Herald Editor Loses Son, Home In Blaze

In Memory Of L. F. Amburn, III November 10, 1960 July 13, 1981



L. F. Amburn, III

Larceny Attempts Are Reported

There were three larceny attempts on July 8, according to the Edenton police.

William Ike Davis reported his blue 1967 van stolen from his residence on 504 N. Broad St. at 7:30 A. M. The van was recovered later in the day in a ditch on 17 By-Pass and 17 Business.

Investigating officers were Chief Parrish, Sgt. Norman, Ptl. Spruill, SBI Bateman and DMV Inspector H. Babb.

At 7:44 that same morning Betty
Byrum Domecq of Rt. 1, Merry
Hill, reported a 1976 Chevrolet Luv
stolen on 2nd St. This vehicle was
also discovered the same day on S.
Granville Street. No damage was
reported

Ptl. F. A. Spruill was the investigating officer.

At 12:30 that morning, Byron Pascal Kehayes of 113 Pembroke Circle reported an attempted larceny on his 1971 Ford van.

The investigating officers were Pt1. Spruill and SBI Bateman.

All three cases are still under investigation.

perished in a fire at his residence early Monday morning minutes after he successfully awakened three family members, saving them from almost certain death.

Luke Amburn lingered behind his father, mother and younger brother as they made their ways.

A 20-year-old Edenton man

his father, mother and younger brother as they made their way through a dense, breath shocking smoke toward the back door on the second floor of the home at 104 West Gale Street. His last sounds were shouts for his young sister, Greer, who was away from home at the time of the fatal fire.

Luke's parents, L. F. and Emily G. Amburn, and his 16-year-old brother, Paul were asleep on the second floor of the home. The victim had fallen asleep while watching TV in the downstairs den.

He was apparently awakened shortly after 3 A. M. by the heat from fire started at an electrical outlet across the room. He darted through the foyer and up the stairway shouting warnings. Amburn heard the shouts and ran out of the bedroom where he and his wife were asleep. He met his son at the top of the stairs and they were making their way through the hallway to the back door. Mrs. Amburn and Paul entered the hall from separate bathrooms and the four family members were heading for safety.

When the elder Amburn realized

his eldest son was not at the doorway, he turned to re-enter the door but was knocked back by fatal billows of smoke. Two volunteers at the scene attempted to enter the house but were turned back before they reached the top of the stairs.

Edenton Fire Department was on the scene in a matter of minutes after the alarm was sounded. While the blaze was rapidly being brought under control, firemen

with air packs entered the house from the rear but were several minutes in locating the victim. He was found on his bed in a room no more than 15 feet from the rear door where his other three family members had escaped.

The victim was rendered treatment by firemen and then by EMT's with Edenton - Chowan Rescue Squad. Further emergency treatment at Chowan Hospital was also unsuccessful.

Greer Amburn is a student at Tidewater Ballet in Norfolk, Va. During the summer months she spends the weekends at home. Last weekend, however, she was visiting a classmate in Williamsburg, Va. Luke Amburn had been away from home himself most of the weekend and was either not aware of 15 - year - old Greer's plans or was completely confused by the excitement of the fire and smoke inhalation.

Paul Amburn was admitted to Chowan Hospital for lung damage due to smoke inhalation. His condition is improving and he is expected to be discharged from the hospital later this week.

Their father was also examined and treated at Chowan Hospital but his injuries were minor and he was not admitted. Mrs. Amburn was not injured.

was not injured.

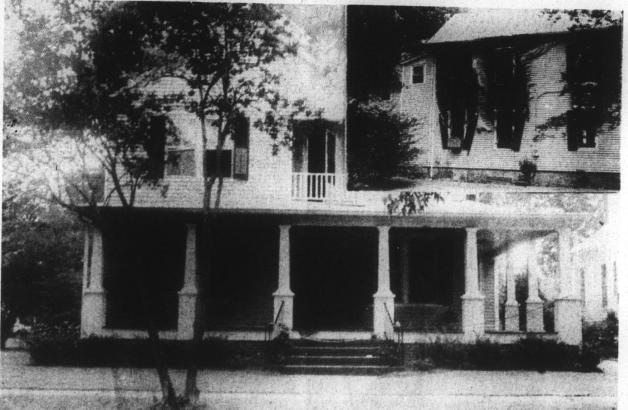
Luther Franklin Amburn, III, was a native of Iredell County but had lived in Edenton for more than 16 years.

He attended local schools and Chowan Adademy. He was a photographer for The Chowan Herald.

In addition to his parents, brother and sister, survivors include two other sisters: Miss Martha Ruth Amburn of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. John R. Smith of Wilson; and his maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul S. Greer, Sr. of Summerton, S. C.

A memorial service was held at 3 P. M. Tuesday in Edenton United Methodist Church where he was a member. Rev. Richard Blankenhorn officiated. Burial followed in Beaver Hill Cemetery with Swindell - Bass Funeral Home in Charge of arrangements.

Pallbearers were: Donald Newton, David Rea, Mark Storie, John Wood, Fraser Jones, Flynn Surratt, Clyde T. Slade and Chauncey Krahenbill.



The Amburn Residence — 104 West Gale Street

Caucus Cites Road Improvement As Major Factor In Area Development

RALEIGH — Fourteen Northeastern North Garolina legislators, headed by Sen. J. J. (Monk) Harrington, D-Bertie, met with Gov. Jim Hunt and Secretary of Commerce D. M. (Lauch) Faircloth Friday morning at the Governor's Mansion to discuss an expended state role in the economic development of the region.

The occasion was the first official get-together of this group of legislators which will be known as the Northeastern Caucus. It is the first time the legislators who represented the 16-20 counties have pulled together in a formal manner, for the economic development of the area.

Much of the talk revolved around the importance of good roads in the Northeast. For the first time the state has placed a

major emphasis on resurfacing and repairing instead of building new roads.

Road improvement is seen as one important step to attracting more industry to the rural Northeast. Gov. Hunt said, "Because of the remoteness of Northeastern North Carolina and the road situation, industry has not developed as rapidly as it should there."

Caucus chairman Harrington said, "Members of the General Assembly will have more input on the roads than ever before."

he roads than ever before."

Commerce Secretary Faircloth

Blood Drive To Be Held

The Edenton Masonic Lodge on Water Street will be the site of a community wide blood drive on Tuesday, from 12:30 to 6:30 P. M.

Sponsored by the Edenton Jaycees and other community groups, the drive has a goal of 125 pints. Chairman for the drive is Bruce Wackelin, who can provide additional information or appointments. He can be reached by calling 482-7435 during the day or 482-2792 in the evenings.

Donations can be made with or without appointments.

All individuals, regardless of whether they have donated in the past, are encouraged to participate in the drive since blood shortages can occur in the summer. Blood inventories are traditionally low during the summer months because blood usage increases and donations are fewer.

Previous American Red Cross blood drives in Edenton have been extremely successful and instrumental in helping satisfy the 450 units needed daily by area hospitals. All employers are asked to encourage employees to donate. In order to keep blood inventories at safe levels, it is important that blood drives scheduled during summer months are successful in meeting goals.

pledged that strong emphasis would be placed on the economic development of the area, especially as it applies to travel and tourism.

As a result of the meeting, the official state advertising agency will begin promotion to attract the northeastern United States to the Outer Banks celebration of the 400th anniversary of English colonization of the New World at Roanoke Island. The celebration will begin in July 1984 and continues through July 1987.

Plans also include providing tourists with information from visitor centers on what else North Carolina has to offer.

Legislators and state officials also discussed how the Northeastern part of the state has its economic base in agriculture.

Sen. Vernon E. White, D-Pitt County, told the group that money was needed for agricultural research in the area.

Other items discussed included the significance that electrical

power has in bringing new industry to the region and how current water and sewer facilities have been inadequate for additional growth. Major emphasis will be placed on improving such systems to better accommodate growth.

Gov. Hunt said that one profitable thing the group could accomplish is "to identify a set of goals that this caucus can work to get included in the budget."

The Caucus includes senators and house members of the 14county 1st District plus legislators from the Senate's 6th District, including Edgecombe, Halifax, Martin and Pitt counties.

Ist District (Walter Jones, D) — Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Greene, Hertford, Hyde, Lenoir, Martin, Northampton, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, Washington.

2nd District (L. H. Fountain, D)

— Alamance, Caswell, Chatham,
Edgecombe, Franklin, Granville,
Halifax, Nash, Person, Vance,
Warren, Wilson.

D) — Bladen, Duplin, Harnett, Johnston, Jones, Lee, Onslow, Pender, Sampson, Wayne.

3rd District (David Henderson,

4th District (Ike Andrews, D) — Durham, Orange, Wake.

5th District (Stephen Neal, D) — Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Forsyth, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, Wilkes.

6th District (Gene Johnston, R)
 Davidson, Guilford, northern
 Moore, Randolph.

7th District (Charlie Rose, D) — Brunswick, Columbus, Cumberland, New Hanover, Robeson.

8th District (Bill Hefner, D) — Anson, Cabarrus, Davie, Hoke, Montgomery, southern Moore, Richmond, Rowan, Scotland, Stanly, Union, Yadkin.

9th District (Jim Martin, R) —

Continued on page 4



HOMECOMING — The Department of North Carolina of the American Legion met here Saturday during a homecoming for Department Commander E. C. Toppin, left of Edward G. Bond Pest No. 40. With Commander Toppin is George Stokes, the commander's chief aide.



POLITICAL HUDDLE — Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., center, huddled with Northeastern North Carolina legislators at Friday's meeting in the Governor's Mansion in Raleigh. Left to right are: Sen. Melvin R. Daniels, Jr., of Elizabeth City; Rep. Vernon James of Weeksville; Gov. Hunt; Rep. Charles Evans of Nags Head; and Sen. J. J. (Monk) Harrington of Lewiston. (Staff Photos by L.F.A.)