

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Volume 35, No. 1

Hertford, Perquimans County, N.C., Thursday, January 4, 1979

15 CENTS

Hertford Man Sentenced

MANTEO—A Hertford man received an active jail sentence following trial in District Court Dec. 22 on a series of charges including driving under the influence, third offense, operating a motor vehicle with license revoked and assaulting two officers who arrested him.

Judge Grafton G. Beaman presided over the session which lasted only a half day.

Lester Tom Keel, 30, was driving "all over the road" last Aug. 13 when he was noticed by Officer Gene Medley of the Nags Head Police Department. Medley testified that the Ford station wagon ran off the road, then over the center line before turning off the Bypass onto 5th Street where the vehicle stopped at a cottage.

Medley called for help from the Kill Devil Hills Police Department since he was in the town's boundaries at that time. Sgt. J.H. Gradeless joined Medley in front of the cottage as Keel got out of the car.

The officers asked Keel for his license. Keel stated that he didn't have a license and the officers placed him under arrest. With that, Keel became angry. He refused to get into the patrol car, argued and became abusive.

"He stripped off his shirt and went at us, both arms out," Gradeless testified. Keel toppled both Medley and Gradeless with his fists. He kicked both men as they struggled to get up. Gradeless then hit Keel with his flashlight. Medley also hit the defendant.

Finally, they were able to wrestle the powerful Keel to the ground and get handcuffs on him. He still refused to get in the patrol car and had to be placed there by force, Gradeless said.

Keel was taken to Memorial Clinic in Manteo, then sent to Albemarle Hospital where he had 11 stitches in his head. However, the main reason he was sent to the hospital was the variety of alcohol and drugs Keel told officers and the doctor he had

consumed. It was reported that he had drunk a pint of liquor, taken 27 Valium pills, some "yellow jackets" and had snorted cocaine.

Keel refused a breathalyzer test at the hospital. The Hertford man's court-appointed lawyer, Leonard Logan, argued to Judge Beaman that Gradeless placed Keel under arrest for a misdemeanor not committed in his presence, but Beaman found the defendant guilty on all counts.

Mindful of Keel's record which includes a previous active sentence for breaking and entering, larceny and prior convictions of driving with license revoked, assistant district attorney, H.P. Williams recommended 12 months for the third DUI offense and 12 months for the other charges.

Judge Beaman consolidated the charges and sentenced Keel to not less than 12 months and not more than 24 months. He did not recommend work release.



Dr. James O'Leary

Dr. James O'Leary, a trauma surgeon with extensive training and experience in thoracic and abdominal surgery, is joining the staff of Albemarle Family Health Services of Edenton.

This is a "signal" effort to improve emergency medical care and should bring more sophisticated surgery services to the rural areas of northeastern North Carolina, a spokesman for the clinic said.

Dr. O'Leary will be in charge of developing a central outpatient surgery unit in the new facilities of Albemarle Family Health Services. He will develop minor surgery units in each of the satellite clinics of the Northeastern Rural Health Development Association. One of these clinics is located in Hertford.

Additionally, Dr. O'Leary will work closely with the staff of

New Doctor:

Care to improve

Chowan Hospital to develop a sophisticated trauma and chest surgery department with the appropriate diagnostic and support services.

One of the major efforts of the new doctor is to be directed toward work with the Eastern Carolina Emergency Medical Services as well as helping local rescue squads improve their capability in the transport of acutely ill and injured victims.

Dr. O'Leary expects to develop affiliations with the medical schools in North Carolina in order to initiate surgical training rotations at Chowan Hospital.

Dr. Clement Lucas and Dr. Richard Hines, Developers of the Albemarle Family Health Services, indicated their extreme satisfaction at being able to recruit a person of such outstanding capability and resources to northeastern North Carolina.

Dr. O'Leary received his medical degree from the University College Medical School in 1969 and was named a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1975.

He has had extensive training in orthopedics, plastic surgery, and

radiotherapy as well as surgical trauma.

He has carried out extensive research since 1973 in diseases of the chest and abdomen. In 1976 and 1977 he was trained in surgery of the genito-urinary system.

O'Leary has trained at the University of Sorbonne in Paris and at Harvard University in Boston. He has served as a professor of the University College Medical School, and as an instructor at Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans.

Currently he is completing a year as chief resident of the Tulane University Department of Surgery and Charity Hospital in New Orleans. O'Leary has received the President's Prize of the Royal Academy of Medicine for his ability and has received the Ainsworth Scholarship for surgical research.

The doctor has published over 30 major research papers and has presented lectures in surgery throughout the world. His wife, Mary Ann, is a former nurse and has a masters degree in education. They have three children and expect to make Edenton their permanent home.

Hertford clinic to remain open

Since April 1, 1978, the Chowan Medical Center, P.A. of Edenton, North Carolina has provided a physician and supporting staff for the Hertford Clinic on 116 West Market Street in Hertford, North Carolina.

Dr. Ernesto Lazaro, the present physician in the Hertford Clinic has resigned as of the end of December 1978.

To continue these needed medical services, physicians from the Chowan Medical Center, P.A. in

Edenton will provide physician coverage Monday through Friday beginning January 2. Office hours will be between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Until a permanent physician or physicians can be obtained to staff the Hertford Clinic, physicians on a rotating basis. In addition, full laboratory support services will be continued including blood chemistries, electrocardiography, x-ray services, etc.

Correction on Licenses

The Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce informs Perquimans County residents that they may buy automobile stickers and plates from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, starting the first of the year.

Cox Named to Gov.'s Committee

Governor Jim Hunt has named Bill Cox of Hertford to the State's Crime Prevention and Public Information Committee.

Cox will serve as vice-chairman of the Committee. He is the mayor and town manager of Hertford. He is chairman of the Region R Association of Town and County Elected Officials. He is a director of the Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Policy Board of the Albemarle Law and Order Board.

He is also secretary-treasurer of the Perquimans County Industrial Development Commission.

The Committee is an adjunct committee of the Governor's Crime Commission and is responsible for advising the Commission on the most appropriate and effective way to make the public aware of the role individual citizens, businesses and community organizations need to play in the prevention and reporting of crimes.

The Committee is composed of 50 members, all appointed by the Governor. Members serve terms of two years.

Mayor Cox will serve as chairman of the Community Support and Coordination Subcommittee which will advise on the most effective means of increasing citizens involvement in crime prevention, especially through mobilizing residents through Community Watch programs.



EXCITED FANS—These Perquimans youngster are enjoying all aspects of the field trip sponsored by the Perquimans County State Wolfpack destroy the Penn State Nittany Lions in basketball, 80-68. (Staff photo by Tony Jordan)

Grants to help Northeastern N.C.:

Perquimans Historical Sites May Receive Money

Details of a grants program to aid planning and interpretive development of North Carolina's northeastern attractions were revealed recently by Secretary W. Perkins of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources.

The grants, to be administered through the new Northeastern Historic Places Office in Edenton were made possible through legislation sponsored by Rep. Vernon James and Senator Melvin Daniels and passed by the 1977 General Assembly.

Grants will be awarded on the basis of applications submitted to the Northeastern Office and approved by the N.C. Historical Commission. The awards will be

made in two categories, planning and development. Planning must be matched by an equal amount of non-state funds.

Individual attractions may receive up to \$2000 in either category, while comprehensive grants involving groups of attractions are not subject to this limitation. A total of \$50,000 is available for the purpose during the current state fiscal year ending June 30, 1979.

The first grants are to be awarded in mid-May, with a grant application deadline of March 31. To be eligible for a grant award, non-profit attractions must meet certain basic criteria and must be located within Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Chowan,

Currituck, Dare, Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde, Martin, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrell and Washington counties.

Individuals or groups who wish to apply for grants or who want more information on other office services should contact either Ms. Schenck or Ms. Bailey at the Northeastern Historic Places Office, The Barker House, P.O. Box 759, Edenton.

Don't Discard

Don't discard those unusable items in the garbage, you know, the damaged freight, the out-dated articles, or anything that you can not use and are considering tossing in the trash. Let us take it off your hands, and at the same time, give your tax deductions a boost! We have our auction sale annually, and those items could possibly be repaired, or used to repair other articles! Your trash could help save a life; please don't throw that chance away. We will be happy to pick items up at your convenience if you wish to participate. Contact our representative, Mrs. Beecher Chappell at 297-2298. Or you may call Chief Jimmy Chappell at 297-2296. All items will bear a complimentary tag with your business name at next year's sale. The Belvidere-Chappell Hill Volunteer Fire Department

Telephone Rates to Drop

ELIZABETH CITY—North Carolina customers of Norfolk Carolina Telephone Company will get reductions and a one-time rebate to start out the new year. In addition, all customers will get a reduction of one percent in the federal excise tax.

The approved local rate reductions offset gains in revenues from long-distance calls made within North Carolina. The intrastate long-distance rate increase was approved last April for all North Carolina companies by the N.C. Utilities Commission. For that reason, Virginia customers of the company

are not included in the rate cut and rebate.

Beginning with the first billing in January, Norfolk Carolina customers in this state will get rate reductions effective the Jan. 1 worth \$338,652 annualized, or an average of 94 cents a month per customer. Also in the January bill, each Carolinian will get a one-time credit (rebate plus applicable tax and interest) averaging \$9.21 to \$10.10. This refund is to offset the additional revenues of \$254,000 obtained from the rate increase from last April through December.



CLOSE CALL—The past week put a scare into the hearts of people in Hertford. The house next to Reed Oil Company caught on fire. Visions of another oil fire was in everyone's

mind. Luckily, the Hertford Fire Department was able to contain the fire. Although the owner of the house, Erie Haste, lost the kitchen of

the house he's renting, he is glad and somewhat lucky. Once again, he could have lost more. (Staff photo by Ray Ward)