

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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15 CENTS

Minimum Wage Is Increased

January 1 was a red-letter day for many employees of small retail and service businesses in North Carolina.

That's the day on which the Tar Heel State's required minimum wage moved up from \$2.30 an hour to \$2.50 an hour.

On the basis of a 40-hour workweek, the increase will bring an extra \$8 a week for thousands of North Carolina's lowest paid workers who make no more than the minimum wage at their jobs.

It will be their second "raise" in six months. By action of the 1977 General Assembly, the required State minimum wage was raised from \$2 an hour to \$2.30 an hour on July 1, 1977. That increase, plus the additional 20-cent rise Jan. 1, add up to a 25 percent increase over the old \$2 minimum.

"The \$2.50 statutory minimum wage will apply to all non-exempt employees in establishments having four or more employees who are not covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act (Federal Wage-Hour Law)," explained N.C. Commissioner of Labor John C. Brooks. "Many North Carolina employees are covered by the federal minimum,

which advance from the present \$2.30 an hour to \$2.65 an hour on Jan. 1, in those businesses having a gross annual income of \$250,000 or more. However, there are thousands of other North Carolina workers in small establishments to whom the federal law does not apply. These workers are often employed in small retail, wholesale, food service and service industry establishments. These people are indebted to the foresight of our General Assembly which built in an additional increase in the State minimum wage in anticipation of the increased federal minimum."

"Without making a comprehensive Statewide survey, for which there is neither a budget nor personnel, we have no reliable way of estimating either how many workers are covered by the State minimum wage at present, or how many of those who are covered are currently being paid less than \$2.50 an hour," Commissioner Brooks stated. "I believe that the new minimum wage will have a substantial impact upon the earnings of many North Carolina workers who are covered by the State law."



FIREMEN RESPOND — Members of the Hertford Fire Department responded to the site of a three-vehicle accident on U.S. 17 last Friday to extinguish flames in one

of the cars involved and, as shown, above, to water down the highway to prevent further fire hazard.



DAMAGES ESTIMATED AT \$8,000 — This car, driven by Agnes Hare Hollowell of Edenton, received an estimated \$8,000 in damages when it collided with the jackknifed truck in Friday's three-vehicle accident. Mrs. Hollowell and passenger 7-year old Dana Darnell were both seriously injured and are under intensive care. (Staff photos by Ray Ward)

Two Seriously Injured In Accident

Slick roads and rainy conditions resulted in an accident involving three vehicles Friday, Dec. 30 at 3:45 p.m. The accident occurred on U.S. 17 approximately two miles north of Hertford.

A tractor-trailer truck driven by James W. Belch, 45, of Rt. 1, Tyner was traveling north on U.S. 17

behind other north bound traffic. The truck started slowing behind traffic, then jackknifed in the path of a car heading south on U.S. 17. That car was operated by Agnes Hare Hollowell, 57, of Queen Anne Dr., Edenton. The Hollowell car was being followed by a late model station wagon operated by William Davis

Stephenson, 42, of Virginia Beach, Va.

The Hollowell car struck the jackknifed truck and started burning. The station wagon then struck the Hollowell car.

According to investigating patrolman Y.Z. Newberry, SBI Agent William Arden (Doc) Hoggard was the first on the

scene and removed Mrs. Hollowell and Dana Darnell, 7, a passenger, from the burning car.

The Hertford Volunteer Fire Department responded, putting out the car fire and washing down the road to dilute escaping gasoline.

The Perquimans County

Rescue Squad also responded. Belch, driver of the truck, was treated for pain and released. Mrs. Hollowell is in the Intensive Care Unit at Albemarle Hospital in Elizabeth City. Dana Darnell is also in the Intensive Care Unit at Norfolk General Hospital. Stephenson and his wife, a passenger in the car, were

both taken to Albemarle Hospital and released.

Patrolman Newberry reported that Belch was charged with driving too fast for existing conditions.

Estimated damages to the truck were \$4,000, to the Hollowell car, \$8,000 and to the Stephenson car, \$700.

Sen. Helms To Be Honored

The North Carolina Congressional Club will honor U.S. Senator Jesse A. Helms with a dinner at the National Guard Armory in Edenton on Friday, Jan. 20 at 8 p.m.

Senator Helms, one of America's leading conservative spokesmen, has been instrumental in efforts to retain U.S. jurisdiction of the Panama Canal. A critic of wasteful spending by Congress, Senator Helms has returned to the Federal Treasury over \$800,000 allocated to him for use in his Senate office during the past five years. Helms currently serves on the Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee, the Armed Services Committee, and the Joint Committee on Congressional

Operations. He has maintained a 97 percent attendance record since taking office in the Senate.

The North Carolina Congressional Club is a bipartisan organization of over 2,000 members across the state. Senator Helms is the honorary chairman of the club, which stands for principles of individual freedom, the preservation of the free enterprise system, and fiscally sound government.

Tickets for the barbeque and chicken dinner are available for \$5 each at both branches of the Bank of North Carolina in Edenton, at Southgate Cleaners in Elizabeth City, and at Hertford Hardware in Hertford. Student tickets are \$1 each.



TICKETS GO ON SALE — Wayne Winslow (right), chairman of the Jaycees Annual Awards Banquet, is shown selling the first tickets to Ray Ward, President of the Per-

quimans County Jaycees. The banquet, scheduled for Jan. 20 honors four outstanding young people in the community and is open to the public.

Jaycees Announce Banquet For Outstanding Service

The Perquimans County Jaycees have announced plans to sponsor their Annual Awards Night Banquet. This year's banquet is scheduled for Jan. 20 according to banquet chairman Wayne Winslow. The banquet honors deserving young people between the ages of 18 and 36. This year, four outstanding members of the community will be recognized.

Jr., Parker Newbern and Douglas Umphlett.

According to Winslow, winners have been selected in each category by a panel of judges and will be named and honored on the night of the banquet.

Tickets are available to the public and may be obtained from any Jaycee or

by calling Thomas Hurdle at 426-7986.

Winslow stated, "These awards are presented annually to outstanding individuals. And the Jaycees urge the public to come and help us honor those who are the future of Perquimans County."

Correction Is Noted

In last week's edition of *The Perquimans Weekly*, a news release appeared concerning a public hearing for the Northeastern Rural Health Development Association's proposal to establish a primary care project in Bertie, Chowan, Gates, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington counties.

The news release, printed in *The Perquimans Weekly* and other area newspapers, stated that "competition" was the reason physicians and pharmacists in the area opposed the proposal. It has been determined that this was an error.

The competition aspect entered the picture, according to an out-of-town reporter who attended a meeting in Greenville, N.C. on Dec. 1, when supporters of a rural health clinic in Gates County spoke in opposition to the NHRDA plan.

Fear was expressed that the location of two medical clinics within 11 miles of each other, "could create a situation where neither of these facilities, in competition with each other, and the four larger hospitals, could survive economically, in fact if they drive each other out of business, Gates County would be without the service of a primary care clinic which so many have worked so long to get."

Searching For Doctor:

Clinic Lease Is Signed

Chowan Medical Center, P.A. has recently signed a lease on the Hertford Medical Clinic, previously operated by Dr. Robert Hodgson. Dr. Richard Hardin, president of the Edenton corporation of physicians, signed a three-year lease on the property.

The members of Chowan Medical Center have been actively recruiting for the Hertford Clinic over the past three months. Thus far, five doctors have shown interest in the position by visiting Edenton and Hertford. It is believed that a doctor will be procured in the near future as a full time physician for

Hertford. At that time medical back up will be offered by the established Edenton group and the facilities of Chowan Hospital, Inc.

All previous patient charts will remain in the Hertford Clinic. For the in-

terim, until a doctor is obtained, patients should contact the physician of their choice about any medical problems or contact their pharmacist, who in turn will contact the physician of the patient's choice about refills on their medications.

Hunting Accident

A hunting accident occurred in the Hurdletown section of Perquimans County around 10 a.m. Monday morning according to a report from Perquimans County Sheriff Julian Broughton.

Linwood Turner of Rt. 4, Hertford, who was deer hunting with friends, was accidentally shot in the neck with buckshot. Turner was taken to Albemarle Hospital by his father, was treated and released.

Truck Overtakes; Fire Built To Keep Warm



LATE NIGHT MISHAP — This tractor-trailer truck hauling corn to Norfolk, Va. for Pantego Distributing Co. overturned in Winfall late Monday night. Driver Jimmy Cooke and passenger Ricky Smith were making the late night haul when the driver dropped the truck's registration card in the floor of the cab. Cooke bent down to pick it up briefly taking his eyes off the road causing the truck to then overturn in the ditch. The two explained that they built a fire Monday night to keep warm and stayed at the site. The accident was investigated by Trooper C.B. Sanborn. Early Tuesday morning, efforts were being made to finish unloading the truck of its remaining cargo, some of which was lost in the accident, so the truck could be righted. Both young men escaped the mishap without injury. (Staff photo by Yvonne Baker)

ESEA Council Members Named

The following persons have been appointed to serve on the ESEA Title I Advisory Council for Perquimans County Schools.

Mrs. Glennie Miller, chairman; Mrs. Gladys Hall, vice chairman; Mrs. Thelma Wilson, secretary.

Representing the Perquimans County Health Department will be Louise Ervin. Other members include Willie Harvey of the Economic Improvement Council, Thelma Wilson of the National Association for

the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), principals Bill Tice, Shelton Davis and Gary Stubbins, assistant PCHS principal Henry Felton.

Representing the Perquimans County Department of Social Services will be Emily Holmes. And parents serving on the council are: Irma Blanchard, Jean Chappell, Theressa Welch, Sandra Elliott, and Mary Jones.

Morris Kornegay is director and Estelle Felton is community service aide.

Civic Calendar

- THURSDAY, JAN. 5
 - American Legion Aux. meets. +++
 - Hertford Lions Club meets. +++
- SATURDAY, JAN. 7
 - The Perquimans Masonic Lodge 106 will have a chitterling and pig feet supper at Noah Gregory's garage beginning at 3:30 until 5:30 all you can eat for Masonic Lodge members and guests. +++
- MONDAY, JAN. 9
 - Inter-Co. Fire Dept. +++
 - Chamber Commerce Board of Directors. +++
 - Jaycee Directors Meet. +++
- TUESDAY, JAN. 10
 - Hertford Rotary Club meets at 6:30 p.m. +++
 - Perquimans Masonic Lodge. +++
 - Girl Scout Adult Meets. +++