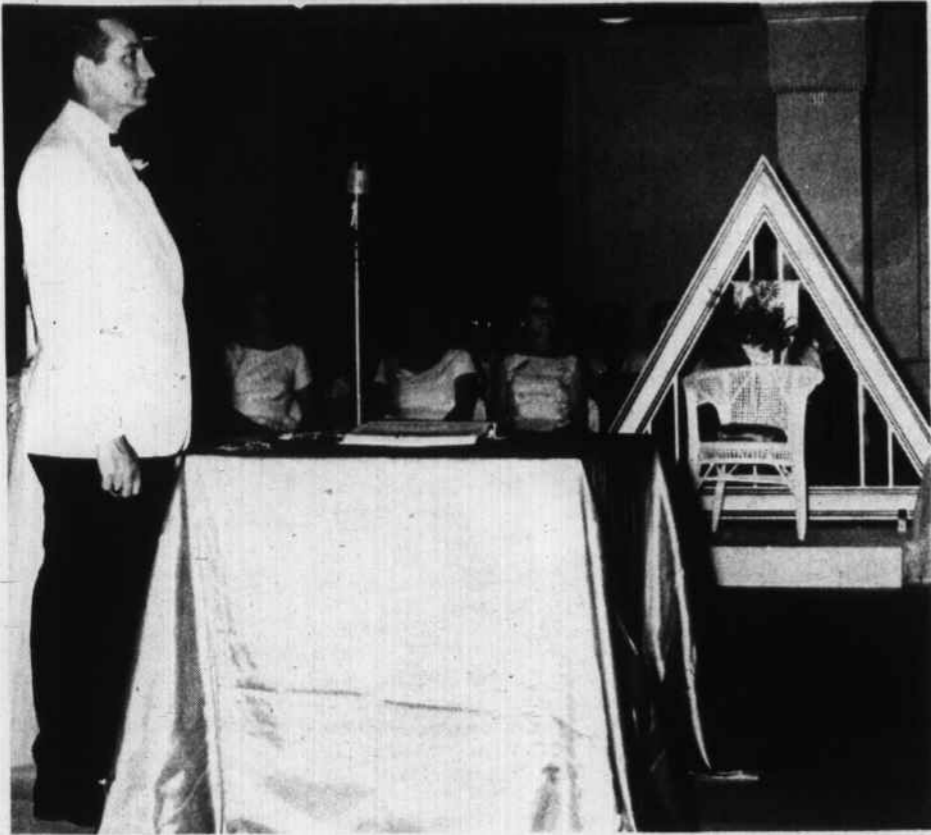


Partly cloudy with little change in temperature today and Wednesday. Scattered afternoon thundershowers. Low today, 65; high, 85



Accepting Top Position

## George M. West Gets Top Eastern Star State Post

George M. West, Louisburg real estate executive, was elected Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina, Order of the Eastern Star at the organization's annual convention held in Asheville last week.

The 1544 voting delegates to the convention cast a unanimous ballot in the election of the Franklin County native to the highest state office within the Order, to be held by a man.

Participating in the colorful installation ceremonies were members of West's family, including his wife Kathryn and daughters Kim and Kathy. West's young son, Buddy, also slated to have taken part in the installation was unable to do so due to an untimely case of mumps.

The Order of the Eastern Star, consisting of approximately 26,000 members in North Carolina and approximately 3.5 million members throughout the free world, has a total of 273 chapters located throughout the state of North Carolina. Mr. West, together with Mrs. Gertrude Gates Moore of Hendersonville, Worthy Grand Matron of North Carolina, will be visiting these chapters during the coming year, in their responsibilities of supervision and instruction

within the Order.

Mr. West is a member of the local Eastern Star Chapter, William B. Barrow No. 39, and has served as Worthy Patron of the Chapter, District Deputy Grand Patron of the Sixth Eastern Star District, Member of the Board of Directors of Camp Ralmbow, a camp operated by the Order for young girls, and as Associate Grand Patron, prior to his being elected as Worthy Grand Patron. A York Rite Mason, he has also served as Master of Louisburg Lodge No. 418, A.F. & A.M. Active in activities of the Louisburg Baptist Church, he has served as Advisory Board Chairman, Deacon, Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School Teacher, and in the Church Choir. He is currently Chairman of the Zoning Board of Adjustment for the Town of Louisburg.

Mr. West is a graduate of Gold Sand High School, Mars Hill College, and the University of North Carolina, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. He is a Real Estate Appraiser and Valuation Consultant and President of Triangle Realty Corporation of Louisburg.

West and his family reside at 304 Lumpkin Boulevard

here in Louisburg.

Other members of his family who were recognized were his mother, Mrs. Lillie G. West; his sisters, Mrs. H.M. Dickens and Mrs. Fred Hight; and Mr. and Mrs. W.B. Joyner, Mrs. Annie Mae Griffin, and Mrs. Florence J. Wells. Mr. and Mrs. W.O. Fuller, Jr. were also present and were recognized. The members of William B. Barrow Chapter, as well as the members of the Sixth District of which the local Chapter is a part, were also recognized.

## Speed Supports Anti-Secrecy Bill

An act to require the meetings of public board, commissions, councils and other public bodies to be open to the public has passed the N. C. House of Representatives after having received favorable committee support last week.

The act, called the "Anti-Secrecy" bill, has had the active support of the North Carolina Press Association. Sixteenth District James D. Speed of Franklin county voted in favor of the bill. The measure now goes before the Senate for action.

## Weekend Rains Aid Crops, Louisburg Water Supply

The Franklin County area received the first rain of consequence in a month during the past weekend. Rainfall in the Louisburg area measured .86 inches for the Saturday night-Sunday readings. However, reports coming in from throughout the county indicate that most of the county received considerably more than fell in the Louisburg area.

C. T. Dean, Jr., Extension Service Chairman, reported Monday that rainfall throughout the county ranged from one to two inches. Dean declined to put a price tag on the rain saying, "I know most people like to refer to it as a million dollar rain. It could be worth much more than this. It depends on how much more rain we have."

Dean said it was a "General rain, not too much and an ideal type." "It couldn't have been better", he added, "The timing was really beneficial to the tobacco crop."

G. O. Kennedy, Louisburg

### LATE NOTE River Measured 17.65 Ft. At 11 A. M. Today

weatherman reported this morning that the Tar River has made an unusual rise since Saturday. The Sunday morning reading, taken at the Main Street bridge was 1.70 ft. By Monday morning the river had risen to 8.00 ft. and Tuesday morning came the unusual reading of 16.3 ft. This, Kennedy said, was reported to Raleigh-Durham weather headquarters where it was termed most unusual. The normal river level is 3 ft.

Kennedy reported that Saturday night's rainfall measured .21 inches and rainfall on Sunday measured .65 in the Louisburg area. The last rainfall here was on June 2 and 3 when the area received .11 inches in the two-day period. The last rainfall of any consequence fell on May 22 (1.08 inches) and on May 23 (.52 inches). There had been no

measurable rainfall in the area for the past two weeks.

Sunday's rain storm brought a power blackout for about 45 minutes when, according to reports lightning struck the Carolina Power and Light Co. lines near Sterling Mills in Franklinton. The blackout was widespread.

Dean said that the tobacco crop had not suffered from the lack of rain. "It has caused deeper rooting" Dean said, "and this is good."

In commenting on overall crop conditions, the Extension Chairman stated, "Prospects are for good crops of tobacco, corn and soy beans this time. The cotton crop is poor due to cold conditions earlier and a poor stand. Many have declared cotton failure and plowed up the crop to plant soy beans. There has been quite an increase in the soy bean acreage this year. This is the one crop we have stressed as an additional money crop."



Mrs. Barbara Alston Photo by Clint Fuller

### For Service To The Woman's Club

## Mother Of Two Is Woman Of The Year

Mrs. Barbara Alston, mother of two and a member of the Louisburg Woman's Club for the past four years, has been named the club's Woman of the Year. Mrs. Alston, a native of Rocky Mount, was cited for her "outstanding club work" and her "many services to the club," according to Mrs. Nancy Beasley, club president.

The silver bowl presentation was made by Mrs. Beasley at a recent club picnic gathering of around sixty members and their families at the Lions Club Park here.

Mrs. Alston lives with her husband Wayne, a telephone company PBX installer-repairman, and her two children, Wayne, Jr. age 6 and Kim, age 4 on the Henderson Road here. The Alstons have lived in Louisburg for the past five years.

## Franklinton Man Freed On Bond, Hearing Today

Leonard Lee Steed, 39-year old Franklinton textile worker, was freed on \$2,500 bond here Friday, after spending the past week in jail charged

in the slaying of his wife, Mavis Markham Steed. Steed was successful in his habeas corpus hearing before Superior Court Judge Hamilton H. Hoggood in the courthouse here Friday afternoon.

The Franklinton man is to face a hearing today before Recorder's Court Judge E.C. Bulluck.

Mrs. Steed was dead on arrival at Franklin Memorial Hospital around 10:30 P.M. Saturday, June 10 after suffering a bullet wound in her head. The shooting reportedly occurred at the Steed home on Macon Street in Franklinton.

## Allen Elected To CPA Group

New York - Felix Hill Allen, III, CPA of Louisburg, has been elected a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Mr. Allen is associated with Richard E. Byrd, Jr., certified public accountant, in Raleigh.

## Commissioners Set Still Another Budget Meeting

### Seventeenth In Twelve Weeks

The Board of County Commissioners met here last Friday in another of a growing number of budget meetings and the end is not yet. Another session is on tap for Wednesday.

The latest will be the seventeenth meeting in the past twelve weeks, the seventh for the sole purpose of "studying

the budget" for the coming fiscal year.

There have been sixteen meetings of the Board since April 3. Many of these were for reasons other than budgetary matters, although some discussion of budget requests were held. Several meetings were called as the board sat as the Board of Equalization and Review. One meeting was called to approve a Mental Health program.

The multiplicity of meetings is beginning to become expensive to the county.

Each session of the board costs the county taxpayer \$141.58, plus the cost of five meals for the board members when they meet through the noon period; plus the prorated share of the county attorney's annual salary; plus the prorated monthly extra pay of \$40 for the Board Chairman.

The recent sixteen meetings are estimated to have cost the county \$2,265.28 in board salary, travel and cost of secretary. This figure does not include the attorney's salary, the chairman's additional pay, or the cost of meals.

The stated purpose of six of the sixteen meetings was "to study the budget." This would indicate that budget study alone has already cost the county \$849.48 plus the extras. These figures vary, of course, when one or more Commissioners are absent from a meeting.

By way of contrast, the board met only twice in March. Budget matters traditionally take a great deal more time than does regular monthly re-

ports. Unofficial reports indicate that this year's budget ran around \$75,000 in excess of last year's. This has led to See COMMISSIONERS Page 6

## Rescuers Have Two Monday Calls

The Louisburg Rescue Service, following a weekend of inactivity, were called twice Monday to aid an accident victim and a lady suffering what was believed to be some type of stroke.

Around 9:30 A.M. the Service rushed to the home of Mrs. Jessie Collins on Smithwick Place, Louisburg. Mrs. Collins was taken to Franklin Memorial Hospital where she was treated and later transferred to a Raleigh Hospital. Reports say her condition is listed as serious.

A second call came around 12:30 P.M. when the Service was sent to Burnette's Service Station on Bickett Blvd. Herman Foster, n/m/45 of Rt. 1 Louisburg, was suffering undisclosed injuries from a farm accident and was being taken to the local hospital by a daughter when the car ran out of gas.

The man was treated and taken on to the hospital. His injuries were not believed to be serious.

## 4-H'ers Off To Camp

Fifty-two 4-H Club members left Monday morning, June 19, for a week of camp at the Roanoke Island 4-H Camp at Manteo, N. C. The Franklin County group will be camping with a similar group from Nash, Wake, and Vance counties.

4-H Camp provides an opportunity whereby club members may become better acquainted with each other and the 4-H program in general. The camp program is a cooperative project with members sharing together work, recreation, athletic events, classwork, tours, nature study, evening programs and vespers - all planned to provide opportunities for the social development of the individual member.

Mrs. Elaine Stallings, Adult Leader; Mrs. Bernice S. Harris, Asst. Home Economics Extension Agent; and Jimmy Stephenson, Asst. Agricultural Extension Agent, accompanied the groups to camp. The club members will return to Franklin County Saturday, June 24.



Off To Camp

Staff Photo by Clint Fuller

## Maybe Now He'll Buy A Key

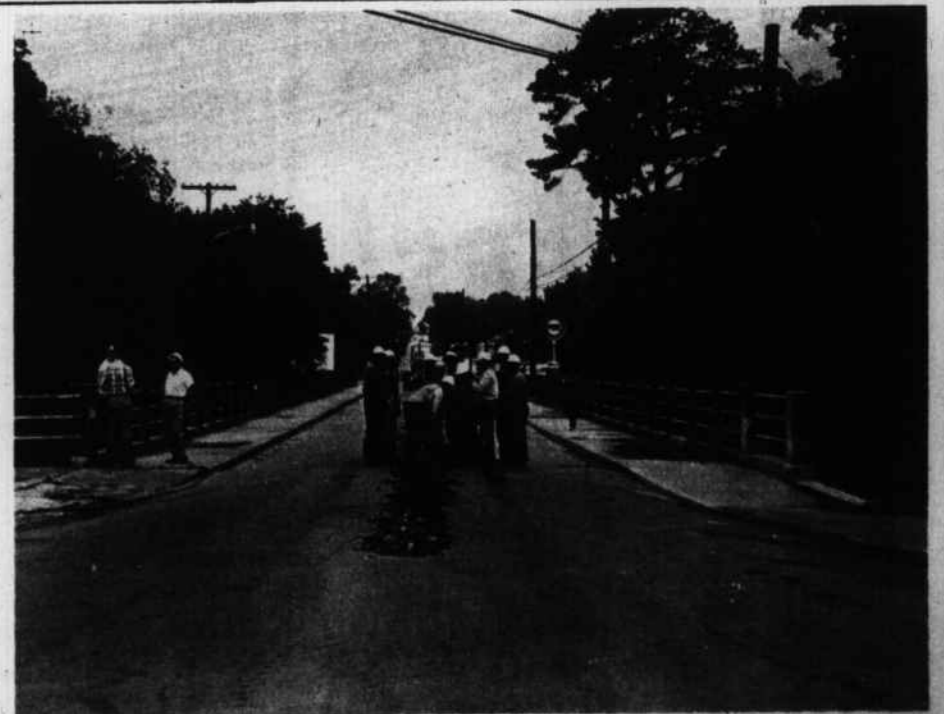
Register of Deeds Alex Wood showed up at the local firehouse last Friday night looking for the Sheriff. He had loaned his courthouse key to Veteran's Officer George Champion, who had gone out of town, Wood explained. He wanted to borrow the Sheriff's key.

While Sheriff William T. Dement was not around at the time, Wood did later locate him and get the key.

The popular county official said he wanted to get inside his office to clean a machine. According to reliable sources, he got inside alright. Even with the trouble finding a key, Wood had far less trouble getting in than he experienced getting out. For some reason, best known to him, Wood left his office. The key was lying on his desk. The door slammed shut. Wood was locked in the hall. There are no telephones in the hall. Wood took to the upstairs windows and yelled.

There is no record of how long this noise went on, but finally a passer-by sighted the man hanging out the window and yelling for help. Still, according to reliable sources, which have been known to stretch the truth a little at times, the passer-by reported to Raymond Burnette, local businessman whose office is nearby, that "There's a crazy man hanging out the courthouse window." (This remark has not been verified). Burnette reported the matter to Carl Parnell at the fire station, who called his father, custodian of the courthouse and after some time, Wood was once again a free man.

He was out of town Monday. Some said he was attending a convention. Some say he was getting some keys made.



Louisburg Street Work Starts

Staff Photo by Clint Fuller

State Highway crews began work on the Main Street river bridge here Monday in preparation for the coming resurfacing projects here in Louisburg. By late Monday most of the surface of the bridge had been removed and limited traffic was allowed. Paving is expected to begin immediately along Main and Nash streets here.