

**WEATHER**  
 Considerable cloudiness, rather cold with some chance of rain today. Wednesday, generally fair and cold. Low today, 40; high, mid-50's.

# The Franklin Times

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Tel. Gy 6-3283 Ten Cents Louisburg, N. C., Tuesday, November 14, 1967 (Ten Pages Today) 98th Year-Number 77

## FBI Accused Of Intimidating Franklin Parents

Termed "Highly Unethical"

### Franklinton Parade Set

(Frk. B.W.) The Franklinton Merchants' Annual Christmas Parade has been scheduled for Thursday, November 30, at 7 p.m.

Anyone, who is interested in having an entry in the parade, should call the Franklinton Chamber of Commerce at 494-7353 or A. J. Perkinson at 494-2578.

All entries should be reported by Saturday, November 25, in order to line up the position of entries in the Christmas Parade.

### Merchants To View Film On Shoplifting

Merchants and their employees are being invited to a showing of a special film on shoplifting Wednesday night at the Louisburg School cafeteria. Under the auspices of the Louisburg Business Association, the movie, "The Million Dollar Customer" is to be shown. The program is a part of the statewide efforts of the North Carolina Merchants Association to acquaint merchants and retail clerks with the shoplifting problem.

The Merchants Association says "The best prevention against shoplifting short of closing store doors, is an alert and aggressive staff. The film is completely positive in approach."

The show begins at 8 P.M. and only merchants and their employees are invited, according to Mrs. Juanita Pleasants, Executive Secretary of the Louisburg organization.

### Sturges Joins Local Law Firm

Conrad B. (Buzzie) Sturges, formerly associated with a Taylorsville, N. C. law firm, has joined the Louisburg firm of Lumpkin, Lumpkin and Davis.

Sturges is the son of the late Conrad B. Sturges and Mrs. Sturges, a native of Louisburg.

His maternal grandparents were the late Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Allen of Louisburg. Sturges attended Louisburg High School, McCallie School, Chattanooga, Tenn., the University of North Carolina and the University Law School at Chapel Hill.

He was formerly employed in the Trust Department of First-Citizens Bank and Trust Co. in Raleigh before joining the Taylorsville law firm. He is past President of the Alexander County Bar Association, an Episcopalian and is married to the former Harriette Horsey of Atlanta, Ga. He was recently elected vice president of the Franklin County Young Democrats Club.

### Louisburg Parade Needs More Entries

A call for more non-commercial entries for the Louisburg Christmas parade has gone out from Mrs. Juanita Pleasants, Executive Secretary of the Louisburg Business Association, the organization sponsoring the annual event.

The parade, planned for Wednesday afternoon, November 29, at 3:30 p.m., is in need of more floats from churches, schools and civic organizations, according to Mrs. Pleasants.

A number of commercial floats have already been obtained by local merchants and bands along with the usual entries are expected. Prizes will be given for the best three non-professional entries and the Association, each year, encourages this type entry.

Anyone interested in such an entry for their business or organization is asked to contact Mrs. Pleasants at the Business Association office.



Gold Star Mother Presented Bible

Miss Debra Duke, President of the Seventh Grade at Edward Best High School, is shown above presenting a Bible to Mrs. Lena Gay Wilder of the Seven Paths Community in memory of her son, C.W.O. 3 Bennett Gay Wilder, insert, who was killed in Vietnam on September 29. A brother, Jimmy Wilder of Raleigh, is shown at right. Memorial services for Wilder and five Edward Best alumni killed in World War II was held last Friday at the school.

Photo by Clint Fuller.

## Memorial Services Staged At Edward Best

Students and faculty at Edward Best High School staged an impressive memorial service last Friday honoring alumni who had given their lives in the service of their country. Special emphasis was placed on the memory of C.W.O. 3 Bennett Gay Wilder, a 1947 graduate who died of wounds received in a Vietnam air crash on September 29.

The Veteran's Day program was organized by Mrs. Earl Murphy, a member of the faculty at the school. Louisburg attorney E. F. Yarborough was principal speaker.

Mr. Yarborough spoke on the "Meaning of Veteran's Day" and told the group, which included families, friends, and students, that he preferred a solemn observance rather than one of great celebration. He spoke reverently of those who had fallen for their country, making the "supreme sacrifice."

Miss Paulette Duke, President of the Student Council, presented the school with a plaque "in memory of Edward Best alumni who made the supreme sacrifice for their country." Mr. Bob Fleming, school principal, accepted for the school. Relatives of those honored were presented a single red rose in memory of five alumni killed in World War II. These five were Edward Pernel, Warren Stallings, Wilson Stallings, Nelson Wood, and Clyde Thorne.

Mrs. Lena Gay Wilder, mother of the Vietnam hero, was presented a Bible by Miss Debra Duke, president of the seventh grade. Jimmy Wilder, a brother, was also present for the memorial.

Mr. Wilton Smith, a 1947 graduate, spoke as class representative and told of his school days with Wilder. "Many of you never knew Bennett Gay Wilder," he said. "For this I am sorry." Smith told of Wilder's love of airplanes and read the prophecy from the 1947 yearbook dealing with the prediction that Wilder would have a career in aviation. "This prophecy was ruled out when he gave his life for his country and our country," Smith concluded.

Superintendent of Schools Warren Smith complimented the students and the faculty for the splendid program commenting on how important it was in this time for young people to observe such events.

William Taylor Boone and Clint Fuller represented the Franklin County Board of Education at the services. Fuller told the group, "These brave men have

consecrated this community far above our power to add or detract. We come solemnly and with great humility to honor them today."

Students representing the six grades at the school came forward in response to Mr. Yarborough's speech and the eight grade girls sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." The seventh grade sang "Green Beret." Al Peoples, a member of the Louisburg School band, played "Taps" during the ceremony and the flag was lowered to half staff. Rev. F. G. Barnhill gave the invocation and closing prayer.

Wilder, 38, entered service in January 1949, served in Korea, two tours in Germany and was serving his second hitch in Vietnam when injured. A helicopter in which he was flying crashed on September 22 and he died of his injuries a week later. He is buried at Lawton, Oklahoma. His mother lives in the Seven Paths community, which is served by the Edward Best School. Wilder flew President John F. Kennedy in Paris, President Dwight D. Eisenhower to Portugal and was pilot for Ambassador Lodge in Vietnam. His widow, the former Elizabeth Austa Roth of Frankfurt, Germany now resides in Austin, Texas. They were married in Germany on December 16, 1954.

### Stores Hit

Two Friday night or early Saturday morning breakins, termed unrelated by Franklin Sheriff William T. Dement, netted thieves a hoard of cigarettes, groceries and cash.

Entry was made at the Louis Dorsey Store at Mitchiner's Crossroads and \$1,100 in checks, \$500 in cash and 79 cartons of cigarettes have been reported missing. A large quantity of groceries were also reported stolen including 90 cans of soup, 20 frozen chickens, 16 pounds of sausage, 15 cans of coffee and 25 cans of sardines.

The Wayne Winstead Store in Bunn was also hit and 200 cartons of cigarettes were reported missing. No other details of the Bunn robbery were available.

Sheriff's officers are investigating the Mitchiner's Crossroads breakin and are assisting Bunn Police Chief Tom Powell in the Bunn robbery. Investigations into both incidents are continuing today.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has been accused of intimidating sixteen Negro citizens in Franklin County and the United States Attorney General has been requested to "instruct your agents to leave our clients alone."

In a letter, dated October 30, Henderson attorney Linwood T. Peoples, wrote U. S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark protesting what he termed "highly unethical" conduct by the department in sending FBI agents here to question his clients about their petition to intervene in the Franklin County School suit.

Peoples wrote: "Since the motion has been filed, I am told by my clients that they have been subjected to questioning by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning issues raised by their motion as well as how they came to hire this law firm and whether or not they had been forced to join in the action."

"It seems to us that this is highly unethical for your agents to bother our clients as your department is a party to the action. We cannot believe that this action could serve any purpose other than to intimidate our clients," Peoples stated and continued, "We are asking that you instruct your agents to leave our clients alone. If there is any information you desire about us, our clients or the action, we would be glad to furnish the same to you as a courtesy."

The letter concluded with, "We further ask that you furnish us with a copy of the report made by your agents in the interviews with our clients as well as the names of the agents who

conducted the interviews."

A call to the Attorney General this morning by The Franklin Times netted a decline to comment from Miss Joan Chappell, a secretary. A call to the office of John Doar, Chief of the Civil Rights Division, netted the same from a man identified as Bob Hocutt and a lady, identified as Miss Gallagher, who referred The Times to a Mr. Hubbard, Chief of Section.

Word was left to have Mr. Hubbard call The Times when he arrived at his office. Shortly thereafter Mr. Frank E. Schwelb, Chief attorney in the case of Coppedge, et al vs the Franklin County Board of Education, called.

"I have just seen the letter last Friday," he stated when asked to comment on the Peoples correspondence. "There will be an answer in a few days. I have no comment to make at this time. No laws have been violated," he said. Mr. Schwelb also said that Peoples' had written to his Congressmen about the matter. "There are no secrets in the letter," Schwelb added.

Eleven Negro parents employed the Henderson firm of Peoples and Allen to represent them as defendant-intervenors in the two-year old case following an order last August by U. S. Eastern Court Judge Algernon Butler requiring the forced assignment of ten percent of the Negro students in the county to predominantly white schools. The eleven were later joined by others and an unconfirmed report now lists the number at sixteen.

Papers were filed in the case early in October and an answer was filed by Charlotte attorney Lavonne Chambers, representing eleven parents and the NAACP, soon thereafter.

No decision has been rendered by Judge Butler on the request to intervene by the sixteen parents.

In the action, filed by Peoples, the eleven parents claim, "That the plaintiffs do not represent the interests of the defendant-intervenors, but that orders of the Court have adversely affected this interest and rights of the defendants-intervenors."

The action also declares, "That in the Spring of 1967, the defendants-intervenors under the Freedom of Choice plan administered by the Franklin County Board of Education freely chose to attend predominantly Negro schools in Franklin County, and this choice was made without threat or intimidation from any source and without fear on the part of the defendants-intervenors. That these defendants-intervenors still desire to attend the schools that they freely chose to attend in the spring of 1967."

The Board of Education assigned 282 Negro children to predominantly white schools last month in compliance with the Court order. The 55 children mentioned in the action filed Monday were among those so assigned.

The intervenors say they are "informed and believe that the freedom of choice plan administered by the Franklin County Board of Education was approved by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and as to these defendants-intervenors, they allege that the freedom of choice plan is constitutional."

The defendants-intervenors also claim that they will "suffer irreparable injury unless they are allowed to intervene to defend themselves in this action."

### YDC Elects Officers

At a recent meeting of the Franklin County Young Democratic Club, the election of officers was held. Neill A. Jennings, Jr., local attorney, was elected President. Conrad B. Sturges, also a local attorney, was chosen Vice-President and Frank Read of First Federal Savings and Loan Association was elected Secretary-Treasurer. The outgoing President was Garland Mustian of Louisburg Cleaners.

During the coming year the organization plans to work closely with the senior members of the party and to be active in politics on the state and local level of the Young Democratic Clubs of North Carolina.

### CADA To Hold Meet

The Capital Area Development Association's Annual Awards Banquet will be held at the Campbell College Cafeteria Friday, November 17, 1967, at 7:00 p.m., according to C. T. Dean, Jr., County Extension Chairman.

Awards will be presented to winning farm, small town, and village communities in the seven-county area which includes Granville, Vance, Warren, Franklin, Wake, Johnston, and Harnett counties.

Dean said that tickets are available at the County Extension office in Louisburg for those desiring to attend the Awards Program.

### New Phone Directories Delivered

New directories for a year were issued today by the Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Company by mail today. In all instances, they replace directories in use the past year.

Additions and changes that have been made during the year were shown in the new books, which include CT&T exchanges in this immediate area, including Henderson, Oxford, Louisburg, Franklinton, Norlina, Wake Forest, Warrington and Centerville.

## Local Girl Scouts Talk With President

Five Girl Scouts from Cadette Troop 351 of Louisburg met and talked with President Johnson while on tour in Williamsburg, Virginia, last weekend.

The girls, Anne Romero, Faye Dickerson, Vickie Hicks, Marilyn Strickland, and Linda Rice, were standing with other Girl Scouts outside the Williamsburg Lodge Conference Center, hoping to get a glimpse of the President who was addressing the Washington Press Club inside.

When the President heard that they were there he sent an aide to bring

the group to meet him. He spoke to the group briefly about their part in making a better tomorrow and then shook hands with each of them.

The girls were among the 22 from the Louisburg Cadette Troop who left here Saturday morning to tour Jamestown and Colonial Williamsburg. Accompanying the girls were Mrs. John Pernel, Mrs. Vernon Stone, Mrs. Tommy Harris, and Mrs. Douglas House, leader. The group spent the night in Williamsburg and attended services at Westover Church in Charles City

County on Sunday. Before returning to Louisburg that evening they also toured Westover and Shirley Plantations.

Those girls who made the trip in addition to those who met the President were Bertha Fuller, Jane House, Patricia Freeman, Mary Riggan, Debbie Shearin, Jackie Edwards, Carolyn Denton, Mary Wyatt Freeman, Stella Shelton, Ellen Pernel, Sally Griffin, Robin Kerley, Jackie Smith, Dawn Mullen, Mary Best, Nancy Lohmuller, and Pam Stone.



Girl Scouts Visit Williamsburg

Photo By Ross Shaping