

Yadkin County Murderer Recaptured

Written by Steve Frank

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The man convicted of murder in Yadkin County who walked away from an eastern North Carolina prison farm Sunday has been recaptured after more than four days on the run. A spokesman for the North Carolina Department of Public Safety said Thursday that inmate James J. Ladd was taken into custody by correctional officers and Alcohol Law Enforcement agents in Halifax County this morning. Prison Emergency Response Team officers and Alcohol Law Enforcement agents captured escaped inmate James Ladd just before 11 a.m. today in Halifax County about ten miles from the prison farm where he escaped Sunday. Officers and agents were following up on a tip along NC Highway 125 near Scotland Neck, when a passing motorist stopped and alerted them about a man he had just seen running from the woods toward a nearby home. The teams immediately responded to that home and began a search of the property around it. Ladd was found crouched down in an open garage attached to the house and taken into custody without incident. Ladd was first noticed missing Sunday morning after the tractor he had been operating was found abandoned in a field outside the minimum security Tillery Correctional Center in Halifax County. The 51-year-old inmate is serving three life sentences for the 1980 robbery and shooting deaths of two men. He became eligible for parole after serving 30 years but was denied release in January 2011.