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not for profit organization offering a variety of insurance and investment options.

Chamber President Cindy Williams said the chamber also thanks the Union County Commissioner's Office, Union County Sheriff's Of-

fice, Union County Fire Department and Union County Recreation Department for providing event support in the form of fire and public safety, traffic control, and parking.

If you're in the Suches

area on the Fourth, there will be another great fireworks show at Woody Gap School. The event is sponsored and produced by the Suches Fire Department and always receives grand reviews. It's a picnic atmosphere as the

concession stand features hot dogs, soft drinks and snacks, accompanied by the chance to meet friends, old and new, being entertained by patriotic music, and other entertainment that offers a weekend of fun in Suches.

Below every nose and above every chin you will always find a smile, as the general consensus is that Suches knows a thing or two about celebrating America's Birthday.

Festivities get under-

way around 6:30 p.m. in the field below Woody Gap Schools with concessions and music. Families begin to congregate to the field before locating the best post to view the night sky being set ablaze.

Harrah's...from Page 1A

Murphy) is going to be more of a drive-in market, catering to primarily the Atlanta, the Chattanooga, East Tennessee,

North Georgia market, and even as far down as Athens and somewhat into Alabama," said Lambert. "We anticipate

we can probably stretch a little further into Nashville and get some exposure into that market, but it's going to be more of a drive-in atmosphere for that fun and excitement that the Harrah's brand offers.

"Whereas the resort in Cherokee is more of that, if you want to come for a full experience for the dining, the spas, the golf experiences, different things, different amenities that we offer at the resort - we won't have that in this initial opening at Valley River."

Virginia Burger of Murphy, who is retired from the hospitality industry with experience in international trade shows, waited in the lobby for her husband, who is also retired but looking for a part-time position with the casino.

"I've noticed a change



in the area since the announcement of this," said Burger of Valley River. "I see people coming from out of town to apply for positions. I see locals, but I also see a lot of people coming from other areas. I think it's good to see the tax base coming in here, because families come in. The Cherokee Nation is not taxable, but all of the ancillary services that everybody that's going

to work up here and will use are."

Richard Ward came up from Florida to Murphy, where he has family and some land, to apply for a position in maintenance with an emphasis in HVAC and multiphase electrical.

"It feels good seeing that there's something that could be positive being brought into the community to offer addi-

tional jobs for people to feel important," said Ward. "I don't think there's enough work sometimes for the amount of people in the area, and if you don't have daily gratification of being part of some team or whatever it is that you do - everyone's got something different - I don't know how other people feel, but I know I feel like time's a-wasting."

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ever."

Board members Chris Logan and Steven Phillips brought it to the attention of the board of directors last week that Henson and Owenby were partners in the Union Station strip mall on the Jack C. Lance Memorial Highway.

The EMC by-laws prohibit incorporated partnerships among board members, Phillips said.

"When Danny was being appointed to the board of directors we thought all the 'i's' had been dotted, and the 't's' crossed," Phillips said. "We thought the entire appointment process had been vetted. Myself, I voted for Danny Henson to be appointed to the board of directors.

"That process of due

diligence had not been completed," Phillips said. "Myself and Mr. Chris Logan began to hear that Danny and Greg Owenby were business partners after the appointment. We looked into the matter and they were indeed business partners. The by-laws prohibit that.

"We apologize to Danny Henson that this matter was not vetted out before the appointment," Phillips said. "This was nothing personal, it was just the by-laws."

Henson said he harbored no ill will toward Phillips and Logan.

"The rules are the rules and I'm not a rule-breaker," he said.

Henson said that just because he was disqualified

from the board of directors doesn't mean he won't be on the ballot for the September election.

"There is time for me to divest myself of the property in question and still get on the ballot by petition," Henson said. "That process is underway and I'm ready to get that done and I'll make the July 26 deadline to get on the ballot for Union County. I've had time to think about it, and I wouldn't want to be on the board of directors unless I'm elected. That's the avenue that I will pursue."

If successful, Henson will be on the ballot with petition candidates Mickey Cummings, Patrick Malone and Charles Rich for the Union County EMC seat.

Scams...from Page 1A

aware of the scams that target the elderly.

"Scams and identity theft are occurring at an alarming rate," Osborn said. "Especially focusing on the elderly. Fraudulent crimes against the elderly are ongoing and the public needs to know what they can do to protect themselves."

The session will inform residents of what they can do to prevent becoming the next victim, SSgt. Osborn said.

"Most recently, we've had some locals become victims," he said. "There have been crimes committed that simply out-smarted some folks. There's no way to get the money back that was lost in these crimes because simply, there is no way to determine where the money went."

For example, SSgt. Osborn said that a caller that indicated that an elderly woman's grandson was being held in jail recently scammed the elderly lady. The caller requested that she send \$1,200 by Western Union to provide bail money for her grandson.

The trick was, her grandson had never been arrested, but she sent the money without knowing that information. Once sent, the money was lost, SSgt. Osborn said.

"You see this kind of stuff every day," SSgt. Osborn said. "The message that we want to get out is that these kind of crimes can be avoided. We want to inform the populace that they don't have to be victims."

Common crimes include losing control of your identity by way of inadvertently giving up your Social Security number, and your private information in general, SSgt. Osborn said.

Another scam is getting a phone call from the Internal Revenue Service.

"The IRS isn't going to call you and tell you that you're going to be sued if you don't pay a certain amount of money," SSgt. Osborn said. "They'll come to see you in person or you'll get a certified letter in the mail that you must

sign for. Don't fall for the IRS scams by phone."

Again, the information session is from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Branan Lodge on July 7, SSgt. Osborn said.

This informational session should provide personal benefits that will save you money in the long haul, SSgt. Osborn said.