

Chowan Plagued By Murders, Robbery



SCENE OF CRIME—Pictured here is the cluttered interior of the rural store in which Les Jones was killed during a robbery

Suspects Elude Officers In Slaying Of Les Jones

Crime in Chowan County and Edenton has been rampant in the past week with two homicides and a break-in of a downtown business keeping area law enforcement officers on the run. Both homicides were in Yeopim Township, east of Edenton.

Les Jones, 61, a well-known rural merchant, was killed in an armed robbery on Wednesday afternoon of last week.

George Murphy Daniels, 48, was shot and killed early Tuesday night in his home on Base Road near Edenton Municipal Airport.

The break-in was at Griffin Musicenter on South Broad Street Monday night. Cash, records, a tape deck and radio has been reported missing.

Sheriff Troy Toppin said Wednesday morning that no suspects have been arrested in the Jones robbery-murder. Fred Edward Keeter, Jr., 28, 205 South Granville Street, is being held on a second degree murder charge in the Daniels death. His bond has been set at \$50,000.

Chowan County commissioners have posted a \$500 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons involved in the armed robbery murder of Jones.

At the same time, Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., is expected to announce at any time a \$5,000 state reward for information to break the case.

SBI Agent O.L. Wise of
Continued on Page 4

Public Parade

The Nerve

The Internal Revenue Service got caught in a bind this year with W-2 forms turning up in short supply. The problem has apparently been corrected but it has created some ill will along the Public Parade.

The U.S. Post Office passes out tax forms, both federal and state, as a convenience to patrons. When people started yelling for W-2 forms, Postmaster James M. Bond got busy.

Postmaster Bond contacted IRS in Greensboro. He was given a number in Atlanta, then another somewhere else. When he didn't get results he wrote a letter.

Soon the package containing the W-2 forms arrived. The IRS had the nerve to send them by United Parcel Service.



WHERE MERCHANT DIED—Deputy Sheriff Melvin Evans kneels by the counter where the victim's body was found by a young grandson.

Consolidation Approval Fails Before Board

Consolidation of the 11th and 12th grades in Edenton-Chowan Schools was buried Monday night by the board of education that also sent to a study committee a previously approved proposal for a second school bond referendum.

Dr. John Dunn, superintendent, explained the 11-12 merger and said he could not recommend it "in all good faith as a viable plan for consolidation." It would require a teaching principal at Chowan as well as leave the school without a librarian and guidance counselor.

Mrs. Emily G. Amburn, who last month made a motion to steer the board toward another bond referendum, called for the chairman to appoint a study
Continued on Page 4

County Board Posts Reward

Chowan County commissioners will pay \$500 for information from anyone other than law enforcement officers who contribute information leading to the arrest and conviction of the Negro men allegedly involved in the robbery-murder of Lester Augustus Jones on January 31. Here are composites prepared by an artist of the State Bureau of Investigation on descriptions given by two unidentified witnesses. Confidential information should be given to Sheriff Troy Toppin or his designee at his office on East King Street.

Pilgrimage Set April 20 - 22

The Biennial Pilgrimage of Colonial Edenton and County-side will be held on April 20, 21, and 22.

Block tickets will include all public buildings open year round, churches, private homes and gardens. Adult block tickets will be \$7 and students \$2. Single tickets for each home are \$1 for adults, and 50 cents for students.

Four hours will be from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. on Friday and Saturday. Sunday hours 1 P.M. to 5 P.M.

Hayes Plantation, the home of former Gov. Samuel Johnston (1787-1789), and first U.S. Senator from North Carolina, is among the historic homes which will be open during the pilgrimage.

Other private homes on tour this year will include; Sycamore (1725), the house restored and moved to new location by present owner; Coffield House (ca. 1726), previously a boarding house until restored by present owners; Wessington House (1850), listed in the National Register of Historic Places and has been described as the "first Villa in the Albemarle" Beverly Hall (1810), a former state bank building; Jubilee Farm (1853), ante-bellum home with double galleries front and rear; Mulberry Hill, a plantation established in 1684 on the Albemarle Sound.

Also, open to the public will be the lovely Pembroke Hall Gardens (1840) and the Powell House Gardens (1897). Of special interest will be Deerfield Wine Cellars, Inc., one of North Carolina's two licensed wineries, where the public will be welcome to visit the winery and tasting room.

Public buildings include the James Iredell House (1759), home of the first associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court; The Cupola House (1725), noted for its Jacobean architecture and Georgian interior, also its newly finished garden.

The Barker House (ca. 1782), the home of Penelope Barker who according to tradition presided at the famed Edenton Tea Party in 1774; Saint Paul's Episcopal
Continued on Page 4

Going About Change

As we alluded to last week, there are some changes taking place in the historic Leary Building on Cheap Side. Additional equipment has been installed in the shop in an effort to make our operation more efficient as well as produce a better product, but not necessarily in that order.

A third unit has been installed to our News King printing press which gives us 12-page black and white capacity along with capabilities of printing eight pages with color, and ultimately four pages with process color.

Like most everything else, it just didn't happen. It was certainly not a one-man show. Without the fullest cooperation of a number of people meandering along the Public Parade and elsewhere it could not have been possible.

We returned from Galax, Va., only to discover that it would "cost a fortune" to get a trucker to deliver a 5,000 pound cargo the 3330 miles to Edenton. At about the same time we learned that our "mechanic out-of-residence", who masquerades as an afternoon daily publisher and state legislator, invited himself for the weekend.

With this information, the pressure of getting the printing unit out of Southwestern Virginia early in the week had diminished considerably. It gave relief to the master of the left hand screw — that's us when it comes to machines — time to muster
Continued on Page 4



Volume XLV — No. 6 Edenton, North Carolina, Thursday, February 8, 1979 Single Copies 15 Cents

ECAS Funds Sought

A search is underway for money to keep Edenton-Chowan Alternative School in operation next year when federal funds cease, according to Mrs. Clara Boswell, director.

For the past two years the school has received a total of \$180,000 for

Restricted Permit

A state permit that will restrict CF Industries near Tunis to discharging no more nitrogen into the river than it takes out of the river has been issued by the N.C. Division of Environmental Management.

The permit extends the provisions of an earlier federal permit under which CF Industries could discharge an average of 42 pounds of nitrogen each day. This is the average amount of nitrogen mixed into the river water which CF withdraws each day.

The permit also is restrictive in that it's for 10 months rather than the normal five years.

In a letter to CF Industries, Division of Environmental Management Director A.F. McRorie said: "The purpose of
Continued on Page 4

the Law Enforcement Assistance Agency, with the county's cost being \$10,000 and like amount coming from the state.

Mrs. Boswell discussed two possible sources of funds, saying each mandate an active Youth Task Force. In order to accomplish this commissioners appointed such a group.

Named were: Mrs. Hazel Elliott, Dr. M. Bernard Atkinson, Sheriff Troy Toppin, Capt. C.H. Williams, Mrs. Mary Horton, Mrs. Lola Bass, Wayland Spivey, Rev. J.L. Fenner, Sr., Ralph V. Cole and Mrs. Boswell, who was designated as temporary chairman.

An organizational meeting has been set for February 20.

County Manager Eddie Dick reminded the board that the state requires such a resource for status offenders and described the Alternative school as the best to meet the state mandate.

Mrs. Luella Sellers, chairman
Continued on Page 4

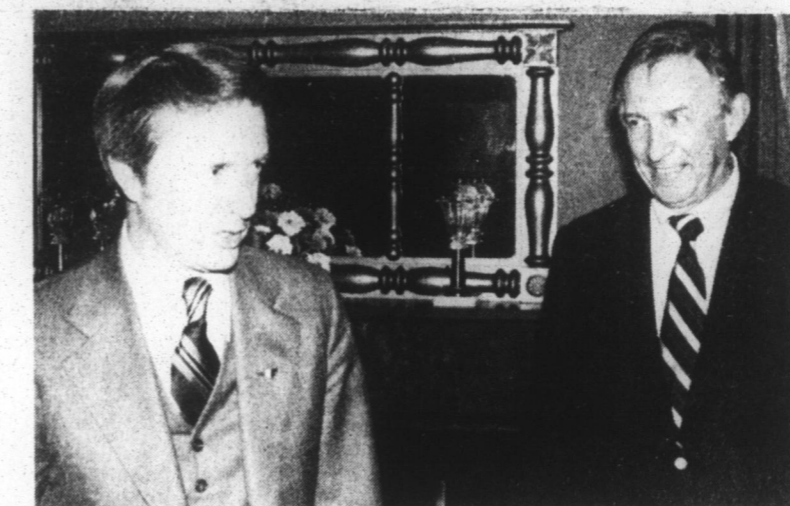
Sale Approved

Final steps are being taken for the sale of the Edenton United Methodist Church property on North Broad Street to the U.S. Postal Service. The price is \$72,500.

Members voted unanimously Sunday to sell the property to be used for parking. Earlier the sale had been approved by the trustees and Dr. Richard Hardin, chairman, made the presentation at a called Charge-Church Conference.

Rev. Norwood Jones of Elizabeth City, district superintendent, conducted the conference. Earlier he delivered the sermon at the morning worship service.

Rev. Richard R. Blankenhorn is pastor of the church. Construction is progressing on Phase I of the church's building program. L.F. Amburn, Jr., building committee chairman, says Edenton Construction Company is expected to have the Education Building, including a fellowship hall, ready for occupancy by Easter Sunday.



MEETS WITH GOVERNOR — C.A. Phillips, right, chairman of Chowan County commissioners, is shown with Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., at an hour-long meeting to discuss algae in the Chowan River. Ten Albemarle Area counties were represented at the meeting held in Raleigh Wednesday of last week.

River Meeting 'Disappointing'

Northeastern North Carolina counties are on the verge of employing a private engineering firm to gather evidence of point sources of pollution of the Chowan River. This tactic has surfaced as a viable alternative since last week's "disappointing" meeting in Raleigh with Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., and Sec. Howard N. Lee of the Department of Natural Resources & Community Development

At Wednesday hour-long meeting, C.A. Phillips, chairman of Chowan County commissioners and spokesman for nine other counties and two municipalities, questioned the state's availability to resources necessary to take positive steps to clean up the river immediately.

Gov. Hunt's suggestion that each county bordering on the river and Albemarle Sound form a "battle plan" to attack the problem was called "disappointing" by Phillips.

Phillips said the top echelon of state government is well aware of the problem, but "I am not certain they even yet understand the gravity of the problem," he said at Monday's meeting of Chowan County commissioners.

"We need to get the fuzzy talk out...and deal with the real issues," he continued. He said this could best be done by getting a
Continued on Page 4

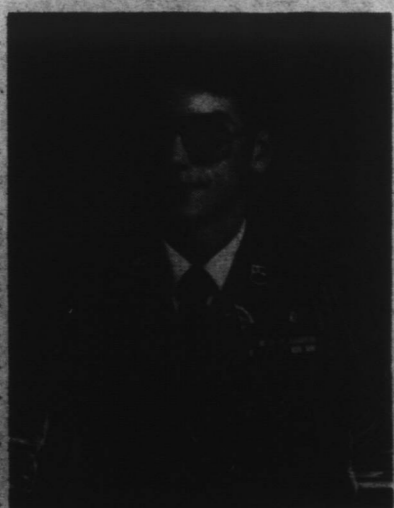
private engineering firm to work with the state in getting to the root of the problem.

J. Gilliam Wood of Edenton, chairman of the NR&CD board, was also dissatisfied with the meeting. "We're still hearing the same thing and another committee isn't the answer," he said.

This was in response to Lee's statement that a technical committee of the best minds in the
Continued on Page 4

Kehayes Academy Nominee

WASHINGTON D.C. — Sen. Jesse Helms announced today that he has offered the name of Ernest Gregory Kehayes for a competitive nominator to the U.S.



Ernie Kehayes

Merchant Marine Academy for the class entering July, 1979.

Ernie, a senior at Frederick Military Academy in Portsmouth, Va., is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Byron P. Kehayes of 113 Pembroke Circle, Edenton, and is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Kehayes, also of Edenton.

Sen. Helms said, "Ernie has demonstrated impressive determination and ability in athletic and extracurricular pursuits, and has an outstanding academic record. I believe he stands a very good chance of securing an appointment from the academy. I know that his family and friends are just as proud of Ernie as I am, and join me in wishing him the very best of success in pursuit of a career of professional military service to our Country."



FUN IN THE SNOW — This quartet appeared to be enjoying a day out of school Wednesday as they romped in the first real snow of the winter. They either had an enemy across the street, or maybe they were aiming at Luke Amburn, The Herald photographer who captured this shot.