

Cloudy and colder today. Chance of rain today and Wednesday and continued cool. Low today, 38; high, 50.

# The Franklin Times

Published Every Tuesday & Thursday

Serving All Of Franklin County

It's about time to try to remember those resolutions you made January 1, 1965; if you recall any of them, make them again for 1966.

Tel. GY 6-3283

(Ten Cents)

Louisburg, N. C., Tuesday, January 4, 1966

(Eight Pages Today)

96th Year—Number 90



CHIEF W. J. SHEARIN retires



CHIEF R. G. PERSON takes over

## Fire Department Has 44 Calls In 1965

The Louisburg Fire Department had a relatively good year, with no major fires reported. In all they answered 31 calls in town and 13 out-of-town contract calls during 1965. This fell short of the 41 in-town calls in 1964 and two more than the 11 out-of-town calls in 1964.

The calls were not reported in categories, but many were made to extinguish brush fires, automobile fires and minor stove flareups. Out-of-town residents desiring fire protection must execute a fire contract with the Town of Louisburg each year. Contracts expire on December 31, and reminders have gone out to all contract holders to renew at once.

The Department voted a new chief into office during the latter part of the year when Assistant Chief R. G. Person was named to succeed veteran Chief W. J. (Pete) Shearin, who retired. Person took over Monday night.

Probably the most destructive fire of the year came in late December when the Blount Funeral Home building on South Main Street was destroyed just before Christmas.

## Centerville Area To Get Telephone Exchange

Centerville -- H. T. Pitts, Carolina Telephone manager, has announced that a new telephone exchange is being constructed at Centerville. It will become the company's 114th exchange.

Subscribers living in the Alert, Centerville, Gupton, Stallings Crossroads, and Wood communities, as well as part of the Justice Community, will be served from this new office. At present, subscribers in these

areas receive telephone service through facilities connected to the Louisburg exchange.

## Franklinton Man Gets Promotion



TOMMIE N. STEPHENS

Tommie N. Stephens of Franklinton has been named State supervisor of Diversified and Comprehensive Vocational Education in the Department of Public Instruction.

His appointment to the post was announced by A. G. Bullock, director of the Division of Vocational Education. Stephens joined the Department's staff last Feb. 1 as assistant State Supervisor of Diversified and Comprehensive Vocational Education. In his new post, he succeeds Charles L. Jones, who resigned to become an assistant professor of education at North Carolina State University, in charge of supervising student teachers in Agricultural Education.

Jones has headed the Diversified and Comprehensive Vocational Education program since last spring. A native of Wake County, Stephens is a 1942 graduate of Cary High School. He holds the B. S. and M. Ed. degrees in Agricultural Education from N. C. State University and has done additional graduate work in school administration at the University of North Carolina and Duke University. He was a vocational agriculture teacher at Franklinton High School for 15 years.

## Board Of Education OKs \$459,845.00 Project For Negro Schools In County

The Franklin County Board of Education approved a program calling for an expenditure of over \$450,000 in federal funds in local schools in its regular meeting held here Monday. The program, which must meet state and federal approval, is part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act passed by the Congress last year. Under the provisions of the act, all the funds will be spent in Negro schools in the county system. The funds are

not broken down according to individual schools, but Reading Improvements Projects lead the list with a proposed expenditure of \$232,325.00, followed by Related Services such as lunchrooms, at an expected cost of \$163,520.00. Other proposed expenditures contained in the plan, as devised by Schools Superintendent Warren W. Smith and Director of Instruction Mrs. Margaret W. Holmes, call for \$40,950.00 to be spent in Health Related

Services and \$18,050.00 for personnel to operate the programs. The total amount requested is \$459,845.00. The Board was presented a long list of interrogatories requested by attorneys for the local Negro parents group which filed suit in Federal Court charging the Board's Plan of Compliance to the 1964 Civil Rights Act as discriminatory last month. Board Attorney E. F. Yarborough presented the Board with a progress report on the suit. He has been directed to file an answer to the charges and to defend the suit. It was also disclosed that Raleigh Attorney Irvin B. Tucker, Jr., a former Assistant Federal District Attorney, has been employed to assist in the defense. Yarborough did not disclose his plans on whether to seek relief from the Federal Judge on some points requested in the Interrogatories request.

Supt. Smith informed the Board that he has complied with the Board's direction to file a request for a Neighborhood Youth Corps program for local schools. The request for funds was filed with the federal government. The Neighborhood Youth Corps, it was explained, is not a part of the Office of Education's programs and is not connected with the current problems existing between the Board of Education and the Washington agency.

## Water Becoming Scarce

More and more concern is being expressed in the area over the lack of rainfall in the past three months. Many communities report a number of wells going dry.

Louisburg weatherman G. O. Kennedy reports a total of 3.42 inches of rainfall in all the area has had since last September. October brought 1.94 inches, November 1.12 inches and December had only .36 inches. The light rainfall in the area Monday was not enough to register at the weather station, said Kennedy.

In the Bunn area, Neal Brantley, local service station operator, has announced that he has plenty of water on his property and has invited the public to make use of it. He stated in a telephone conversation to The Times that many wells had gone dry in the Bunn area and he would "be glad for the people to get water at his place." He explained that the well that is to eventually supply the proposed water system for the Town of Bunn is located at his station and it has amply supply for the entire population.

Kennedy stated that this is the driest spell in quite a few years. He recalled a similar spell in 1925, but declined to say that this was the worst since then. He said the river was holding up well, standing this morning at 2.35 ft., which is about normal for a dry spell. He also added that the river would probably not go down any further.

The weather forecast for the area is chance of rain today and Wednesday, with cloudy and cooler weather.

When the new exchange is placed in operation, existing subscribers, as well as the new customers in the area, will be able to receive higher grades of service.

Pitts pointed out that telephone numbers will be changed for those customers who will be connected to the new office. The new numbers will be prefixed with 853-XXXX. Calls to Louisburg will continue to be made on a local call basis.

"The decision to establish the new local dial office was made because of the recent growth in these communities and a large number of applications for telephone service," Pitts said. It will be housed in a 25x34-foot masonry and concrete building at the intersection of county roads 1456 and 1457. This exchange will require an investment of about \$232,000 by Carolina Telephone, including the cost of land, equipment and outside plant rearrangements.

These new facilities will serve more than 500 subscribers, and it is expected to be placed in service in the summer of 1966. "The construction program here is in keeping with Carolina Telephone's continuing program to fulfill the telephone needs of the communities it serves," Pitts pointed out. He said, "The Centerville exchange was engineered to allow for telephone growth in the future."

The Louisburg Rescue Service made 177 calls in 1965, fourteen less than in 1964 and 37 more than were made in 1963. There were 191 calls in 1964 and 140 in 1963.

Chief V. A. Peoples reports that wrecks led the number of calls for help with 44, followed closely with 33 heart attack victims aided. Surprisingly, there were only two false alarms, far less than in previous years. There were 13 calls to aid victims of shootings and cuttings, and 13 minor accident calls were made. The service went to three drowning scenes during the year and stood by at 18 football and basketball games.

Other calls listed included: 5 shock cases, two fire calls and 56 miscellaneous calls. The service of 11 men contributed a total of 735 manhours in offering assistance to emergency victims during the year. The service, started in 1948 as a part of the Louisburg Fire Department and later becoming

money to operate the service. Donations from private citizens and organizations have been made to the service from as far away as St. Louis, Mo., this year. These donations included several from neighboring counties.

The Service has made two calls thus far in 1966. Ironically, the first was made to assist one of their own members, Dean Holton, who was injured when his motor bike struck a dog on Jolly Street Saturday, January 1, around 2 p.m. The second was made Sunday night to aid an unidentified woman and her father in the White Level Community. The woman suffered a fainting spell, and the man complained of chest pains. He was transported to the local hospital.

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## Louisburg Police Make Fewer Arrests As Crime Decreases

According to a year-end report by Chief William Dement of the Louisburg Police Department, crime in Louisburg is down from a year ago. The local police made 366 arrests in 1964. This number fell to 318 this past year. Public drunkenness led the arrests, at an even 100, with disorderly conduct coming in second with 23 arrests. Other arrests included aggravated assault, 19; simple assault, 13; and drunken driving, 11. There were 117 arrests made for minor traffic violations, Dement reported.



CHIEF WILLIAM DEMENT fewer crimes

As the year ends, only two cases, probably tied together, remain unsolved. These are breakins into two private homes in town on a Sunday afternoon several months ago. There were no store breakins reported in 1965, said Dement. These had been among some unsolved cases in past years. There were no capital offenses in town in 1965. Dement reports there were no murders and no rapes during the year.

The seven-man force, led by Chief Dement, has been praised by local citizens for its work during the past year. Members of the force are: Kyle Prince, Gerald Eury, Earl Tharrington, Ned Lloyd, Hubert Shearin, and Thurston Bottoms.

## Commissioners Endorse Committee Redistricting Proposal For County

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners endorsed the House Redistricting Committee's plan to place Franklin in a House district with Vance and Warren Counties, in their regular meeting here Monday.

On motion by Commissioner E. M. Sykes and seconded by Commissioner George Harris, the Board adopted a resolution approving the House Committee's actions. The endorsement came following a discussion of possible alignments by Representative James D. Speed.

The General Assembly, meeting in special session starting January 10, will pass on the proposed alignment of House districts as well as Senate reapportionment and Congressional redistricting. Franklin remains in the Senatorial District with Vance and Granville under the proposed redistricting of the Senate and in the Second Congressional District of Rep. L. H. Fountain in the realignment of Congressional districts proposal.

Board Attorney Charles Davis revealed a letter from John T. Morrissy, Sr., General Counsel for the N. C. Association of County Commissioners, in which the legal advisor disclosed a movement to introduce legislation allowing local county commissioners to realign their own counties. The letter stated that the bill will "allow" but not "require" that this be done and all counties must agree on one single bill.

In other actions, the Board heard an appeal for reconsideration of the plans to abolish the dog warden program by Tyree Lancaster, presently employed as county warden. The Board took no action. The audits of the Franklin Memorial Hospital and the Clerk of Court's office were presented and approved. Louisburg C.P.A. Lonnie R. Shaping was awarded a contract to continue as auditor for both these departments in 1966.

The Hospital audit showed a profit of \$53,030.67 for the year ending September 30, 1965 and an increase in total assets from \$869,263.92 in 1964 to \$916,879.09 for an increase of \$47,615.17 for the year. The Board also approved plans of the County Board of Education to purchase two lots of land adjoining the Riverside School property.

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CHIEF V. A. PEOPLES fewer calls

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## County Highway Death Toll Light

	Acc.	Inj. acc.	Kid.	P. Damage
Vance	22	6	0	\$ 8,160.00
Granville	36	14	1	\$28,775.00
Franklin	24	8	0	\$11,095.00
Warren	18	9	1	\$ 7,940.00
	100	37	2	\$55,975.00

Franklin County set an enviable record in reducing highway fatalities during the year just passed. The reduction from 14 to six represents a 57% decrease in highway deaths for the year over 1964.

While North Carolina and the nation were setting a new slaughter record, locally, the six fatalities were the smallest since 1961 when six died on the county highways. The lowest number in recent years was recorded in 1959 when only five were killed on the highways.

In 1964, 14 persons met death on Franklin County highways. This was one short of the record set in 1958 when 15 died. There has been no fatality in Franklin County since October 10, when a Negro pedestrian was struck and killed on State Rural 1601 near the Leonard Farms a few miles east of Louisburg.

Other fatalities occurred on January 10 when a 58-year-old Franklinton woman died in a head-on collision near Franklinton; May 7, an 18-year-old Negro youth from Kittrell died in an early morning wreck near Sims Bridge; on May 20, a passenger in the same car died of injuries received in the accident; July 26, a 13-year-old Franklinton youth was killed when struck by a car near the boarding home while riding his bike; and on August 23, a 36-year-old Negro woman met death in a head-on collision on Highway 56, two miles east of Louisburg.

In 1964 there were six deaths recorded during the period October 16 to December 31. Thus far this year, there have been none. Since 1956 the death rate has fluctuated in Franklin County. In 1956 there were 10 killed; 1957, 11; 1958, 15; 1959, 5; 1960, 13; 1961, 6; 1962, 10; 1963, 10, and 1964, 14.

## Top News Headlines Of 1965

- JANUARY
- 4 - Gather Beam Named Recorder Judge
- 7 - Gold Sand Opens Cafeteria
- 12 - Tar River Basin Association Formed
- 10 - Franklinton Housewife First Road Fatality
- 16 - Seven-Inch Snow Hits Area
- 22 - Commissioners, Ed Board Discuss School Needs
- FEBRUARY
- 1 - General Assembly Opens
- 8 - Ed Board Delays Signing Integration Pledge
- 13 - Mayor L. A. Whelless Suffers Heart Attack

- 15 - Commissioners, Ed Board Hold Second Meet
- 23 - The 100 Organization Formed to Aid College
- 27 - Bunn Girls, Youngsville Boys Win Tourney
- MARCH
- 1 - Commissioners Fail to Act on Ed Board Request
- 6 - Thieves Take \$2,000 in Machines at Epsom School
- 11 - Council Calls May Elections
- 15 - Commissioners Reject Ed Board Funds Request
- 16 - Ed Board Committee Named to Draft Plan of Compliance

- 20 - Thieves Hit Gold Sand School
- 27 - Thieves Hit Gethsemane School
- 30 - Ed Board Abolishes All School Districts
- APRIL
- 1 - Deputy Tax Collector Named
- 6 - Winston Replaces Woodlief on Ed Board
- 8 - Franklinton Announces School Plan
- 15 - New Plywood Industry Located Here
- Ed Board Officials Confer in Washington
- 27 - Ed Board Considers Compliance Plan Draft

- 30 - Pat Taylor Chosen Miss Louisburg
- MAY
- 3 - Ed Board Announces Plan of Compliance to Civil Rights Act
- 4 - Peoples, Pearce, Roberts Elected Mayors
- See HEADLINES Page 8
- Notice
- The Franklin County Fireman's Association will hold its monthly meeting Wednesday, January 5, 1966 at 7:00 p.m. at the Centerville Fire Department.