

The Franklin Times

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Serving All Of Franklin County



Rescuers Try In Vain

LOUISBURG RESCUE SERVICE MEMBERS TRY IN VAIN TO AID DALTON DENTON, 18-YEAR-OLD WRECK VICTIM.

Storekeeper Shot In Robbery Attempt

A 46-year-old New Hope Community storekeeper is reported to be improved at Duke Hospital today following an operation to save his eye following a shooting at J. O. Hagwood's Store early Monday morning.

Donald Hagwood, who works at the store and lives nearby reportedly went to investigate some unusual noises around 3 A.M. Monday. He saw two men inside the store office, according to reports and fired a pistol in the air in an attempt to scare them off.

According to the reports, a third robber stepped from a waiting car and

shot Hagwood with a shotgun, wounding the man in the right eye and the side. The driver then sped away in the car, leaving his two accomplices to make their get-away on foot.

Sheriff William T. Dement reported this morning that his department is making a concerted effort to apprehend the criminals and that he has a

good description of the car used in the robbery. He identified the car as a black, 1955 Chevrolet.

Nothing was reported missing from the store. Hagwood summoned help from neighbors and was transported to Franklin Memorial Hospital by the Louisburg Rescue Service. He was treated and transferred to Duke.

Franklinton AWOL Soldier Captured

A 20-year-old Route 1, Franklinton man captured at a Granville County liquor still in a raid last Thursday is reportedly AWOL from Fort Lewis, Washington. According to reports, Buddy Braswell, Jr., arrested with George Theodore Johnson, 29, Route 1, Creedmoor when their still was hit in the Brassfield Township, told ABC

Chief A. R. Currin that he has been absent without leave since December 5.

On that date, according to the report, Braswell said he was scheduled to report at the Washington base for shipment overseas. He reportedly had flight orders and a ticket on him at the time of the arrest. Fort Bragg authorities have been advised of Braswell's whereabouts, the report said.

The two still-hands were at work in the underground location cut under a steep back along a small stream south of the community of Grissom. Both are black and each claimed that he had never before been caught while working in the whiskey business. Bond for each was subsequently set at \$1,100.

Four in the room, about 24 x 24 feet in size, were four submarine-design whiskey stills and approximately 1,000 gallons of mash, which was described by officers as "in a state of readiness" for whiskey making.

Currin said the plant was located beneath a metal plate supported by timbers and covered with leaves and timbers to form a camouflage. A canvas covered the entrance way and bottled gas provided the heat source.

Two Arrested On Stolen Car

State Trooper C. G. Todd and Louisburg police arrested two Oxford Negro men here Saturday around 9:15 P. M. near the outdoor theater on NC-56. The two, identified as James Perry, Jr., 23, Rt. 3, Oxford and Wayne Palmer, 19, of Oxford, were charged with auto theft. A Negro woman and two small children, passengers in the car, were allowed to go free.

The theft charges are expected to be made in Granville County. Todd is expected to charge the driver with speeding in excess of 80 miles an hour, careless and reckless driving, driving without an operator's license and failing to stop for a blue light and siren. Palmer was charged with public drunkenness.

Todd spotted the stolen car on NC-56 east of Franklinton and when the vehicle failed to stop, he radioed for help from the Louisburg police.

Bond Quota

Savings Bond and Freedom Share sales in Franklin County were \$9,496 for November. For the year, cumulative sales amounted to \$129,704 which is 100.8 per cent of the county's 1969 dollar quota, according to Mr. Worley.

U. S. Savings Bond and Freedom Share sales in North Carolina for January-November amounted to \$57,852,624. This represents 97 per cent of the state's 1969 dollar quota of \$59,600,000.

Youth Killed In Morning Accident

Eighteen-year-old Dalton Denton, Route 1, Louisburg, white youth was killed instantly this morning shortly before 11 A.M. when he was pinned beneath his overturned pickup truck. The accident occurred on State Rural Road No. 1706 about a mile and a half south of Nathan Edwards' Store on NC-39. Louisburg Rescue Service answered the call

but the youth was dead when they arrived. It was reported that he apparently lost control of the pickup, ran off the road and overturned in a ditch. He is the twelfth highway fatality of the year in Franklin County. This is the worse year for road fatalities in the county since 1964 when 14 persons were killed.

Twenty Hurt In Weekend Accidents

At least twenty persons have been injured in automobile accidents along county streets and roads since last Saturday and all accidents might not have been reported. Several of those injured are hospitalized here or were transferred earlier to out-of-town hospitals.

Louisburg Rescue Service members traveled to Hall's Crossroads on NC-39 east Saturday morning around 9:45 to aid G. B. Bell, Jr., w/m/48, Rt. 1, Louisburg. Bell received a broken neck when the car he was driving overturned on State Rural Road 1001 between Hall's Crossroads and Five Points. Treated at Franklin Memorial, Bell was later transferred to Duke Hospital in Durham.

About 5:45 P. M. Saturday, Centerville Rescuers brought Russell Moffitt, c/m/52, Rt. 1 Castalia into the local hospital. Moffitt reportedly was struck by a car driven by Warren Griffin, w/m/28, also of Rt. 1, Castalia. Moffitt

allegedly staggered in front of the Griffin car in the White Level Community. He suffered a broken right arm and other injuries.

Around midnight Saturday, eight persons were injured in two separate crashes at Franklinton. Three were termed in serious condition. Five of the injured were white youths injured when their car struck a tree. They were identified as Reggie Lynn Dickerson, 15, Dallas W. Aycocke, 20, Virginia Sue Burke, 17, Helen Irene Carter, 17, and Janet Evelyn Carr, 16, all of Franklinton. The three injured in the second accident were not immediately identified.

All five of the youths were brought to the local hospital by the Franklinton Rescue Service. Dickerson and Aycocke were discharged following treatment. The Burke girl was admitted to the hospital here, the Carter girl was transferred to Rex Hospital in Raleigh and the Carr girl was transferred to Memorial Hospital at Chapel Hill.

About 1 A. M. Sunday, Franklinton banker Jimmy Sidney Joyner, 46, was brought in to the local hospital suffering from injuries sustained when his car was involved in a collision with a car occupied by two Negroes on Franklinton's Main Street. Occupants of the second car, identified as Sim Perry Kingsberry, 35, and Anna Maggie Kingsberry, 45, both of Rt. 3,

Louisburg, were treated and released at Franklin Memorial.

Alvin Curtiss Gray, III, 19, Rt. 2, Louisburg, received severe head wounds when the car he was driving ran off county road 1002 near Moulton around 3 A. M. Sunday. The car struck a tree and Gray was brought in to the local hospital by private car. He required 150 stitches to close his wounds, was transferred to Wake Memorial and later released. He reportedly told officers he went to sleep at the wheel.

A Bell Harbor New York woman was seriously injured when the truck in which she was riding plunged down an embankment on US-1 near Franklinton around 1 A. M. Monday. Mrs. Delores Hutchby, 20, was treated here and rushed to Wake Memorial in Raleigh. Her husband, driver of the truck, was apparently uninjured.

Four persons were injured Monday around 10:30 A. M. in a single car accident on NC-56, one mile east of Franklinton. They were identified as Ruby Sneed, 60, and Luzany Perry, 33, both of Rt. 2, Franklinton and Ernest Richardson, 49, and Geneva Richardson, 50, both of Rt. 1, Franklinton. The Sneed woman was admitted here and the Richardson woman was transferred to Wake Memorial. The others were treated and released.

Issues Greeting

Franklin Sheriff William T. Dement today extended season greetings from his department. Dement expressed the wish that everyone would have a safe and happy holiday season.

Holidays May Take 30 Lives

Take the Scrooge syndrome out of your Christmas holiday this year and make it the merriest by staying out of the 1,500 traffic accidents which the N. C. State Motor Club warns may take 30 lives and injure 900 other persons on North Carolina's streets and highways during the extended weekend.

The state will officially count its Christmas highway toll from 6 p.m. Wednesday, December 24, through midnight Sunday, December 28, a period of 102 hours. In a 30-hour period last year when the holiday fell in the middle of the week, the cold statistics showed seven killed and 254 others injured in 452 accidents.

Leading causes of these accidents were: speeding, 112; failed to yield

right of way, 55; drove left of center, 54; under influence of alcohol, 32; and reckless driving, 29.

"Tis the season to be jolly, but not if you're a careless or drinking driver," cautioned Thomas B. Watkins, president of the motor club. "The six holiday periods so far this year have brought death to 115 persons in traffic accidents as against 171 for the year before.

"Traffic deaths are still running behind the 1968 pace, and we have a good chance to show a decrease for this year," he said. "Let's make our state the nicest Christmas gift of all by driving with extra care to keep ourselves and our fellow man out of the obituary columns."



Monday Night Accident

Members of the Louisburg Rescue Service are shown above freeing Mae Harris, c/f/44, Rt. 2, Louisburg from a wrecked pickup truck in which she was riding. The vehicle ran off State Rural 1616 near Stallings Crossroads last night around 10 P.M. and overturned. The driver ran from the scene. The Harris woman was treated at Franklin Memorial Hospital and released.

Photo by Astor Bowden.

Three Sentenced On Murder Charges

Three Negro men received sentences on murder charges in Superior Court here last week. Two received 10-15 year sentences and a third had his sentence suspended.

Sentenced to not less than 10 nor more than 15 years with work release recommended was Jack Evans, 23-year-old Castalia man. Evans was convicted of the August 25, 1968 slaying of Dessie Lee, c/m/50, who lived in the same house with Evans. The victim was slashed across the arm with a knife and bled to death before reaching the

hospital, according to reports at the 4me. No reason for the knifing was reported.

Also receiving not less than 10 nor more than 15 year sentences was Johnny Hartsfield of the New Hope Community. He was convicted of the shooting death of Willie Pate Thomas, 38, in a shooting spree in the Mineral Springs section of Louisburg on the night of September 28, 1969.

Hartsfield reportedly left a nearby grill asking about the person who had

knifed his brother earlier. He began firing toward the Thomas residence, fatally wounding Thomas and hitting 11-year-old Otis Williams and the boy's aunt, Margaret Williams, in the leg. Hartsfield received 5-year sentences for assault in court last week. Officers reported finding 13 cartridge hulls at the scene of the shooting.

Richard Alston, 26, Route 2, Louisburg was given 10 years in the July 27, 1968 slaying of Thomas Earl Dean, 25, Route 4, Louisburg. Alston's sentence was suspended for five years on condition that he pay costs and a fine of \$750.00 and that he violate no laws during the term of suspension.

Alston shot Dean at a Negro grill in Bull Run Alley near the police station here and officer Larry Gilliam found Dean sitting on the courthouse square. Dean, at the time of his death, was free under \$2500 bond for the fatal shooting of Lewis Melvin Alston (no relation to Richard Alston) on the night of May 14, 1967 at the Little Acorn nightspot on NC-56.

For other COURT see Page 9.

FCEC To Conduct Impact Study

One hundred Franklin County residents will be asked to participate in a study of the impact of national, state, and local events on Franklin County. This particular survey is part of the overall study of stresses on communities currently being carried out by the Community Psychiatry Section of Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill and the Franklin County Family Counseling & Education Center. Plans have been

made to begin the survey sometime this week. It will last until late January.

The interviewers for this survey include Mrs. Mildred Tillotson, Mrs. Amanda Hawkins, Mrs. Sybil Kerley, Mrs. Vivian Harris, and Mr. Jack Ayscue, Jr. We hope that if you are contacted you will be willing to cooperate with this important study.



Smith Home Wins Top Prize

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Smith on Person Street Circle here was winner of first place in the Louisburg Garden Club's annual home decorations judging here Monday night. The Earl Carter home in Hillcrest Acres placed second and the Willis Nash home on Henderson Road was third. See Pictures page 12. Honorable mention went to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mullen, Mr. and Mrs. James Grady, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Shearin, Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Warren and Mr. and Mrs. Umphrey Lee.