

# The Franklin Times

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(Ten Pages Today)

100th Year-Number 33

## Honor Students



Susan Charlene Hedgepeth  
Valedictorian



Deborah Rose Pendergrass  
Salutatorian

## Sportswear Plans First Open House

Don Hartness, manager of Louisburg Sportswear, today announced Sportswear would have its first open house Sunday afternoon, June 22, from 1 to 5 P.M.

Hartness said, "We are proud of our plant, but most importantly, we've got some of the finest people working for us. We want to give them a chance to bring their families and friends to see what we do and how we do it. Since we've just completed an addition to the plant, installed new equipment, and relocated our production facilities, we feel the time is right to invite all the public to come have a look."

Tours will be conducted through the plant and refreshments served.



Louisburg Rescuers Recover Body

## Cedar Rock Youth Second Drowning Victim Of The Year

A 12-year-old, Rt. 1, Castalia, Negro boy became the second water victim of the year last Thursday afternoon. The youth, identified as Percy Foster, drowned while swimming in a farm pond owned by E. C. Incoe. The pond is located in the southeastern section of the county a short distance from the Nash County line.

The accident occurred around 4 P.M. when the youth apparently attempted to swim the distance of the pond. Melvin Incoe, son of the pond's owner, said he saw the youth go down. He said that he yelled at the boy to warn him of the depth of the water.

Louisburg Rescuers were called after it was discovered that Centerville Rescue Service was not equipped with water gear. It took the Louisburg unit about 35 minutes to recover the body

after the search began. Rescuers David Minnich, Tommie Collie, Asher Johnson and Jimmy Hill conducted the search and recovered the body around 5:30 P.M.

Franklin has had one earlier drowning this year. On April 19, a 46-year-old Pilot community man died when

he fell from a boat while fishing.

The county had three drownings last year. On July 22 a Negro youth drowned in the Don Joyner farm pond just off N. C. 39 five miles from Louisburg and on August 19, two Negro boys drowned in the Graham Ball pond at Justice. All three victims were 14 years old.

## Two Youths Missing

A statewide alert has been posted for two Franklin County boys reported missing since last Tuesday night. Franklin Sheriff William T. Dement's office says that Wesley Earl Smith, w/m/17, and Charles Wayne Piper, w/m/14, were last seen leaving a ball game at Franklinton a week ago and have not been heard from since.

Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Smith, who, according to the Sheriff's office, live on Route 1, Kittrell, in Hayesville Township, is described as being 5' 11" tall, weighs 130 pounds, has reddish-brown hair and brown eyes. The Franklinton city directory lists the Smiths as having lived at 713 East Green Street in 1967 and the youth attended Franklinton High School this past year.

Piper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Freddie B. Piper, Pocomoke Road, Franklinton, is described as being 5'

6" tall, weighs 130 pounds with brown hair and brown eyes. The two boys were seen leaving the Franklinton ball field together last Tuesday night.

Smith had reportedly told his mother he would be in early. The Smith boy was reportedly driving a 1961 white over blue Chevrolet Belair, which belonged to his father. The automobile is reported to have a dented right fender over the headlight. The license number of the vehicle was given by the Sheriff's department as EK 8152.

Area radio stations have broadcast appeals for information and area television stations, reportedly have or will televise photographs of the youths. Members of the boys families have visited some of the beach resorts in attempts to find their whereabouts, according to reports.

## Fewer Franklin People Living On Farms

A preliminary farm census summary, released this week by the N. C. and U. S. Crop Reporting Service, shows that the number of persons living on farms in Franklin County has decreased in the past year and that the number of acres in use for farm purposes has also declined.

"All people living on farm tracts"

dropped from 13,728 in 1968 to 13,490 in the census taken this year. There were 276,702 crop acres in 1967 and 276,129 in 1968. Harvested cropland totaled 50,130 acres—down two percent from 1967. Changes in other land utilization were idle cropland at 36,231 acres—up seven percent, improved pasture at 9,608 acres—down one percent and unimproved pasture at 4,819 acres—up one percent from last year.

Major crops with significant changes in the harvested acreage were

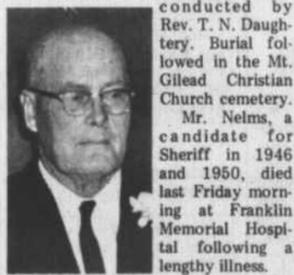
corn for grain—down two percent to 10,593 acres, cotton—up 46 percent to 4,454 acres, tobacco—down 11 percent to 8,572 acres, and wheat—down 10 percent to 4,230 acres.

The survey also showed an increase in the number of people working "100 or more days off the farm" during the year. The number climbed from 2,482 in 1968 to 2,670 in 1969.

The study is made annually in cooperation with Boards of County Commissioners by the joint state-federal reporting agency.

## Final Rites Held For J. Eddie Nelms

Funeral services for John Edward (Eddie) Nelms, 76, prominent retired Route 1, Louisburg farmer, were held Sunday at 3 P.M. at the Lancaster Funeral Home Chapel. Services were conducted by Rev. T. N. Daugherty. Burial followed in the Mt. Gilead Christian Church cemetery.



NELMS

He was a life-long resident of Franklin County and served as Chairman of the Board of Deacons of Mt. Gilead Christian Church from 1932 to 1964. Mr. Nelms was a Mason and was serving as a Trustee of his church at the time of his death.

Surviving are one son, Russell P. Nelms of the home; three daughters, Mrs. Annie Lee Pleasants of Rt. 2, Louisburg, Mrs. Louise Cyrus of Youngsville and Mrs. Helen Barham of Rt. 2, Wake Forest; and 16 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

## Board Meets Thursday To Continue Budget Study

The Board of County Commissioners will continue its series of budget meetings here Thursday afternoon in an effort to complete a review of the costs of budget requests for the coming fiscal year. The Board met last week and covered what was described as "about two-thirds" of the budget items.

In the absence of Chairman Brooks W. Young, hospitalized at the time of the meeting, Commissioners E. M. Sykes and Norwood Faulkner, both veterans of budget sessions, spent much time familiarizing Commissioners John House and Robert Lee Burnette with budgetary matters. House and Burnette are tackling their first budget.

The meeting was described as one to "review and study" the budget and no actions were taken on any of the items, according to reports. It was also learned that the controversial welfare budget did not come up for review at last week's session.

Local taxpayers could be facing the prospects of as much as a 27 cent increase in the county tax levy which would bring the rate up to \$1.98 as compared with the present \$1.71 rate.

Franklinton and Louisburg Township taxpayers would pay more due to school bond indebtedness. The largest requests for increases in the new budget comes from schools at 8 cents and welfare at 7 cents for assistance. This, according to reports, does not include any requests for increases, if any, in the welfare administrative budget.

Thursday's session is slated for 2 P.M. and it is not expected that this session will see a final approval of what is, apparently, the most difficult budget confronting the county in many years.

## Three Franklinton Men Arrested In Vance Still Raid

Three Franklinton men were arrested, two pickup trucks and an automobile were seized and an illicit whisky still with daily production capacity of about 500 gallons of non-tax-paid whisky was destroyed in a raid by law enforcement officers in northwestern Vance County, twelve miles northwest

of Henderson, last Thursday. The outfit had total mash capacity estimated by authorities at some 13,760 gallons.

Chief Vance ABC Officer T. G. Blackmon and Assistant Chief W. G. Watkins identified the trio apprehended at the site as Paul Johnson, 43, Douglas Earl Wood, 23, and Samuel Lee Watson, 20, all of Franklinton.

The three men were carried before the Vance County magistrate Thursday afternoon, then were jailed under \$2,000 bond each. Hearing in District Court in Vance County were set for July 8.

Officers Blackmon and Watkins said they detected the big plant being established at the new site about two weeks ago and activities had been under surveillance since that time, with the raid staged this morning about dawn.

The Vance officers called in assistance in the raid and participating were Michael Zetts of Raleigh, special investigator for the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms division of the U. S. Internal Revenue Service, and county A.B.C. officers from Wake county, Granville county and Person County.

The site was near the Granville county line and west of the tungsten mine area, about two and a half miles northwest of Hicks crossroads in northwestern Vance. Operations were set up in dense woods, reached along a farm wagon trail, some two miles west from the paved Hicks crossroads road.

The still had elaborate equipment and the vehicles seized were 1956 and 1960 model pickup trucks and a 1956 model automobile. The vehicles and materials which could be salvaged were brought in under jurisdiction of the Vance A.B.C. Board and officers used dynamite to blast the still and other equipment and supplies, Officer Blackmon pointed out.

Found at the scene were 407 gallons. See RAID Page 4

## ASCS Holds Annual Awards Banquet

Approximately 100 persons attended an ASC Committee Banquet held Wednesday night, June 4, 1969, at The Murphy House in Louisburg, N. C. Those present included Community and County Committeemen, County Office Employees, other agricultural workers, bankers, vendors, tobacco warehousemen and WYRN Radio Station representative. Mr. H. O. Carter and Mr. Ed Avent were present from the State ASCS office. Mr. Carter was the featured speaker for the evening.

Mr. Carl Bunn, ASCS Fieldman, presented service awards to a number of County and Community Committeemen and office personnel. County ASC Committeemen receiving service awards are as follows: Ollie Fisher, 10 years; W. D. Foster, 10 years; Harold Wheeler, 5 years; Sidney Strickland, 5 years; J. S. Collie, 5 years; Henry Edwards, 5 years. E. G. Brewer, County Committeeman, received a 30 year service award and C. C. Perry, County Committeeman, received a 15 year service award. Dorothy Clay, County office employee, received a 20 year service award. Mr. Carter presented awards of appreciation to WYRN Radio and The Franklin Times for their support and cooperation in publicizing ASCS programs.

Miss Star Cardwell entertained the group by singing and playing the guitar.

"We wish to express our sincere

appreciation to all of those who helped make our banquet a success by donating favors and or floor prizes," John Davis, office manager, said.



Receive Service Awards

Shown receiving service awards are left to right: O. T. Fisher, W. D. Foster, E. G. Brewer, Harold Wheeler, Sidney Strickland, J. S. Collie, Henry Edwards, C. C. Perry, and Dorothy Clay.



Not The Grand Canyon

The scene above is not a desert waste land nor is it a mountain valley void of grass. It is a sand pile after being hit by the heavy downpour of rain which struck here last night around 10 P. M. G. O. Kennedy, Louisburg weatherman, reports 1.35 inches of rain fell in the Louisburg area during the heavy thunder storm. No damage however, has been reported from the storm.

Staff photo by Clint Fuller