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Winston-Salem Journal  
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Feb. 19, 2008

Frederick Phillip Hammer  
New River Valley Regional Jail  
P.O. Box 1067  
Dublin, VA 24084

Dear Mr. Hammer,

Brenda told me you could correspond with me, and I wanted to tell you what we're doing. We are planning a series of stories that look at this stretch of N.C. 16 and the events that have happened along there, including those you have been charged with as well as things like the disappearance of Jimmy Blevins, who I know was a friend of yours. In looking into your story, I have talked with people who knew you in the past. Arthur Tuinstra told me he had very mixed feelings about you. He said you helped save his wife and children from their burning home. I wondered what happened that night? He also said he arrested you for killing Charlie Uffelman. I've read the opinion of the state Supreme Court in reversing your conviction and ordering a new trial. In your own words, what happened with Charlie Uffelman? I've also talked to a Pennsylvania prison official who said you assaulted a guard while on work release outside Camp Hill and escaped. I wondered what happened that day? I also read about how you were acquitted in the second trial. Mrs. Uffelman told me you called her on Feb. 14, 2007. Why? She said you didn't say you were sorry about her husband, but told her that you had lied during the trial. Is that true? And if so, how? Both Mr. Tuinstra and Mrs. Uffelman told me good things about Mr. Frohmander. I wondered how you came to Ashe County and when? Did you follow Mr. Frohmander and your mother to Ashe? When did you meet Brenda and marry? Janet Blevins told me you had something to do with Jimmy's disappearance. I know the SBI and sheriff dug up your fire pit, but never found any trace of Jimmy. I've also heard that you tried to help Jimmy with his drinking. What do you think happened to Jimmy? I've talked to Tim Shatley's mother, who told me she thinks you might have had something to do with what happened to her son. She told me she prays for you every day that you will be saved. What would you say to her? I had heard that you had done some preaching at a church. How long have you been preaching? Did you feel called to preach? I am talking to many people who know you, as well as to others, including law enforcement. I am interested in anything you have to say.

Sincerely,

Monte Mitchell  
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