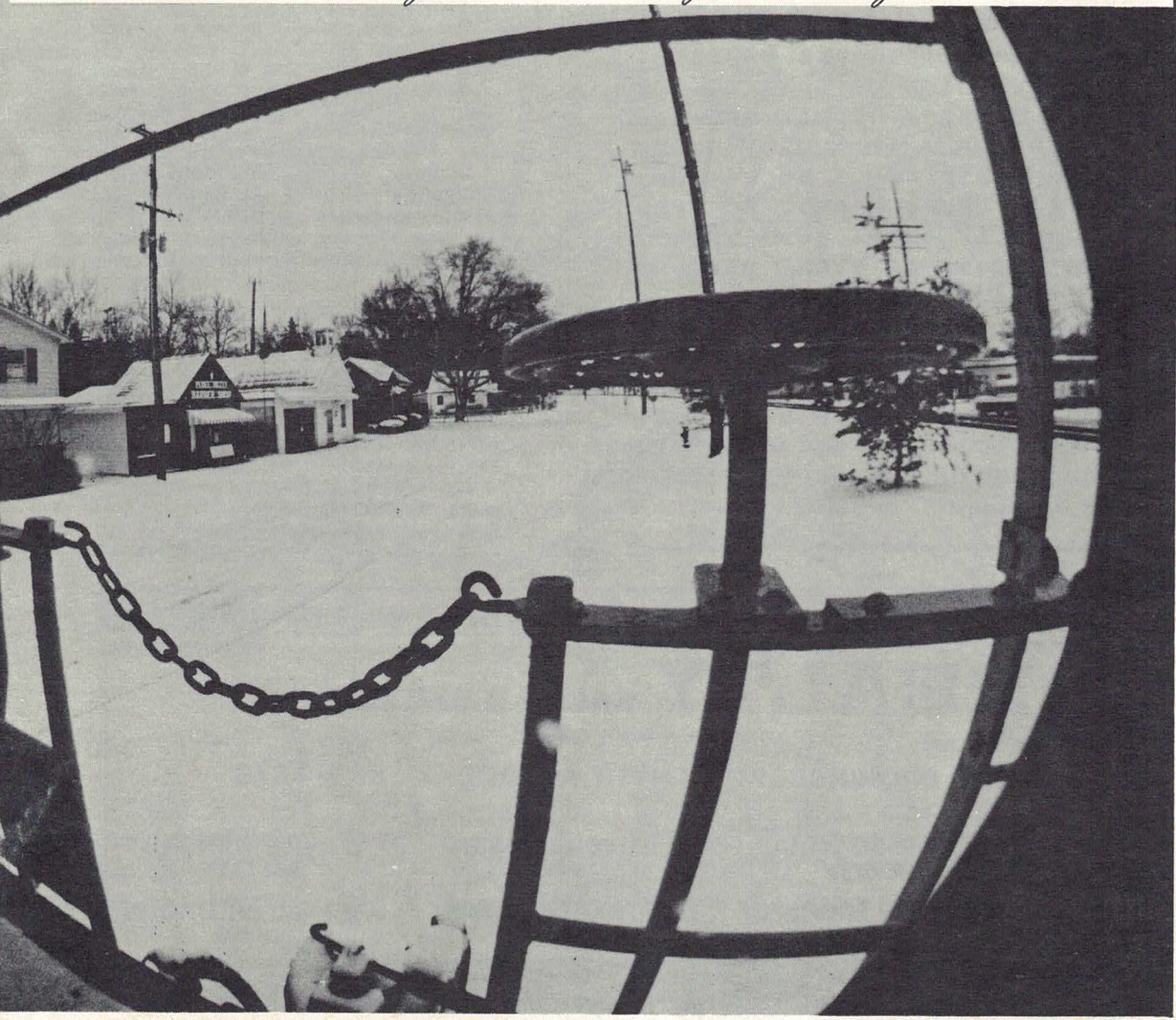




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The Call of the Pewee *February* 1972

No. 9 *Pewee Valley, Oldham County, Kentucky 40056* Vol. 3



Cover Picture:

See Pages 4-5 for comment on Pewee Dick Duncan's photograph.

ABOUT THIS ISSUE:

WE'VE made space in the newsletter to reproduce nearly in full two recent fairly lengthy Louisville Times news stories.

Both articles pertain to important matters that can affect our little community's future in a big way, so we feel that all Pewees need to read these now if they were missed in The Times—or even re-read them if already seen.

The current status of plans for a four-lane road in the Pewee Valley vicinity is discussed in the article at right.

Annexation pros and cons are the subject of the story reproduced on Pages 6-7.

ALTERNATE ROUTES FOR

By MIKE MUNSON

Louisville Times Staff Writer

The state Highway Department may have decided the shortest distance between two points—and through a hornets' nest of opposition—is a straight line.

It appears the department has a couple of additional route corridors for its proposal to put a four-lane, limited-access highway in Oldham County near Pewee Valley.

One of the routes is almost a straight line between Interstate 71 near KY 329 and a future extension of the Jefferson Freeway near Anchorage. Such a route not only would be the shortest one suggested so far, it also might bypass a barrier of citizen resistance to any highway.

Highway officials have said future population growth in the southern area of Oldham County will create a need for the new highway, which would provide access to the Interstate and the Jefferson Freeway.

A sharp population increase will overtax the two-lane roads in the area, highway officials believe.

Several hundred area residents like things the way they are now, though, and are opposed to the idea of four lanes of pavement through the rural peace of their part of the county.

When the highway plans first came to public attention last July, the road planners were considering three routes, all passing east of the city of Pewee Valley.

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HIIGHWAY ARE REVEALED

The route then understood to be favored by the planners would cut through the edges of several large estates and along the east city limits of Pewee Valley.

But a map recently mailed to area residents by the South Oldham Improvement Committee—adamantly opposed to the highway—shows a route passing completely west of Pewee Valley.

The route would leave KY 329 near its junction with I-71 and meet the future Jefferson Freeway section at La Grange Road.

The map and an accompanying newsletter were the product of a Jan. 26 meeting between a delegation from the improvement committee and the new highway commissioner, Charles Pryor Jr., and some of his staff.

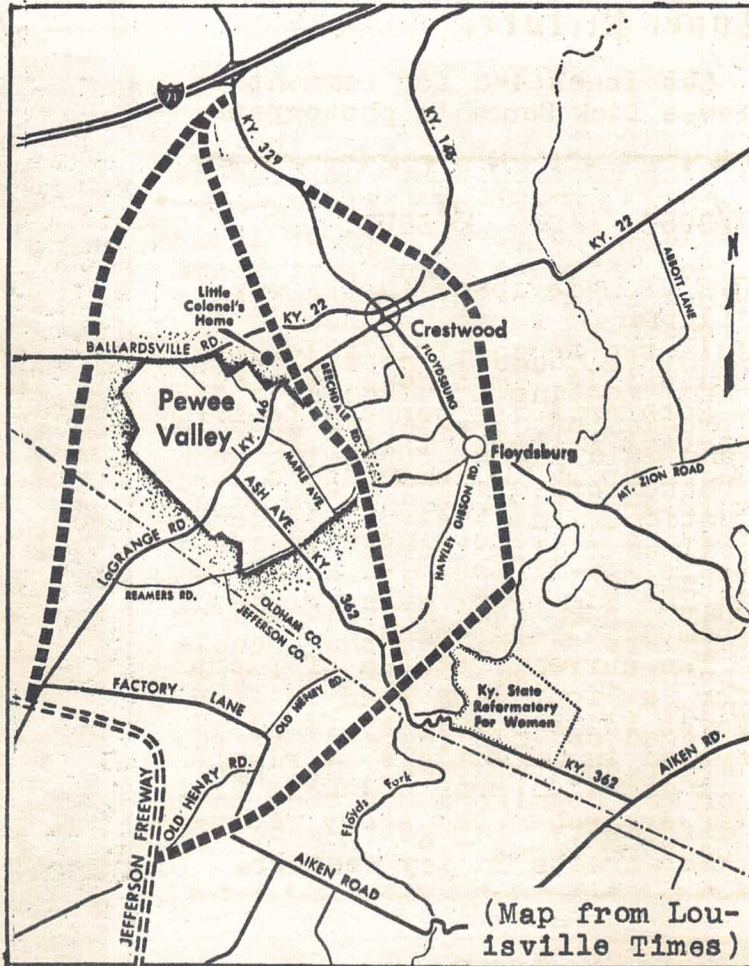
The committee members tried unsuccessfully to convince the officials to drop the road plans immediately.

A highway department spokesman declined to comment on the additional routes, but it was stressed that the highway idea still is in early planning stages, and no firm decisions have been made.

There will be a public hearing on the highway proposal, the spokesman said, probably in about two months.

The improvement committee wants to end the road idea before the hearing stage, but the highway department wants the hearing for the record if the road isn't built.

"While we did not accomplish our goal," the committee newsletter says of the Frankfort visit, "we do feel that the time was well spent."



(Map from Louisville Times)

Three possible routes for proposed road.

WOOD YOU HELP?

GET SET to set some trees in the ground. There's a City Council plan afoot to fill the cavities along our tree-lined avenues, and its success will depend on individuals' help.

Details will appear in next month's newsletter.

MEANWHILE, BACK ONSTAGE

NEXT SHOW in the Little Colonel Players season will be a comedy, "The Happiest Years," to be staged Thursday through Sunday, March 23-26.

Ticket information may be obtained from Frank or Louise Mahin, 241-4210.

ICED TEASE

NUMEROUS Pewees found the going difficult, if not impossible, during that late-January icing—the worst case of iced-over streets and driveways that even the old-timers could remember.

City Council, at its February meeting, talked over the problem of de-slicking streets and laid plans for being much better organized for such situations in the future. Councilmen William Herdt and Paul Staniford are arranging to have supplies of salt and/or cinders on hand at the trouble points, ready for use when needed.

Aged or handicapped Pewees are requested to call Mr. Herdt or Mr. Staniford if they have difficulty in getting out on the streets in icy weather.

THAT UNLUCKY 13

WHERE WERE YOU on the morning of Jan. 16? On that Sunday morning, according to the Pewee Valley weatherman, Pete Monheimer, our village had its coldest weather of the season, 13 degrees below zero—and the thermometer remained in that frigid position for seven hours, from 1 to 8 a.m.



Snow can be beautiful, part of Pewee Valley. Dick Duncan n



ularly if a quaint backdrop is provided by "old downtown"
de this and the cover photograph through a fish-eye lens.

IS PEWEE VALLEY GOING TO STAY PEE-WEE?

By MIKE MUNSON

Louisville Times Staff Writer

By most accounts Pewee Valley couldn't be considered a rapidly expanding suburban area. The bustling four-lane super-highways, apartment clusters and shopping centers are miles away.

Compared with the eager growth of Jeffersonton in neighboring Jefferson County, for example, the little Oldham County city seems asleep, drifting quietly into its second hundred years of corporate existence.

Yet in a move that has been pursued for a year and a half, the city council is seeking to annex territory that in one sweep would more than double the size of the fifth-class city.

It isn't known exactly how many people live in the affected area. But it is certain that the territory, southeast of Pewee Valley, includes land desirable for future residential development.

Already two subdivisions are well under way there and a mobile home park is planned.

The annexation drive has met resistance and now is tied up in Oldham Circuit Court. At the request of the city, a hearing on the suit filed by annexation foes has been postponed indefinitely. The next move appears to be up to the city council.

It doesn't look like new action will come quickly, though. Mayor John F. Stewart—who pointed out that the annexation move was begun at the request of people outside the city—said he is inclined to "let it sit" for now.

The proposed annexation would roughly extend the Pewee Valley city limits southeast to the Oldham-Shelby county line at Floyds Fork. It would add 1,197 acres to the city, which now has 900 acres, according to city officials.

There is a difference of opinion about how many people live in the annexation area. Stewart estimated it at about 200. But Clinton Smoot, who lives in the Clovercroft subdivision at the end of Maple Avenue, believes there are 450 to 500 people inside the proposed boundaries.

Cities annex unincorporated areas by passing two ordinances. The first announces the intention to annex and the second announces that the annexation is complete. There must be a 30-day wait between the ordinances to allow op-

ponents to appeal the matter to circuit court.

Pewee Valley passed its first ordinance July 6, 1970. The ordinance was published July 9, and the opponents filed suit to block the move on Aug. 5.

"This really started and was prompted by people who were nonresidents of the city," Stewart said. Shortly after he was elected mayor in November 1969, a group told him they felt "they would have a stronger voice if they were able to express themselves on a local basis rather than having to go to a countywide basis," Stewart said.

Smoot expressed doubt that it was a very large number of people who made annexation requests. But Stewart insisted the interest was "considerable—or else we wouldn't have gone into it."

Smoot agreed there was support for annexation in a door-to-door survey of Clovercroft made by him and another resident, Edward A. Ford Jr., in May 1970.

But things have changed since then, he said. A second survey last November found almost 100 per cent opposition to the idea in Clovercroft and Dunlea, a subdivision between Ash Avenue and Clovercroft.

Annexation opponents questioned whether they would get an adequate return in city services for the city taxes they would pay and based their suit in part on that point.

One of the attorneys for the opponents is Oldham County Judge James A. Hall.

The suit contends that increased revenues would be "flagrantly insufficient to extend even the meager services now provided by the city to the inhabitants and properties of so vast a territory."

"We would get nothing for our taxes that we can see," said Smoot.

A sharp point of contention is the adequacy of fire-protection services. Pewee Valley has its own volunteer department, and the area outside the city is served by the South Oldham Volunteer Fire Department.

Smoot, who is on the board of directors of the South Oldham department, called it the finest department in this part of the state. He claimed that the city department has only a single truck.

Mayor Stewart answered that the city



NOTE: Mayor Stewart was referring here to number of freeholders, not total population.

ANNEXATION SUIT IS POSTPONED INDEFINITELY

in fact has three fire trucks, and that its ratio of 25 radio-equipped firemen for about 1,000 residents is excellent.

Smoot also is critical of the way the city maintains its roads. Another resident, who asked not to be named, said the city did a bad job of handling the recent ice and snow.

Stewart also mentioned that if the area were annexed, there would be a good chance of creating a sewer system for the larger city.

In response to the question of taxes, Stewart said annexed residents could come out about even.

The major advantage to Pewee Valley, as Stewart sees it, is not tax revenue, but control over the land use in the area. He would like to avoid the "strip zoning" and heavy apartment concentration he sees in parts of Jefferson county.

Some residents of the area don't seem

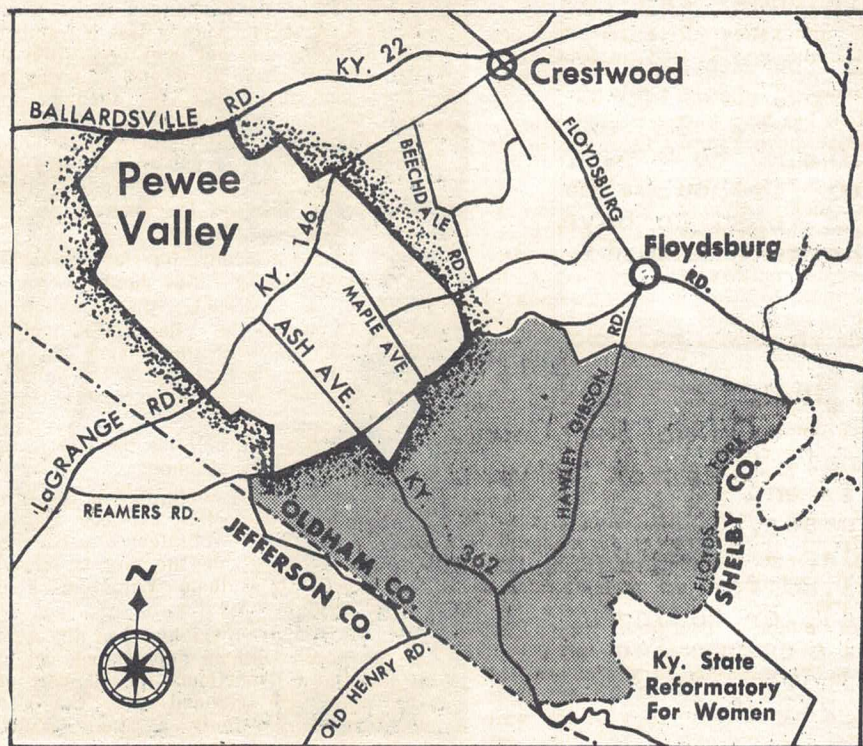
as strongly opposed to annexation as Smoot. Mrs. Harry L. Bell, another Clovercroft resident, said her family isn't interested in higher taxes and they like things the way they are now.

But opposition "wasn't a big thing," she said. "We just decided we'd rather not be annexed into Pewee Valley."

Stewart apparently believes some of the opposition will soften in time.

He doesn't favor pushing the matter now. "If the people no longer want it, then that's their determination," he said. "I'd like to hear a further expression from the people themselves."

He already has heard at least one voice from the city council in favor of dropping the matter. At the council's regular meeting earlier this month, William Herdt said he thinks "neither side is going to come out ahead" by continuing the annexation action.



Shading denotes the area Pewee Valley has been seeking to annex. (Map from The Louisville Times)



NEWS NOTES

DEATH came on Feb. 5 to Mrs. Fred J. Kilgus, whose husband manages the Pewee Valley Bank. She was the former Alice Barbee, a native Pewee, member of the Presbyterian Church.

□

OWE city taxes? Those few Pewees who are delinquent are requested by City Council to pay up now so as to avoid the embarrassment of receiving special letters on the subject. Payments may be mailed to City of Pewee Valley.

□

ORGANIZATION is under way for a new season of kids' baseball, and Pewee Tom Montgomery is conducting registration on two Saturdays, Feb. 26 and March 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Crestwood firehouse. The registration is open to boys aged 5 to 15 who want to parti-

cipate in T-Ball, Minor League, Little League or Babe Ruth League ball. The fee is \$5 for each boy.



The Call of the Pewee is published each month by the Pewee Valley City Council (John Frith Stewart, Mayor) and is mailed free to all Pewees. To submit news, or to order extra copies (15¢ each or \$1.80 for a year, mailed anywhere), or to insert advertising (\$1 a column inch), phone the editor, City Clerk Lee Heimen, at 241-4551.