

Weather

Partly cloudy with chance of thundershowers today. Friday, partly cloudy and mild. Low today, 67; high, 83.

The Franklin Times

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Giggle

There's a new wig out to be worn while shopping in supermarkets — it has curlers in it.

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Ten Cents

Louisburg, N. C., Thursday, June 20, 1968

(Fourteen Pages Today)

99th Year-Number 36



Breaking It Up

ATU officers Mike Zetts, left, and Don Devano and Franklin Sheriff William T. Dement, right, are shown as they destroyed 387 cases of non-tax paid whiskey Tuesday night in the Katesville section of Franklin County. Zetts said it was the largest haul in several years. Two Negro men were arrested as they were loading a late model car. See picture, page 6.

Staff photo by Clint Fuller.

County May Lose \$83,000 Building

Barring some unexpected miracle, Franklin County is going to lose an \$83,000 federally financed building today. The Board of County Commissioners asked by the Board of Education to give an answer whether suitable land would be made available for the building, declined to act in a special meeting here Tuesday. The School Board had requested action not later than Wednesday and said in a public statement that the project would have to be abandoned unless such action came not later than Wednesday.

While no action was taken in Tuesday's meeting, it was learned that the three Commissioners who oppose the site requested

It was learned late today that private talks are being held by representatives of both the Board of Education and the Board of County Commissioners in an effort to save the federal building. It was also learned that site selections have been cut to two. No further details were learned.

by the school officials, were in contact Wednesday, with the owner of land adjoining county property on the County Health, Education and Welfare complex. Details of the discussions were not disclosed.

The disclosure, however, kept alive a faint hope by school authorities that the Commissioners might come with some proposal today.

The five-member Board of Education has requested a tract of land in front of the present office building and Commissioners Brooks W. Young and Richard Cash have agreed. This leaves three Commissioners opposing the request. They are Commissioners Norwood Faulkner, E. M. Sykes and George Harris.

In a split 3-2 vote recently the

Commissioners declined to grant the School Board request. The three opponents say they have been contacted by a large number of people opposed to locating the new Methods and Material Center where the school officials want it. Young and Cash report they have not had this reaction and members of the Board of Education say not a single person has contacted them in opposition to the location.

The building is to be entirely financed from federal funds. No county money is to be used. The federal and state agencies require that the Board of Education hold title to the land upon which the building is to be erected. Last week the State Board of Education recommended that the local School Board own title to the present building and one and a half acres of land. These recommendations were relayed on to the Board of County Commissioners by the School Board.

The federal government has already approved the funds for the project and Supt. Warren Smith has been slated to appear again before the State Review Panel Friday to explain the location and request approval. The Review Panel makes its recommendations to the State Board and this Board meets only once a month. The July meeting would be too late, even if final approval were granted. The federal ESEA agency has ruled that the funds must be fully committed not later than August 31.

This was explained as the reason for requesting hasty action by the Board of Commissioners. Smith must have some tangible proposition to present to the state group by Friday or the likelihood of approval is slim. Without state approval, the Franklin Board cannot order plans drawn in time to meet the August deadline.

The controversy has raged for several weeks with many private citizens expressing concern over the dispute and the possibility that this building will be lost to the county. Many see that in the days ahead, local funds may be required to erect a similar structure.

The only reason given by opponents to the location has been that it might mar the looks of the hill. Proponents of the project point to an architect's sketch and the architect's recommendation as more accurate and contend that the overall appearance of the HEW complex will be improved.

The Board of Education is in Raleigh today, appearing in federal court for a hearing on a proposed plan of school desegregation and is not expected to meet here at all. The Board of Commissioners do not have a meeting slated for today.

Unless some unexpected developments occur today and some agreements are reached by the two Boards, Smith is not expected to appear before the state agency Friday. This would mean that, even if some agreement were reached later, time would have run out and Franklin County will have lost an \$83,000 building.

The House Rules Committee has set a deadline of July 9th for consideration of legislation in a drive for final adjournment of Congress early in August.

Tentative Budget Approved

The Board of County Commissioners, meeting here Tuesday in a special session tentatively approved the 1968-69 budget, which calls for a tax levy of \$1.69 or five cents above last year's rate of a \$1.64.

Details of the new budget have not been announced but the five cent increase represents a 3.5 cent per \$100 valuation to finance the ambulance service and a two cent increase in current expense for schools. The hospital budget and the Industrial Development budget were cut one-fourth cent each.

County Accountant Kenneth Braswell reports that all other departments will receive the same rate as last year, but that increased property valuation will increase the total funds received.

One item budgeted is an \$8,000 appropriation expected to be used for running a water line to a prospective industrial plant near Franklin.

Another action by the Board Tuesday will take care of a difference in the appearance of offices in the courthouse. The original plans called for a glass front on the offices of the Clerk of Court and the Register of Deeds with the Accountant's office and the Sheriff's office remaining much as it was before the massive renovation project began. The Board approved the expenditure of \$1,460 to get this changed and all offices will now be the same in outside appearances.

Officers Get Record Haul

Franklin Sheriff William T. Dement, his deputies and federal ATU officers destroyed 387 cases of illegal whiskey, found in a barn near Franklinton late Tuesday night. ATU officer Mike Zetts said it was the largest quantity of booze captured in the last four or five years in this section of the state.

Two Negro men were arrested at the site and charged with illegal possession of non-tax paid whiskey. The two were identified as John Vincent Kearney, 30, described as being from the area and George Alston, Jr., 28, of Franklinton.

Zetts and ATU officer Don Devano, aided by Deputies Leroy Terrell, John Deal and David Batten destroyed the 4,644 half-gallon jars. Sheriff Dement estimated the value of the haul at around \$12,000. A 1962 Chrysler was confiscated by the officers in the raid.

The location of the discovery is on State Rural road No. 1003 about one mile south of N. C. 56 near Franklinton. The owner of the property on which the barn is located was not identified by officers.

Officers discovered the booze around 9:30 p.m. Tuesday night and were still bursting jars at midnight. Sheriff Dement said it was the largest haul he had ever seen. Zetts said he remembered one as large in Edgecombe County and in Raleigh in past years.

Local Man Cleared In Road Death

Angier— Authorities ruled accidental death Tuesday when a pedestrian, James Grizzard, 52, of Angier, was struck by an oncoming vehicle on N. C. 55 two miles south of here.

Assistant Coroner Cecil Moore said there was no indication of undue speed by the driver of the vehicle, Edmund Rabil, about 34, of Louisburg.

Authorities said Rabil had been in Angier to establish a cemetery. Grizzard was Harnett's 24th road fatality of 1968.

College To Participate In Special Program

The Director of Information Services of the College Entrance Examination Board, Charles M. Holloway, has announced that Louisburg College has again been selected as one of two North Carolina junior colleges to participate in a 1968 experimental Guidance Program for freshmen.

Allen deHart, the college's Director of Testing and Guidance, directed Phase I of the Program last year, and will continue with Phase II of the Program beginning in July of this year.

During the summer over 50,000 freshmen, from seventy junior colleges from every region of the United States, and who plan to enter two-year colleges this fall, will participate in the experimental guidance and placement

Lions Hear REA Official

L. K. Stephenson, Director of Member Education and Public Relations of the Wake Electric Membership Corporation, addressed the local Lions last Tuesday evening on some safety precautions for the use of electricity.

He pointed out that electricity, the fastest growing commodity in the world, is always fresh. It cannot be stored; it must be used immediately. However, people must be positive that the electricity enters the home properly. All cables must be a certain size. The fuse box must be large enough to control the wattage required.

Also, there must be a sufficient number of circuits, preferably one for each wall. In this way, the family can avoid the use of extension cords. In addition, one should know the safe load each fuse will carry plus the present load on that fuse. Last, all appliance cords should fit snugly in the outlet to maintain proper connection.

During the meeting Thurman Thomas of Centerville was inducted into the Club by Lion Aubrey Tomlinson. There was only one visitor: Rev. B. P. Tyson from Burlington.

project. There are presently about 900 junior colleges in the United States, enrolling over one-third of all entering freshmen in the country.

The tests are designed to help students make realistic career decisions and to aid colleges in evaluating and placing students. One group of instruments deals with vocational interest and biographical measures which provide helpful information for students making academic and vocational plans. Another category helps measure special abilities and potential in various fields, and a third group of the tests aids in placement by measuring the basic abilities in English and mathematics.

Participating colleges in the comparative Guidance Program were chosen to reflect diversity of type, location and student population, and where Guidance Services were already well established. In addition to Louisburg, Western Piedmont Community College at Morganton has been selected by the College Board.

The research directors of the College Board have become aware that because of the rapid growth and diversification of junior colleges, they face unique problems of guidance and placement. Students there are faced with more immediate career decisions than their four-year counterparts, and they must make realistic and accurate choices in a shorter span of time.

The Labor Department has reported that living costs continued climbing in April at an annual rate of 4 per cent — the fastest in 17 years. The government blamed a strong market demand and rising wages on the continued rise.

Youths On Scout Trip

Two local Explorer Scouts are embarked on a dream trip this month. Kirk House and Bobby Fuller, two outstanding local Scouts, left Saturday for Philmont Scout Ranch, New Mexico.

The boys, only ones from this area among the 36 Scouts of the Occaneechee Council, spent last night in New Orleans. They will stop over tonight in Houston, Texas, where they will visit the Manned Space Center and the Astrodome.

They will arrive at the Ranch Saturday. Philmont is a working western ranch, owned by the Boy Scouts of America. While there the boys will hike, mountain climb and camp out. They are expected to visit the Alamo in San Antonio and to travel into Mexico.

They are due to return home on July 6.

School Plan Hearing Today In Raleigh

By Clint Fuller

A hearing is slated today for 2:30 p.m. in the U. S. District Court in Raleigh on the Franklin County school plan. Members of the Board of Education, Board attorneys and the Superintendent are attending the hearing.

Judge Algernon Butler of Clinton is expected to rule on a plan submitted by the Franklin Board last April which spelled out the manner in which Franklin County would do away with the dual school system. Elimination of the dual system was ordered by Judge Butler last August and the Board was given until April to present a plan to the Court.

The plan calls for reassignment of all students back to the schools attended this year, with an increase of five percent integrated schools. It also calls for a bond issue to be voted on by the people. If passed the Board would consolidate all high schools into three and continue to operate six elementary schools.

It is this plan that the Court will act upon in the hearing today. Attorneys

for the NAACP and the U. S. Justice Department have expressed their dissatisfaction with the proposal by Franklin officials.

Today's appearance in federal court is expected to bring to an end the long battle by the Board of Education to retain freedom of choice as a means of desegregation of county schools. Meeting first in Clinton on February 8, 1966, and two days later in Raleigh, the Board of Education has made several appearances in Court since the start of the action.

On February 24, 1966, Judge Butler denied an injunction sought by the plaintiffs ruling that the Board of Education had acted in good faith. On April 1, 1966, attorneys for both sides met in conference in Raleigh. The School Board took exception to certain interrogatories filed by the plaintiffs. A hearing was set for July 25 in Raleigh. On July 27, Judge Butler ordered a new choice period for school applicants but upheld freedom of choice as sought by the School Board

attorneys. In August the Board of Education met with teachers, local school advisory councils and staged a meeting with a group of Negro parents, as ordered by the court to explain the changes in the school plan of operation.

In October attorneys for the plaintiffs filed objections to what they termed disparities in the schools but it was May of 1967 before the case was set for trial. Actually, the case was finally begun on July 25, after several changes in dates and lasted for two days.

On August 18, Judge Butler handed down his decision knocking down freedom of choice and ordering that ten percent of the Negro enrollment in the county schools be transferred to predominantly white schools. He also ordered that at least two Negro teachers be placed in all predominantly white schools and that two white teachers be assigned to each Negro school. The Board of Education filed

notice of appeal to the Fourth Circuit Court in Richmond.

In October, a group of Negro parents filed a petition to intervene on the side of the School Board in an attempt to have freedom of choice reinstated. This led to some cross accusations between the Negro parents' attorney and the Director of the F.B.I. However, the petition, even when presented before the Fourth Circuit, was never a factor in the case.

The Circuit Court heard the appeal on February 5 in Richmond and ruled on April 9. The ruling affirmed the lower court's decision. On May 4, Board attorneys petitioned Fourth Circuit for a re-hearing claiming that the decision was made on evidence not contained in the arguments. On June 3, Fourth Circuit denied the petition.

This action set up today's hearing in Raleigh. The future plan of operation for county schools is now in the hands of the court. The Board of Education has no further avenue of appeal.

Wheeler Gets Masonic Post

At the annual election of officers in the Council of Kadosh of the Scottish Rite Masonic Bodies of Raleigh held on June 13th, I. Perry Wheeler, Jr.,



I. P. WHEELER

local resident of Louisburg was elected and installed as Commander of the Council of Kadosh. The organization consists of 1,533 members of the Scottish Rite Masonic Bodies who have attained the Scottish Rite degrees, 19th thru 30th, inclusive. The Raleigh Bodies are composed of Scottish Rite Masons in Chatham, Durham, Franklin, Granville, Johnston and Wake Counties.

Wheeler, a life-long resident of Franklin County is proprietor of Wheeler's Barber Shop in Louisburg. He is a Past Master of Louisburg Lodge No. 413, A.F. & A.M., and in 1966, served as Venerable Master of the Lodge of Perfection of the Scottish Rite Bodies of Raleigh which comprises the 1,700 Scottish Rite Masons who have received the degrees, 4th thru 14th, inclusive.

In October 1957, Wheeler was honored by The Supreme Council, 33 deg., Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite Bodies of Freemasonry in Washington, D. C., in conferring on him the rank and dignity of Knight Commander Court of Honour in recognition of services rendered to Freemasonry.