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The CHEROKEE SCOUT

'Cherokee County's Best Buy'



and Clay County Progress

Volume 77- Number 38

Murphy, North Carolina

April 13, 1967

12 Pages This Week

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID
AT MURPHY, NORTH CAROLINA

County Forest Fires Blamed On Arsonists

Traffic Ordinances Dominate Meeting

The Murphy Town Board voted Monday night to draw up ordinances that will enable the police department to strictly enforce the flow of traffic in the town.

In December, police Commissioner Wally Williams instructed the police to halt the practice of making U-turns and crossing the street to park on the opposite side. It was learned, however, that existing laws were not applicable.

The Board directed the Town Attorney, Herman Edwards, to draw up ordinances that forbid parking in no-park zones designated by signs, enforce the requirement to stop at all stop signs, forbid turning across a street to park on the opposite side, and forbid U-turns in the business district.

These ordinances are expected to be adopted at the next Board meeting and the police department will begin to enforce them upon adoption.

U-turns will be specifically forbidden on Valley River Avenue from the Methodist Church to the square, on Tennessee St. from Margaret Studio to the square on Hiwassee St. from below the post office at Sycamore St. to the square and on all of Peach-

tree St. The Board voted to make Central St. from Peachtree St. to Valley River Ave. a two-way street, eliminating its previous status as a one-way street east. In the same ordinance, effective immediately that portion of Central St. will be considered a no-parking zone.

Parking is also banned on Central St. between Peachtree and Church Sts. except on Sunday and no parking will be allowed on Church St. from Hiwassee St. to Central St. This is also effective immediately.

The Board appointed five members of the Zoning Board of Adjustment. This group will hear appeals and requests in connection with the zoning ordinance that was adopted last month.

John Jordan was named chairman of the board and was appointed for a three year term. Joe Fowler was also appointed for three years. Tommy King and Jim Hughes were named for two years and Marvin Hampton received a one-year appointment.

Future appointments will be for three-year terms. The initial appointments were made for varying periods in order to establish staggered expiration dates.



THE MURPHY FIRST METHODIST CHURCH held ground breaking ceremonies for the Christian Education Building Sunday morning. The congregation assembled in the outline of the new building as Bishop Earl G. Hunt, Jr. and the pastor, Rev. Thornton Hawkins, led the services.

Fire Destroys Teacher's Home

The home of Mrs. Kate Evans, about eight miles west of Murphy on old US 64, was destroyed by fire early Friday morning.

The Murphy Volunteer Fire Department fought the blaze which broke out about 1:30 a.m. U.S. Forest Service crews protected surrounding woods.

Mrs. Evans, a Murphy kindergarten teacher, her son and a grandchild were not injured.

Who Serves As Our Brother's Keeper?

By Dave Bruce

Saturday afternoon, an unfortunate couple from Ohio passed through Murphy and the reception they received from members of a profession that is supposed to be devoted to compassion toward one's fellow man does not leave a good impression of our community. It is certain, however, that this couple will long remember the kindness of a group of ordinary citizens.

The couple was hitch hiking to Georgia, where the man's brother was to have both of his feet amputated on Monday morning. The woman was pregnant. They were sunburned, penniless, and had not eaten since the day before.

They asked a local businessman if they could use his telephone. They made three calls to local ministers asking for help in getting food. One of the ministers called was not at home and the other two turned them down. On the final call, the man pleaded with the minister to feed only his wife. The answer was no.

The businessman had a customer in his establishment and was not aware of the situation at first. He heard part of the final conversation and asked the man what the trouble was. He gave them money to go to a nearby eating place. A Negro visitor also gave the couple money.

When the operator of the eating place found out the situation she refunded the money they paid for their food with and gave them another donation.

The local bus station was called to determine when the next bus would be through and the couple was taken to wait on the bus. They left Murphy with enough money to buy bus tickets to their destination and food enroute.

The ordinary citizens who came in contact with this unfortunate couple did not hesitate to do what is decent and what is right.

We hope that the two ministers who were called somehow faced their congregations with a clear conscience on Sunday morning. Maybe they even offered sermons on being our brother's keeper!

Andrews Man Supervises Hawaiian Railroad Job

Tom R. Hay of Andrews has returned to his regular position in Jasper, Ala., after serving as job superintendent in the dismantling of the last railroad in Hawaii.

During his stay in the island state, he was on loan to Midwest Steel Corp. of Charleston, W. Va.

Kahului Railroad Co. made its final run last May and Hay's crews dismantled the rolling stock, track and bridges of the

line. One of the roughest parts of the job was dynamiting of two steel bridges at Maliko and Haiku.

His crews also dismantled two high trestles. One, at Kula, was 235 feet high and was believed to be the highest of its kind in the United States.

Hay is employed by Gadsden Iron and Steel Co. of Gadsden, Ala. His wife resides in Andrews.

General Rain Needed To End Danger Period

Several hundred acres of forests in Cherokee County have been destroyed in a series of fires that are blamed on arsonists in the past week.

The fire-bugs have taken advantage of an extremely dry situation in the woodlands. The situation has been critical since the first part of March and several days recently have been considered "condition five" days which is the maximum danger period established by the U.S. Forest Service and the North Carolina Forest Service.

County Forest Ranger Har-

old Hatchett says he is investigating 16 fires that were deliberately set. "I know they were deliberately set," he told The Scout. Over 100 acres burned in these fires.

These fires have occurred in the Shoal Creek, Pack Mountain, Peachtree and Culberson areas. "Most of these fires are being set from a vehicle", Hatchett said.

He pointed out that "people in these communities can help by giving me any information they have." He said local res-

idents should note any strange cars and write down the type of car or license plate number if possible.

The State Forest Service has been on duty 24 hours a day, and "we've been run to death" during the past several days, Hatchett said.

He pointed out that the state has only three employees to protect 176,000 acres in Cherokee County.

Marvin Lovin of Turtletown, forester for Hiwassee Land Co., has helped "considerably", Hatchett said.

Burning permits in the county are cancelled and the permits will remain cancelled until there is a general rain. The four one-hundredth of an inch of rain received Mondays insignificant. It was the first rain since March 29.

The U.S. Forest Service office in Murphy has also battled several fires in the past week.

John Waddell said six fires fought by the U.S. Forest Service burned over 200 acres.

About 45 men have been on stand-by during the past week.

The largest fire occurred last Wednesday in the Beaverdam section. About 120 acres were destroyed. Two planes based at McGhee Tyson Airport were called in to make bombing runs on this and succeeding fires. The planes bomb the fires with retardants.

Fifty acres were destroyed in a fire on Shuler Creek, 10 acres on Long Ridge and 30 acres near Appalachia Dam.

The local crews assisted Tennessee fire fighters in another blaze between Appalachia Dam and Farnher which destroyed at least 10 acres and helped Tennessee crews fight another fire at the head of Tellico River.

Waddell said the Beaverdam, Shuler Creek and Appalachia fires appeared to be deliberately set.

There are six towers that have vision of forest lands in Cherokee County. These include towers in Georgia and Tennessee. All of the towers are connected by radio.

Thirteen fires destroyed about 130 acres in the Cherokee National Forest in east Tennessee over the weekend, according to a spokesman at Cleveland.

Several other fires were fought in the Ocoee Gorge area between Ducktown and Ocoee along US 64 last week.

Sheriff Offers Fire Reward

Sheriff Claude Anderson is offering a \$200 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of person or persons responsible for a fire that destroyed property owned by him over the weekend.

Anderson said a barn and garage on the Dickey Road near Culberson was destroyed either Saturday night or Sunday morning.

Brevard ABC Bill Offered

RALEIGH--Sen. Mary Faye Brumby of Murphy introduced a bill last week to permit voters in Brevard to decide if they want an ABC store. She said she did this at the request of Transylvania County and Brevard officials.

Rep. Charles H. Taylor of Brevard refused to introduce legislation until town officials made some changes in the proposed distribution of revenues if a liquor store is approved.

Both legislators are on record in opposition to liquor legislation.

Sen. Brumby said her position against liquor is "pretty strong" but she pointed out, "we have been petitioned by the people of Brevard for the opportunity to decide for themselves on a liquor store" and "I believe in majority rule even when I am against the issue."

FHA Housing Loan Funds Available

Applications for insured housing loans are now being accepted from families in all income groups, Robert D. Bruce, County Supervisor for Cherokee and Graham, and Phillip J. Howell, County Supervisor for Clay County, of the Farmers Home Administration said today.

Until recently funds were only available for families with low and moderate incomes.

The Supervisors said home financing for families of above-moderate income can be resumed by the agency under a new allocation of lending authority granted by President Johnson. A Presidential order March 17 authorized the agency to insure \$25 million more in housing loans to families of the upper income group between now and June 30.

Action on new applications from persons in the above-moderate income group had been at a virtual standstill since October 1966. The agency had taken all applications it could meet under the previous \$25 million allo-

cation of loan authority for the current fiscal year.

There has been no interruption of the rural housing loan program for low and moderate income families, which has an allocation of \$300 million for fiscal 1967.

Applications from families in all groups are being accepted at the Farmers Home Administration Office in the Courthouse in Murphy; and in the Agriculture Building in Hayesville.

The County Supervisors reported that insured housing loans in the counties to date this fiscal year have totaled \$316,950 for low and moderate, and \$14,150 for above moderate borrowers in Cherokee and Graham counties; and \$193,370 for low and moderate in Clay County.

The Farmers Home Administration, a part of the Department of Agriculture is the U.S. government agency for insuring homeownership loans both for farm and non-farm families in rural area, including towns of not more than 5,500 population.

"The service is available to rural people who are unable to obtain conventional home financing from private lenders on terms they can reasonably be expected to repay or insured loans through other agencies in the housing field", Bruce and Howell said.

"We are authorized to serve above-moderate income families in financing homes that are not more elaborate than the prevailing local standard for modern homes."

All rural FHA housing loans may run for a maximum of 33 years, and may cover the cost of a minimum adequate home-site as well as home construction. Current interest rates are 5% for borrowers in the low and moderate income groups, and 6% interest plus one-half of a percent mortgage insurance charge for those in the above-moderate income group.

Farmers Home Administration insured loan funds are provided by banks and other private lenders and investors, with the government's insurance endorsement guaranteeing their repayment.



Higdon Completes Breeder's Training

Rodney Higdon of Andrews has completed the American Breeder's Service training for artificial insemination of both dairy and beef cattle and is offering this service in Cherokee County in connection with the County Agent's office.

He received a week's training at Orangeburg, S.C.

Information on the service can be obtained from Higdon at 321-4903 or from the County Agent's office at the Courthouse.



MRS. MARIE MARTIN (center) is the most recent winner of Clifton Precision's Zero Defects Award. The Award is made monthly for the best employee suggestion on how to reduce defects and improve quality. Mrs. Martin is receiving a portable radio from stator line foreman Bobby Shields (right). Looking on are Robert Gold, the Zero Defects administrator (left); Richard McNabb, January winner; and Mrs. Sue Morris, December winner.

Mountain Spirit Sparks Lady Senator From Murphy



Sen. Brumby

A fighting Mary Faye Brumby came out swinging last week.

The usually mild-mannered lady senator from the mountain country of North Carolina left no doubt where she stands in the current issues before the North Carolina Legislature.

"I do not ask whether a constituent is a Democrat or a Republican; I only ask the problem and how I can help" she emphasized. She adds, "I am proud to be a housewife, a mother, a businesswoman, and a State Legislator. I am not a woman senator but rather a senator who happens to be a woman."

Senator Brumby represents the sprawling mountain country of Western North Carolina embracing Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Macon, Swain, Jackson, and Transylvania counties. With pride in her voice she says, "This is the largest senatorial district in North Carolina represented by only one senator."

On such issues as an ABC store for Brevard, she says letting the people vote on an issue is democracy at its best. Although against the use of alcohol in principle, she introduced a bill by request which would grant the City of Brevard the right to vote on the issue. She fought hard to retain the 5¢ per bottle tax in whiskey and stands solidly behind the efforts to have this revenue devoted solely to the program for alcoholic rehabilitation.

On the omnibus bill, she found a misunderstanding prevailing in Transylvania County. By checking with people back home, she took the bull by the horns and

quickly cleared up what seemed to be erupting into a controversy.

On the issue of "brown-bagging," she stood firm in her opposition to any bill which would impose whiskey upon dry counties. "It's just not fair to impose the will of the Legislature upon people who have not expressed themselves at the polls," she said. She, along with many others, was successful in having the Senate bill toned down by the House to the point where her position has been verified.

An ardent supporter of more help for mentally retarded people in North Carolina, she has been most instrumental in instilling a deeper sense of responsibility to these unfortunate people among her fellow legislators. She is a member of the State Council on Mental Retardation in North Carolina. She was quick to support the efforts of the Wright School in Durham for emotionally disturbed children. "Whatever I can do for the mentally retarded program, I shall do," she rejoined.

On the local mountain-country level for her four big interests are: better roads, more airports, greater industrial development and better schools. "Realizing better educational opportunity is the answer to many of our problems," she said.

In recent days Senator Brumby introduced a bill calling for a \$50,000 appropriation for Brevard Music Center. She co-introduced a bill to create the North Carolina Arts Council. She co-signed a bill for continuing contracts for teachers and one for the extension of time for principals and supervisors. She also introduced a bill which will help improve State libraries. As a member of the Governor's Committee on Beautification she expects to have bills shortly to augment this program.

A mother of three and a grandmother of six, she says her hobbies are politics, government, fishing, gardening, and, of course, her family. A graduate of Western Carolina College, she maintains her interest in this great institution. Actually she started out many years ago at Agnes Scott College, but marriage came along and two daughters were born. In 1952, with one daughter in college and the other in high

school, she again pursued a college education. "My husband demanded that I graduate from college, and I obliged him by graduating cum laude in 1962 with him, my two daughters, my young son, a son-in-law, and two grandchildren by my side."

"In 1949 my husband bought his brother's textile mill in Murphy; and thus, we switched from toy manufacturing to textiles. I also own a textile mill where we manufacture children's tee shirts. He calls me the boss; but when it comes to the mills, his judgment prevails."

A Presbyterian, Senator Brumby has been active through the years as a Sunday School teacher and a past president of the women of the church. "The church is mighty important to me; and regardless of all else, I shall remain close to it."

She points proudly to the fact that in the United States today there are only 21 Democrat women senators in state legislatures. A solid Democrat, she, nevertheless, maintains a staunch political philosophy which says, "Service to my fellowman is the greatest work of life."

A firm believer in states' rights she quickly adds, "Majority rule is the backbone of our society. I accept the majority verdict gracefully." As a woman in politics, she says the trend today indicates that women may and do have two careers---they can rear children and serve people without one conflicting with the other. She has served one previous term in the House and is now serving her first term in the State Senate. During this session of the Legislature, she is Chairman of the Senate Library Committee, Vice-Chairman of the Committees on Highway Safety and Retirement and Employment Security. She also serves on Appropriations; Conservation and Development; Higher Education; Interstate and Federal Relations; Journal, Enrolling, and Printing; Mental Health; Public Roads; State Government and Wildlife.

In conclusion, she sums up her stewardship in office by saying: "Some might say I am pioneering in politics; frankly, I am trying to serve my mountain folk and all the citizens of North Carolina."

Shop In Murphy Until Nine On Friday Night