

County Commissioners Increase Taxes 10 Cents For Schools

They've Got Something To Crow About



THE CHILDREN of the Harve Bryants in East Franklin really have something to crow about. They've got a pet crow named "Jim", who is about two and a half weeks old and tame as a kitten. That's Edward Bryant, 9, appeasing "Jim's" lusty appetite with some ground meat. "Jim" has his wings clipped to keep him from flying—not away, but up on the roof where he is unable to get down without some help.

Town Instituting Civil Suit For Zoning Violation

The Town of Franklin is now preparing a law suit against an alleged violator of the town's zoning ordinance.

In session Monday night, aldermen authorized the town attorney, R. S. Jones, and the building inspector, A. C. Ty-singer, to institute a civil action against Lee Tippett for operating a rock crusher in a residential area in violation of zoning regulations. Mr. Tippett's business is on Harrison Avenue, near the town limits.

Mr. Jones said the town's next step will be to have a restraining order served on Mr. Tippett to stop the operation of the crusher.

Re-hire Employees

In other actions, town officials re-hired Water Supt. Herman Childers, Fire Chief Ty-singer, who also serves as building inspector, the town attorney, Mr. Jones, and the present members of the police department, Chief C. D. Baird and officers Nelson Ledford and Homer Cochran. The town employees are hired on a month-to-month basis. Town Clerk C. O. Ramsey was re-hired at a meeting week before last. A successor to Dr. H. T. Horsley, who has asked to be relieved of his duties as town doctor because of his health, was not named.

To Pay Bill

Aldermen voted to pay the electric bill at the proposed city park on West Main Street. Lighting fixtures will be installed by Nantahala Power and Light Company. Vance Rucker, an official of the Northwest Franklin Neighborhood Club, which is promoting the park project, presented the request for town assistance on the electric bill.

Complaints Aired

Some complaints were aired at the meeting by residents. Frank B. Duncan, owner of The Franklin, asked the town to

Waggin' His Tail Behind . . .

This is one of the dog-gone-dead tales!

A dog belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Gibson, of Cullasaja, disappeared last June 16. Neither "hide nor hair" was seen of him until last Thursday when he came ambling back home—just about a year late for supper.

AUTO CRASH CLAIMS LIVES OF MACONIANS

Mother And Child Are Victims Of Mishap In Georgia

Off to Florida by automobile with his family at midnight Sunday, a South Skeenah man met disaster at daybreak Monday.

Two are dead.

Just after daylight, Porter Thomas, driver of the car, apparently fell asleep at the wheel near Madison, Ga., and rammed a bridge abutment.

His wife, Mrs. Ethel Mae Moffitt Thomas, 40, died in the wreck.

Their daughter, Carole Elizabeth Thomas, about three years old, died Monday at 5 a. m. in St. Mary's hospital, Athens, Ga., where all the occupants of the car were admitted for treatment.

Critically injured were Mr. Thomas, 43, and a daughter, Kate, 6. Other Thomas children hospitalized were Ray, 10.

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No Closing Of Highway During Job

US 23-441 from Franklin to Dillsboro will stay open during proposed paving operations, according to Resident Engineer S. T. Usry.

However, motorists traveling the section may experience some short delays, he said.

The two-lane section will be surfaced, one lane at a time, the engineer explained, to permit traffic to continue using it.

While a date has not been officially set, Mr. Usry said the paving project probably will get under way some time this month.

Bids for the job were approved last Thursday in Raleigh by the State Highway Commission.

A \$244,305.50 bid submitted by Midstate Contractors, of Hickory, was low for the US 23-441 job, it also includes paving a section of US 23-19-A from the west city limit of Sylva east to Scott's Creek bridge.

The engineer said 7.24 miles of the project is in this county, from Franklin to Cowee Gap at the Macon-Jackson county line.

'Drag Race' Is Reported

An illegal "drag race" was held one night recently in the straight stretch on US 64 near Slagle's Dairy, according to Highway Patrolman H. T. Ferguson.

The officer this week said he knows the identity of the two drivers involved, but doesn't have enough evidence to indict them. He has been unable to obtain statements from anyone in the small crowd on hand to watch the race, he explained.

Patrolman Ferguson said the race was the first one to his knowledge to be "organized" in this county. The idea was hatched in town, he declared, and the crowd then drove into the country to hold it.

Two late model automobiles were used, he said.

Tax Rate \$1.50 Per Hundred Valuation; County Agent's Staff Gets Pay Increase

Sweatman Dies At 81

Was One Of First Forest Service Employees Here

Daniel Monroe Sweatman, who was one of the first workers employed in the county by the U. S. Forest Service, died in a Morganton hospital Thursday of last week. He was 81.

Mr. Sweatman had been ill for three weeks.

He made his home in the Dills Creek section of the Cartoogehaye community, but was a native of Jackson County. He was born Nov. 29, 1875, son of David and Mrs. Elizabeth Dills Sweatman. On Oct. 30, 1899, he married Miss Josie Johnson, of Macon County, who survives.

Mr. Sweatman went to work for the forest service during World War I and remained until the latter '20's. He was a farmer most of his life.

Funeral services were held Saturday at 11 a. m. at Cartoogehaye Baptist Church, with the Rev. Andrew Cloer, pastor, officiating, assisted by the Rev. George Cloer and the Rev. R. J. Goldston. Pallbearers were Lyman Sweatman, W. R. Waldrop, Jess Shope, William Barnard, Gilmer Setser, and Siler Slagle.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are two sons, Brodie, of Franklin, Route 1, and Wiley, of Concrete, Wash.; two daughters, Mrs. Fred Butterworth, of Mine Run, Va., and Mrs. George E. Anderson, of Route 1; a brother, Sam, of Route 3; a sister, Mrs. John Hall, of Franklin; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Flame Azalea Is Arriving

"The most beautiful stand of flame azalea in Eastern America" is starting to bloom in the lower elevations near Wayah Bald.

It is not expected to reach its peak on the Bald itself until mid-June or later, according to Wayah District Ranger W. L. Nothstein.

For many years, Wayah's colorful display of azalea and mountain laurel has attracted thousands of visitors to the area.

The board of county commissioners raised the tax rate from \$1.40 to \$1.50 at its meeting Monday.

It specified the 10-cent increase levy is to go to the schools.

The commissioners also voted a 5 per cent pay raise for the county's agricultural employees.

Schools Supt.-elect H. Bueck appeared before the commissioners earlier in the day and asked that the schools get 15 cents more. He suggested taxes be raised 10 cents, and that the other 5 cents come from lowering the general fund's portion of the \$1.50 levy from \$1.02 to 97 cents.

Mr. Bueck told the commissioners that more money is needed for maintenance of schools and for operational expenses. On the former he noted:

"These buildings are occupied by the most destructive force this side of the atomic bomb—the children of our indulgent American parents."

Commissioner John W. Roane moved that the tax rate be set at \$1.50. Commissioner Wiley Brown questioned whether this would give the superintendent enough for the schools.

Chairman W. E. (Gene) Baldwin said more money was expected this year from intangible taxes and that the county's debt service fund would be five cents lower than last year. Between these, Mr. Baldwin said, the schools should be able to get whatever they need later in the year.

Commissioner Brown then seconded Mr. Roane's motion.

County Agent T. H. Fagg presented a request to the commissioners for a 10 per cent raise for his staff of eight whose salaries are paid in part by the county. The commissioners voted a 5 per cent raise for Mr. Fagg and his staff, effective July 1.

Total cost to the county will be \$400 a year, since the 5 per cent applies only to the part the county pays.

A bill is before the General Assembly to give state workers a raise, and, should it pass, county agricultural workers will receive additional pay hikes on that portion of their salaries paid by the state.

The commissioners approved payment of the final bills on the new jail addition and re-roofing the jail itself. The two jobs cost about \$2,200.

They approved the jailor's monthly bill, which was \$99.50 for May.

County Attorney R. S. Jones was instructed to call Western Carolina Telephone Company about its 1954 unpaid county taxes. The taxes amount to \$1,438.72 on a Franklin township evaluation of \$102,766. They had not been paid because there was a question about the evaluation, originally set down for \$132,000. The State Utilities Commission lowered the figure by some \$30,000 and that is what the telephone company will pay on.

Mr. Jones reported to the commissioners that "the company will try to get a check on the way in the next day or two."

Decorations for the review are being handled by members of the Clark's Chapel club. Carson and Cullasaja clubs are in charge of refreshments and recreation, and Cartoogehaye members will take care of registration.

Judges will be Mrs. Doris Stephens, home economics teacher of Rabun County (Ga.) High School, Mrs. Sarah Seivert, home agent in Rabun County, and Miss Eule Penland, of Franklin, a former home economics teacher.

An exhibit of doll clothes made by 4-H members also will be featured.

After being scheduled for this month, dedication of the new \$280,000 out-patient clinic wing of Angel Hospital has been postponed.

Some construction delays are responsible for the postponement, according to Dr. Edgar Angel, medical director.

The dedication probably will be held in September. However, the hospital expects to be using the new addition before then, he said.

Surveys will be made by members of the Clark's Chapel club. Carson and Cullasaja clubs are in charge of refreshments and recreation, and Cartoogehaye members will take care of registration.

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Teachers Honor Departing Superintendent And Wife



Teachers honored Supt. and Mrs. Holland McSwain with a reception Friday night at East Franklin School. The McSwains are leaving the last of this month for Murphy, where Mr. McSwain will be superintendent of the city school system.

Chatting with the McSwains is (right) W. G. Crawford, the new president of the local unit of the N. C. Education Association. Mr. McSwain presented a two-suitcase, and Mrs. McSwain, silver candlesticks.

The Weather

The week's temperatures and rainfall below are recorded in Franklin by Mason Siles, U. S. weather observer; in Highlands by Tudor N. Hall and W. C. Newton, TVA observers; and at the Coweta Hydrologic Laboratory. Readings are for the 24-hour period ending at 8 a. m. of the day listed.

FRANKLIN

Wed., May 29	74	53	.00
Thursday	73	57	.21
Friday	77	50	.00
Saturday	80	53	.00
Sunday	82	60	.28
Monday	82	59	.00
Tuesday	83	63	.00
Wednesday	83	63	2.06

HIGHLANDS

Wed., May 29	68	52	.60
Thursday	62	52	.50
Friday	68	46	trace
Saturday	72	49	trace
Sunday	72	50	.00
Monday	75	57	.22
Tuesday	73	61	.21
Wednesday	81	60	4.88

COWETA

Wed., May 29	71	52	.00
Thursday	68	56	.07
Friday	76	48	.00
Saturday	79	51	.00
Sunday	78	56	.08
Monday	81	57	.00
Tuesday	81	60	trace
Wednesday	83	63	2.71