

The Franklin Times

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No Deaths But

Holiday Weekend Brings Fires, Wrecks, And Racing Charges

Franklin County, fortunately, did not contribute to the 567 record total of highway deaths during the Labor Day weekend, nor to the 15 fatalities in North Carolina.

The area, however, could be labeled in terms of location as the place "Where the action was." The long holiday had some of just about everything that goes to make the news.

Beginning last Thursday night, there have been eight fires, at least two highway accidents, a search for a missing man, a search for missing money, an alleged pre-arranged highway race, and at least one call for aid by a person with breathing difficulty.

Rescuers, firemen, State Troopers, local police and newsmen have been kept on the go throughout the period.

Last Thursday's fire, reported around 8:30 p.m., destroyed the home of the Eugene Burnette family on Highway 561 eight miles east of Louisburg. Justice, Centerville and a tanker from the Louisburg fire department fought the blaze, saving part of the structure. All furnishings were lost except some kitchen furniture.

Burnette, visiting in the Justice community, followed the fire department on the call, only to be led right to his own front yard. The house was owned by Hal West, manager of the local Joyner Wholesale Building Supply Store. It was partly covered by insurance, West reported.

The Leonard Huskee family, one and a half miles east of Youngsville, lost their home to fire Sunday night. The call was made at 9:23 p.m. to the Youngsville fire department. No one was home at the time of the blaze.

Five barns and/or stable-packs were lost to fire over the weekend. Bunn Rural Firemen answered a call to the Albert Woodlief farm on U. S. 401 five miles south of Louisburg around 6 a.m. Sunday. The barn and 400 sticks of tobacco were lost. Eight thousand tobacco sticks were saved in an adjoining shelter.

Around 5:25 p.m. Sunday a barn burned on the George Robbins farm, operated by tenant Willie Edwards on N.C. 39 near Bunn. Sunday morning around 3:45 a.m. a barn and 600 sticks of tobacco was lost on the Stephen Wiggins farm near Youngsville. Local firemen managed to keep the blaze from spreading to nearby buildings and to the Wiggins home.

D. T. and Woodrow Hayes lost a stable and packhouse combination structure near Moulton Sunday night. The Epsom Fire Department answered another barnfire call to the farm of W. E. Finch at Ingleside.

A blaze damaged wiring in an automobile owned by Mrs. Billy Wheelless at Justice about 9:30 p.m. Sunday night. The Justice department extinguished the fire.

A head-on collision Sunday night in Cedar Rock, involving 13 persons resulted in the hospitalization of at least one with serious injuries. A car, reportedly driven by James Lee Arrington, c/m Rt. 4, Louisburg, struck a station wagon driven by a Henderson Negro as the Arrington car reportedly crossed the center line.

Arrington suffered severe injuries to his left arm and was taken from Franklin Memorial Hospital to Duke. County Register of Deeds Alex T. Wood and other spectators are credited with saving Arrington's life when they applied a tourniquet following the accident.

Rufus Langley, c/m/50 of Henderson, his wife and seven children escaped serious injury as their station wagon was thrown from the road into a ditch. One unconfirmed report said that the Langley woman had been admitted to Duke with head injuries. One child was brought to the local hospital with minor cuts by the Louisburg Rescue Service.

Three Negro men, passengers in the Arrington car were not injured.

James Bartholomew, employee of Dean Farms Egg firm in Cedar Rock, suffered serious head and shoulder injuries when he was thrown from a motor bike on the



Seriously Injured

Spectators view the motor bike from which James Bartholomew (inset), 27-year-old county man, was thrown and seriously injured Saturday afternoon around 3:15 p.m. The accident occurred on Fishing Rock Creek Road, newly paved stretch of rural highway in Cedar Rock Township. Bartholomew is recovering from severe head and shoulder injuries in a Raleigh hospital.

Franklinton Schools To Open Wednesday As Talks Continue

Negotiations are continuing between the Franklinton City School Board and officials of the Office of Education in Washington, according to reports this morning. However, schools will open in the system Wednesday as scheduled.

Superintendent Fred Rogers said this morning that classes would begin at 8:15 a.m. and that students would be released Wednesday at 12 noon. No lunches will be served in the school cafeterias Wednesday. Buses will operate on regular morning schedules,

however. Thursday will be the first of the 180-day school year and regular hours will be maintained. Lunches will be served. The opening Wednesday is expected to be accomplished without the transfer of the seventh grades at B. F. Person-Alblon Negro school to the Franklinton High School as requested by officials of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington. This request brought on quite a bit of con-

trovery in the Franklinton area resulting in a mass meeting of citizens to protest such movement. It also brought on investigation by eight agents of the F. B. I. into reported threats by some local people.

Rogers would say only that negotiations are still continuing in the matter and that a public statement would be made when any decisions are reached. He declined comment on a reported trip to Washington last week by local school officials.

Market Opens Thursday, Local Graders Named

The three local tobacco warehouses will be in readiness Thursday as the Middle Belt opens the 1966 marketing season. Friendly Four Warehouse on South Main Street will have first sale on opening day, Ford's Warehouse in Ford Village will have second sale and the Big Franklin Warehouse on Bic-

kett Blvd. will have the third sale.

Friday's sales will be rotated with Ford's holding first sale, Big Franklin having second and the Friendly Four having third.

U. S. Department of Agriculture tobacco inspection at the Louisburg market this season will be under the

supervision of B. E. Newton. Newton heads a group of inspectors recently assigned for the current sales season to the Louisburg market by the Tobacco Division of USDA's Consumer and Marketing Service.

Other tobacco inspectors assigned to the Louisburg market are: L. L. Stone and R. C. Coleman.

Official grades for flue-cured tobacco this season will be the same as last season, Newton said.

Under the 1935 Tobacco Inspection Act, growers of flue-cured tobacco first began using the USDA inspection service in 1936. By 1940, the service had spread to more than a third of the auction markets in the flue-cured area that extends from Virginia through the Carolinas and Georgia into northern Florida.

In May 1942, a general referendum was held and passed for the remaining markets, but qualified inspectors weren't available for all of the markets until the 1946 season. Beginning that season, all flue-cured markets in the five states have had USDA's free and mandatory inspection service.



One Of Eight Fires

Scene above shows Justice and Centerville firemen battling the blaze which destroyed the home of Eugene Burnette and his family on Highway 561 last Thursday night around 8:30 p.m. The house was owned by Hal West and only a few kitchen furnishings were saved. This was the first of several fires taking place over the weekend.

Judge Hobgood Orders

Accused Slayer Committed To State Hospital For Observation

An order issued by Superior Court Judge Hamilton H. Hobgood here Monday has forced postponement of a hearing scheduled for today in the case of accused knife slayer David Lee Foster. Judge Hobgood issued an order Monday placing the 15-year-old Negro youth in State Hospital in Raleigh for observation.

The Negro is charged in the brutal killing of Louisburg grocerman W. G. Shearon in his store on South Main Street last Monday afternoon. A hearing had been scheduled before Recorder's Court Judge G. M. Beam for today. Judge Hobgood appointed Louisburg attorney James P. Lumpkin as defense attorney for Foster last week.

Judge Hobgood's order, it was reported, is routine in cases where sanity is likely to be an issue. Foster is to be kept at State Hospital for a period not to exceed sixty days for observation, according to the Judge's order.

Named Manager

William H. "Sam" Wood has been named manager of the local FCX Store.

Wood is a native of Franklin County and has been associated with FCX in Louisburg for the past five months. He replaces Mr. Harold D. Milligan, who was transferred to the Henderson FCX Store.

Mr. Wood is the son of Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Wood of the White Level Community.

Foster Case

O'Berry Official Places Responsibility Here

Dr. Vernon Mangum, Superintendent of The O'Berry Center, a mental institution in Goldsboro, has stated that "the community should be helping improve the child's family environment during the year he was at the Center." The official's statement was quoted in The Raleigh Times

last Saturday in reference to accused knife-slayer David Lee Foster having been an inmate at O'Berry.

The institution refused to readmit the Negro youth upon request from the Franklin County Director of Welfare, Juvenile Judge Ralph Knott and Riverside School Principal Carl Harris. Foster is accused of the murder of W. G. Shearon, Louisburg grocerman, last Monday afternoon in Shearon's South Main Street store.

Foster, who was committed on order of Judge Hamilton Hobgood to the State Hospital in Raleigh Monday for observation, spent nine months at the O'Berry Center, returning home in June of 1964.

Requests at that time that the youth be readmitted were refused by Dr. Mangum on the grounds that the youth "was not a problem for the community."

Mrs. Jane York, Director of Welfare for the county, stated this morning that the Foster family was a "Defined Services case in need of special services." Mrs. York

See O'BERRY page 4

in the day between the white man and the Negro youth.

Officers reported there were three witnesses to the start of the fight which ended in the death of the 63-year-old grocerman. All are minors and their names have not been made public.

Local police, including auxiliary policemen, searched the area of the South Main Street murder extensively Monday in the hope of finding some missing money, allegedly taken in the murder-robbery. A reliable source says no money was found during the search.

Governor Promises Information On Franklin Road Future

Clint Fuller, Managing Editor of The Franklin Times, disclosed today that he has received a letter from Governor Dan K. Moore in which the Governor promises to reply to information requests made by the newspaper.

Fuller said he wrote the Governor on August 20, listing the major points of what "I have attempted to show through front page editorial and pictorial comment" to be the conditions of Franklin County roads.

Fuller said he pointed out to the Governor in the letter that "copies of these... editorials have been sent you, Mr. Hunt, and Mr. J. B. Brame... in

the hope that you gentlemen might be made aware of this gross example of discrimination."

"My position in the matter is one of a newspaperman, reporting conditions as I find them. I am not the representative of the people of this county and, therefore, I cannot speak for them," Fuller wrote. "I believe, however, that it is now time for some statement from you. We are hopeful that you will recognize our plight in Franklin County and take some positive action toward helping to eliminate it."

Fuller says he expects to receive information from Governor Moore in answer to the portion of his letter which stated, "We doubt that you or anyone else can properly explain why Franklin has received less than \$1 million in the past 29 years for Primary Road Improvements, but we believe that some explanation of future plans for Franklin County will be helpful."

The Governor's letter stated simply, "I am presently compiling the information you requested and will forward it to you as soon as it is completed."

Fuller's editorial and pictorial comments have been published in The Franklin Times on a weekly basis for

the past 13 weeks. The writings have brought a number of endorsements from organizations in the county and private citizens. The articles have tended to show that the county has been short-changed over the years in the matter of highway fund allocation.

Centerville Gets New Exchange

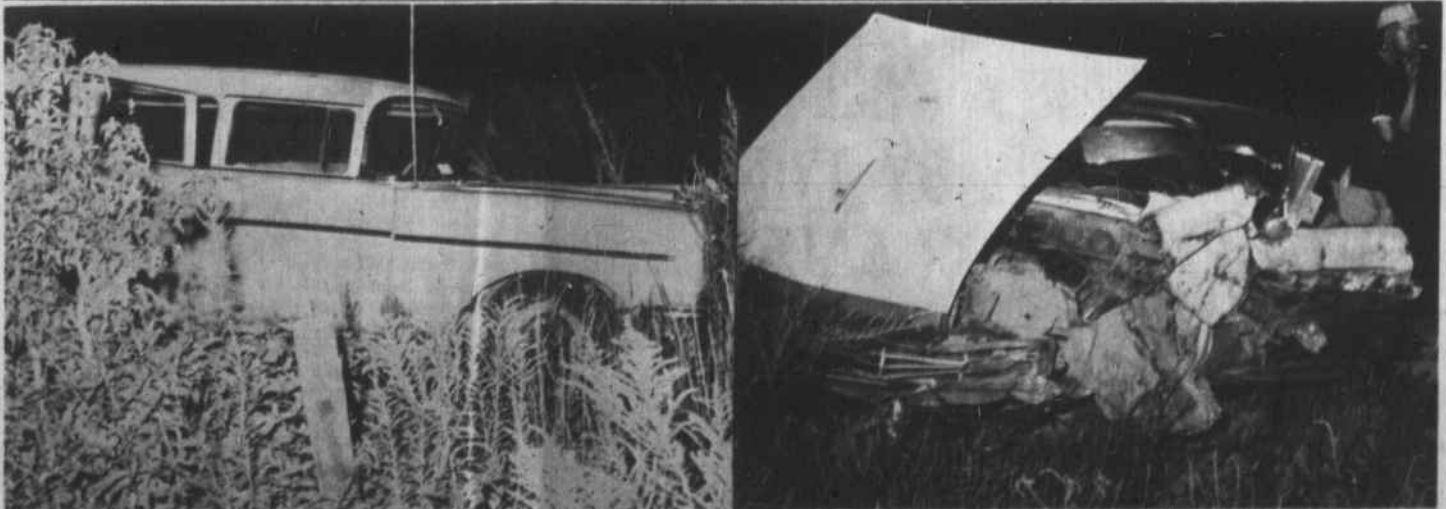
Carolina Telephone's newest—and 114th—telephone exchange will be placed in service here on September 11, according to Howard T. Pitts, local manager for the company.

Pitts said that on that date, at 2:01 a.m., all telephone numbers for subscribers living in the areas of Centerville, Alert, Guppton, Stallings Crossroads, Wood and part of the Justice Community, will change to Centerville numbers. At present, subscribers in these areas are served through the Louisburg exchange.

The new Centerville numbers will consist of seven

See CENTERVILLE page 4

See WEEKEND page 4



In Head-On Collision