

Ex-Deputy Charged In Armed Robbery Monday

A former Brunswick County sheriff's deputy was arrested Monday morning and charged with the armed robbery of a Wilmington supermarket.

Gilbert Wayne Harrington of 4014 Cherry Ave., Southport, was charged by the Wilmington Police Department with armed robbery and larceny after a supermarket on Oleander Drive was robbed.

Wilmington police reported a man

entered the store Monday morning with a .45 caliber revolver and told the manager and head cashier to go to the office and hand over the store's money.

The manager placed an undisclosed amount of money in a bag and the robber left the store. Both Wilmington police and the New Hanover County Sheriff's Department were called to the scene.

Harrington was later arrested at

his Southport home and is being held in the New Hanover County Jail under \$50,000 bond.

According to Brunswick County Sheriff John Carr Davis, Harrington was hired by the department on Jan. 5, 1979 and worked until Feb. 26, 1983, when he was fired.

"When he couldn't pay his bills, I had to terminate him," Davis said. "He was a good officer. Everyone liked him."

County Group Attends Conference

A delegation of Brunswick County officials will participate in a weekend conference of the National Association of Counties in Orlando, Fla.

County Manager Billy Carter, Commission Chairman Chris Chappell and Commissioners Grace Beasley, Jim Poole and Frankie Rabon are scheduled to participate, along with Regina White, clerk to the board. Commissioner Herman Love has a conflict and cannot attend, Ms. White said, and several commissioners may yet cancel their reservations.

Carter departs Friday in order to participate in a pre-conference for county managers, while the rest leave Saturday. The conference ends

Tuesday night and the county delegation returns Wednesday.

In addition to participating in workshops, Carter said the group will accept three New County, U.S.A., achievement awards on behalf of two county departments.

An innovative community hurricane awareness project won the Emergency Management Office and Coordinator Cecil Logan an award.

The recreation department was recognized for two programs coordinated by Tina Pritchard and involving the county school system.

Art on the Move is a cooperative program among the Parks and Recreation Department, the Brunswick County Public Library

and the Brunswick County Community Schools Program. It is designed to bring a variety of professional artists into the community.

The other, a multi-recreational opportunities program, introduced sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students to soccer, dance and self-defense classes. It was a cooperative effort with the Community Schools program also.

Last year the recreation department received a similar achievement award for a developmental dance program in the public schools.

The New County, U.S.A. awards honor counties for innovative programs that fill a local need.

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