

Legislative Package Aimed At Crime

GREENSBORO—A strong crime control package, consisting of eight bills, was submitted last week to the leadership of the legislature by Atty. Gen. Rufus Edmisten.

It is expected to check widespread growth of crime, including organized crime, in the state.

The package include proposed creation of a statewide grand jury to investigate organized criminal activity as well as suspected corruption of law enforcement officers and other government employees.

Edmisten said, "Something has to be done to help us protect our citizens and see that justice

is served for everyone involved—the victim, the accused, the law enforcement officer, and the court system."

Edmisten told delegates to the Piedmont Society of Professional Journalists Association that law enforcement efforts in crime prevention and control have not kept pace with updated techniques used by criminals in North Carolina.

Other legislative proposals call for:

- New statutory authority aimed at organized crime which would prohibit organizing or participating in a criminal syndicate or any of its activities;
- Stronger penalties for larceny of firearms;
- Tightening up of the states gambling and lottery laws, with special emphasis on athletic events;
- Granting the attorney general authority to call conferences of district attorneys, sheriffs, and police chiefs--activities, and develop more efficient and effective performance

- Raising the minimum salaries of law enforcement officers throughout North Carolina from \$6,000 to \$7,500.

Two additional parts of the package, Edmisten said, would aid officers between the time of arrest and trial. The first would make it a misdemeanor for a person to give false statements or give a false name to an officer in the course of a criminal investigation.

The second would amend the law relating to evidence tampering. The amendment would make it a separate

offense for a person to break into a building where evidence is stored with intent or purpose of altering, destroying or stealing physical or documentary evidence relevant to a criminal offense. Conviction would carry a

minimum \$500 fine and imprisonment for not less than two or more than 15 years.

Edmisten said several sections of the package had been endorsed by the Organized Crime Prevention Council at its January meeting.

Six Attend Workshop

GREENVILLE—Staff members of the Albemarle-Chowan Child Development Center at Chowan High School were among some 50 people involved in a three-session workshop on language development and disorders at East Carolina University here.

Teresa Miller, Peggy McGray, Joyce Hussey, Julie Habit, Madeline Wiggins and Nora Drew attended the second session held April 17. The final session is set for May 1.

Laura Becker, program trainer, said the purpose of the workshop is to provide for the needs of area children in assisting day care personnel to develop and conduct effective programs of language development.



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Scientists To Study Reef Environment

PENSACOLA, Fla.—Two scientists from The University of West Florida will participate in a major undersea research operation off the Bahama Islands this month. The operation is aimed at preservation of the world's threatened underwater reef environments.

Dr. Thomas Hopkins, chairman of the faculty of biology in UWF's Gamma College, and marine biology graduate student Dianne

Grimm will join teams of scientists from numerous international organizations and universities in project SCORE (Scientific Cooperative Operational Research Expedition). The operation is funded by the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Perry Foundation and the Harbour Branch Foundation.

Dr. Hopkins is married to the former Betsy Duncan of Edenton. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar E. Duncan.

Utilizing advanced underwater technology with divers living in a habitat on the sea-bed for up to five days at a stretch, the scientist will identify and document the most important factors in a reef ecosystem. It is hoped that this knowledge will provide an early-warning system to monitor and assess man's impact on the oceans.

results and therefore determine the content of the surrounding marine environment with a high degree of reliability."

Artists Invited To Happening

The Friends of the Edgemcombe County Memorial Library and the Tarboro Recreation Department cordially invite local artists and craftsmen to exhibit at the Fourth Annual Happening on the Common, May 18 from 2:30 P. M. to 5:30 P. M. at the Tarboro Town Common.

The setting for the show is one of the loveliest and oldest public parks in the state, and the entertainment and refreshments draw crowds from Tarboro and surrounding communities for the festival.

Exhibitors are urged to register in advance by contacting the Edgemcombe County Memorial Library in Tarboro, 27886. Those who can't draw a straight line or sew a straight seam are invited to come anyway, bring a chair or a blanket to sit on, to enjoy a relaxed, old-fashioned afternoon under the trees.

An executive is one who cannot work unless he has assistants.

Death Claims Mrs. Umphlett

Mrs. Ruth Spivey Umphlett, 53, of Eure, died April 19 in Roanoke-Chowan Hospital in Ahoskie following a brief illness.

A native of Gates County, she was owner and operator of Corner High Service Station.

She was the daughter of the late William Thomas Spivey and the step-daughter of Mrs. Lillian Godwin Spivey, who survives.

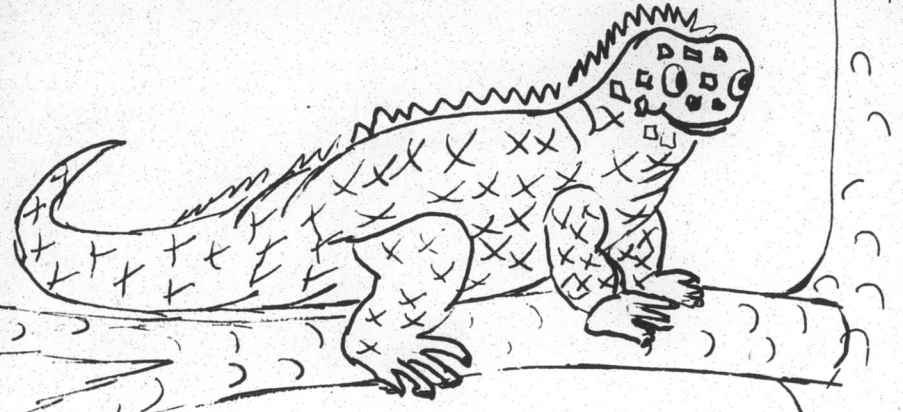
She was married to James Elliott Umphlett, who also survives.

Other survivors include two sons: James Thomas and William Lesley Umphlett, both of Suffolk, Va.; two half brothers: Thomas Spivey of Hobbville; and Herbert Spivey of Edenton; three sisters: Mrs. Elizabeth J. Wiggins of Chuckatuck, Va.; Mrs. Hazel S. Bass of Hobbville; and Mrs. Lillian Parke of Gainsville, Ga.; a half sister, Mrs. Gloria S. Taylor of Hobbville; and five grandchildren.

She was a member of Cool Springs Baptist Church where funeral services were held at 3 P.M. Monday with Rev. Joe Wynns and Rev. Joe Buck officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Jack W. Harrell Funeral Home in Gatesville was in charge of arrangements.

Young Reader's Corner



The Iguana is a lizard-you know. He lives in a land called Mexico.

The Iguana is a large green lizard of Mexico and other warm countries. Iguanas live in the green forest trees. They eat fruit and plants.

The iguana is very timid. When he is frightened the iguana will drop quietly from his limb high up in a tree. He drops to safety—deep down in to a pond or pool below.

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Marine First Lieut. Clarence A. McCleave, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence H. McCleave, Route 2, and whose wife Deborah is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Erie Jordan, 125 West Freemason Street, all of Edenton recently visited the U. S. Naval Base, Rota, Spain, as a member of the Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 264. The unit is homebased at the New River Marine Corps Air Station, Jacksonville, N.C., and is embarked on a Mediterranean deployment aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Iwo Jima.



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