deep South, he said.

The manager for the packing house this year will be Edmund Thomas, Abel announced. A native of Lakeland, Fla., Thomas has managed tomato pack houses in several cities in that state and is a veteran of the produce business.

Thomas said he expects to be working between 40 and 50 people at the pack house at the peak of the season, which is expected to come in about a month. The pack house will probably operate until about the first of October, he added.

Farmers who sold tomatoes at the pack house last year were paid a total of more than \$200,000, Abel said. He estimated that this year during the whole packing season, the Murphy house would ship 100,000 of the standard 20-pound cartons.

Big Court Beginning Monday

A one-week session of Superior Criminal Court begins next Monday at the Cherokee County Courthouse in Murphy. Judge Fred H. Hasty of Charlotte is scheduled to be presiding, with Solicitor Marcellus Buchanan of Sylva prosecuting for the state.

A number of cases are set for trial, but the murder case against Howard Radford of Unaka, set for this session, has been shelved as Radford has been committed to Dix Hospital in Raleigh.

Radford, charged with the New Year's Day death of his father and sister, was ordered sent to the hospital several months ago for psychiatric testing to see if he should be tried for the double shooting.

Cherokee Sheriff Blain Stalcup said he recently received a letter from the hospital, which stated that Radford has been found "incompetent to stand trial" and has been admitted for treatment. The letter said he will be kept at the hospital but will be returned here if he is ever found ready for trial.

Ervin Andrew Whitener, charged with manslaughter in a traffic accident June 16 on the Joe Brown Highway, is also listed on the Superior Court calendar.

Russell Lee Jones, 22-year-old escape artist from Graham County, will be before the judge on a variety of charges, beginning with his arrest last Fall for breaking and entering. Since his original arrest, he has escaped from custody on three occasions and charges of escape and stealing cars have been added.

Steve Thrasher, 18, and Barry Dockery, 19, of Murphy and Steve Lance, 18, of Hayesville, are also on the Superior Court calendar. They are all charged with the rape and robbery on Jan. 30 of a Marble girl.

Owens Scores Hole-In-One

Scout Publisher Jack Owens scored a hole-in-one last Sunday on the Cherokee Hills Golf Course, his first in 10 years of golfing and the first recorded on the Harshaw Road course.

Owens was playing with Elmer Kilgore and Jim Ed Hughes, both of Murphy, and Kilgore gave him a Spalding ball to use as the round began. Owens uses Spalding Invitational clubs and hit the hole-in-one with a No. 5 iron.

All three men hit long shots off the tee on the par-three, 190-yard Number Four hole, Kilgore's ball stopping about five feet from the flag. On approaching the green, however, they discovered the ball Owens had hit, already lying in the cup.

Golf Digest, a popular golfing magazine, lists the odds on any player hitting a hole-in-one during any round of golf as 8,410 to one. Certification of the hole-in-one by Owens has been sent to the magazine, entering Owens in a national contest.

Kilgore has attempted to take repossession of the ball since Sunday but so far as been unsuccessful.



Pack House Manager Edmund Thomas, left, and Owner Way Abel... with empty tomato cartons, ready to be filled.

Industry-Hunters To Tour

A two day tour of Southwestern North Carolina for staff members of the Commerce and Industry Division of the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development has been set for July 22-23.

The tour is sponsored by Nantahala Power and Light Company, Wachovia Bank and Trust Company, N.A., Western Carolina Telephone Company and Western Carolina University.

Spokesmen for the sponsoring organizations stated that the purpose of the tour was to acquaint the staff members of the Commerce and Industry Division of the state's industry hunting agency with the potential that is offered in the Southwestern end of the state. The counties involved in the tour are Jackson, Macon, Swain, Graham,

Cherokee and Clay.

Local civic and business leaders will present what their counties and towns have to offer for industrial and tourist development.

Also accompanying the tour will be representatives of the news media from throughout the state as well as local broadcasters and editors.

On Thursday, July 22, the group will visit Hayesville, Murphy, Andrews, and Robbinville.

On Thursday night the group will be guests of the Cherokee Historical Association for the pageant "Unto These Hills."

On Friday, July 23, the group will visit Bryson City, the Cherokee Indian Reservation, Western Carolina University, Sylva and Franklin.



Forsyth Portrait Unveiled

A portrait of the late Frank W. Forsyth was unveiled Wednesday morning in ceremonies at the Power Board Building. Forsyth, maker and state legislator, was chairman of the Power Board from its beginning in

1953 until his death on Feb. 27, 1970. Present at the unveiling were, left to right, his widow Mrs. Ruth Forsyth, son Robert Forsyth, Murphy Mayor Cloe Moore and present Power Board Chairman Francis Bourne Jr.



Beauty Pageant Aug. 7

Preparations began this week for the Miss Cherokee County Beauty pageant, to be held Aug. 7 at 8:30 p.m. in the Murphy High School gym.

Ten girls, representing communities all over the county, are entered.

They are: Wanda Wilson and Angie Curtis of Peachtree, Rita Jordan of Topton, Breeze Thompson from Andrews, Peggy Martin, Phyllis Hughes and Gail Postell, all of Martins Creek, Virginia Lovin from Owl Creek and Sue Picklesimer and Susan Barrett, both of Murphy.

The annual event is sponsored by the Murphy Jaycees and Jaycettes and the master of ceremonies will be Tom Gentry of the Jaycees.

The girls will appear in bathing suits, in evening gowns and in talent competition. Talents include dramatic reading, gymnastics, singing and playing the piano.

A charm school begins this week for the contestants, evening sessions on costume making, hair styling,