

Larceny Reported At Shooting Range Off N.C. 211 During Forest Fire

Last week's forest fire forced authorities to close most of N.C. 211, but it didn't keep someone from breaking into a shooting range along the highway Thursday night, according to a crime report on file at the Brunswick County Sheriff's office Monday.

Deputy Cathy Hamilton's report indicates that a thief or thieves broke a window on a trailer at the Ye Olde Gun Club shooting range near Southport sometime after 6:30 p.m. and stole about \$825 worth of tools and other items. The break-in was discovered about 24 hours later.

Among the items taken were two electric drills, a chain saw, a battery charger, two fishing rods, a miter saw and two side grinders. The cost of damage to the trailer had not been determined at the time of the report.

In other crime reports:

■ More than \$1,400 worth of fishing gear, tools and other items were stolen in a break-in and larceny at a mobile home on Russ Street sometime in the past three weeks. Deputy Cathy Hamilton was told by the owner that she returned to the trailer Saturday afternoon to find that someone had taken out a rear window and "pulled everything out of the drawers." Listed as missing was a color television, two circular saws, 10 rods and reels, a videocassette recorder, three cases of cola and a half gallon of whiskey. There was an estimated \$25 damage.

■ A microwave oven and a television were stolen from a

CRIME REPORT

vacation home on Carter Street at Shallotte Point sometime in the past two months. The owner, a Tennessee man, told Deputy Robert Long that he discovered the break-in Saturday afternoon. The man said the thief apparently entered through a side window and went out through the sliding glass door. The suspect also "removed a pitcher of ice water," the report said.

■ Someone reported the theft of a 15-horsepower Johnson outboard motor from a boat at Marsh Harbour Marina in Calabash. The owner told Deputy J. Davis that the motor was removed from his boat on the night of July 10. It was valued at about \$1,000.

■ A man who went fishing from the N.C. Wildlife boat ramp on Fish Factory Road Thursday night returned to find that his 1991 Ford Explorer had been broken into. Davis reported that the vehicle's side glass had been broken, causing an estimated \$100 damage. Discovered missing were a pair of binoculars, a brief case, two check books and assorted papers valued at a total of \$185.

■ Someone broke three windows out of a 1984 Pontiac Fiero parked at a home on Antenna Farm Road Thursday night. Davis estimated the damage at \$400.

■ A blow torch was used to cut through the front gate at the Godwin Concrete plant on Ploof Road, Leland, Saturday. Investigating Deputy Mark Snowden reported that the thief also used the torch to break into a snack machine in the break room, where an estimated \$50 was missing. A 1980 Ford pickup truck also may have been stolen. Investigators were waiting for employees to return to work to interview them about possible other stolen items.

■ A television, a videocassette recorder and several pieces of jewelry were stolen from a trailer in the Old Mill mobile home park Friday. The owner told Deputy Matt Jesson that he could find no sign of forced entry.

Besides the TV and VCR, which were valued at \$200, the owner also said the thieves took two wedding bands, a pair of pearl earrings and a gold necklace of undetermined value.

■ A portable cellular telephone was reported stolen from the Southport office of the senior resident inspector for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission last week. Davis estimated its value at \$444.

■ Jesson took a report from a woman who said that two 10-speed boys' bicycles had been stolen from a home on Old Fayetteville Road, Leland, on June 18. One of the bikes was recovered last week. They were valued at \$110 each.

Massachusetts Man Charged With Assault, Taking Indecent Liberties

Holden Beach Police last week charged a 29-year-old Massachusetts man with assault on a female and taking indecent liberties with a minor after an alleged encounter with two local teen-age girls.

Chief Robert Cook said police arrested Robert W. Bracey Jr. of Cambridge last Tuesday. He was later released from Brunswick County Jail after posting \$26,000 bond.

Cook said Tuesday evidence in the case has been turned over to the State Bureau of Investigation and more charges may be filed.

"It's according to what they find, what the charges will be," Cook said. "Either way he's in trouble."

Cook said patrol officers found two girls, ages 15 and 16, near the foot of the Holden Beach Bridge around 2:10 a.m. last Tuesday. One of the girls was crying.

The teen-agers told police that they had met a man at Holden Beach Fishing Pier earlier that night, got in his car and went to the house where he was staying in Varnamtown.

Cook said the girls told authorities that the man later brought them back to Holden Beach and drove them to the east end of the island.

The 15-year-old girl said the man raped her. The 16-year-old told police she fought the man off but her friend was raped.

Cook said police went to the

house where the man was staying and brought him back to the police station for questioning. "He denied everything," the chief said.

Cook said the suspect told police that he and the two girls went skinny-dipping in the ocean. The girls told authorities that the man tore their clothes off.

DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE

County Sheriff's Deputies Seize 125 Marijuana Plants

The Brunswick County Sheriff's Department seized 125 marijuana plants valued at about \$200,000 during the month of June, according to a monthly officers' activity report released by Sheriff John Davis.

Deputies and detectives recovered a total of \$23,946 worth of stolen property and made a total of 64 arrests as prosecuting witness last month. Two arrests made on charges of drunk and disruptive.

A total of 2,431 calls were answered, including 278 domestic calls, and 578 investigations were made. Deputies found one door or window open while on patrol, the report said.

Deputies served 452 civil papers and summoned 254 witnesses. Eleven mental and inebriate papers were served, along with 396 local warrants and 82 foreign warrants.

More than 120,109 miles were logged, including 25 trips out of the county. The transport van logged 144 miles. The department used 8,563 gallons of gasoline.

Sheriff's personnel spent four off-duty hours in court and 42 on-duty hours. There were 46 crime preven-

tion meetings. The jail incarcerated 216 people during June and released 212. The average daily count of male and female inmates was 48.

Car Hits Child At Holden Beach

A 10-year-old girl suffered a broken leg when she was hit by car at Holden Beach Sunday while trying to cross Ocean Boulevard West in the 1000 block.

Police Chief Robert Cook said the girl, who was visiting from the Salisbury area, was coming off a beach access when she stepped into the street and into the path of a vehicle.

"I think she just kind of glanced off the car but it did break her leg," Cook said. "She stepped out in the road, said she just wasn't thinking."

She was the second child to be struck by a vehicle this summer. A young boy from Ohio was seriously injured earlier this year when he walked into the path of a vehicle on Ocean Boulevard.

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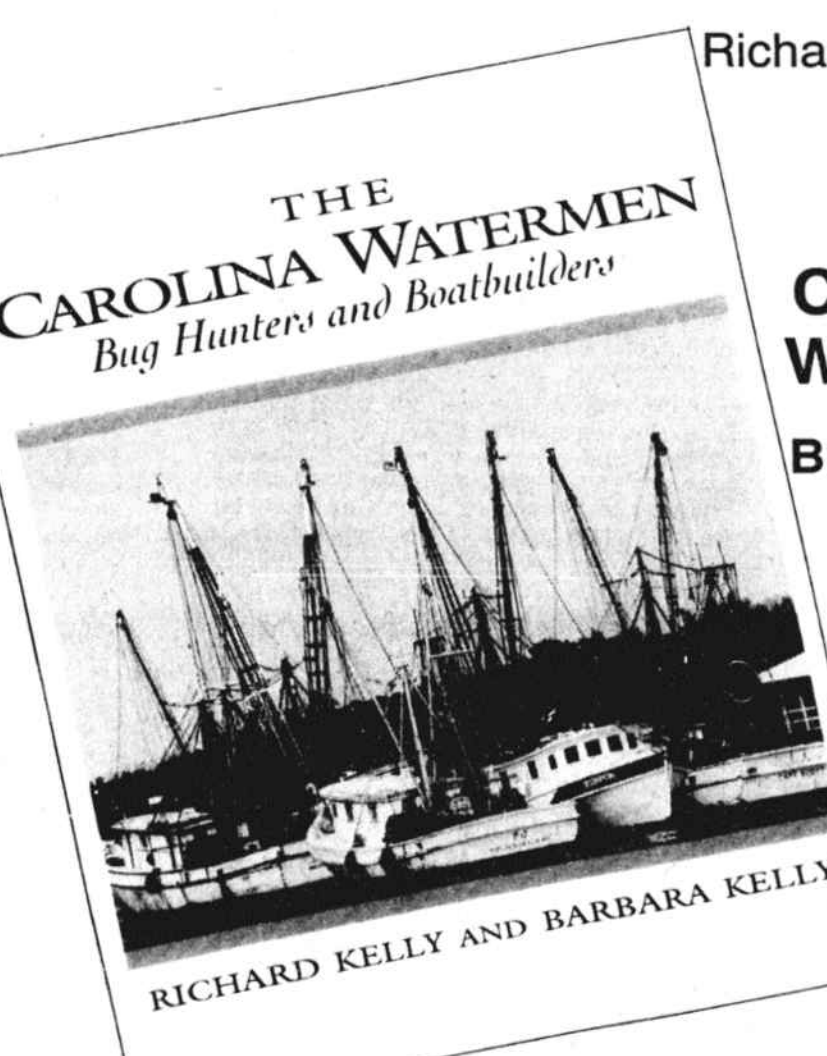
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