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and Clay County Progress

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Sixth Annual Water Festival Is Big Success

The Jaycee Sixth Annual Water Festival, held this past week, July 3 through 6 was a tremendous success.

The Festival opened Thursday, July 3 with a stock car race held at Tri-County Raceway. Doug Kenimer took first place honors in one of the greatest races ever seen at Tri-County.

Friday night there was a mountain square dance held at the Rock Gym, with over 500 people in attendance seeing a very good show put on by the Carolina Sweethearts. Also on Friday evening, there was a big fireworks display at the high school. Over 2000 people looked on as the Jaycees set-off 180 different aerial displays.

Saturday was a big day for the Festival. Beginning at 12:00, at the Lion's Club Pool there was a swimming and diving contest. Also at the same time in the Old Rock Gym were the display of local art and crafts. Also in the pool area at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. were skydiving demonstrations.

On Saturday evening was the Miss Cherokee County Pageant Chosen as Miss Cherokee County was Miss Charlotte Oliver, first runner up, Miss Shirley Anderson and second runner up, Miss Evon Legg. At the pageant the Jaycees put on a "mock beauty pageant", won by Miss "Bouncing Betty Dickey".

On Sunday, July 6 at the Hanging Dog Campground was the 6th Annual Lake Hiwassee Boat Race. Twenty-five drivers from seven southeastern states were entered in the race. Trophies and prize money amounting to over \$1000 were presented to drivers participating in 5 classes of competition. This year at the race a special trophy was initiated. The Elmer Taylor Memorial Sportsmanship Trophy. The winner of this trophy was decided upon by the drivers themselves. The trophy is presented to the driver who, during the past year, has displayed the greatest amount of sportsmanship in racing. This year's winner, Dr. Bobby Shows from Pensacola, Fla. Over 10,000 spectators watched a jet air show, put on by members of the U. S. Naval Reserve from NAS, Atlanta.



Beauty Pageant Winners

Miss Charlotte Oliver of Murphy was crowned Miss Cherokee County of 1969, at the Sixth Annual Jaycee Beauty Pageant, Saturday night. Miss Oliver was sponsored by the Townsdown Funeral Home. Miss Shirley Anderson (L) of Andrews was chosen first

runner-up. She was sponsored by the Murphy Branch of the Bank of Franklin. Miss Evon Legg (R) of Blairsville, Ga., was chosen second runner-up. She was sponsored by Clifton Precision Products, where she is employed. Photo by Hugh Carringer



"Beautiful Beauties"

Shown above all the contestants participating in the mock beauty contest held Saturday night during the Miss Cherokee County Beauty Pageant. The audience picked the winner by applause after each had taken the walk down the ramp. Jerry Dickey far right,

was chosen the winner by the audience applause. James Hughes, sitting, was last year's winner. Other contestants were: (left to right) Swede Frauson, Carl Arvil, Don Decker and Dickey Davis.

Photo by Hugh Carringer

Westco Service Program Nearing Half-Way Mark

A three-year customer service improvement program involving an expenditure of \$1,232,520 is nearing the half-way mark for Murphy, Hayesville and Suit by The Westco Telephone Company, according to James Armstrong, President of the company.

The three-year construction program, to be culminated in the fourth quarter, 1970, was

announced at a news conference at Dillsboro February 2, 1968. The program called for direct distance dialing, improved long distance facilities, additional outside plant facilities for service to new customers, and facilities to improve service to our present customers for the Murphy-Hayesville - Suit area.

"We have come a long way," he said, "as we near the half-way point in our efforts to provide telephone service to more people and to improve the quality of both local and long distance services to our customers."

"In Murphy," he said, "we have spent over \$400,000 for new central office equipment and outside plant facilities." An expenditure of more than \$200,000 to change out the microwave long distance route between Sylva and the Murphy - Hayesville - Suit area was realized in mid-1968. Just recently, May 1969, 30 additional microwave circuits were turned up at a cost of \$30,000 to meet the increased demand for the long distance service into the Sylva toll center.

Scheduled for completion in late 1969, a central office addition costing \$114,000 will provide service for new customers and additional free - calling circuits between Murphy, Andrews, Hayesville, and Suit. Included in the 1969 budget is a \$69,000 cable relief job to provide up - graded service to the Peachtree section, and a new cable for improved long distance service between Hayesville and Murphy. More than \$18,000 remains in the 1969 budget for routine outside plant facilities to give service to new customers and up-grade service to subscribers in the Murphy exchange.

More than \$120,000 have been budgeted for the Murphy exchange for 1970, Armstrong said. The second quarter of 1970 has been set as the date on which Murphy customers will have access to "Direct Distance Dialing" (D.D.D.) at a cost of \$30,000. Sylva has been designated as the "Primary Switching Center" to enable customers to gain access to the nationwide dialing network. The Sylva project is scheduled for completion early 1970 at a cost of \$465,000.

For Hayesville more than \$375,000 will have been spent in 1968 and 1969 most of which has gone to the rebuilding of the entire exchange. Scheduled for completion in the third quarter 1969 is a \$270,000 outside plant project to improve service and to provide one and four-party service for all subscribers. Another \$145,000 will have been spent by the end of 1969 on additional central office equipment to up - grade service and to provide additional service to new customers and for additional

free - calling trunks between Hayesville, Murphy, and Andrews. Additional long distance circuits are also being provided between Hayesville and Murphy scheduled for completion this year.

An additional \$20,000 has been budgeted for 1970 for routine outside plant extensions to keep pace with the customer demand for new service.

In the Suit exchange nearly \$30,000 have been spent on routine outside plant extensions to provide service to additional customers and to improve the quality of service to present customers. Seven thousand eight hundred dollars have been budgeted for the balance of 1968 and 1969 for routine outside plant extensions.

Mr. Armstrong said, "The Westco Telephone Company and the Continental Telephone System is happy to announce that we will continue to fulfill our commitment, to the best of our ability, to our customers in our eleven - county service area in North Carolina." We have, he continued, "increased the number of telephones in service by more than 20% in the last 18 months. Today there are some 43,000 telephones in the exchanges in our service area -- about 60% more than there were five years ago and more than three times as many as there were in 1957."

Murphy Police Arrest 13 Over Long Weekend

Thirteen persons were arrested by the Murphy Police Department over the long holiday weekend, Murphy Policeman Blaine Stalcup reported Wednesday.

Stalcup said that seven persons were arrested for public drunkenness, two were arrested for assault on a female, two for possession of fireworks, one for carrying a concealed weapon and one was arrested for driving under the influence.

Approved As Testing Center

Mr. Holland McSwain, Director of Tri-County Technical Institute announced that Tri-County Tech has been approved as a testing center for High School Equivalency Examinations.

McSwain said that Friday night, July 18 would be the first night of testing. He said that testing would also be held on Saturday morning, July 19 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

All persons desiring to take the test should get applications forms from the office of the local school Superintendent and mail them immediately to Tri-County Tech. The cost is \$2.00.

Bloodmobile Will Be Here On July 15

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be in Murphy on Tuesday, July 15 from 1:00 to 5:30 p.m. at the Power Board Building.

Mrs. Edgar Harshaw, chairman of the Cherokee Chapter, said that collections are often short at this time of the year, and that it was a season of many emergency calls. "We urge all that can possibly donate to do so, your donation may save another life," Mrs. Harshaw said.

Mrs. Harshaw expressed hope that many people would make a special effort on Tuesday to make this drive a complete success.



Clay Accepts Job With N.C. State Employment

Doyle L. Clay of Rt. 3, Murphy has taken a position with the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina in the Murphy office.

Clay, a veteran of 24 years in the army, accepted the position July 1. While in the army, Clay served 10 years over-seas duty, mostly in Europe. He also served two tours of duty in the Far East.

Clay is married to the former Maggie Smith of Bryson City. They have two children, Shelia, 17, and Keith, 12.

Bids Farewell

Murphy Mayor Cloe Moore bids farewell to Rev. Billy Richardson as he prepares to leave Murphy on his walk of the "Trail of Tears."

Big Billy Richardson Leaves

Murphy On "Trail Of Tears"

Twelve-thirty p.m., July 4, a small group of Murphy citizens gathered on the front steps of the United Methodist Church to see a tall (6'5"), big (265 lbs) United Methodist minister, Rev. Billy Richardson, start on a forty-day walk following the trail of Tears which the Cherokee Indians were forced to march from Fort Butler to Aalequah, Oklahoma. He plans to cover half the distance this summer and will finish the talk next year.

Rev. Richardson spoke to the crowd standing in front of the Methodist Church. Richardson told the group that he needed to love our fellowman and to be more concerned about the less fortunate. He said that he had rather be in Murphy on July 4, doing what he was doing than to be playing football for the Los Angeles Rams, or to be in any other place in the world. "This is my way of reaching the people to tell them about Christ", they won't come to hear about Christ, so we have to take Christ to them". He witnesses to the love of Christ at all the places he stops: front lawns, service stations, city jails, country stores, and

various churches along the way. In addition to this purpose, the walk is also a "penance" for the way the white man has treated the Indians, especially the Cherokees.

Rev. Richardson, a former professional football player, spends forty days each year in this and similar types of "unusual" ministries. He has ridden horseback from Crawford, Nebraska, his home, to Baltimore, Maryland, and served as a drover Chaplain on a trail drive.

If you should be traveling through Tennessee, Kentucky, southern Illinois or Missouri, sometime between now and August 13, don't be surprised if you see the Rev. Billy Richardson... walking!

Seven Persons Injured

In Two Holiday Wrecks

Patrolman Don Reavis reported that six persons were injured Thursday, July 3, at approximately 7:45 in a two car accident eight miles East of Andrews.

According to Reavis, a car driven by Larry Charles Gregory, 21, of Robbinsville was making a left turn into the Topton Drive-In parking lot when a car driven by Howard Clyde Roberts, 42, of Andrews

struck the Gregory car on the right side.

Reavis said that Roberts and his wife, Christine, and their two sons, Ronnie 12, and Roger 16, were all hospitalized.

Gregory was also taken the District Memorial Hospital in Andrews along with Jack Colvard, 29, who was a passenger in the Gregory car. Reavis said that no charges have been filed, pending further information.

Reavis also reported a two-car accident Tuesday morning on Highway 19-129 near Topton. General B. Godfrey, 74, received minor injuries and was admitted to District Memorial Hospital for X-rays and treatment.

Godfrey driving a 1968 Ford Fairlane reportedly pulled into the highway in front of a 1961 Ford Galaxie driven by Mr. Harold Moss of Hayesville.

According to Moss, he was traveling at approximately 40 mph when Godfrey pulled directly into the highway in front of him.

Four other men in the automobile driven by Moss were unhurt except for minor skin abrasions received by Carlyle Sharpe of Andrews. Sharpe was taken to District Memorial where he was x-rayed and released.

The other men in the car with Moss were two of his sons and Carl D. Moses of Hayesville.

Reavis said no charges have been made pending the outcome of Godfrey's condition.

\$17,500.00 Grant Presented To Airport

At a meeting in the office of the Andrews Housing Authority Tuesday, July 7, Col. Robert N. Flourmoy, Aviation Specialist for the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development, presented a check in the amount of \$17,500.00 to Mr. W. T. Moore, Chairman of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners.

According to the authorities this grant, along with a previous one in the amount of \$10,000.00, will be used to further the remodeling of the Andrews-Murphy Airport. Paving of the 4300-foot runway has been completed, but the lighting and other improvements are as yet unfinished.

Also present at the presentation was Mr. Richard Parker, member of the Cherokee County Airport Authority, and Mr. Robert E. Heaton, Chairman of the Airport Advisory Committee and the Andrews Development Cooperation.

Heaton said earlier it is hoped that the final work on

the airport will be completed by Labor Day which is less than two months away.

However, he said there is no way to tell just when the job will be completed.

Sales Of U.S. Saving Bonds Are Increasing

Sales totaling \$5,258,776 were up almost 4 percent over May of last year and were the largest sales recorded for May since 1945. E Bond sales were up 1.8 percent, H Bonds up 2.1 percent, and Freedom shares up 42.7 percent.

Cumulative Savings Bonds sales for January through May totaled \$28,063,249 which is 1.3 percent above sales for the same period of 1968. This is 44.7 percent of the state's 1969 dollar quota of \$62,700,000 and ranks North Carolina seventh in the nation in percent of quota achieved. This represents the best January-May sales in 23 years.

Savings Bond and Freedom Share sales in Cherokee County for May were \$15,479.00. For the year, cumulative sales amounted to \$111,323.00, which is 35.9 percent of the county's \$310,365.00 quota for 1969, according to W. L. Christy, volunteer chairman of the Savings Bonds program in Cherokee County.

Kidney Fund Reaches \$491

Officials of the Citizens Bank and Trust Company in Murphy reported Tuesday that the Kidney Fund for Larry Daugherty has reached the amount of \$491.25.

Movie Fans Keep 'Cool'

Movie fans can now keep cool while they enjoy their favorite movie at the Henn Theatre.

P. J. Henn, owner of the local theatre announced this week that two 30 ton Trane air conditioners have been installed and will provide complete climate control cooling.

According to Mr. Henn, the local theatre is the only theatre west of Asheville that is completely air conditioned. He pointed out that each person produces approximately 600 BTU's of heat and that a theatre filled with 500 people requires more cooling than normal.

Mr. Henn also reported that in addition to the new cooling system, new carpet has been installed throughout the building.



Jarvis To Do Pastoral Work

Larry Jarvis, a Graduate student at Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Penn. will be doing Pastoral work for the summer at the Murphy Presbyterian Church.

He will be serving as the pastor for the summer months, so to the fact that the church has no pastor at the present time. Jarvis has done Pastoral work in Corpus Christi, Texas; Trenton, New Jersey and in Miami, Fla.

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Mike Hembree, son of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Hembree. Steve Vaughn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Vaughn. Standing - Darryl Rose, son of Mrs. Linda Faye Rose. Kenny Graham, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Graham. Eddie Fousts, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Fousts. Richie Harris, son of Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Harris. Jim McCombs, son of Mr. and Mrs. James McCombs.

WESTCO TELEPHONE COMPANY

Murphy Business Office
Dist 837-2101

It all depends on the floor plan of your home and the size of your family. You just name the place, and Westco will install convenient extension phones in the busy spots in your home. Extension phones make wonderful gifts too.