

13-Year-Old Shoots Himself In The Foot With A Shotgun

A Supply youth accidentally shot himself in the foot with a shotgun in the parking lot of a Holden Beach hardware store Friday afternoon, according to a police report on file at the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department Monday.

Deputy Cathy Hamilton reported that she was dispatched to the Coastline Rescue Squad building on Holden Beach Road at about 2:30. Upon her arrival she said she found a 13-year-old boy sitting in the back of a pickup truck with a wounded left foot.

The boy told her that he was sitting in the passenger seat of the truck outside the nearby Tru-Value Hardware store when the incident happened. He had with him a 12-gauge shotgun loaded with double-O buckshot.

"He said that while he was trying to unload the shotgun, his finger hit the trigger, causing the gun to go off," Hamilton reported. Most of the pellets passed through the truck's floorboard, she said.

The shooting was determined to be accidental. Further details of the incident were not released because the victim is a juvenile.

In other reports:

Someone fired a BB or a pellet through the window of a moving car from another vehicle on N.C. 211 near Supply Saturday night. The victim, a 31-year-old Southport man, told Hamilton he was driving his 1987 Saab north at about 10:45. As he passed a green Pontiac heading south, something hit the driver's side window of his car and shattered it. "He advised that he tried to catch the vehicle, but was unable to do so," said Hamilton, who estimated the damage at \$150.

In one of two cases of stolen Christmas presents reported this week, someone kicked in the front door of a mobile home on Shell Point Road and left with more than \$575 worth of property. The woman who owns the trailer told Deputy Jerry Gray that someone stole her prescription medication and all of the children's wrapped Christmas gifts, including toys, dolls, baseball cards, an AM/FM radio, some flannel shirts and several pairs of underwear. There was about \$200 damage to the door.

A color television, a little girl's toy oven, a "Creepy Crawler" toy and eight wrapped Christmas presents were stolen from a mobile home at Ward's Trailer Park in Ocean Isle Beach Friday. According to Deputy

CRIME REPORT

Richard Long's report, the thief or thieves came in through the front door and stole the gifts off the kitchen table.

Two mannequins used for emergency services training were among the items stolen in a break-in at the Town Creek Volunteer Rescue Squad building on U.S. 17 in Winnabow Thursday night. Deputy Mark Snowden reported that the thief or thieves entered the building by breaking a window. Also stolen were two portable radios, a battery charger, an emergency pager, a television and a cable TV box. The total value of missing property was not determined.

Numerous questions have been raised in the investigation of a missing purse that was reported stolen from a Southport fast-food restaurant Friday night. A 35-year-old Supply woman told police that she returned home at about 5:30 that evening and realized she had left her pocketbook at the restaurant. The next day, the night manager told investigators he found the purse and put it in a safe. After closing, he said a man and woman came to the drive-through window and claimed the pocketbook.

But the day manager said it was "highly unusual" for the night manager to remain at the restaurant alone and it is "against company policy" to open the drive-through window after closing. There was more than \$400 in cash, jewelry and credit cards in the pocketbook.

Two riding lawn mowers valued at about \$1,600 were stolen from a storage building off McLamb Road near the South Carolina border last week. The owner told Deputy James Adams that he left the equipment secure Thursday afternoon and discovered it missing Saturday morning after noticing that someone had pried the lock off the building. Adams also reported that someone shot the side of the storage building with a 20-gauge shotgun loaded with number-eight bird shot.

More than \$700 worth of tools were stolen from a locked storage box on a pickup truck parked at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church yard in Longwood Thursday night. Adams' report said the thief cut two padlocks off the tool box to gain entry. Missing were three electric drills, a reciprocating saw and 30 saw blades.

Investigators believe it was a single vandal that

slashed the tires of three vehicles at two locations in the Supply area Saturday night. Hamilton found one-inch cuts in two tires on a 1989 pickup truck parked in the driveway of a home on Craven Drive. A 1991 Plymouth Laser parked there had a right rear tire damaged in a similar manner. Two tires were also cut on a 1980 Oldsmobile parked at a residence near the intersection of N.C. 130 and Hatteras Avenue. That car also had its windshield broken. There was a total of \$600 damage to the three vehicles.

Hamilton investigated another case of vandalism at a mobile home on Boxwood Road in the Coastal Retreat subdivision near Supply Saturday night. The woman who lives there reportedly said "an unknown subject walked up in the yard barefooted" and broke the window and door, causing an estimated \$530 damage.

A man who lives on Cedar Landing Road told Deputy Gray he was being threatened over the telephone and on the citizen's band radio by a commercial fisherman who lives on Stone Chimney Road. The victim said the suspect was in the area one night last week when he heard a shot fired outside his home.

The son of a woman who lives on Grissett Road in Cedar Grove is a suspect in the theft of her color television Saturday night. She told Deputy Rebekah McDonald that she left her son and one of his friends alone in the house at about 10:45 and returned about 15 minutes later to find her TV missing from the living room, along with the two young men. The deputy estimated its value at \$250.

A mixed breed palomino/appaloosa horse valued at \$1,200 was reported stolen from a farm on Funston Road in Winnabow Wednesday evening. The owners told Lt. Carl Pearson that the horse was securely penned at a friend's farm and could not have wandered off. It was later found at a home on Caison Loop Road.

Pearson also took a report of an attempted larceny from a boat at a marina near Holden Beach that was alleged to have occurred Wednesday night. The victim called 911 and claimed that someone caused about \$1,800 damage to his boat while trying to remove a radar unit, stereo and other electronic equipment. However, the deputy who went to the scene reported finding no such damage. He said a radio had been removed from the boat by the owner after the report was filed.

Someone smashed three windows on a 1981 Volkswagen Rabbit parked on Village Point Road early

last week. The owner said he left the car near the Methodist Church after it broke down at about 6:30 p.m. Dec. 13. He came back two days later to find two door windows and a rear side window broken. Deputy Long estimated the damage at about \$300.

A high-pressure water pump, valued at \$15,000, was stolen from a pipeline company office on N.C. 211 Friday night. The owner told Hamilton that the thieves unhooked the pump from some equipment, causing an undetermined amount of damage.

There was about \$120 damage, but nothing found missing, after a break-in at the Old Mill Mobile Home Park Saturday night. The owner told investigators that she came home at about 9:15 Sunday morning to find the right front window of her trailer broken. It appeared the thief had tried to enter there, but was unsuccessful. The intruder then cut a screen on another window and crawled inside, the report said.

Deputy Brian Sanders investigated the discovery of a stolen 1976 Lincoln in the driveway of the Johnson Chapel church off Lincoln School Road last week. The vehicle was turned over to the Wilmington Police Department.

An employee of the Exide Electronics plant in Leland told Sanders that his 1990 Toyota Corolla was stolen from the company parking lot while he was at work Friday morning. The man said he parked the car at about 6:50 and noticed it missing at about 11:30. He said the car had been left unlocked with the keys under a floor mat.

The management of a Southport department store reported Thursday that an unidentified woman forged three checks and cashed them there last July and October. Lt. Donnell Marlowe has determined that the checks were stolen from two women who live in Fair Bluff and Roanoke Rapids. The checks were written for a total of more than \$250.

A Calabash landscaper reported the theft of three payroll checks from his work van Wednesday or Thursday. Long later learned that someone tried to cash the checks at three Calabash convenience stores. The amount of the checks was not specified in the report.

Someone pried open the back door of a trailer at Chadwicks Mobile Home Park in Leland Friday night and stole a color television, a video cassette recorder and a stereo. No value estimate was given on Snowden's report.

Shalotte Man Charged In Stabbing Incident

A Shalotte man who was arrested following a stabbing incident Friday night remained in New Hanover County Regional Medical Center this week with a broken jaw.

Police Chief Rodney Gause said Perry Randolph "Pee Wee" Bryant, 38, of Shalotte, was charged with assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury with intent to kill.

A Shalotte officer was called to the Shalotte Manor apartment complex Friday around 11:30 p.m. "The two men were fighting when the officer got there," Gause said.

Bryant allegedly stabbed another man in the left shoulder with a six-

inch-long piece of glass, Gause said.

The victim, identified as 33-year William Anthony Collins of Shalotte, was treated at The Brunswick Hospital in Supply Friday night and released. Gause said Collins needed 14 stitches.

After being stabbed, Collins reportedly punched Bryant and broke his jaw. "After the guy was stabbed, that's when he hit him. He was a big boy," Gause said.

The police chief said Bryant will need surgery to repair his jaw. He is expected to be in the hospital for two to four weeks.

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Police Search For Vandals

"This is the worst weekend we've had all year," Shalotte Police Chief Rodney Gause said Monday afternoon as he sorted through a stack of vandalism reports on his desk.

He said the police department is offering a small reward for information leading to the arrest of the person or persons who used a BB gun or pellet gun to shoot vehicles at eight locations around town over the weekend.

"We've had more reports of vandalism today than we've had all year," Gause said. "The bottom fell out today. It's been one of those days."

Vehicles were vandalized at several downtown businesses including Dykes Tire Center, Coastal Printing, Dairy Queen and Holmes Florist. Vehicles also were vandalized at several residences.

Gause said the vandalism probably occurred Saturday or Sunday, but it wasn't noticed until Monday morning.

"There's no doubt in my mind it's going to be somebody local responsible," he said.

The reports of vandalism capped a busy weekend for the police department.

On Friday morning, thieves broke into four stores at Meadow Square Plaza and stole an estimated \$20,000 in merchandise and supplies. They also caused about \$10,000 in damage at the businesses.

On Friday night, police investigated a stabbing incident at Shalotte Manor apartments.

Anyone with information on the vandalism is asked to call the Shalotte Police Department at 754-6008.

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