

WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY...

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

## THE Northampton County TIMES-NEWS

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### Late Tax Charge Imposed Jan. 1

JACKSON — County taxes must be paid by Dec. 31 or a penalty will be charged, Tax Collector Turner Bradley warns.

Bradley, in noting that an estimated \$500,000 in taxes would be collected in the last month of the year, encouraged taxpayers to pay on time and avoid the two per cent penalty.

Bradley announced tax listing must be accomplished between Jan. 2 and Feb. 15. He urged persons over 65 to ask about tax exemptions for the elderly.

Up to a \$5,000 deduction is allowed for senior citizens on the appraised value of a home, lot and personal property. The exemption does not cover farms or farm equipment.

### Patrol Shifted

AHOSKIE — Effective Jan. 1 the Northampton Highway Patrol will be grouped in the Ahoskie district, according to Major Jack Cabe of Raleigh, director of zone operations for the patrol.

Northampton troopers had been paired with Halifax County, working out of the patrol headquarters in

Roanoke Rapids. Northampton will be grouped with Hertford and Bertie counties.

Gates County, which had been in the Ahoskie district, has been placed with the Elizabeth City unit.

The shifting is a result of the recent creation of a new patrol district in the Monroe area.

### Truckers Bring Protest To County Truck Stop

GARUSBURG — An estimated 250 truckers protested President Nixon's energy conservation policy last Thursday by staging a work stoppage at Three Scales Truck Stop on Interstate 95 near here.

The boycott began about noon and continued into Friday.

The demonstration reportedly grew out of a conversation between independent truckers at the truck stop's restaurant.

There were reports of protesting drivers blocking exits from the truck stop in efforts to keep rigs on the lot and off the highways.

The drivers were protesting high fuel costs and low speed limits. The drivers claim the low speed limits actually increase gas consumption in the big tractor-trailers.

The truckers moved to Lakewood Truckers' Paradise seven miles south in Halifax County Friday morning.

Gasoline pumps at Three Scales and Lakewood were shut down. Fuel was sold only to refrigerated units to avoid food spoilage.

### 20th Road Fatality

GARYSBURG — An elderly Garysburg man Wednesday became the county's 20th auto fatality of the year.

Joseph Gatling, 77, died Wednesday morning in Halifax Memorial Hospital in Roanoke Rapids with injuries sustained in a Nov. 4 truck-car wreck on US 304 west of Garysburg.

Charged in the accident is Cleveland Lockhart Jr., 48, of Jackson. He faces a safe movement violation and a drunk driving charge.

No further charges had been filed late Wednesday.

Trooper F. H. Hampton is the investigating officer.

### Employee Cited

JACKSON — Emma Davis Edwards, representative-in-charge of the Northampton-Halifax Federal Crop Insurance office here, has been cited for efficiency in operating the bi-county office.

Ms. Edwards was presented a certificate of merit and a \$100 cash bonus by W. G. Lane, center director.

M. R. Peterson, manager of the Washington office, stated her furnishing salesmen with leads and preparing a detailed prospect list was a major factor in gaining increased business totaling \$40,770 over the previous year.

Seven such bonuses were given in the state this year.

### Highway Money

RALEIGH — Northampton has been allocated \$169,000 for secondary road construction in the current fiscal year.

According to the Division of Motor Vehicles of the state Department of Transportation, the county has 133 miles of unpaved secondary roads.

Cost for paving per mile is estimated at \$5,000.



### 1965 Statute Authorizes Two Year Program

## Revelle Predicts ECU Med School Will Be Expanded

CONWAY — Northampton State Rep. J. Guy Revelle this week speculated East Carolina University will get a two-year medical school in the upcoming General Assembly.

Revelle said, based on conversations with fellow legislators, the school at Greenville will be expanded to allow acceptance of 20 additional students.

The legislator was commenting on a little publicized statute authorizing the establishment of a two year medical school at ECU. The statute was passed in 1965.

Revelle, who has spoken out in favor of an expanded medical school at East Carolina in and out of the General Assembly, also favors control of the expanded school by the University Board of Governors. Revelle said he knew of no support in the legislature for an independent medical school at ECU.

The one-year ECU medical program, now in its second year, accepts 20 students annually. Upon completion of the ECU program the students must rank in Chapel Hill for completion of the degree.

Two-year status at Greenville would enable students completing the program to continue their education at any institution of higher learning offering a medical degree.

The 1965 statute has been retained by every legislature since enactment, including the act authorizing the school's name change from college to university and the restructuring bill of the Department of Higher Education and creation of the Board of Governors.

The two-year medical school was authorized under the provisions of General Statutes 116-46 sub-section 4, contingent upon the development of a program which would "meet the accreditation standards of the Council of Medical Education and the American Association of Colleges."

The report clearly implies the ECU should be allowed to move towards its ultimate goal — a four year degree-granting medical school.

The University of North Carolina Board of Governors — which oversees the administration of all the state supported institutions of higher learning — had recommended earlier that ECU's one year medical education program not be expanded at this time and that state government concentrate on developing a system of Area Health Education Centers.

The study commission's report appears to reflect generally the views of ECU supporters. The report calls for expanding the ECU medical school in addition to enlarging the system of Area Health Education Centers, which would provide facilities for medical internists and

report means that the 1974 legislature will be confronted with two opposing plans for dealing with the concern over the lack of availability of medical care, especially in rural areas. (See ECU, Page 3)

### Conway, Seaboard Have Good Records

## County Ranks Fifth In Tax Collections

JACKSON — Northampton County ranked high among counties of comparative size in tax collections on last year's levy.

According to a report issued by the state Department of the Treasurer, the county had the fifth best tax collection record of the 32 counties in the 25,000 to 50,000 population range.

The tax office collected 97.64 per cent of its taxes leaving only \$27,730 uncollected.

Counties with better collection records than Northampton were Yadkin, Person, Brunswick and Hertford.

The same report revealed that Conway collected 99.65 per cent of its taxes last year.

It tied for second in the state in 1972 collections among the 93 municipalities with populations between 500 and 999.

Conway failed to collect \$1.78 in ad valorem taxes. Seaboard ranked eighth in the same category with a 98.5 collection record. Only \$3.53 went uncollected in Seaboard.

Woodland, which was unable to collect \$1,564 in taxes, ranked 34th. It collected 95.37 per cent of its levy.

Jackson was 48th with a 94.12 per cent collection record. It failed to collect \$1,694.

The county's largest town, Rich Square, was 28th in its category of towns with 1,000 to 2,499 population.

Rich Square left \$1,540 uncollected on the 1972 levy for a 96.81 per cent collection record.

The only other Northampton municipality in that category is Gaston which was 84th of

the 100 towns of comparative size.

Gaston reported 89.82 per cent of its last year's taxes collected while \$2,597 went uncollected.

In the category of towns below 499 in population, Severn ranked 29th in per cent of taxes collected and Garysburg ranked 81 of the 89 towns included in the report.

Severn, with \$1,108 uncollected, took in 94.79 per cent of its taxes. Garysburg collected only 62.54 per cent of its levy for one of the worst per cent records in the state; however, the amount of money left uncollected amounted to only \$346.

Towns and counties collecting below the 80 per cent level are below the minimum standards generally sanctioned for public borrowing.

Towns and counties collecting taxes at and above the 93 per cent mark are considered the most efficient.

### Slowing Down

ROANOKE RAPIDS — Motorists in Northampton County are being more cautious about their speed, the Halifax-Northampton Highway Patrol reports.

Last week speeding tickets were issued by troopers to only 30 motorists. That figure compared to 55 the week before when officers were issuing only warning tickets to drivers violating the new 55 mph speed limit.

The speed was lowered by order of Gov. Jim Holshouser as a move to force conservation of gasoline on the roadways.

### Holiday Interruptions

JACKSON — All federal, state and local government offices will observe Monday and Tuesday for the Christmas holiday.

State offices, by order of the Governor, will close at 5 p.m. Friday and will not reopen until morning of Jan. 2. The move is being made in an attempt to conserve heating fuel.

County employees will be off Saturday through Dec. 26. County offices will open Dec. 27 and 28 and will close Dec. 29-Jan. 1 for the New Years holiday.

Post Offices in the county will close at 12:30 p.m. Christmas Eve and will reopen Dec. 26.

The Times-News will be published as usual next Thursday.

Rich Square is represented by Chairman Julian J. Vaughan Jr. and Norman Bryant.

Rich Square is represented by Chairman Julian J. (See ASC, Page 3)

### Take Office Jan. 1

## ASC County, Community Committmen Elected

JACKSON — Clyde Jenkins of Potecasi has been elected to a three-year term on the Northampton ASC Committee, ASCS Executive Director Ben Mann announced Wednesday.

A leading farmer and county agricultural promoter, Jenkins has served on the Potecasi community committee for the past 19 years.

Serving with Jenkins on the county committee will be Ralph C. Askew, of Milwaukee, chairman, and

John G. Burgwyn of Occaneechee, vice chairman. Elected as alternates were Jesse Wheeler of Lasker, first alternate, and Charlie W. Taylor of Creeksville, second alternate.

All newly elected community and county committeemen will begin their new terms of office next month.

Conway community committeemen are John H. Draper Jr., chairman, Rodney B. Barrett, vice-chairman, and Lawrence W. Ricks,

Harold Britt and W. E. Lassiter.

Creeksville committeemen are Charlie W. Taylor, chairman, Harbie C. Martin, vice-chairman, and Elliott L. Ricks, Edward M. Lanier and Frank R. Deloatch Jr.

Committeemen in Galatia-Margarettsville are H. G. Britton Jr., chairman, and Harold Taylor, vice-chairman, and Henry C. Edwards, Dewitt Gay and John J. Dickerson.

G. N. Taylor is chairman of the Garysburg committee and

M. Read Stephenson is vice chairman. Members are William R. Johnston, Stanley Davis and William L. Stephenson.

Gaston-Pleasant Hill-Vulture community is represented by R. L. Shaw, chairman, and J. T. Hargrave, vice chairman.

Thomas W. Grant, James H. Jones and M. C. Dunlow are members.

Milwaukee-Newtown is represented by Robert Revelle, chairman, and Randolph Askew, vice chairman and Kelly Martin,

chairman along with members J. F. Turner, Kenneth Barrow Jr. and Raymond Jones.

J. R. Bristow is chairman of the Lasker-Rehoboth community committee and his vice chairman is Jesse Wheeler. Glaston Martin, J. R. Vuahgan and W. W. Boone are members.

Milwaukee-Newtown is represented by Robert Revelle, chairman, and Randolph Askew, vice

chairman and Kelly Martin, M. S. Bridgers and Eston

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