

Cherokee County United Fund Drive Over Goal

\$33,900.00

The Cherokee County United Fund has gone well past its goal of \$30,000 with nearly \$34,000 in pledges reported Tuesday.

Hobart McKeever, president of the United Fund and co-chairman of the fund-raising drive with Tom Gentry, made the announcement, saying \$33,900 has been pledged and a few more late donations are still coming in.

"We can't name everybody who helped to make it such a success," McKeever said. "However, I do think a public vote of thanks should be made for Tom Gentry and the work he did and especially to Lee Nichols for heading the drive in Andrews."

McKeever said any surplus will be no

problem since some of the agencies supported by United Fund indicated that they would like to have additional money, not included in the budget, for special expenses. An additional organization also may be added, he said, if there is enough surplus money.

Cash collections are running at least 75 per cent ahead of the rate seen last year, he noted, with about \$10,000 of the money actually in hand. The rest is in pledges and will be coming in throughout 1970.

The total pledge was divided as follows: Cherokee County industries donated \$13,150; their employees pledged another \$10,840; retail businesses accounted for \$5,596; gifts from

individuals were \$4,314.

The largest donations, McKeever, added, were Magnavox, which gave \$3,500 as a company gift; another \$3,500 which was pledged by employees at Magnavox; and \$4,100 which was pledged by employees at Berkshire International.

The 1970 United Fund budget, approved by the budget and admissions committee, is \$1,982.67 for Carolinas United; \$875 for the Murphy Kiddie Park; \$3,500 for the Boy Scouts of America; \$932 for 4-H clubs in Cherokee County; \$500 for the county Community Development Council; \$3,000 for the Girl Scouts.

The Cherokee County Rescue Squad will get \$2,500; the Murphy High School Band is to get \$1,000; the American Red Cross is to receive \$5,371; the Andrews Lions' White Cane Drive is scheduled for \$350; the Andrews Rescue Squad is to get \$4,000; the Andrew Little League is to be paid \$650.

The budget calls for \$350 for the Midget and Mite football program at Andrews; \$800 for Andrews Youth Recreation; \$300 for maintenance of the swimming pool at Andrews; \$400 for Andrews Christmas Cheer; \$600 for the White Cane Drive of the Murphy Lions; \$2,250 for the Murphy Combined Recreation Program; \$900 for Murphy Christmas Cheer.



Pipeline Project

A Wells and West crew is shown laying water pipe for the Marble community water system in the Almond Creek section. The water will

come from wells drilled on U.S. Forest Service land, be stored in a large ground level tank and then flow by gravity down through this pipeline to Marble.

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Texana, Marble Funded For Water Systems

More than a quarter of a million dollars in federal funds was signed over to two Cherokee County communities last week for construction of water systems.

Texana and Marble will each have a community water system within a few months as Wells and West, Inc., the contractor for both projects, had construction well under way this week.

The Texana Community Non-Profit Water Corporation got a grant from the Economic Development Administration for \$45,800 to build its system

and a loan of \$20,800 from the Farmers Home Administration, which is to be paid back by fees charged water customers.

Marble got a \$100,500 grant from EDA for its system and a loan of the same amount from FHA. Its system will be larger than the one at Texana, serving more people and covering a wider area.

Robert Bruce, who heads the local FHA office, explained that approval of the federal grants and loans for the two communities is the result of several years of work by local leaders. The original applications for funds were made in 1965.

Bill Wells, a partner in the contracting firm, said both systems should be completed in about three-and-a-half months.

At Texana, Bruce explained, the residents have always been faced with a shortage of water. Many of them haul water from springs. The Texana organization, however, saw the school as a solution—the building was served by a good well and the all-Negro facility was closed and its students assigned to Murphy Elementary.

The Texana water group, with faith that the money would come sometime, went through the formality of being high bidder at an auction about two years ago for the school, Bruce said. The Texana school actually did not change hands, since the water firm had no money then, but the school board held it until the money came last week and then sold it to the water corporation.

Two other wells were drilled at Texana, Bruce said, to provide a better supply for the community system. The flow from them was so small that for all practical purposes the

system will have only the well at the school building.

The project at Texana will use the present 5,000-gallon tank at the school and a new, to-be-constructed 10,000-gallon tank. There will be a minimum water charge of \$4 a month and 55 customers are signed up for the service.

The Marble Community Water System will get its water from four wells drilled on U.S. Forest Service land on Almond Creek north of the community. A 250,000-gallon steel tank will be welded together on the site, Wells says, and will be a ground level storage unit. The elevation of the site will make tall supporting legs unnecessary since gravity will provide ample pressure at Marble.

The minimum charge in Marble will be \$6.40 and 135 families have registered for service initially. The trouble in Marble, Bruce said, was that wells were shallow and easily polluted by septic tanks and the water in them tasted of iron or lime. The new wells are away from the septic tanks and the water from the wells does not taste.

The directors of the Texana Community Non-Profit Water Corporation are Frank Sudderth, president; Harley Kincaid, vice president; John Sumnerous, Jr., secretary-treasurer; Charles Thomas, Harvey Kincaid, Mathaniel Carter and Thomas Gibson.

At Marble, directors of the non-profit water corporation are: Giles Bryson, president; Kermit Kilpatrick, vice president; Wayne Edwards, secretary; Frank Craig, treasurer; Bill Brackett, Bruce Lund Lunsford, Fred Barton, Vernon Bryson, Vinson Hall, Donald Cook.



Texana Gets Money

At the signing over of the loan and grant for the Texana community water project were, seated, John Sumnerous, Jr., left, secretary-treasurer for the water corporation and Robert Bruce, manager of the local Farmers Home

Administration office. Standing were Hobart McKeever, left, attorney for both the Texana and Marble community water corporations, and Frank Sudderth, president of the Texana organization.

Communities Score In Improvement Contest

With Tomotla leading the way, Cherokee County scored heavily this year in the annual community competition of the Asheville Agricultural Development Council.

The council held its awards luncheon in Asheville Saturday and Tomotla won in the youth division, recognized for having the most outstanding youth program in the 18-county western North Carolina area.

Tomotla also won second prize in the regular community improvement contest for communities of 75 - 150 families. The youth division won \$150 for the second prize in the community judging earned the Tomotla Community Club another \$300.

Peachtree, which represented Cherokee County in the competition for development of communities having over 150 families, won an honorable mention and \$50, as did Texana, the Cherokee representative in judging for communities of under 75 families.

Approximately 100 communities in the westernmost 18 counties are judged in the improvement contest. The winners in the three divisions were Bethlehem, McDowell County, the under-75-family judging; Hooper's Creek, Henderson County, in the 75 - 150 bracket; Newfound, Buncombe County, in the 150 families and over division.

More than \$5,000 in awards was presented to the area winners at the luncheon, held at noon in the Asheville City Auditorium. The speaker was Lieutenant Governor H. P. (Pat) Taylor of Wadesboro.

Included in the businesses providing the money for awards were American Enka and the American Thread Co.

According to club officers, Tomotla probably impressed the judges with its active youth programs and the degree of participation by youths who are members of the community club. The Tomotla Community Club has over 100 young members and they all participate in some youth program, such as Boy Scouts or 4-H, and many of them are in more than one program.

The Scout program for example, was started and is sponsored in Tomotla by the parent community club. The Tomotla Community Club, officers say, also started a 4-H Club for its young members and recently has been instrumental in beginning a Cloverbud club for youngsters who are not old enough yet to join the regular 4-H club.

There are also members of the community club who are active in Girl Scouts, Future Homemakers of America, Future Farmers of America and church-related youth

programs. Their participation, plus the success they display with the many prizes and awards the Tomotla youngsters have won in their respective organizations, were felt to be the major factor in winning the award.

Young members of the Tomotla Community Club do not have a separate organization of their own, it was explained, but do have two representatives who speak for them to the club leaders, Lynn Loudermilk and Debra Keener.

The Tomotla Community Club's second place finish in the improvement contest was due in large part to the various projects the club members have completed around the community center, according to club president Edwin Manchester.

He explained that this year the club finished paying for the building, a former schoolhouse which was purchased from the county. The club also painted the building and refinished the floors, erected a sign and bought chairs and tables for the dining room, holding three fund-raising suppers during the year.

The Tomotla Community Club also remodelled the interior of the Tomotla Baptist Church, he said, and provided 40 adult leaders for the various youth projects.

Hospital Raises Rates For Rooms

Providence Hospital, which operated at a loss during its past fiscal year, will raise its room rates \$2 across the board effective Jan. 1.

The increase in rates and the operating loss were announced at the hospital's annual corporate meeting, held last Friday night at the Murphy Power Board building.

Sister Mary Raphael, hospital administrator, said even with the increase, Providence room rates will still be lower than other hospitals in this area. Private room rates will range from \$16 to \$22 a day with the new rate, semi-private goes up from \$13 to \$15, ward from \$12 to \$14 and coronary care rooms will go to \$48 a day.

The hospital operated from Oct. 1, 1968 through Sept. 30 of this year at a loss of \$6,056 she said. This was better than the previous fiscal year when the operating loss was more than \$15,000, she added.

Income for Providence increased by \$59,000 during the period but expenses increased \$46,900. The major part of the increase, she pointed out, was salary - \$35,000 paid out to the 10 sisters and 45 other workers at the hospital.

A bright spot for the year, Sister Mary Raphael noted was that the local hospital paid off its mortgage. It was purchased by the Sisters of Providence in

1956 with money borrowed from the order's headquarters in Holyoke, Mass. The final \$15,000 was paid off during the fiscal year.

The hospital's accounting office lists \$58,000 in accounts receivable for the past year and another \$17,711 in debts owed the hospital which are more than a year old.

Several local citizens were named to one-year terms on the Providence Hospital Board of directors at the meeting; Ben Palmer, Hans Beerkens, Frank Mauney, Merle Davis, Herman Edwards, the Rev. Thornton W. Hawkins and the Rev. Roland Hautz.

The hospital corporation also enthusiastically accepted the announced plan of the Murphy Hospital Authority to raise funds to renovate the interior of the building and add an emergency generator.

"We're delighted at this - that the community is feeling this is their hospital and that they will be willing to help us," Sister Mary Raphael said. "We wouldn't have the funds to do this all at once and this way it will be presentable as a whole, rather than done piecemeal." The Catholic Bishop, the Rev. Vincent Waters, D.D., of Raleigh, attended the meeting as did Sister Mary Caritas, the Major Superior of the order and Sister Mary Adrianeia, the treasurer, both of Holyoke, Mass.

Deputies Grab Still

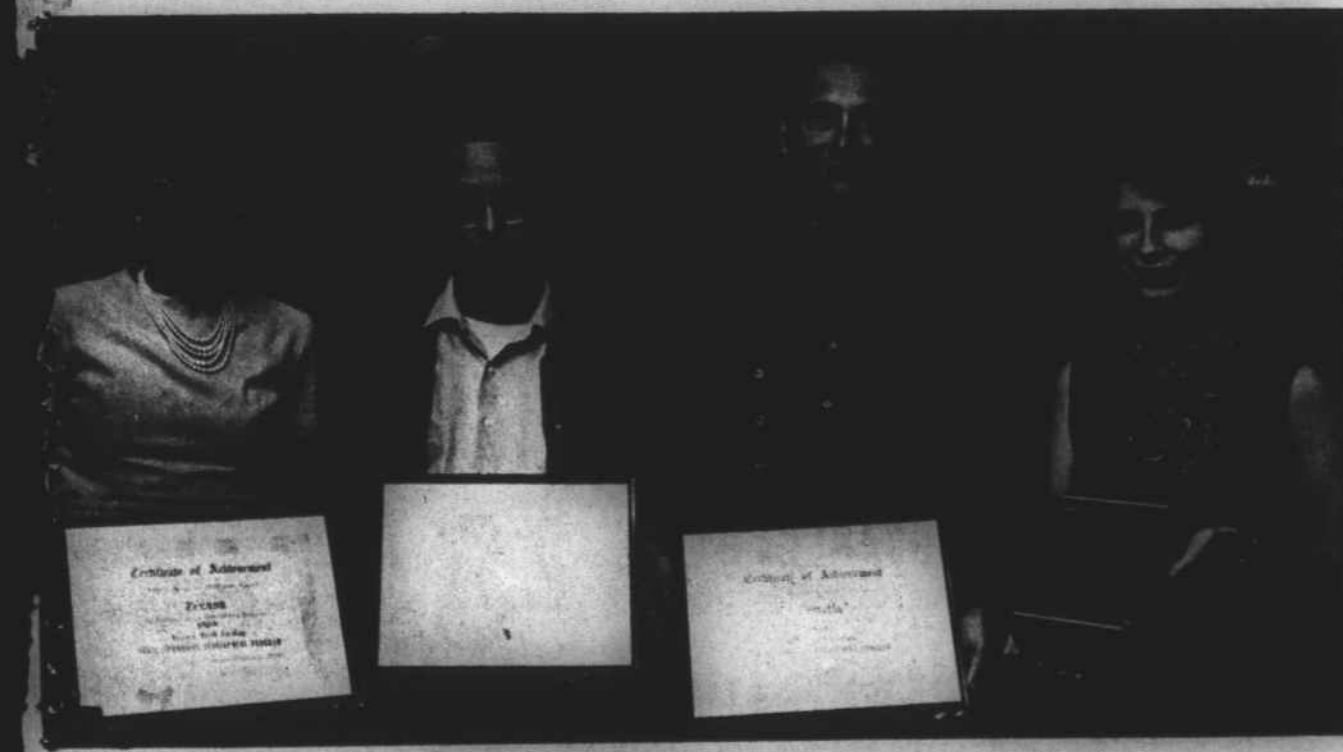
The Cherokee County Sheriff's Department seized a small copper still Friday afternoon in the Beaver Creek section near Andrews.

Chief Deputy Glenn Holloway said the action was the result of a tip given officers by an unidentified person. No arrests have been made yet in connection with the raid.

Holloway and Deputy

Lesard Radford said they found the still, heated by a wood fire, warm when they arrived. It had been made, they said, by soldering two copper tubs together and had a capacity of about 30 gallons.

The officers also seized 60 gallons of mash and the bow saw and axe the still operators had been using to cut wood for the fire.



Cherokee Winners

Cherokee County community clubs won \$550 in prize money last Saturday as the annual development awards for Western North Carolina were presented in Asheville. Left to right are Mrs. Bessie Carter, president of the Texana Community Club, which won \$50 for an honorable mention; Willard Hembree, vice

president of the Peachtree club, which won \$50 for an honorable mention; Edwin Manchester, president of the Tomotla club, which won second place and \$300; Linda Pope, member of the Tomotla club, which also won \$150 for its youth program.



Marble Water Officers

Posing against a stack of water pipes already being laid for their system are officers of the Marble Community Water System. Left to right are Vernon

Bryson, member of the board; Frank Craig, treasurer; Kermit Kilpatrick, vice president; Giles Bryson, president.



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Front row - Gregory Barton, son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Barton. Donna Coffey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Coffey. Tammy Garrett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Rayfield. Paul Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Jones. Back Row - Vickie Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Jones. Eddie Fouts, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Fouts.



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