

NORTH CAROLINA

Do-it-yourself telephone installation less expensive

(Editor's note: This is a continuing series of articles to help customers understand the changes taking place in the deregulated telephone industry and how these changes are affecting your telephoneservice.)

In the past, installing telephones and adding extensions could be done only by an authorized telephone company technician. In today's deregulated telecommunications

environment, the telephone company will still do the installation, but you now have the option to install your own phones or have someone else do it for you.

In many instances, you can save money by doing some installation work yourself. For example, if you're moving into another home, in most cases you simply need to buy your phone and plug it in at your new residence, saving you the telephone company's installation

charges, and of course, monthly equipment rental charges. All new phones are equipped with plastic clips that plug into modular outlets, making phone installations quite easy.

If your home has the older, hard wired outlet, the installation will require a little more work. The outlet must be converted to accommodate the modular clip on your new phone. However, converting a hard wired connection to the modular one can be accomplished in a few

minutes with an adapter and a standard screw driver. You can buy the adapter where telephone products are sold. If instructions are not included with the adapter, ask a salesperson to show you how to make the conversion.

If you want to add extension phone or if your home needs to be wired for service, you also can do the wiring yourself or hire a contractor. Stores which sell telephone equipment can provide the necessary wire, hardware

and instructions. However, the installation must be in accordance with technical standards established by the telephone company to make sure it doesn't harm the telephone network. Your local telephone office representative can discuss these specifications with you.

To determine if you can save money by doing your own wiring, call your local telephone office and get precise details on what the phone company will

charge you to do the wiring. Then compare the prices with your material and labor costs to see if you will come out ahead by doing the wiring yourself.

If you decide you want the telephone company to do the work, call your local telephone office. The office will arrange for a technician to come to your home and you will be charged according to the amount of work required to perform the installation.

Hospital joins in "400th" preparation

Starting July 13, in Manteo, America begins her 400th anniversary. Princess Anne and Governor James Hunt will be

among the dignitaries present. A replica of a 1580's ship, the Elizabeth II, will be christened.

The crowd and traffic attracted by the festival create challenges for area health providers. Plans to handle emergencies at the event include; three first aid stations along the Outer Banks, a field hospital on Roanoke Island, and helicopters at the site and on standby in Elizabeth City. Extra EMT's from all over the state, along with doctors and nurses, are coming to volunteer their services.

Sandy Hoffer, Emergency Department Supervisor at Albemarle Hospital in Elizabeth City is getting ready. She has loaned one nurse, Beckie Dussault RN, to the first aid stations at the Outer Banks.

Those staying behind are going to be prepared for an influx of whatever kind of casualties occur, if any. "You just can't be sure what to prepare for," admits Hoffer, "if you have older people, you may have some MI's." MI stands for myocardial infarction, which is a medical term for heart attack.

Albemarle Hospital is ever ready for emergency victims. Emergency Room Physicians are on duty 24 hours a day. Specialists from ten medical specialties are on call day and night. The facility is also well prepared to receive patients via helicopter. In addition to an existing helipad, the spacious grounds surrounding the hospital allow for the creation of secondary helipads, as needed.

Hoffer expects that victims would arrive by helicopter, because the volume of traffic, and the limited road access to the area of the festival will keep traffic stagnant. "There probably won't be a lot of traffic accidents because traffic won't move," Hoffer added.

All concerned hope for a safe and unmarred celebration. But preparations are ongoing, to treat and transport emergency victims at the 400th celebration. Lives may be saved by these measures being taken.

Around the State...

"Troubadour" tickets on sale

ELIZABETH CITY-(June 12, 1984)-Tickets are now available for the July 14 performances of Nicholas Hodsdon, 'The Troubadour.' Hodsdon will appear at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. in the Elizabethan Ale House (at the Elizabeth City Moose Lodge) as part of the Fanfare celebration being sponsored by the Museum of the Albemarle. Tickets are \$3.00 for children, 12 and under, and \$5.00 for adults; and can be purchased at the Museum of the Albemarle and at the Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce. Seating is limited and reservations will be accepted for

tables of 10, only.

Hodsdon, as the Troubadour, is employed by the National Park Service at the Fort Raleigh National Historic Site. Dressed in Elizabethan costume, he brings the music and literature of the period to life with his songs and Renaissance instruments. The Ale House will be decorated in the Elizabethan style, and ale, wine, and lemonade will be available, served by authentically costumed waiters and wenches.

For more information, contact the Museum of the Albemarle at 335-1453 or 335-2987.

Patrol Chief voices concern

With traffic deaths and injuries on the increase, Highway Patrol Commander, Colonel David L. Matthews voiced concern about the July 4 holiday period. "Highway fatalities are already ahead of last year at this time by four percent, and with the increased number of vehicles expected on the highways, this holiday period could be one of North Carolina's deadliest," he said.

Matthews pointed out that although the holiday period consists of only 54 hours—6 p.m., Monday, July 2, through midnight, Wednesday, July 4—motorist should be alert to increased danger during the entire week. "Many motorists will utilize the full week for vacation purposes," he said.

"Troopers will be strictly enforcing all traffic laws during the week, but motorists must realize that they are primarily responsible for their own safety," Matthews said. "If motorists will drive defensively, use the vehicle safety restraint system, and obey all traffic laws, this can be a safe and enjoyable holiday

period."

According to Patrol records, 11 people died on the highways during the July 4 holiday period in 1983.

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