

Franklin County schools dominated the headlines in 1968, first with the continuing series of court hearings and later with the opening of schools under court ordered integration. Franklinton city schools also felt the brunt of federal dictates with partial mixing of the races.

Therefore, choosing the top news story of the year for 1968, is relatively easy. The headline of the August 6 issue, which read, "Court Orders Total Integration This Fall", ranks first. The actual opening of schools, both public and private follows in second place. Undoubtedly, the two together made up the biggest news stories in this area in several years.

The Griffin-Jolly Senate race and the upset of incumbent Commissioner Richard Cash by John House highlighted an otherwise uneventful local election in May. However, the interest in these and other local races plus a renewed interest in the statewide primaries in May and June marks the so-called local elections as the third top news story of the year.

Following in a close fourth spot is the general elections in November. George Wallace carried the county over both the Republican and Democratic presidential candidates while Bob Scott overcame a hard-fought campaign by Jim Gardner supporters to take the county on his way to the Governor's Mansion.

In fifth place and closely allied with the May, June and November elections is the new registration which took place in March and April. Over 10,000 voters registered in the period before the primaries and with a second chance prior to the general elections, a number of others registered to bring the total on the books to 11,163 for the November balloting.

Sixth place goes to the courthouse renovation project, the moving out of county offices, the work itself and this week, the moving in again of all county agencies.

One of the most frightening weeks experienced here in 1968 came in April. In the aftermath of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Memphis, vandalism broke out in several places in Louisburg and Franklinton. Some of it continued into the following week with a school bus hijacking and kidnapping at Franklinton. Hundreds of dollars worth of damage was done in fires and window

breakings. Local police and firemen were alerted and worked shifts throughout the weekend. This story is considered as the seventh largest of the year.

Inevitably, death on Franklin County highways rates one of the top ten places. This year, nine persons were killed on the roads and their stories rank eighth in the year's headlines.

The area, so seldom hit by freaks of nature, was besieged by an unusual storm in January which dumped snow, sleet and freezing rain across the county forcing the closing of schools and many injuries. And, in July, hail struck the Wood area of the county inflicting an estimated \$300,000 in crop damage. The two storms together rate the number nine spot as top news stories.

The long and sometimes bitter controversy between the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Education over a piece of land upon which a federally financed Methods and Material Center was to be built rates the tenth spot. The feud lasted much of the year, threatening for a time to cause the loss of the building altogether. The Commissioners won the scrap by purchasing additional land, which the School Board said it didn't want, for \$12,500 and the building is now under construction.

There were many additional news stories during the year that merits special mention at the year's end. Among these are the tragic shooting of a Franklinton police officer by a deputy sheriff in January; the final settling of the ambulance service problem; Youngsville basketball team winning the State championship and the Sportsman-Union hearings.

Other top stories of 1968 include the Louisburg Police pay crisis and subsequent pay increases, the location of a hosiery mill at Franklinton, the aborted school boycott, the school tuition controversy and the Lee Murray trial.

There were the usual number of large catches of fish, the bagging of a deer or two, the year's quota of brides and at least one rumor that a bear was loose in the area.

So, in summary, one would suppose that 1968 was no better and not much worse than years past. Whatever it was or for a moment or two longer, might be, the problem now is not 1968, but 1969. May all the headlines bring good news.

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Noted Teacher To Visit Here

A Trenton (N.J.) State College professor, a nationwide figure in the teaching of retarded children, will visit the Louisburg Elementary School here on January 10, according to an announcement today by Supt. Warren W. Smith.

Dr. Richard Weber will work a full day with the Special Education class at the local school with county Special Education teachers watching his methods and receiving instruction. Dr. Weber is coming through the interest and efforts of Mrs. J. R. Inscoc, a teacher in the school. Mrs. Inscoc read of his work in a national magazine and asked permission of the Board of Education to invite him to her school. The Board granted permission and praised Mrs. Inscoc for her efforts. The Special Education class at the local Elementary school is taught by Mrs. Doris Wilder.

ASCS Gives Program Facts

The Franklin County ASCS Office has disclosed some important facts about the following 1969 Programs.

The 1969 ACP sign-up will begin January 6, 1969. Practices for which cost-sharing will be available are about the same as in 1968.

The sign-up for premeasurement service will begin January 6, 1969. Rates are the same as last year.

The Wheat Program has changed for 1969. There will be diversion and/or price support payments for those who participate. Producers with 21.7 acres of allotment may divert all of the acreage and receive diversion payment. Sign-up period will be announced later.

The details of the Feed Grain Program have not been announced. However, producers will be notified of program details, sign-up period, etc. when information is available.

There will be no diversion program in cotton, however, producers with 10.0 acres or less or projected yields of 3600 lbs. or less will earn a payment on 35% of their allotment and price support payments on plantings up to 65% of the allotment provided they participate. Large farms will earn only a payment on the planted acreage up to 65% of their allotment. The sign-up period will be announced later.

The final date to sell or lease cotton allotments is December 31, 1968.

The Tobacco Lease and Transfer Program will be in effect for 1969. Lease agreements may be filed with the county office anytime between now and April 1, 1969.

Negro Youth Charged In Knifing

James Earl Walker, c/m/19, an employee of the Town of Louisburg is free on \$300 bond today after being charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill in the Sunday night knifing of a 24-year-old Negro man.

James Edward Johnson was slashed about the face, side and back in the Mineral Springs section of Louisburg around 7 p.m. Sunday night, according to Chief of Police Earl Tharrington.

Louisburg Tobacconist, Sister-In-Law Killed In Wake County Crash

A popular Louisburg tobacconist and his sister-in-law were killed instantly Monday afternoon around 6 p.m. in an automobile accident near the Raleigh-Durham airport when the car in which they were riding was struck by a tractor-trailer truck.

James Barnett Clayton, 62, 203 Williamson Street, Louisburg and Mrs. Grace Osborne Clayton, 72, of Roxboro were returning to Roxboro from the airport at the time of the accident. Clayton, a native of Person County and a frequent visitor to Roxboro, had gone to the airport to pick up Mrs. Clayton, arriving home after a visit to Missouri.

The accident occurred at the intersection on US 70 and the airport road, according to reports. State Trooper Stacy Bailey said the Clayton car was headed north on the airport road and the truck, driven by Calvin Sasser of Goldsboro, was headed east. Sasser, according to reports, told Trooper Bailey he was about a trailer length from the intersection when the Clayton car pulled into the intersection.

Sasser said he applied brakes but could not avoid hitting the Plymouth in which the Claytons were riding. He reported that he was going about 50 miles per hour when the car pulled into his path. The front bumper on the tractor struck the car in the middle of the left side and shoved it diagonally across the two eastbound lanes of traffic and into a shallow ditch.

Bailey said the truck left 85 feet of skid marks before colliding with the car and 60 feet of skid marks after the impact. Both bodies were pinned in the wreckage for about thirty minutes before the Raleigh Rescue Squad could free them.



JAMES CLAYTON

Two children, riding in the truck, were treated at Wake Memorial Hospital and released. Richard Dale Lancaster, 8 and Michael Allen Sasser, 7, suffered only minor injuries. The driver was also uninjured. Bailey said that he had made no charges against Sasser.

Clayton was a tobacconist with the J. P. Taylor Tobacco Company and had lived here with his wife, Mrs. Mamie Beam Clayton, since 1960. He attended Oak Ridge Military Institute and was a member of Long Memorial Baptist Church, Roxboro. He was an ardent golfer and had a number of friends here. He is survived by his wife and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services are incomplete.

Board Of Education Is Top News Maker

Away back in 1967, the Board of County Commissioners was selected as Franklin County's top newsmakers of the year. Even though they tried to repeat in 1968, the nod has to go to the much publicized and sometimes ostracized Board of Education. Hollywood press agents would be pleased with the amount of publicity gained (mostly without trying) by this august county body.

Getting a full head of steam in 1967, the Board was off and running as 1968 emerged upon the scene. In January the talk was of the pending February 5th hearing before the United States Court of Appeals at Richmond. The months-long school dispute between the Board, the NAACP and the federal government, was hopefully going to be settled. The hearing came and time passed. In March, four sticks of dynamite were found in the vicinity of the Luther Coppedge home. Coppedge was the leader of the group of local Negro parents who started the school suit in 1965. The Board was later to be criticized by the courts for not affording proper protection.

Also in March, the Board presented a plan, ordered earlier by the District Court. A few days later, in April Fourth Circuit affirmed the District Court's earlier ruling.

In May, the running legal battle continued as the Board attorneys sought a rehearing before the Richmond tribunal. In June, the rehearing was denied and a hearing was set in Raleigh on the plan as presented by the Board in March. Judge Algernon Butler rejected the plan and ordered another calling for a unitary system with the fall opening of schools. As June grabbed at July attorneys for the plaintiffs, the government and the Board met but failed to reach any agreements leaving the matter in the hands of the court.

The Board, all the while, held meeting after meeting in an attempt to reconcile matters with the court and the people it represented. The mission was impossible.

On July 15, the five members, in conference with the attorneys and school officials, disclosed the latest plan. The Board said it would assign 750 Negro students to predominantly white schools and assign 45 teachers

across racial lines. As July came to an end, no word had been received from the Court and the Board made plans to open under its proposed plan. On See NEWS Page 8

Local Woman Is Tar Heel Of The Week

Miss Anne Parrish, a Franklin County native who commutes to her work as chief of the new Physical Therapy Section of the State Board of Health in Raleigh, was honored as the News and Observer's Tar Heel of the Week Sunday. Miss Parrish was cited for her outstanding accomplishments in the field of physical therapy.

The article told of her work as a physical therapist and of her service as a member of the WAC during World War II. After graduating from Woman's College at Greensboro in 1941, Miss Parrish taught school in Greenville, S. C. She ended her teaching career in 1943 when she joined the WACs; where she attended physical therapy school receiving her certificate in 1945 following which she worked at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond. During the period 1948-51 she did social work here in Franklin County.

Miss Parrish, who lives with her mother at Moulton, joined the North Carolina Board of Health in 1951. She was recently awarded the 1968 Citation of Merit Award of the North Carolina Public Health Association.

The Tar Heel of the Week article, written by Staff Writer Bebe Moore, quotes from the September newsletter of the State Board of Health a "one-sentence description of Anne Parrish": "She is the person who never says no when there is a job to be done." The writer states the sentence "seems accurate."

Miss Parrish is the second Franklin woman to be so honored. Miss Emily Burt Person has also been a Tar Heel of the Week. Several county men have been so named over the years.



EARLE MURPHY

Murphy Gets Promotion

W. Earle Murphy, III, a native of Louisburg, has been promoted from trust officer to vice president and trust officer of Virginia Trust Company, Richmond, Va., according to an announcement made last week. Murphy, who attended public schools here and finished high school at Rishburne Military in Waynesboro, Va., also attended Michigan State, Northwestern, and the University of Richmond. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina.

Murphy, the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Earle Murphy, Sr. of Louisburg, is married to the former Janet Dean of Salt Lake City, Utah. They have two children, Billy, age 13 and Beth, age 11 and live at 211 El Dorado Drive, Richmond, Va. He has been with the Virginia firm for twelve years and is active in the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Richmond.

Woman Held In Fatal Shooting

Evon Neal, 20-year-old Zebulon, Rt. 2, Negro woman is lodged in Franklin jail in lieu of \$5,000 bond set at a hearing here Monday in District Court. The woman is charged with murder in the Friday shooting of Craig Armstrong, also of Zebulon, Rt. 2, Negro, according to Franklin Sheriff William T. Dement.

The shooting reportedly took place Friday night at Peaces. Armstrong was brought to Franklin Memorial Hospital and later transferred to Duke Hospital at Durham where he died.



JOHN PARRISH

Parrish Is Elevated

Youngsville - Mr. John Holden Parrish, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Henry Parrish and grandson of Mrs. H. R. Parrish of Youngsville and Mrs. Martha Holden of Louisburg, has been elevated to Medical Electronics Specialist with Baxter Laboratories.

Already at work in his new job, Mr. Parrish was formerly located in Winston Salem traveling for the firm as medical representative and district trainer in western North Carolina and Virginia. He is now covering the Dallas, Memphis and New Orleans area including seven states. In line with his work he makes frequent trips to other states around the country.

Mr. Parrish demonstrates and establishes Cardiac Intensive Care Systems in hospitals. Such as the units which Franklin Memorial Hospital is currently seeking to have installed.

Until recently, Baxter Laboratories had four territories covering the United States, headed by four men who set up the intensive care systems and provided instruction for operation. Now each area has been divided in two, due to larger demands for the cardiac equipment. Mr. Parrish was one of the four additional men in the United States chosen to head the new territories.

A graduate of Youngsville High School and Wake Forest University, Mr. Parrish has the BS degree in biology. He has had specialized job training in Chicago, Ill.

He, his wife Phyllis, and their two children, Cindy and Anton, plan to move in January from Winston Salem to New Orleans.

Weather

Mostly cloudy with chance of rain today. Clearing and colder tonight. Wednesday, generally fair and cold. Low today, 35; high, upper 40's.