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200 Attend Convention

Cherokee County Republicans Elect Officers



GOP Officers

Leonard Ramsey, standing, was elected chairman of the Cherokee County Republican Party at the convention held Saturday night at the Courthouse. Don Ramsey, seated left, was elected as secretary and Mrs. Nell White was re-elected as vice chairman. (Staff Photo)

By Wally Asch Staff Writer

The Cherokee County Republican Party held its convention at the Courthouse on Saturday night and elected officers. The selection of candidates for county officers, however, was not made and the convention was recessed until a later date for this, probably to be sometime in May. The 17 precincts had named 92 delegates to participate in the county convention. In all about 200 people attended. Leonard Ramsey, a Murphy grocer, was selected as the new

chairman of the county Republican Party. It replaces W. Radford of Smithville. Radford noted before the election of officers that the "Murphy" name is somewhat located and should be carried on here. Mrs. Nell White of Murphy was re-elected to the post of vice chairman and Charles Court, Don Ramsey, was selected as secretary replacing Mrs. Ruth Strick. All county officers will serve two-year terms and all three were elected by acclamation. The convention accepting the choice of a nomination group named by the GOP county

Desk Officer Assumes Duty

The Murphy Police Department, hit recently by complaints that its small downtown office and telephone is often left unmanned, has hired a fulltime desk officer. Chief Pete Stalcup said Officer Wayne Wilson assumed night duty this week and will function as a combination desk officer and radio dispatcher. He will not be assigned to any duty outside the office, Chief Stalcup said, and will be at the police station from 8 p. m. until 1 a. m. five nights a week.



Wayne Wilson

Wilson, a former Murphy Policeman, suffered a broken hip while trout fishing alone in June of 1968 and had to leave the force. He had worked as the parking meter officer. He will be on duty on the five nights which are most busy for town police officers, Thursday through Monday. Wilson brings the force to seven fulltime officers, plus a student officer. Chief Stalcup said the police telephone will continue to be answered during regular daylight working hours either by the officers on duty or by a hook-up with the Town Hall, where town employees can contact the police car by radio.

TVA Planners To Meet Here On Townlift

The Townlift Committee for the Peachtree Street improvement project discussed plans in a meeting Monday night at the Power Board Building and scheduled a session with TVA planners on March 2. Charlie Johnson, Town Clerk, said representatives of the TVA's Department of Regional Planning will be in Murphy on the afternoon of Monday, March 2 to make an informal survey of Peachtree Street and will then meet with businessmen and town leaders at 7:30 that night at the Power Board Building.

SHC Calling For Bids On Highways

RALEIGH The North Carolina State Highway Commission has announced that it is calling for 36 bids in February, totaling 1,033.97 miles of road work in 45 counties. 27 of the projects deal with surfacing and resurfacing. This accounts for the large mileage in this letting. The bids were called for during the first week of February and opened to determine the low bidders three weeks later. The projects include Cherokee, Macon, and Swain Counties 43.15 miles of resurfacing on two sections of U. S. 19 and 129 and N. C. 28 (Part) and eight sections of secondary road using bituminous concrete surface.

Whitener Held In Jail

The Cherokee County Sheriff's Department reports that Willard Whitener, 21, gave himself up at the Cherokee County Jail last Friday. He is charged with first degree burglary, a capital offense, and common law robbery. Cherokee County Deputy Sheriff Duke Radford says Whitener and his cousin Richard Whitener, 24, who faces identical charges, but has not been arrested yet, broke into their grandmother Molly Whitener's home during the night hours of Jan. 16 and robbed her of more than \$100. Willard Whitener is being held in the county jail without bond, preliminary hearing set in District Court for March 2. The District Court session this week appointed Herman Edwards as attorney for him.

School Plans Presented

Cherokee School Superintendent John Jordan presented plans for finishing the lower floor of the so-called "Round Building" Monday night at a meeting of the Cherokee Board of Education. The building, a new addition to Murphy High School, has an unfinished basement and Jordan displayed plans by the Waynesville architects Fey and Lee for completion. The plans will have to be approved by state officials in Raleigh, Jordan noted, before the job can be put up for bids. No problems in approval are expected. The money he said will come from the Cherokee share of the 1963 state bond funds. There is enough money left to

finish the building Jordan said. The completion of the cost some \$1.5 million in the neighborhood of \$100,000. The building currently represents an investment of \$138,000. The plans call for six classrooms around the circular wall and restrooms in the center section Jordan pointed out that completion of the building will ease crowding at the high school, with classes presently being held both in the gymnasium and the cafeteria. In other business, the board of Education books audited by Grissette and Beach, an accounting firm of Lenoir

with a lawyer and make preparations to sell two old buildings on the Murphy Elementary campus now being used by Levi Strauss & Co. to be vacated soon when Levi operations move into the new plant here. Voted to accept the bids of Coleman Trucking and Seeding Co. and Pursor Fuel Co. to haul coals to the schools. Parsor to haul to Andrews and Marble and Coleman to handle the other schools. Voted to have the board of Education books audited by Grissette and Beach, an accounting firm of Lenoir



Hospital Benefit

Lower Tax Rate Seen In Clay

Most of the taxpayers of Clay County realize that a re-evaluation of all real estate in the county was made during 1969. Those figures will become effective in calculating the 1970 taxes. Based on 60% of actual value the taxable valuation of real estate is tentatively set up at \$9,966,321 as compared to \$7,551,152 for 1969. Neither of these figures include value of personal property. The rate for 1969 was \$1.70 per \$100. The rate for this year has not been set yet, but according to A. F. Padgett, Chairman of the County Board of Commissioners, it should be a little lower. The new rate cannot be set until all the listings of personal property can be figured into the total assessed valuations and the budget worked up so the commissioners can know just how much money will be required to meet all expenses plus making substantial payments on indebtedness.



New Lights At Square

Mayor Case Moore, night electrician, installed the poles to support a new traffic light system at the square. The State Highway Commission has all the needed materials ready at Sylva and construction of the system will

begin soon. The four supporting poles are ready. The new system will have four lights - one for each traffic lane - one for each traffic lane - one for left turn signal for traffic coming from Valley River onto Peachtree. (Staff Photo)

Hospital Fund Drive Entering New Phase

Cherokee Hospital Auxiliary's drive for funds to renovate Providence Hospital is entering its final phase. The main construction of the hospital is complete and will soon be ready to receive patients. The drive is now in its final phase. The main construction of the hospital is complete and will soon be ready to receive patients. The drive is now in its final phase.

The renovation program is designed to give patients a psychological lift and also make the local hospital more attractive to doctors. The MHA is trying to renovate for Murphy. Those who have donated to the drive since the last report was made are: Mrs. B. J. Parker, Mr. & Mrs. J. H. Graves, Mr. & Mrs. Albert Graves, Mrs. Velma Thomas, Grant Stiles, Kathryn Ann Travers, Cherokee Laster, Freda Noel Stout, Society for the Propagation of the Faith, Joseph of Cleveland, Frances Kelly, Jane H. Reynolds.

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Hughes, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Puett, Jr., George Worley, Elizabeth A. Bourne, Etta Hunt Elliott, Mr. & Mrs. Albert Rogers, Nan D. Ketter, W. S. Dickey, Mr. & Mrs. Albert J. Martin, Western Auto Store, Hattie Parker and Laster Floyd. Mr. & Mrs. B. J. Duncan, Bill Darnell, James Mabry, Grady Handy, Mr. & Mrs. Charles H. Wilson, Robert M. Roth, Ruby Hill, Loren C. & Opal Davis, Mrs. Hoyt Palmer, Frank & Katherine Suttler, Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Totherow and Clarence King.

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Ramsey, Mrs. Blanche F. Kipatrick, Donald & Joyce Kitchens, Mr. & Mrs. W. E. Coffey, Collins-Crain Company of N. C., Martha C. Lee, Mrs. Vane Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. M. McElvmore, Lay & Company, Inc. and Mr. & Mrs. Carter Worley.

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth H. Davis, Mrs. Emily C. Davidson, R. C. Pipes, Mrs. Harry P. Bacon, Ferguson, Mr. & Mrs. Jennings, Dickson, Hill, Lomasson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Decker, Mrs. C. H. Carver, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond, Sherman, Troy Fleming & wife, Sarah Gentry, Mr. & Mrs. Phoebe Hestrick, Mrs. Beattie Hestrick, Howard Caldwell, Carlton Gentry, Sam H. Johnson, Mrs. Lucy Ann Siler.

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United Fund Wins Awards

The Cherokee County United Fund was scheduled to be honored with two awards Wednesday night for the success of its campaign. The local United Fund, which raised \$34,155 with a goal of \$30,000 last year, was to be recognized at the Sixth Annual Campaign Achievement Celebration, held at the Jefferson Standard Country Club in Greensboro. Two communities in Western North Carolina won awards, according to the N. C. United Community Services, which was honoring the leadership of the 71 United Funds in the state at the Wednesday night event. The Cherokee County United Fund won the Jefferson Standard North Carolina United Rotating Trophy for having the most outstanding United Fund campaign in the state. The Cherokee County United Fund also won an award for best performance of any United Fund in its class, raising less than \$100,000. Tom Gentry, campaign chairman, and Hobart McKeever, president of the Cherokee County United Fund, were to receive the awards. Asheville won an award for being best in its class, for drives of more than \$500,000.

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Tom Mallonee To Visit Here

Tom E. Mallonee, 11th congressional district assistant to Congressman Roy A. Taylor, is now making scheduled visits to the county seats and other sections of the counties. On Tuesday, Feb. 24, he will be at the Town Hall, Andrews, from 9 to 9:30 a.m. at the City Hall, Murphy, from 11 to noon and at the Clay County Courthouse, Hayesville from 3 to 4.