



Recreation Commission For Cherokee County Approved

The Cherokee County Commissioners approved a ten man Recreation Committee for Cherokee County at their last meeting. There are five members representing both towns in Cherokee County.

This recreation committee is one of the first steps in providing a year-round recreation program for the county. It is also a step in securing a Federal Grant to make a Survey of the county's physical, human and financial resources.

The Southwestern North Carolina Economic Development Commission, Four-Square Community Action, Inc., and the North Carolina Recreation Commission are trying to develop a Multi-County Recreation Program. The Counties in this group are Cherokee, Graham, Clay, Swain, Macon, Jackson and Haywood Counties.

The organizing of Recreation Commissions in each county is one of the first steps in developing this Multi-

County Recreation Program. The state Enabling Act sets forth the following powers: (Section 160-158) Powers. The governing body of any county and town may exercise the following powers for recreation purposes:

1. Establish and conduct a system of supervised recreation for such unit.

2. Set apart for use of parks or play grounds, recreation centers or facilities, any land or buildings owned by or leased by such unit and may approve and equip such land or buildings.

3. Acquire lands or buildings by gift, purchase, lease of loan, or by condemnation as provided by Chapter forty, eminent domain, of the General Statutes.

4. Accept any gift or bequest of money, or other personal property, or any donation to be applied principal or income for recreation use.

5. Provide, construct, equip, operate and maintain parks, playgrounds, recreation centers and recreation facilities and all buildings and structures necessary or useful in recreation therewith.

6. Appropriate funds for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this article.

The Recreation Commission representing Cherokee County consists of Jack Thompson, Paul Ridenhour, Pete McKeon, Frank Sudderth and John Carringer representing Murphy and Bob Heaton, Lee Nichols, Jr., Dan Hawk, Bill Blevins, and Joe El-Khoury representing Andrews. This group will elect a Chairman who will represent Cherokee County at the Multi-County meetings.

New Parcel Rates

Effective Sunday

Use of ZIP CODE will make it easier to mail packages after January 15, Postmaster Joe E. Ray of Murphy said today.

New rates and a new system for identifying parcel post zones will go into effect on that date as provided in legislation signed into law by President Johnson on September 20, 1966, the Postmaster pointed out.

The rate increases will average about 10 cents a parcel, Ray said. Starting July 1, the law provides for a series of size and weight increases on packages mailed between first-class offices. Murphy is a first-class office. The size and weight increases will be in five annual steps, the last coming on July 1, 1971.

Use of ZIP CODES in the recipient's address will enable the sender or a mail clerk to quickly determine the proper zone, and thus the rate, for the package. The zones will be based on the distance a parcel travels between the 552 sectional centers in the country, Ray said. By consulting a simple chart, which is available at all post offices, the zone can be readily identified because the first three numbers of the ZIP CODE represent the sectional center. This replaces a method in which a directory often had to be consulted to locate the proper zone for each of the nation's 33,000 post offices.

The new rates will range from 40 cents for a three-pound parcel destined for delivery to 60 cents for the same parcel to zone 3 (150 to 300 miles) to \$1.05 to zone 8 (over 1,800 miles). The new zoning method will also apply to air parcel post, catalogs and to publishers who pay zone rates on the advertising portion of their periodicals.

Ray noted that all parcels mailed between post offices within the Gainesville, Ga. sectional center will be charged at the first zone rate. There are seventy-nine post offices within the Gainesville, Ga. sectional center.

The new rates are expected to provide an additional \$74 million a year for the Post Office Department. The later size and weight increases will add another \$32 million a year. The additional revenue is to help keep the Department within 4 percent of cost on parcel post as the law requires.

More Insurance

To Be Sought

RALEIGH-- The General Assembly will again be asked to double the amount of liability insurance North Carolina motorists are required to carry. A similar move was defeated two years ago.

A study commission on insurance to make the recommendation at a meeting last Friday. The group also will recommend that the compulsory system be kept.

EDA Coordinator

To Be In Area

Charles S. Edwards, North Carolina coordinator for the public works and economic development administration will be available in Graham, Clay, Macon, Cherokee and Swain counties, according to the following schedule. Appointments may be arranged by contacting the local officials listed or by calling the EDA State Office, 919-828-9031, Ext. 485.

Graham County, Frank Rogers, Chairman, Graham County Planning Board-- January 19.

Clay County, Thomas C. Day, Clay County Planning Board-- January 17.

Macon County, H. Bueck, Chairman, Macon County Planning Board-- January 16.

Cherokee County, S.J. Gernert, Chairman, Cherokee County Planning Board-- January 18.

Swain County, R.L. Lyday, Chairman, Swain County Planning Board-- January 19. Cherokee Indian Reservation, Frel M. Owl, chairman, Cherokee Indian Reservation Planning Board January 19.



FREE PARKING SPACE FOR 72 CARS is provided in this recently opened lot at the corner of Church and Central Streets. The Town of Murphy prepared the lot for parking through an arrangement with the First Baptist Church which owns the property.

Town Board Seeks Action On Zoning, Housing Here

The Murphy Town Board has indicated a desire to move forward quickly in its zoning program and to determine what efforts are necessary to bring a new housing project to Murphy. A special meeting will be held tonight (Thursday) to speed-up work on these issues.

At the regular January meeting on Monday night, the Board members expressed a desire to proceed with the zoning program as soon as possible.

A public hearing will be held prior to enactment of the zoning ordinance and a date for the hearing is expected to be set soon.

Tonight's meeting will be devoted to a thorough study of the proposed zoning ordinance so that the Board can make changes it deems advisable before putting the program before a public hearing. Some changes were recommended at a special meeting held last fall and it is believed others are possible.

The Scout reported on October 27 that 40 low-rent housing units had been approved for Murphy in a program expected to cost about \$700,000. It is to be financed by Federal funds made available by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Federal Officials advised the Town in December that, in effect, a new application would have to be submitted for the project. At tonight's meeting, the Board will try to determine what action it can take to speed approval of the new housing units for Murphy.

In a move related to the zoning question, the Board stated on Monday night that it will, in the future, enforce an ordinance passed in 1963 which makes it a criminal offense to begin construction of a building without a building permit.

The Board approved a building permit request from Frank Calhoun who is building a machine shop on Parker St. Calhoun will be advised by the Board that the road in front of the shop must be kept open.

Mayor Cloe Moore was directed by the Board to write a letter to Charles Hall of Tellico Plains, Tenn., inviting a wagon train originating in Tellico Plains to terminate its trip in Murphy over the Fourth of July weekend. It is believed the wagon train activities will be tied in with the Murphy Jaycees Water Festival which is held on the same weekend.

The Board clarified its ban on center street parking. The police force had been directed some time ago to issue citations for anyone parked in the center of the street that was not loading or unloading. The question of passenger cars being parked in the center of the street for this purpose arose and the Board has ruled that only three-quarter ton trucks and heavier vehicles may be parked in the center of the street for this purpose.

Reviewing efforts to increase parking spaces, the Board found that a total of 150 off-street spaces will be available when the former Odum property is ready for use. The new lot at Church and Central Sts. is providing 72 free spaces and a plan presented to the Board Monday night will make 78 spaces available on the Odum lot. A total of \$1,473 was spent to make the Church and Central lot ready for use as a parking area.

A taxi permit was granted to E.B. Gibson and J.B. Hall, Jr. received permission to add another taxi to his operation.



REP. CHARLES H. TAYLOR of Brevard addresses a meeting of the Cherokee County Republican Party Executive Committee last Thursday in Murphy.

Taylor Addresses County GOP Executive Meeting

Recently elected Rep. Charles H. Taylor of Brevard addressed a meeting of the Cherokee County Republican Party Executive Committee last Thursday night at a meeting in Murphy.

Taylor told the group there is a "breakdown in communications between the people and government agencies" and he outlined "the problem of getting the feeling of the people" in the new multi-county house districts. Taylor's 48th District includes Transylvania, Jackson and Swain Counties. It stretches from South Carolina to Tennessee and is about 200 miles wide.

He said he has set up bipartisan committees in the three counties to advise him of the wishes of the people in matters that will come before the 1967 General Assembly. These committees are made up of people who are interested in special fields such as education, mental health or wildlife laws. The committees are "absolutely necessary if I am to get the feeling of the people in my district", Taylor said.

Taylor's victory in November gained statewide recognition. He defeated Lacey Thornburg of Jackson County who was in line to become Speaker of the House in 1968. Thornburg had been regarded as one of the bright

young men in the Democratic party.

The young representative pulled off his victory by carrying his home county of Transylvania by 1,600 votes although the Democrats have a 6,000-2,600 registration advantage while Thornburg barely managed to carry his home county of Jackson by about 200 votes and came out of Swain County with a slim 500 vote margin.

In an interview with The Scout last Friday, Taylor said the Republicans will have 26 House seats and seven Senate seats in the new General Assembly. He said he felt they can constitute a useful minority that will try to influence legislation in a constructive manner.

When questioned about Gov. Dan K. Moore's tax cut proposal which will be considered by the General Assembly, Taylor said he is "willing to cut taxes if we are also able to bring the needed services to the people."

He said the hefty surplus in the General Fund provides an excellent opportunity to upgrade education and he indicated he favors returning more revenue to the counties for use locally.

Taylor, who is 36 years old, is the managing director of Transylvania Tree Farms.

Judge Concedes Daughter "Singled Out", Fines Woman In Assault Case

Although he conceded that the woman's daughter was "singled out and discriminated against", Judge Felix Alley found Mrs. Helen Hancock guilty of simple assault and causing a disturbance Monday in District Court. She was fined \$50 plus the costs. The Rt. J. Copperhill mother was charged with assaulting

teacher Kay Sims at Hiwassee Dam School on December 19 in an incident that arose when Sims initiated a note to the school office stating that 16-year-old Gwendolyn Hancock was "improperly dressed." The note was signed or initialed by Sims and three other faculty members, Edward Altland, Grady Anderson and Don

Amos. Testimony revealed that action was started at Hiwassee Dam School on December 13 to require female students to dress in a manner deemed appropriate by the principal and faculty. The students were advised of the decision and teachers were instructed to send a written report to the office on any student they felt was not dressed properly. None of the faculty members who testified at the trial could identify any student whose name was reported other than Miss Hancock, although several conceded that other female students wore dresses as short, or shorter than she wore.

Sims, the first witness, described Mrs. Hancock's assault on him and vigorously denied striking back although he did admit holding his hands up to protect himself.

Altland testified that he signed a paper complaining about Gwen's dress although he admitted there were other girls in the school wearing short dresses.

Principal Harest King explained the school's policy on short dresses but said "I don't know where to draw the line."

Gwen told the court she was wearing the same dress in court that she was wearing on the day the question of improper dress arose. She testified that Amos later scratched his name off the note.

Several character witnesses were called and all testified that the defendant has a "good" reputation. Teacher James Hawkins told the court he was asked to sign the note about Gwen and declined to do so.

Another teacher, Miss Judy Floyd, said there are "no set rules" on the length of skirts girls should wear to school. She said, in her opinion, Gwen's dress was short but so were the skirts and dresses of other female students.

The judge dismissed a profanity charge against the defendant.

Escapée Captured; Arrests Made In Break-in Cases

An escapee from the Ohio State Penitentiary was captured near Brasstown Monday night by Cherokee County Sheriff Claude Anderson, Deputy Glenn Holloway, Highway Patrolmen Don Reavis and Patt Miller and two FBI agents.

Layton Shuman, 23, was serving time for grand larceny when he escaped and drove a stolen car from Akron, Ohio to Cherokee County. The officers acting on a tip that he was staying at a home in the Brasstown area, made the arrest and reported Shuman offered no resistance.

He was taken to Asheville by a U.S. Deputy Marshal to await an extradition hearing.

The sheriff's department made several arrests in connection with recent break-ins in the County.

Deputy Holloway arrested seven boys and one girl and charged them with breaking and entering in connection with the breaking-in of two houses in the Topton area on December 31. Nothing was taken from the houses. Holloway said the youths were holding a party. The eight are being held in the county jail.

Barbara Cornwell of Murphy has been charged with breaking and entering and jailed in connection with the theft of a large quantity of food at Ranger School on December 19. Some of the merchandise was recovered. The sheriff's

department and SBI Agent James Maxey made the arrest. Two more arrests in this case are expected to be made shortly.

The sheriff's department arrested Elridge and Jerry Cothran of the Culberson section and charged them with breaking and entering in connection with the theft of property, which was recovered, from the home of Virginia hidden in the Martins Creek section. The brothers are free on bond. Two other persons are being sought.



Jack Watson

New Rector Arrives Here

Jack Watson has arrived in Murphy to assume the duties as Rector of Church of Messiah and St. Barnabas, Murphy and Church of the Good Shepherd, Hayesville, left vacant by the transfer of Hamilton Witter to the Church of Holy Cross, Tryon, N.C.

Watson was reared in Cedar Keys, Fla., and is a graduate of Florida State and a graduate of the Seminary of Sewanee, University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn.

Watson comes from St. Marks Episcopal Church in Chattahoochee, Fla., where he served as Priest for five years.

In Murphy, he has set up bachelor quarters in the Episcopal Rectory on Mauney Street.

Services for the three churches are set as follows: Holy Communion on the first Sunday and Morning Prayer on the succeeding Sundays of each month. All people are welcomed to worship with the Episcopal congregations.

Bids Asked On Road Projects

RALEIGH--The State Highway Commission has issued a call for bids for the January 24 Highway Letting on 40 projects in 43 counties, involving more than 327 miles.

Almost 90 miles of the work will be in Cherokee, Clay, Graham and Swain Counties. The Commission's description of the work says 89.81 miles of sand asphalt and bituminous concrete surface will be applied in surfacing six sections of secondary roads and resurfacing eight sections of primary roads and 31 sections of secondary roads.

Work on US 19, 64 and NC 28 is included.

A Community College Here? It's Up To The People

By Dave Bruce

There is a strong possibility that Cherokee County will, in the next few years, have its own comprehensive community college. An informed source told The Scout that if "we do not get a community college here, it will be due to lack of interest" on the part of the people.

The proposal has been discussed at high levels of the State administration and Gov. Dan K. Moore has indicated his support for it. The chairman of the State Board of Education, Dr. Dallas Herring, said he supports the idea.

The community college would evolve from the present Tri-County Industrial Education Center at Peachtree. For that institution to move up to community college status, it would have to become independent of the Cherokee County Board of Education and the Asheville-Buncombe Technical Institute of which it is now a branch.

Present state law provides the machinery for the formation of new community colleges without action by the General Assembly. The Scout has learned, however, that the General Assembly would probably be asked to pass a bill which would allow the Cherokee

County Board of Commissioners to establish the community college without a local referendum. Under the present law, the voters must approve the appropriation of funds by the commissioners for this purpose.

It is estimated that the county would have to appropriate 15 to 20 thousand dollars per year to run the college which is equal to about a ten-cent tax levy. In the present year, the county has spent \$24, 000 on the Tri-County Center, or about an 11-cent levy, in a year in which the county tax rate was lowered. Thus, it is indicated additional taxes would not be needed to support the college.

The source told The Scout that the present set-up at Peachtree is "handicapped because the Center is not eligible to receive State funds for capital investment." Community colleges are eligible for these funds.

The community college would be open to students throughout the western counties on a commuter basis. There are no plans to provide housing although the school would cooperate in trying to locate quarters for students desiring them.

The programs offered would be in three broad categories: (1) Vocational and trade courses such as welding and brick-laying, (2) Technological courses such as business education, and (3) Academic courses for the freshman and sophomore years in college.

The academic courses would be for credits which would be transferable to other colleges where students would complete their work on degrees.

A local community college would make it possible for many students to go to college who otherwise could not and, at the same time, relieve overcrowded conditions at existing colleges.

"A large group of high school graduates in this area are not being served and the need for a community college is here", our source said. Local industries are known to be pleased with the work accomplished by the Tri-County Center and are expected to strongly support the community college idea.

The big question now is whether there is sufficient interest on the part of the people. There is a position to make a community college here a reality are ready to proceed with this project. The programs offered would



Know Your Police

DALE EARWOOD is the newest member of the Murphy police force. He was employed as construction superintendent in Vietnam prior to returning to Murphy and is an Army veteran. Earwood, a native of Marble and graduate of Andrews High School, is married to the former June Seabolt. They have two daughters and a son.