



The Ole Swimming Hole

Lifeguard Russell Hensley, upper left, looks over a lively group of young swimmers at the Lions Club Pool, which opened for the summer last week. The pool, managed by Bob Hendrix, is open from 1 until 6 each afternoon and the lifeguards are also giving swimming lessons five days a week. (Hugh Carringer Photo)

Campground Fees Discussed

About 25 people attended a special public meeting Monday afternoon at Forest Service headquarters here and raked Forest Service officials over the coals concerning a new fee system which has gone into effect at the Hanging Dog Campground.

Peter J. Hanlon, the National Forest Supervisor, from Asheville, was present for the meeting, which was called by District Ranger Harold Fisher after the controversy flared up last week.

At issue are the fees now being charged at the campground, \$1 per car for camping, picnicking or visiting anyone who is camping or sleeknicking. Most of the people at the meeting said the fees were not charged in the past except for actual camping.

When the fee system was started about two weeks ago the Forest Service also was

charging \$1 per car for use of the boat ramp, a fee which has since been suspended by Hanlon when it was brought to the Forest Service's attention that the ramp was built partly with state Wildlife funds.

"I'll agree that it's different from what has been paid in past years," Fisher said. "But under the current regulations, we have no choice. We don't make the orders here, we just carry them out."

Fisher, Hanlon and other Forest Service officials told those attending the meeting that no charges will be made of those merely driving through the camping area, "if they have a logical reason for being there." Visitors of campers will, however, have to pay the \$1 per car fee or else buy a season's pass for \$7.

The discussion, which sometimes grew heated, wandered into other areas

some complained that families camping with two cars had to pay \$1 for each vehicle, which they said was not fair. And the Forest Service officers added that if they wanted to push the matter, a family paying fees for two cars could actually tie up two camping spaces.

But the main issue proved to be the fees charged visitors of the campers, which the citizens at the meeting seemed to oppose completely.

Hanlon said he had the power to also suspend the charges for visitors to the campground but would not do so. He added that he would report on the meeting and the local feeling to the regional Forest Service headquarters in Atlanta, which reportedly ordered the crackdown in fees after learning all users of the Hanging Dog facility were not paying.

Renovation Assured

Hospital Gets \$20,000 Boost

The Murphy Hospital Authority's plans for renovation of Providence Hospital came within reach this week - a whopping check of \$20,000 from a Chicago foundation assured authority members that the money for the project is no longer a problem.

The man who made the vital connection for the hospital drive is Roy Weber of Clay County. He is a friend and business associate of Phillip D. Lewis of West Palm Beach, Fla., who is a son of the late Chicago philanthropist Frank J. Lewis.

The Lewis fortune has provided financial assistance for a number of institutions and Weber said he asked simply "if they knew anyone who had any money" which might be given to the local hospital drive.

The answer came this week in the form of a \$20,000 check, written on the Frank J. Lewis Foundation in Chicago.

The fund-raising drive began late last December, the hospital authority attempting to raise enough money to give the local hospital a general face-lifting.

This, it was explained, will give patients a psychological lift, make the hospital more attractive to doctors the authority is trying to recruit for Murphy and put the hospital in good shape to serve until a new hospital is built sometime in the future.

Engineers provided by local industries surveyed the Providence building and recommended a new roof for the New Wing, new lighting, general painting, new floor-covering, lowering of ceilings and an emergency generator to serve in case of a power failure.

The bill for renovation would come to about \$40,000, the authority announced, and the campaign began with a direct mail appeal. The money came in slowly but steadily. There was about \$5,000 left in the authority's bank account from the summer of last year, when funds were raised for a hospital survey which was never made. That was added to the drive and several industries made large donations.

Westco Telephone chipped in with a check for \$3,000 last week which put the drive in the neighborhood of \$26,000 and workmen are in the process of doing part of the renovation at the present time.

Then the check from the Lewis Foundation this week put the drive at about \$46,000, enough money to officially finance the entire planned renovation.

"We are extremely grateful to the Lewis family for their generous gift," Hospital Authority Chairman Jack Owens said Wednesday. "And we're also grateful to Roy Weber for his interest in the drive. Without his help, we'd still be struggling for the renovation goal."

"With the money for the renovation now in the bank, the hospital authority now will be working harder than ever to recruit new doctors for Murphy," Owens continued. "This will take money and our long-term planning program includes provisions for a doctors' building and, eventually, a new hospital."

"We wish to thank all the individuals who contributed to the drive, the businesses and the industries and especially the civic clubs who did the door-to-door canvass in May."

Housing Job Up For Bids

The Murphy Housing Authority this week began advertising for bids on its two planned low-rent housing projects.

Ben Palmer, director of the housing authority, said the construction will probably cost about \$500,000 and also includes expansion of the authority's Beal Circle office to provide for a small day care center.

The money, he said, will come from the federal Housing and Urban Development headquarters in Atlanta. Bids will be opened on July 9 and construction is expected to start immediately and to be finished within 18 months.

The projects are 10 units for the elderly on Hiwassee Street and 30 units for low-income families to be located on Park Avenue near the Rimco Plant.



Hospital Gets Check

Sister Mary Raphael, Providence Hospital administrator, accepts a check for \$20,000 from Roy Weber, given by the Frank J. Lewis Foundation in Chicago for the renovation of the local hospital. (Staff Photo)

Democrats To Hold Convention Saturday

The Cherokee County Democrats will meet in county convention on Saturday afternoon to select the party's slate of candidates for county offices.

Gary Kilpatrick, the county chairman, will also serve as convention chairman. In addition to picking candidates, Kilpatrick said the convention will select Cherokee delegates to the Democratic district convention, June 27 in Asheville, and to the state convention, set for July 11 in Raleigh.

The convention will also be voting on new county Democratic officers, Kilpatrick added.

There are 17 precincts in the county, which had Democratic meetings on Saturday afternoon, June 6, to select the 65 delegates to the county convention. Kilpatrick said a candidate for county office cannot be a delegate or a county Democratic officer.

When the convention gets under way at 1 o'clock Saturday afternoon in the main courtroom of the Cherokee County Courthouse, the most interest will be centered on the sheriff's race. The number needed for nomination will be 33 delegates votes.

Originally there were five men announced as working for the nomination - County Commissioner Ray Sims of Tomotla, Ray Killian of Peachtree, Murphy Policeman Blain Stalcup and Vincent Love of Andrews and Andrews Police Chief Milton Mashburn. Killian, however, this week withdrew. He said none of the

delegates supported him, "it was all fixed before the precinct meetings were held." The other four men are still in the running.

A former Murphy police officer, Killian added that he is sick and tired of the county convention system and is considering running in the general election this fall for sheriff as an independent candidate.

Mrs. Thelma Crawford, of Route 4, Murphy, has announced that she is a candidate for Register of Deeds, subject to nomination by the Democratic convention.

James C. Howse, who owns and operates the Cherokee Restaurant in Murphy, has announced for Clerk of Court. He served as Clerk of Court one term, 1958-1962. No one has announced to oppose

Howse or Mrs. Crawford in the convention.

The Board of County Commissioners this year will be cut from the present six to three, to be elected from districts. The three Democrats now sitting on the county board are Sims, W.T. Moore of Andrews and Andrew Barton of Murphy.

Moore and Barton have not announced their intentions and no other Democrats from either the Andrews or Murphy districts have announced.

Three men have announced they are seeking the nomination from District 3, which includes Peachtree and the western precincts.

They are Wendell Forrister, former Murphy police officer W.O. Williams and construction worker Fred Sneed.

Two Named To Murphy Power Board

The Murphy Town Board, meeting Monday night in special session, appointed Councilman Francis Bourne, Jr. and former Town Board member Jerry Hatchett to the Murphy Electric Power Board.

The three-man board was formed in 1953, with W. Frank Forsyth as chairman, J.H. Duncan and Noah Lovingood. Each man had been appointed by the Town Board several times, under the bill passed by the state Legislature concerning the Power Board.

Duncan's last term expired in May, 1967 but he had continued to serve until officially reappointed or replaced. Forsyth, likewise, had had his term expire in May of 1969 but had continued to serve until he died in February of this year. The members of the Power Board serve staggered six-year terms.

The Town Board Monday night voted unanimously to name Bourne as chairman to Forsyth's place, to serve a term which will expire in May of 1975. Hatchett was named to replace Duncan, with a term to expire in May of 1973.

In the resolution appointing Bourne and Hatchett, the Town Board also commended the Power Board for outstanding service to the town since it was formed and commended Duncan for his work since 1953.

The Town Power Board buys electrical power from TVA under contract and is responsible for the sale of that power, the operation and maintenance of the town electrical system.

Watershed Meeting Set

The quarterly meeting of the Upper Hiwassee Watershed Development Association will be held Tuesday, June 23, 7:30 p.m., at the Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative Office in Young Harris, Ga.

Some topics to be discussed include the agricultural intern program, marketing of horticultural crops, development of business and industry.

Capt. Frank Swan Comments On Upcoming Wagon Train

By Wally Avett
 Staff Writer

Still as tough as the McClellan saddle he rode in the U.S. Cavalry more than 60 years ago, Capt. Frank Swan last week sat and talked of the Wagon Train, past and future.

Capt. Swan (U.S. Army-retired) is now 81 years old. But he still sits a horse with his back as straight as a Springfield rifle barrel and he'll be riding on the fourth of July with the Wagon Train, just as he has each year since he helped found the train in 1958.

Now officially organized as the Western North Carolina Wagon Train, Inc. (West of the Balsam) the annual event began in 1958 as the brainchild of Sam Williams, a businessman in Tellico Plains, Tenn. The first train was organized under the leadership of Capt.

Swan of Andrews and Charlie Hall of Tellico.

"The train was originally to draw attention to the need for a road between Tellico Plains and Murphy," Capt. Swan says. "Now there is a black-topped road up to the line on the Tennessee side but nothing has been done on the Murphy side."

"The mistake we made," he continued, "was to work for a paved, black-topped road. We should have worked for an all-weather road over the mountains and then tried later to get it black-topped."

The Wagon Train, he added, will continue to work for a road between Murphy and Tellico and will also work for better roads in Eastern Tennessee, Western North Carolina and North Georgia.

This year the procession of covered wagons and horseback riders moves out of Andrews on the morning of July 1 up the Gen. Winfield Scott Highway over Tatham Gap and then down Long Creek

and into Robbinsville for the night.

On July 2, the Wagon Train moves out from Robbinsville on US-129 to the Bear Creek Scenic Railroad. The day of July 3 will be spent in camp at the railroad depot and then on the morning of the Fourth, the train pulls out early to Robbinsville to parade through the town. Then it's back across the mountains to parade through Andrews late on the afternoon of the Fourth.

The rules are the same as years before—those printed in capital letters prohibit the carrying of firearms by anyone not authorized by the Wagon Train or the Sheriff's Department, prohibit riding of horses in town after 8 at night, rule out "high-spirited or ill-tempered horses" and give clear warning that any intoxicated person will be dismissed from the train.

Other rules prohibit cruelty to animals and detail equipment requirements.

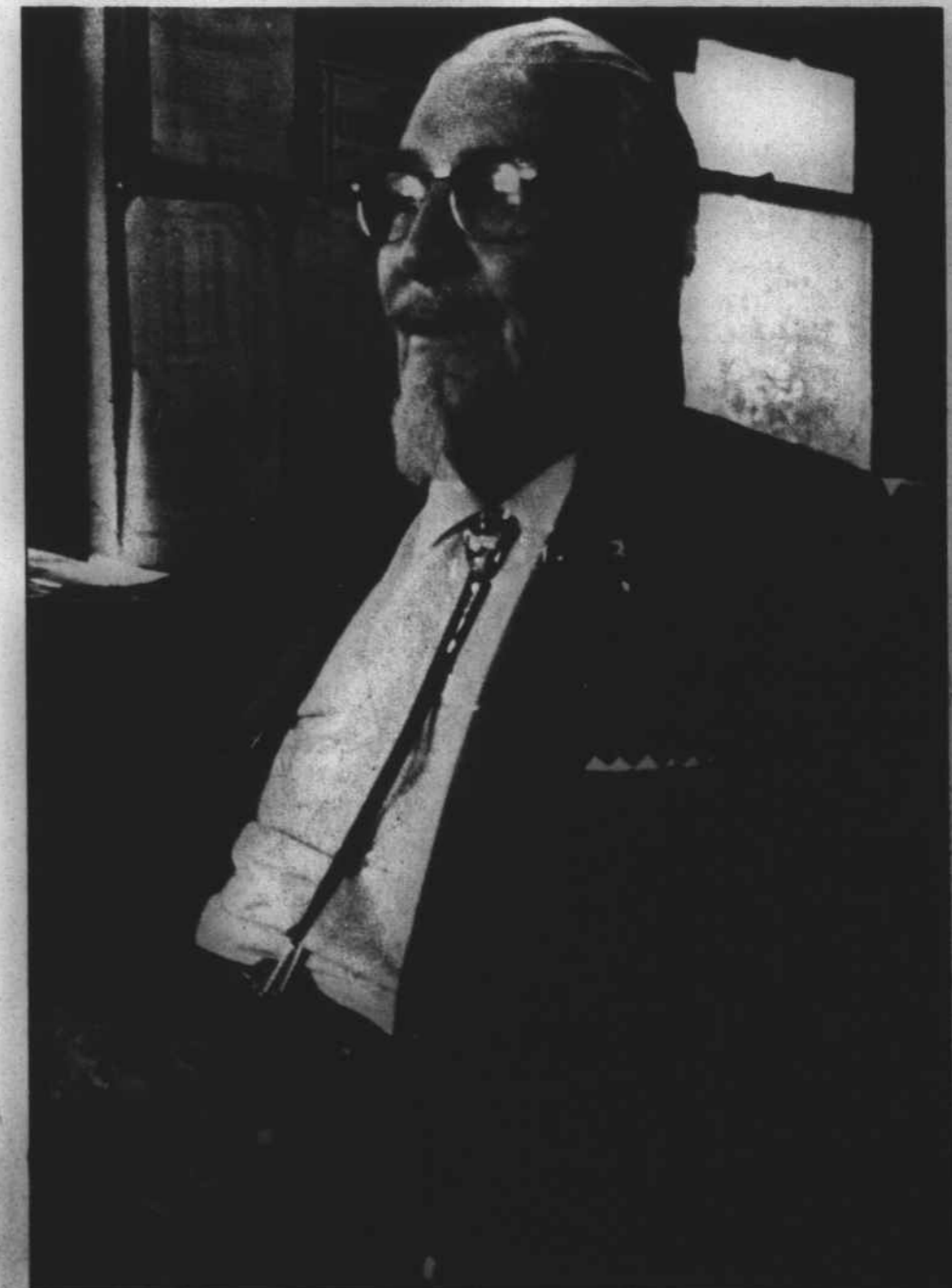
Capt. Swan heads the list of honorary wagonmasters this year. His son, Bill Swan, will be the real working

wagonmaster, in charge of the train. Charlie Hall of Tellico will be the chief scout. On the trail the wagonmaster and his staff are in firm control; in the past 12 trips, no animal has been hurt bad enough to be destroyed and no person hurt enough to be hospitalized.

Somewhere in the long parade of horses and wagons will no doubt be a young veteran or two back home from the war in Vietnam, wise to the horrors of modern war, napalm, jet fighter aircraft and armed missiles.

And they'll see the proud old man, sitting ramrod straight on a horse, who once rode with the U.S. Cavalry on the Mexican border where gunfights with bandits were a daily hazard and Pancho Villa a recent, painful memory.

And they'll see the mustache and white goatee, which he wears in memory of the legendary Col. Buffalo Bill Cody and those years long ago when he was acquainted with Cody. And they'll think only of another colonel, who wears a goatee and sells Kentucky Fried Chicken on television.



Capt. Frank Swan...former cavalry trooper