

# THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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25 CENTS

## Accident claims one

By GINA JEPSON

One man is dead and two people were injured as the result of a collision Sunday afternoon which occurred 7 miles north of Hertford on U.S. Highway 17.

According to Trooper Y.Z. Newberry of the North Carolina Highway Patrol, the accident occurred when the driver of a 1986 BMW, James H. Edwards, 42, of Myrtle Beach, SC who was heading south on U.S. Highway 17, crossed the center line for no apparent reason. Edwards struck an oncoming tractor trailer head-on.

The BMW was knocked backwards 47 feet into a ditch, and immediately

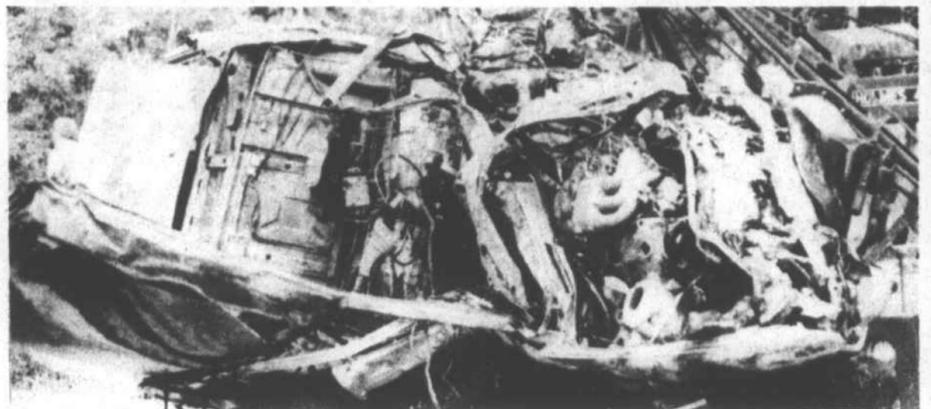
burst into flames which consumed both the car and the driver stated Newberry.

A 1984 Thunderbird which was following Edwards was hit by the BMW and sustained \$2500.00 worth of damages. The driver of the Thunderbird, Tony Webb of Charlotte stated he had been following behind Edwards since they crossed the Virginia line, and that Edwards driving seemed okay said trooper Newberry. Webb was accompanied by his fiancée, Angela Brown also of Charlotte, and two children. Ms. Brown received only minor injuries. Trooper Newberry stated

that all passengers and the driver of the Thunderbird were wearing seat belts.

The tractor trailer, a 1977 Ford owned by the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company of Raleigh, Inc. sustained \$25,000.00 worth of damages. Mark Allen Parrish, 53 of Raleigh, the driver of the tractor trailer also received minor injuries. Both Parrish and Brown were treated at Albemarle Hospital and released stated Newberry.

Mr. Edwards is survived by a son, Craig Edwards of Johnson City Tennessee, and his mother who resides in Arizona.



Mangled remains of collision on U.S. Highway 17 on Sunday.

## Perquimans County Board passes sales tax

By GINA K. JEPSON

At a regularly scheduled meeting held Monday night, the Perquimans County Board of County Commissioners adopted the additional 1/2 percent local government sales and use tax. The tax rate will go into effect Sept. 1, 1986.

The meeting began with a public hearing on the proposed tax and after very little discussion, the commissioners passed it unanimously.

The one-half percent local government sales and use tax funds are designated for public school capital outlay.

The state has designated the following schedule for distribution of these funds: 60 percent for the first two years, including the first partial year, 50 percent for the next two years, 40 percent over the next four years, 30 percent for the next two years and 20 percent for the 11th year. The monies can also be used for the retirement of bond debt stated W.W. White, Chairman of the board of commissioners.

The projected revenue from the tax rate is estimated at \$213,000; however, this figure is contingent on 99 counties adopting the proposal. At the present time, 50 to 60 counties have adopted the tax.

"Counties have until the end of July to pass the proposal for it to take effect in September," said Keaton.

Keaton said he felt that the proposal would pass in the remaining counties. Although the tax has been earmarked for public school capital outlay, the county can petition the local government commission in Raleigh to use these funds for other purposes. However, Perquimans County is not planning to do so. The county is planning to use these funds to cover the bonds which will be issued in December for renovations being made to the Perquimans County High School.

The alternative to passing the 1/2 percent local government sales and use tax was to raise the tax base to cover these bonds stated Keaton.

The new proposal also requires that counties must report how the 1/2 percent sales tax is spent. This is to ensure that the money will be spent in addition to monies already appropriated for public school capital outlay.

Both White and Keaton stated that they felt that the proposal was beneficial to the county.

The board also held a public hearing on the proposed county noise ordinance. County residents listened as county attorney, John Matthews explained that the ordinance was drawn up in an effort to stop disturbing and unreasonable noise. Matthews stated that he did not feel it was the intention of the board to interfere with normal business practices.

"Reasonable is the crucial word" said Matthews, the ordinance was designed to deal with disturbing and unreasonable noise.

After much heated discussion, the ordinance was defeated.



At right intercounty fire department members respond to accident which held up traffic on U.S. highway 17 north of Hertford

## Boyce appointed by county

By GINA K. JEPSON

The Perquimans County School Board has announced the appointment of Jake Boyce to the position of Assistant Superintendent of the county schools. Mr. Boyce began his duties on July 1, 1986.

Boyce, a native of Chowan County, received his B. A. degree in English from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and obtained a masters degree in Counselor Education, and a masters degree in Administration from East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C.

Mr. Boyce comes to Perquimans County after 20 years with the Chowan County school system where he most recently was principal of Chowan Junior High School.

He also served as a classroom teacher, staff development coordinator, and director of special projects while employed by the Chowan County school system.

When asked why he left the Chowan County school system Boyce stated that this was a new professional opportunity for him.

Boyce's areas of responsibility as Assistant Superintendent will include staff development, curriculum development and structure.

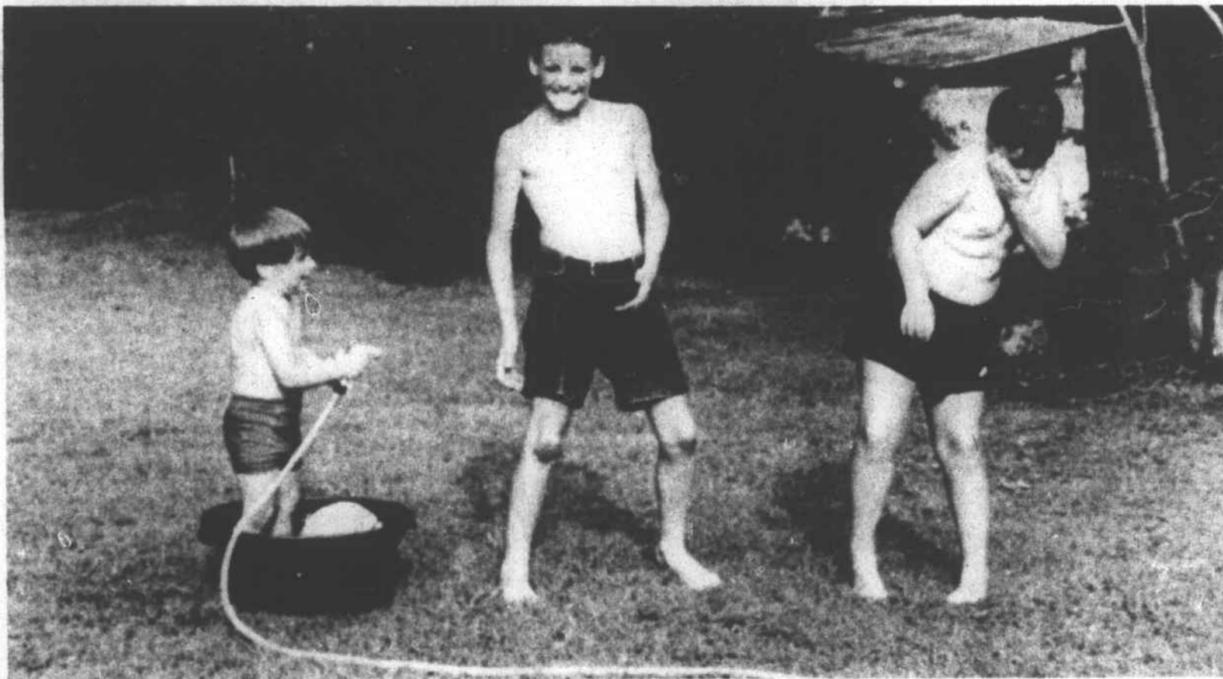
The Assistant Superintendent stated that he has had a long professional relationship with the employ-



ees of the Perquimans County school system, both in the central office and with the schools. "Perquimans County has an excellent school system and I am looking forward to being a part of it all" said Boyce.

Boyce feels confident that he will be able to step in and take over his new responsibilities with few problems.

Boyce is married to the former Anne Taylor. They have two children, a daughter Hope who is 25, and a son Tay who is 20. They currently make their home in Chowan County.



Cooling off

## Festival plans are being made

Plans are now being made for the Indian Summer Festival which is sponsored annually by the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce. The dates this year are Friday and Saturday, September 12th and 13th. The festival will kick off on Friday, and two fun filled days are planned according to Mary Harrell, chamber executive.

'Colonial Day' is the theme for Friday. Merchants will don colonial apparel to carry out the theme, and old fashioned sidewalk sales with bar-

gains for everyone will be one of the highlights. A sidewalk cafe sponsored by the chamber will be set up on the courthouse lawn to serve hamburgers, hot dogs, french fries, and homemade ice cream. In the afternoon a fashion show is being sponsored by the merchants complete with local models wearing the latest fall fashions. A D.J., and the High School band are scheduled at this time to provide entertainment on Friday.

Missing Mill Park will be the scene of activity on Saturday. Saturday's theme will be 'Pow Wow' day with the merrymaking getting underway at 10:00 a.m. Events are planned for the whole family. Mom and dad will be able to enjoy the arts and crafts booths and displays, while the children enjoy games, visit the airwalk, and ride the always popular train sponsored by the Optimist Club.

Animated animals will be mingling throughout the crowd and live entertainment including the Flat Land Cloggers and the Navy Band from the Atlantic Fleet in Norfolk will be on hand for everyone's enjoyment.

A pig pickin is also on the agenda for 'Pow Wow' day, and a good time will be had by all.

Make plans now to attend the fifth Indian Summer Arts Festival.



## Phelps recognized by NASA

By GINA K. JEPSON and CAROL A. O'NEAL

On January 28, 1986, America watched as the Challenger blew up before our eyes on our television sets.

Katie Belle Phelps of Rt. 4, Hertford, a Perquimans County native was no different.

"As I watched the terrible tragedy on my television, I felt as if they were actually a part of my family" stated Phelps.

As she watched Mrs. Phelps began writing, she wanted to be a witness for God, and to write some inspirational words for the loved ones of the astronauts left behind. She never meant for the words to be a poem.

"I took my pen and paper and started writing. When I had finished I realized that it rhymed" said Phelps. Mrs. Phelps entitled the poem 'The Seven Chosen Few'. How did this poem get to NASA? A friend of Mrs. Phelps read the poem

and became so inspired that she sent the poem to NASA, and much to Katie Belle's surprise she received a response.

Phelps received a card from the family of Astronaut Ronald McNair. The card was signed by McNair's wife Cheryl.

"When I saw the letter with the NASA letterhead I was puzzled because I did not know what it could be. When I opened the letter and found a card of appreciation from the family of Astronaut McNair, I was excited. I felt humble and grateful that they cared enough to acknowledge my expression of sympathy" stated Katie Belle.

"I know that through God all things are possible with those who truly believe" said Phelps.

'THE SEVEN CHOSEN FEW'  
As I reviewed such a spectacular sight,  
launch off in the sky so clear and so bright,  
I know Dear Lord you were ever so near,  
even though we watched our love ones disappear.

To the precious little ones who were left behind, my heart saddens as if they were mine.  
America Our Great Country will always

remember the greatness they shared,  
and rejoice and cry with those who cared.

We all share your grief and your sorrow, but never fear, for God is here, there will be a tomorrow.

He must have placed Seven Chosen Stars up upon his crown, as the Space Shuttle Challenger came lowly rushing down.

For God must have wanted them to brighten up his view, for they surely were the Seven Chosen Few.

By KATIE BELLE PHELPS  
(Jan. 28, 1986)

The families of Ron and Cheryl McNair gratefully acknowledge your expression of sympathy. Thank You For Caring.

Love,  
Cheryl McNair

