

THE CHEROKEE SCOUT

and Clay County Progress

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Pre-School Clinic Is Set For April 10

A pre-school clinic for all children entering the first grade at Murphy City Schools will be held on April 10 at the Murphy Elementary School.

According to Bill Hughes, principal of the Murphy Elementary School, state law requires all children entering the first grade to have a birth certificate and a complete record of all shots the child has had.

All parents are requested to bring the required records to the clinic, Hughes said. He also noted that all children entering the first grade must be six years of age on or before October 15, 1969.

Cancer Clinic Is Cancelled

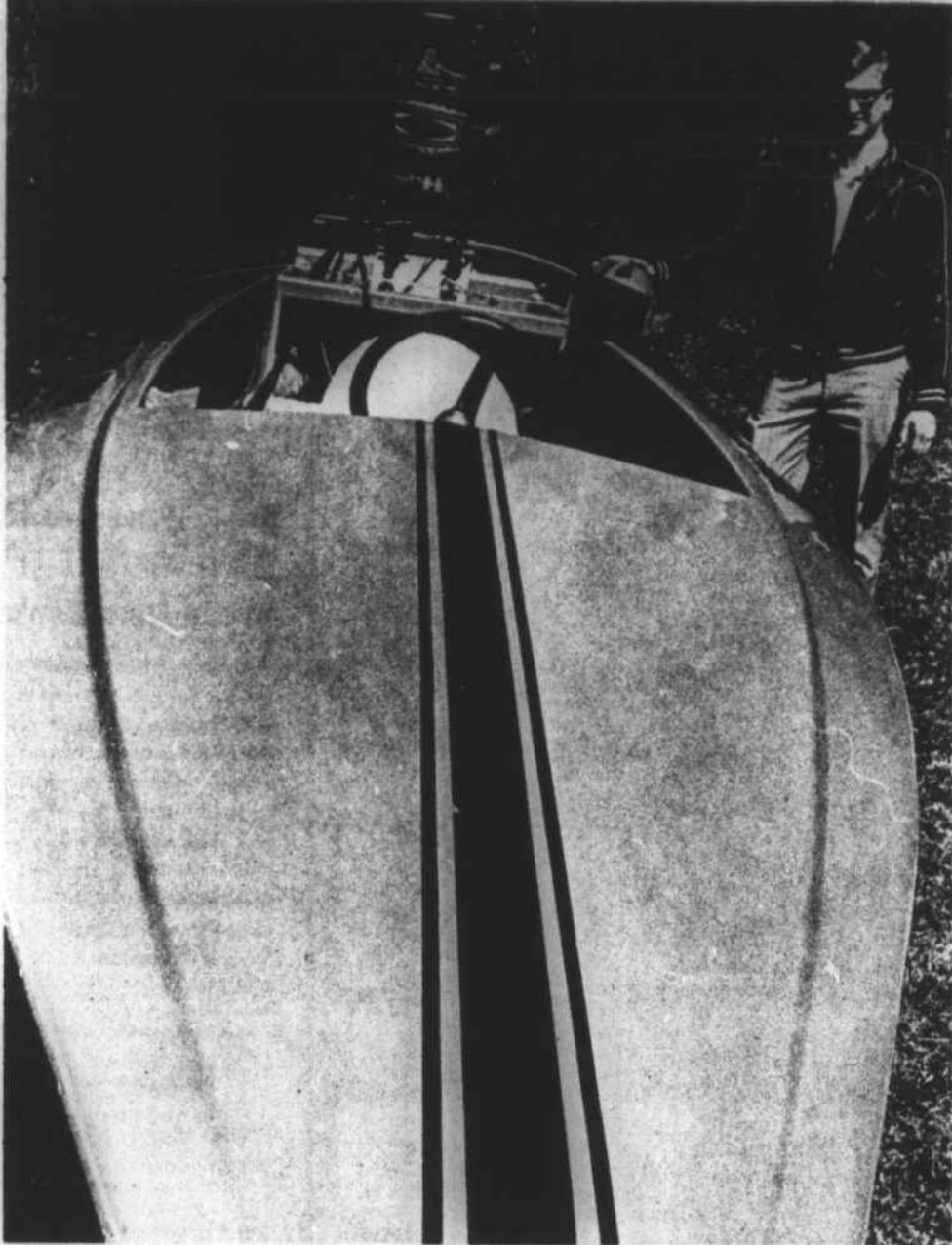
The Cancer Clinic which has been held in Murphy once each month has been cancelled until further notice, Dr. W. A. Hoover's office informed the Scout.

Reasons given for closing the clinic was that there is a lack of cooperation and participation in the community.

Folk Dance Saturday

Family night folk dancing will start at the Folk School in Brasstown Saturday night at 8:00 p.m.

A group of work campers from the Calvary Baptist Church in Washington, D. C. will be participating in the dances. The dance is open to the public.



Hilton Sets World Record

David Hilton of Murphy set a new world record Sunday at the National Outboard Association speed trials at Fort Loudon Lake near Knoxville. Hilton, shown with his Mercury powered Invader above, broke the old record of 63.38 mph by traveling the quarter-mile distance at an average speed of 66.67 mph. Hilton's record

was in the 80-90 cubic inch class. The record-breaking Invader was set up by Elmer Taylor of Murphy, Hilton said. He also attributed part of his success to David Gribble's pit crew. Hilton will be racing this fourth of July on Lake Hiwassee during the Jaycee Lake Hiwassee Water Festival. (Scout photo by Bill Gray)

WNC Has Six Fishing Records

The reputation of Western North Carolina's fishing waters got a shot in the arm last week when a report released by the North Carolina Wildlife Commission showed that this area holds six of the state's 13 fresh water fishing records.

According to the report, which is dated March 1st, the record fish caught in this area are largemouth and smallmouth bass, brown trout, walleye, white bass, and rainbow trout. Five of the record fish were caught in counties immediately surrounding Cherokee County.

When area fishermen take to the lakes and streams in the next couple of weeks after their favorite fish, these records should be considered

before a record-breaking catch is claimed. The heaviest largemouth bass recorded in the state was caught in 1963 in Santeetlah lake by Leonard Williams. The bass tipped the scales at 14 pounds, 15 ounces. Williams caught the monster on an L & S Bass Master in the latter part of April. Santeetlah lake is just outside of Robbinsville in Graham County.

Hiwassee Lake, which is located here in Cherokee County, holds the record for the largest smallmouth bass. A 10 pound, 2 ounce smallmouth was landed in June of 1953 by Archie Lampkin. Lampkin was using a spring lizard when the catch was made.

The Nantahala River in

Macon County yielded a 12 pound brown trout to Jim Gaddy. The date of this catch was not recorded, but it is known that Gaddy was using a spinner at the time. In May of 1966 a walleye was caught in Santeetlah lake that weighed 13 pounds, four ounces. In July of that same year Williams caught a four pound, 15 ounce white bass in Fontana. Williams used a night crawler to catch the walleye and a Skip Jack to land the white bass. It is interesting to note that Williams holds three of the state's records for freshwater fish, the only man to hold more than one of the 13 records.

The other record-holding

catch was a 14 pound one ounce rainbow trout that was caught in Glenville Lake in Jackson County. This fish was caught in 1949 by Max Q. Rogers.

The other seven record-breaking catches include a four pound, five ounce bluegill that was taken from an Edneyville pond; a four pound, four ounce shellcracker that was caught in Lee County; a eight pound chain pickerel from Gaston Lake; a two pound, eight ounce brook trout caught in Wilkes County; a four pound, eight ounce crappie from Tillery Lake; a 33 pound, eight ounce landlocked striped bass from Mt. Island Lake; and a five pound, four ounce shad from the Cape Fear River.

Court Hears 30 Cases

Thirty of the 72 cases on the criminal calendar in the Cherokee County Superior Court which began Monday were disposed of in the first two days of court with only one case going before the jury.

The one jury trial resulted when James Marion Stovall plead not guilty to non-support. The jury found Stovall guilty of the misdemeanor and sentenced him to two years.

The other 29 cases were either guilty pleas on charges such as speeding, driving under the influence, public drunkenness, or cases that were continued, remanded to district court, called and failed or the court took no pro

Wednesday morning the trial of William Leonard Clontz, who is charged in the murder of Henry Dotson, was in progress, but at press time the trial was incomplete.

The sentencing of Mrs. Merlyne Allen which was scheduled for Wednesday morning was not made at press time. Mrs. Allen, who received national attention for her weekly trips to Memphis, Tenn., to take her daughter to

a leukemia clinic, plead guilty to voluntary manslaughter in the past criminal court.

She was charged with murder after she shot her husband in the head with a 22 rifle. Mrs. Allen testified that her husband threatened to kill her children and he was drunk when she shot him.

Details of this weeks court proceeding will be in next week's Scout.

Welding Class To Begin

Ralph Sudderth, welding instructor at Tri-County Technical Institute will teach a 60 hour welding course beginning Tuesday, April 8 at 6:30 p.m. The class will meet at Tri-County Tech. on Tuesday and Thursday nights, three hours each, for a period of 10 weeks.

There will be a \$20 charge for materials used. The class can only accommodate 16 members. Therefore, anyone interested in enrolling should contact Tri-County Tech as soon as possible. Phone 837-3810.

Judge Makes It Official

County's Districts, Double Vote Unconstitutional

A U.S. District Court has ruled that the present commissioner districts in this county and the double vote which is held by the chairman of the county commissioners are unconstitutional. The ruling was passed down by Chief Judge Woodrow W. Jones in an Asheville Court.

Jones had indicated earlier that he would rule these provisions in the method of electing the commissioners as being unconstitutional but he has delayed his decision until recently.

The judge said in the ruling that the unequal number of votes in the districts and the double vote of the chairman "violates the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States."

The ruling came as a result of a suit filed in 1967 by Howard West and Idris Adams, both Cherokee County Republicans, contesting the method of electing the

county's board of commissioners and choosing the chairman of this board.

In 1965 W. Frank Forsyth of Murphy, who represented Cherokee County as senator, sponsored a bill to change the election of the county commissioners. The bill changed the number of commissioners from three to six to be elected on a district basis and gave the chairman the

power to cast two votes in the event of a tie.

Under Forsyth's bill, the newly elected board "shall elect a chairman from its members and in the event of a tie vote for chairman, each commissioner shall cast for chairman a number of votes equal in number to the total votes cast for all candidates for commissioner in his district in the general election."

The results of the 1966 election—which gave the

Democrats a majority vote on the board even though the Republicans received a majority of the votes—prompted the suit by West and Adams.

The suit requested that a three-judge court hear their case; that Forsyth's bill be declared invalid and that no other elections be held under this bill; that the present board be adjudged unlawfully and improperly constituted; and that another election be held to elect another board "at the earliest possible moment."

In his ruling, Judge Jones commented that even though the plaintiff were complaining about the unequal representation of the citizens in one of the districts, they had also attacked the constitutionality of the entire act. "This Court must hold that parts of the act are valid and do not run foul to the Federal Constitution," Jones said.

The provisions considered valid by the judge include the

number of commissioners, the provision providing for electing them by districts and having them elected for four year terms.

In basing his decision, Jones compared mathematically the number of people in each district as well as the weight of each vote that went toward selecting the chairman. He found the differences to be large enough so that each vote from each of the three districts did not carry the same weight.

"There was no evidence offered to justify this kind of discrepancy," the judge said of the differences in the weight of the votes. The Court is aware of the size and terrain of the county, he added, but that this did not justify the differences found between districts.

"The correction of this problem is essentially a legislative matter," Jones reiterated, "whether it be a realignment of the districts or some other appropriate action." The judge expressed confidence that the general assembly would correct the matter in a "satisfactory and constitutional manner," and that he would not enter an order until the present session adjourns.

Have You Heard... Local Merchants VIP

Money is the name of the game, and local merchants will be putting their best buys forward on a special page in the Cherokee Scout. The best part about it is that the participating local merchants and the Cherokee Scout will be giving you an opportunity to win over \$1,600. Don't miss next week's edition, that could be the time to start winning. Full details on VIP will be next week.

Loyal Jones Heads CSM Conference

Loyal Jones, a native of Brasstown in Clay County, is Executive Director of the Council of the Southern Mountains. As Director of the Council, Jones is in charge of its many programs dealing with the health, economic, educational and cultural needs of the Southern Appalachian Region.

Organized fifty-seven years ago by John C. Campbell, then of Asheville, the annual conference of the council has been held in cities throughout the region: Lexington, Kentucky; Knoxville, Tennessee; Huntington, West Virginia. According to announcements from the Council's main office in Berea, Kentucky, this year's conference will be held at Fontana Village Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, April 9-11.

Paul Kaufman, a Charleston attorney, will give the keynote speech, "Renewing our Freedom: The People". It is scheduled for 8:00 Wednesday evening. Wilma Dykeman,

noted novelist and ecologist, will be the speaker Thursday afternoon.

The closing address will be given by George Esser, recently appointed as Southeastern specialist with the Ford Foundation.

Community leaders are urged to attend the conference. Participants will be given an opportunity to study, discuss and develop programs in the fields of arts and humanities, community action, education, health, regional development, spiritual life, urban affairs, welfare and youth.

Bill Owens Is Named New Manager For M & J Finance

Bill Owens is the new manager of M & J Finance Corporation of 101 Tennessee Street, Murphy. He has been associated with M & J Finance Corporation for the past five years and comes to this area as a qualified installment loan manager.

Prior to coming to Murphy Owens worked in the Monroe and Charlotte offices of M & J Finance Corporation.

He and his family are Baptist and his past activities found him holding office as first vice-president of the Monroe Optimist Club, in charge of Monroe Optimist Fresh Air Camp and active in the Midget Football League, along with many other civic activities.



Owens and his wife, Barbara, are presently in the process of moving to Murphy.

Assoc. For Retarded Children

The Cherokee County Association for Retarded Children will meet Monday night, April 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the Power Board Building in Murphy.

Mrs. Cloe Moore will be the guest speaker, according to Mrs. Robert Bruce, president of the Association.

Garden Club Clean-Up

The Murphy Garden Club is sponsoring a spring cleanup campaign to begin within the next few weeks. The Club, with the help of other Murphy civic organizations, will endeavor to remove all trash and litter from within the city limits.

Chairman for the campaign is Mrs. Francis Borne, with Mrs. Margaret Gibbs, Mrs. Mary Faye Brumby and Mrs. Holland McSwain serving as committee members.

More information on the spring cleanup drive will be in next week's Scout.

Area Residents Contribute \$29,833 To Baptist Home

Cherokee and Clay County residents have contributed over \$29,833 toward the establishment of a home for dependent, neglected and homeless children to be built near Waynesville.

This money was given in support of the Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina, who is attempting to raise over \$600,000 to build the home. Seventeen Western counties have involved in this program with additional funds being given by persons interested in child care from throughout the state.

More than \$406,000 has been pledged or given for this Home, named the Broyhill Home, in honor of the J.E. Broyhill family of Lenoir.

The proposed home will be located on a 96 acre tract between Waynesville and Clyde. It will provide group care for about 50 boys and girls from the Western part of the state and will serve as the hub from which will radiate all the various child care services and ministries of the Baptist Children's Homes.

Groundbreaking is

scheduled for the latter part of April with construction of the first two or four cottages to begin in early summer. The entire facility will be composed to four family style cottages, an administration-education-recreational building and a superintendent's home. All of

these buildings will be constructed around a seven to 10 acre lake.

Mrs. John Dickey of Murphy and Thomas Wells of Andrews, are co-chairmen for the Founders and Builders Program in Cherokee and Clay Counties.



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Sonya Hughes daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Royce Hughes. Cindy Hughes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Hughes.

Receive Eagle Awards

The three Murphy Boy Scouts above received Eagle awards at the District Boy Scout Court of Honor held at the Methodist Church in Murphy March 25. The boys, left to right, Terry Newman, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Newman, Mike Godfrey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Godfrey, and Tommy Alexander, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Alexander, Jr., are shown with their Scoutmaster, Jack

Woody. Others from the county who received high awards were Steve and Paul Thompson of Murphy, Silver Palm, and Randy Barnett of Peachtree who received the Gold Palm. Dan Angel was honored at the meeting as he has resigned as the Nantahala District Scout Executive to move to another area. (Scout photo by Bill Gray)

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