

## **Vance drivers avoid New Year's alcohol-related mishaps**

by DISPATCH STAFF The Daily Dispatch

Vance County shines with responsibility in a report on the New Year's weekend released by the North Carolina State Highway Patrol.

The county's roads were free of alcohol-related crashes involving injury, while 120 were recorded across the state, according to the report. Likewise, no collisions causing property damage with alcohol suspected occurred on Vance roads, but state police recorded 290 across the state.

From Dec. 25-Jan. 2, 312 motorists in North Carolina were cited for DWI. Only seven of those, or 2.2 percent, were in Vance, the report said.

According to Sgt. Jeff Gordon, only three fatal vehicle collisions involving alcohol occurred in North Carolina from Dec. 31-Jan. 2. These crashes occurred in Edgecombe, Beaufort and Henderson counties.

State troopers were out in force during the New Year's weekend. The "Booze It and Lose It" campaign zeros in on drunken drivers with innovative and extensive anti-DWI enforcement and education. Checkpoints were set up all over the state to catch drunken drivers.

In 2009, 500 motorists in Vance County were cited for DWI, or .82 percent of the 60,369 who were cited statewide.

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