

Commandments To Go Up In Courthouse

DANBURY

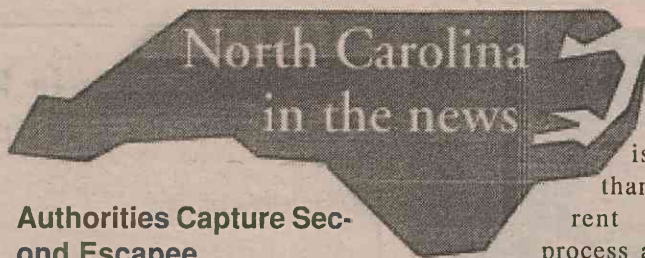
Stokes County officials have voted to display the Ten Commandments inside the county courthouse.

A plaque bearing the commandments and other historical documents will be hung in the lobby of the Stokes County Courthouse sometime this fall.

Officials said that they want to be careful to model the display after two in Wilkes County, which settled a lawsuit earlier this year.

The American Civil Liberties Union argued that the display of the Ten Commandments by themselves was an unconstitutional violation of the separation of church and state. The commandments now are displayed in Wilkes County buildings along with historical documents including the Declaration of Independence and the Magna Carta.

A public hearing on the issue is scheduled at the commissioners' next meeting on Oct. 15.



Authorities Capture Second Escapee

HUNTSVILLE

Authorities said that two men who escaped from work detail Friday are back behind bars.

Investigators said 21-year-old Brian Jarell and 22-year-old Anthony Mabe stole a state maintenance pickup truck, then led police on a high-speed chase from King to Huntsville.

The prisoners crashed. Police arrested Jarrell on the scene. Mabe got away but authorities captured him Saturday.

Both men were serving time for breaking and entering.

Krispy Kreme Works On New Machine

WINSTON-SALEM

Krispy Kreme Doughnuts is testing a new machine that will open up new markets in smaller towns.

Company officials said the

machine is smaller than the current conveyor process and cooks and glazes dough prepared at a larger store. The machinery also can be used in malls, sports stadiums, airports and other areas that lack enough space.

The company will study whether to make the machine available in convenience and grocery stores that now get daily deliveries.

Chairman and president Scott Livengood said that the new technology came from two years of research and development. Livengood said that the company is preparing to open test markets for the smaller store concept and will reveal the locations later.

Arson Suspected In Church Fire

GRAHAM

Investigators are looking into a church burning they suspect is arson.

Mount Holiness Church of

God in Graham was fully engulfed in flames by the time firefighters arrived Saturday morning.

Firefighters said two witnesses told them that they saw someone leaving the property just before the fire started.

Damage to the church is estimated at \$50,000. Church officials say the church was not insured.

Police Make Arrest In Stabbing Death

SURRY COUNTY

Surry County authorities have made an arrest in a stabbing death over the weekend.

It happened in a wooded area near Westfield Road. Authorities have arrested 23-year-old Claudio Mendoza. He has been charged with first degree murder. Officials said a man in his early 20's was found stabbed to death beneath a tree.

Authorities said a person was witnessed walking along Westfield Road and speeding off in a gray car. Investigators are still looking for that suspect.

Officials have not released the name of the victim.

Liquor Tax May Hurt Sales

CHARLOTTE

Liquor store managers said that North Carolina's new tax on alcohol could hurt sales and send customers out-of-state in search of lower prices.

Directors of local Alcoholic Beverage Control boards along the South Carolina border said that they're worried that the price hikes caused by the tax will make customers cross the state line. Liquor prices are lower in South Carolina, and that state will have the added attraction of a lottery.

Bill Hester, chief executive manager of the Mecklenburg County ABC Board, estimated the new six percent sales tax will cut liquor sales by \$3 million a year. That translates to five percent of last year's revenues.

In February, the state is cutting the excise tax on liquor by three percentage points to partially offset the sales tax.

*News Briefs are compiled by:
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