

Volume 80 - Number 1 - Murphy, North Carolina, 28906 - Second Class Postage Paid At Murphy, North Carolina - THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1969

Murphy General Hospital Ceases Operation

The Board of Directors of Murphy General Hospital met in special session Monday night and made the decision to close the medical facility.

"Murphy General was just not equipped physically or had sufficient personnel to adequately administer under the state medical program," James F. Taylor, Vice-President of the Board of Directors said.

"As of Monday night, no patients will be hospitalized in the facility," Taylor said. "However, the business office will remain open until settlement of all outstanding bills has been made."

Three local doctors, Dr. F. V. Taylor, Dr. Bryan W. Whitfield and Dr. Harry Miller will continue to maintain offices in the hospital until further notice.

No doubt there are many who remember seeing a 1941 Buick pulling a small trailer from Marble loaded with marble. That was 28 years ago and Dr. Taylor was in the process of personally building his hospital.

Today the 17 bed hospital is closed, never more to be licensed to a private physician.

Undoubtedly the closing of Murphy General will carry a tremendous impact on the community. The Scout interviewed Mayor Cloe Moore, Tom Gentry, President of the Cherokee County of

Commerce and Peter J. McKeon, Plant Manager of Rimco Manufacturing Company in an effort to obtain an overall analysis of the hospitals closing. These men represent the Town, Business Leaders and Industry.

Mayor Moore: "As the surrounding vicinity of Murphy depends on Murphy Hospitals for medical attention and the closing of Murphy General Hospital is going to mean the loss of 17 beds which I feel are badly needed, we hope that a program can be arranged in the near future in some possible way to regain the use of all or part of said number of beds."

Mr. Chamber: "The Chamber of Commerce feels that the community can not afford the loss of this facility and the immediate steps should be taken to regain the loss of these beds and upgrade our present facility. If our county is to continue growing we must have adequate facilities."

Mr. McKeon: "The closing of Murphy General points out the dire need Murphy has for medical facilities. With the closing of these doors, it further reduces the number of available hospital beds in our growing community. The community as a whole must increase its efforts to better our medical facilities for the future."

Richard Ledford Wins Six Flag VIP Contest

Richard Ledford of Rt. 2, Murphy is the winner of the second Six Flag V.I.P. trip.

Ledford winning entry was drawn from thousands of registration tickets that had been entered in the last six weeks of the Six Flag V.I.P. Contest.

The drawing was held, Tuesday, July 15.

Richard, his wife, Ann and their daughter, Renee, will receive two nights lodging at the Airport Mark Inn Motel, tickets to Six Flags Over Georgia, which covers admission fee, all rides, attractions and featured shows scrip in the amount of \$2.00 per person, good for food and souvenirs while visiting Six

Flags, meals at the Airport Mark Inn Motel for each member of the family, tickets to a Mini Cinema Movie Theatre, tickets to a Braves Baseball game, if playing, tickets to an Atlanta Chiefs Soccer game, if playing and a four and a half hour tour of Atlanta as conducted by the Atlanta Transit Company. The total value of the trip is over \$350.00.

A total of 16 merchants participated in the 13 week Six Flag VIP contest. A drawing was also held Tuesday to determine the winning merchant who received the same trip as did the Ledfords.

Moore Jewelers was drawn from the 16 entries.

Other merchants participating in the contest were the Nelson's Lumber and Supply Co., Carolina Hardware, Collins Crain Department Store, Murphy Hardware, Cal's Supermarket, Lay's 5 & 10, Davis Jewelers,

Graves Furniture, Hughes Electric, Western Auto, Hicks Gulf Service, Lena's Graves Chrysler Plymouth, Cherokee Shopping Center and Rogers Electric.

The Six Flag VIP contest was concluded with this drawing.

Forsyth Named To State Budget Body

W. Frank Forsyth, banker and former state senator, has been appointed to serve on the State Advisory Budget Commission.

The appointment was made by Gov. Bob Scott. Forsyth served from 1965 to 1967 as a member of the Advisory Budget Commission by virtue of his office as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

The Cherokee County native, who has long been prominent in State political circles, gave up the post when he declined to run for re-election to the Senate in 1968.

As set up the Advisory Budget Commission is the most powerful body in State government since it is

responsible for recommending budget requests for the various State institutions and agencies.

Forsyth is president of Citizens Bank and Trust Co., of Murphy, Andrews, Hayesville and Robbinsville. He was educated in the Andrews public schools; Mt. Pleasant Collegiate Institute; and Emory and Henry College.

He is a graduate of the executive program, School of Business Administration at the University of North Carolina, and the Graduate School of Banking, Rutgers University.

Forsyth was a leader in the General Assembly in the fight against higher power rates. In 1965 he earned the nickname of "Cochise" for his battle with the Wildlife Commission for the Cherokee Indians' right to fish in federal streams.



Three Tipton teenagers were killed Thursday night when the 1967 GMC pickup in which they were riding collided head-on with a tractor-trailer on

Highway 19 just east of Tipton. The impact of the collision was so great that the pickup was torn into four pieces. Photo by Billy Carringer.

Three Tipton Youths Victims Of Tragic Head-On Collision

Three teenagers were killed Thursday night, July 17 in a head-on collision on U.S. 19 near Tipton.

The victims were identified as Donald Ray Guffey, 18, and sisters, Martha Jean, 18, and Ethel Gregory, 14, all of Tipton.

The pickup truck in which they were riding collided with a tractor-trailer rig with an impact so great the pickup was broken into four pieces.

Kenneth Lee Burleson, 27, of Spruce Pine, N. C., driver of the tractor-trailer, was taken to District Memorial Hospital in Andrews and treated for cuts and bruises.

According to investigating patrolman Tom Battle, the 1967 GMC pickup, driven by Guffey, was traveling east when he apparently lost control, left the road on the right hand side and crossed back into the path of the tractor-trailer rig traveling west. The rig, owned by American Thread, was loaded with approximately 12,000 to 14,000 pounds and was climbing a steep grade when the accident occurred.

Patrolman Battle said that it took the Andrews and Nantahala Rescue Squads until 1:10 a.m. to clear the debris. The accident occurred at 9:45 p.m.

Joint services for the three were held at 2 p.m. Saturday in the chapel of Ivie Funeral Home, Andrews.

The Rev. Ray Moore and the Rev. J. B. Gregory officiated. Burial for Ethel and Martha Jean Gregory were in Briartown Cemetery. Burial for Donald Ray Guffey was in Red Marble Cemetery.

Guffey was a 1969 graduate of Nantahala High School. He was president of his class, a member of the Beta Club and the basketball team. He was also a member of the Rowland Creek Baptist Church.

Guffey is survived by the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lee Guffey of Tipton; a brother, Jerry Lee Guffey of Thomasville; five sisters, Mrs. David Sechrest of High Point, Mrs. Harley Head Jr. of Andrews and Misses Linda, Susie and Tenia Guffey, all of the home.

Martha Jean Gregory was a 1969 graduate of Nantahala High School. She was valedictorian and secretary of her class, was chief junior marshal, a member of the Beta Club, basketball team and 1969 homecoming queen. She was a member of Rowland Creek Baptist Church.

Ethel Gregory was a 1969 graduate of Nantahala Elementary School, a member of the basketball team, the 4-H Club, and the Rowland Creek Baptist Church.

Martha Jean and Ethel Gregory are survived by the mother, Mrs. Mary Guffey Gregory of Tipton; four sisters, Mrs. Dorothy Dills of Jamestown, Mrs. Kate Neil of Aquone, Mrs. Eula Mae Patterson and Mrs. Pauline Hyatt, both of Robbinsville; and a brother, David Russell Gregory of Aquone.

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DONALD RAY GUFFEY



JEAN GREGORY



ETHEL GREGORY

Phillip Lionel Stewart, 21, died Sunday from injuries suffered when he was struck by a car five miles east of Murphy on U. S. 64.

According to investigating officer Patt Miller, Stewart was lying in the west bound lane of the highway with his head toward the shoulder, when a car driven by Jack Monroe Warren, 17, of Atlanta, came over the crest of a hill and struck Stewart. Warren said that Stewart raised up into a half sitting position as the car came over the hill. Lois Curtis of Hayesville, a witness to the accident stated that Warren was not driving at an unreasonable rate of speed. She stated that she met the Warren car within three car lengths of the boy and that she realized he was going to be hit so she stopped and backed up to the scene. The accident occurred at 5:30 a.m.

Patrolman Miller said no charges were filed against the driver of the car.

Stewart was a 1966 graduate of Murphy High School, he recently was discharged from the Army. He served in Vietnam and Korea.

Surviving are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Stewart, and his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Stewart and Carl Colwell, all of Brasstown.

Services were held at 3 p.m. Monday in Sweetwater Baptist Church of which he was a member.

The Rev. Fred Lunsford officiated. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Pallbearers were Gary Massey, Lee Roy Coker, Edward Cantrell, Edward Ledford, Clay and Aud Brown. Ivie Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

In another Sunday accident Richard M. Moore, Jr., 51, of Murphy was killed when he was a passenger overturned on Fires Creek Road.

According to Patrolman Tom Battle the truck was coming from the Fires Creek Refuge when it ran off the right side of the road and overturned killing Moore. Other passengers in the truck were uninjured.

Battle said the driver of the truck was charged with driving under the influence and manslaughter.

Services for Moore were held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday in the Upper Peachtree Baptist Church.

The Rev. Robert Barker and the Rev. Clayton Raxter officiated. Burial was in



LIONEL STEWART

Peachtree Cemetery. Nephews served as pallbearers.

Mr. Moore was an employe of Magnavox Co. in Andrews and a native of Cherokee County.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Lou Belle Payne Moore; a son, Johnny Eugene Moore of Atlanta, Ga.; six sisters Mrs. Grace Galloway, Mrs. Alley Christopher and Mrs. Vallie Vestal, all of Epworth, Ga., Mrs. Frances Guley and Mrs. Wilma Leatherwood, both of Murphy and Mrs. Inez Picklesimer of Atlanta; three brothers, Ferd, Wayne and Luther Moore, all of Murphy; and the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Moore Sr.

Townsend Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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Six Flag Contest Winners

Richard Ledford, wife, Ann, and daughter, Renee, are shown above accepting a check for \$50.00 for their expenses while on a Six Flag Over Georgia trip. Richard's name was drawn from thousands of entries in the last six

weeks of the Six Flag VIP Contest. Scout News Editor Billy Carringer, left, presents the check. The trip won by the Ledford's is worth over \$350.00 in cash and prizes.

O.B. Cosby To Head WNC Social Security Office

O. B. Cosby, new Asheville District manager of the Social Security Administration, was a visitor in this area Tuesday. Cosby was on a tour of Swain, Graham, Cherokee, Clay and Macon Counties.

He now has the Social Security administrative responsibility over the 16 county area of Western North Carolina serviced by the Asheville district office.

Cosby replaced James E. Robertson who transferred as manager to Cumberland, Md.

Born in Alabama, a graduate of Louisiana State University, he served in the Army in World War II and the Korean war. He began his career with the Social Security Administration in Montgomery, Ala. in 1952, after which he had field representative and managerial experience successively with

the district offices of Nashville, Tenn., St. Petersburg and Tampa, Fla.

He has been active in Florida especially in the United Fund, Exchange Club, Bath Club, Federal Administrators and Federal Personnel Clubs.

He is married to the former Barbara Bauer, and they have three children, Stephen, 21, Sandra, 19, and Stanley 8. The oldest son is now attending Georgia Southwestern.

"We are happy to be here in this beautiful country of Western North Carolina," Cosby said.

"We look forward to our children attending one or more of the fine institutions of higher learning in this state.

"In contrast to the Florida area from which I have transferred, this WNC service



O. B. COSBY

district - with its picturesque scenery, 'mountain bred' people and culture - is larger in area than the state of New Jersey. And in this district Social Security benefits totalling over \$52 million a year are being paid to more than 61,000 Western North Carolinians.

All donations will be deeply appreciated.

Kidney Fund Reaches \$620

Officials of the Citizens Bank & Trust Co. in Murphy reported Tuesday that a total of \$621.78 has been donated to the Larry Daugherty Kidney Fund.

The Daugherty's are former residents of Cherokee County and are facing financial difficulties due to a kidney transplant for their son, Larry.

All donations will be deeply appreciated.

Providence Hospital Receives Accreditation

The Providence Hospital in Murphy has received a certificate of accreditation for three years from the Board of Commissioners of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals, Sister Mary