

## Annette Jones Named Citizen Of The Year

Pamlico County Chamber of Commerce held its Christmas meeting December 6 at the Oriental Marina Restaurant. Members and their guests were in attendance. The new officers for 1986 were presented to the group: Paul Johnson, president; Louise Muse, vice-president; Bobbie McIntosh, secretary; and Matthew Nease, treasurer. Special guests were Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Jones and

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Robinson. The highlight of the meeting was the Citizen of the Year Award presented by Louise Muse to Annette Jones of Hobucken for her outstanding service to the people of Pamlico County.

After an excellent meal, the group sang Christmas carols with Gary Collier leading and music provided by Alma Evett.



## Beaufort Commissioners Approve Workfare, Lower Tax For Farm Machinery

Their desire to be fair in taxing the farmers during this depressed market year in farm machinery led the Beaufort County Commissioners to go into an afternoon session on December 3 during their regular monthly meeting.

The commissioners invited Kermit Lee of Lee Tractor Company in Washington and Kenneth Snow of the Beaufort Equipment Company to discuss current farm machinery prices. Both men agreed that these prices are dropping.

Based on their advice and other evidence, the commissioners agreed that a lower tax percentage be placed on farm machinery than had been submitted by tax

supervisor Buddy Stowe. All other sections of the tax schedule proposed by Stowe were approved.

Ann Harrell, director of Beaufort County Department of Social Services, met with the commissioners to discuss the Workfare-Community Work Experience program.

Harrell explained that recipients in the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program will be placed in non-paying, community service jobs such as schools, hospitals or county offices. They will, in effect, be working for their assistance

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## Aurora Christmas Parade

### Sunday, Helicopter Featured

AURORA-The Aurora Christmas parade, sponsored by the Aurora Junior Woman's Club and the Aurora Woman's Club, will feature the search and rescue helicopter from Cherry Point Marine Base.

The helicopter will land at 12 noon on Sunday, December 15, at the ballfield on Main Street and will remain there until after the parade.

(See PARADE, Page 9)

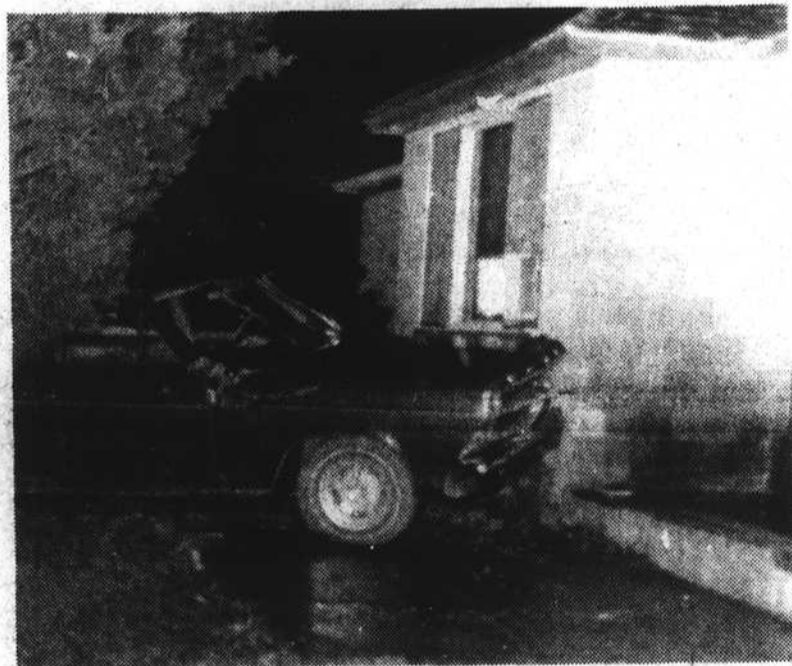
# The Pamlico News

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The home of Emma Louise Smith, just outside Oriental, was damaged last week after being hit by a car driven by David Coleman.

## Two Injured In Separate Auto Accidents

Two people were injured last week in separate motor vehicle accidents in Pamlico County.

On Thursday, December 5, at 8:20 pm on Highway 55 three miles west of Oriental, David Coleman, Jr., 34, of Rt. 1 Ori-

ental, driving a 1966 Ford owned by Sheila Yvonne Greene of Oriental, was, according to a report filed by the highway patrol, stopped in the westbound lane

(See ACCIDENTS, Page 10)

## Residents Hear About Proposed Bay River Sewage Disposal System

About twenty people showed up Tuesday at a public hearing on the sewage disposal system proposed for the area from Alliance to Mesic. The proposal is currently under consideration by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA).

Larry Pierce of Black and Veach, the Bay River Metropolitan Sewerage District's engineering firm, was present to explain the proposal and answer citizens' questions.

Pierce said that during the construction of the collection system, each resident's septic tank would be inspected and cleaned. If the septic tank does not meet the minimum standard for size or is in disrepair, it will be replaced at the project's expense. A line will be run from the septic tank to a small pump which will be used to move the wastes to the main lines at the road. If the home's electrical system needs to be upgraded to handle the pump, that too will be done by the project, 75 percent from federal funds and 25 percent from the district's revenues.

In response to a question, Pierce said he anticipated that the towns would make hook-up to the system

mandatory but that in the unincorporated areas there was no authority to do that. "The money will have to be (repaid) whether it's one person using the system or a thousand," Pierce said.

Billing would be done through the Pamlico County water system, he added.

Lee Whorton of the Bay River board and mayor of the town of Bayboro, commented that several years ago Bayboro had to decide

whether or not to make hook-up to the new water system mandatory. The board decided to make it mandatory because a certain amount of money was needed to repay the loan and they had to know how much money would be coming in.

Regarding the sewage disposal system, Whorton said, "We know that in this area septic tanks do not work successfully...some peo-

(See SEWAGE, Page 10)

## Home Improvements For Christmas

Residents within the Oriental town limits may be able to receive some home improvements for Christmas. The town has received roughly \$140,000 in local option community development block grant money that may be used within the town limits.

With the funds, the town is able to do spot home renovations for its citizens. Previously, recipients

had to be located in target areas that were located primarily outside the town limits.

Eligible recipients may receive up to \$14,000 for home improvements.

One thing is for sure though, you have to apply in order to qualify. To apply, residents may contact Clem Paffe at the town hall.

## Low Unemployment Rates Don't Include 'Discouraged Workers'

According to Employment Security Commissioner (ESC) figures for the month of March, Pamlico County's unemployment dropped in October to 2.1 percent, less than half of what it was a year ago and half a percent lower than September 1985. At 2.1 percent, Pamlico County had the second lowest rate in the state, coming in just behind Orange County at 2.0.

With no major industry in the county, except for the seasonal fishing and farming, how does Pamlico County manage to have one of the smallest unemployment rates in the state while still having one of the largest populations of poverty-level income families.

There are two possible reasons, said Lee Ausley, assistant director of the Labor Market Division of ESC. One is that a number of people are employed in industries

located outside the county. The other is that people who have given up looking for a job are not, for the most part, represented in the unemployment figures.

Determining a county's unemployment rate is a long, involved process, Ausley said, and includes the number of benefit claims filed with ESC and adding in disqualified workers (such as ones whose benefits have been exhausted), new entrants and re-

entrants. Those who have not looked for work in the past four weeks, the so-called "discouraged workers," are not represented in the statistics.

But it's difficult to determine how many people have given up looking for work, Ausley said. One indication might be the number of people who are receiving public assistance.

Lola Fornes, eligibility supervisor with the Pamlico County

Department of Social Services, said that the number of families receiving food stamps dropped last month. There were 502 people on the public rolls in November compared to an average of 600. The number of clients, she said, varies with the season. One hundred fifty-seven people were receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) in

(See JOBS, Page 10)

## Joe Thomas Not Seeking Re-Election

Joe Thomas, D-Craven, Craven, Pamlico and Lenoir Counties' representative to the N.C. Senate for the past four terms, has decid-

ed not to seek re-election next year.

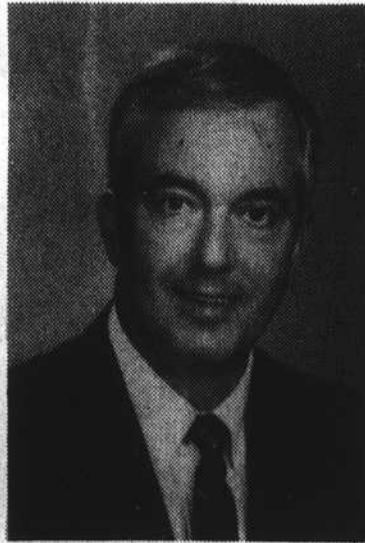
In a news release, Thomas states his reasons for not running for a fifth term:

"After much consideration, I

have decided not to seek re-election in 1986 for the State Senate. This decision is made with mixed emotions. As you know, I am in

(See THOMAS, Page 10)

## Bill Barker Announces Candidacy For N.C. Senate



Bill Barker

New Bern attorney Bill Barker announced today that he is a candidate for the N.C. Senate. Barker will run in the Democratic Primary in the Third District of

Pamlico, Craven, and Carteret Counties.

Barker and his wife, Jorja, and their three daughters live in Oriental and are active in the Methodist Church and many other civic organizations.

Barker said that he would be a conservative voice in Raleigh if elected, and cited his close political ties with Lt. Gov. Bob Jordan, which he feels will make him particularly effective to

represent Pamlico, Craven and Carteret Counties. "We don't always agree," said Barker. "but he (Jordan) always listens." Barker was a senior advisor on Jordan's campaign staff and was the chief advocate for conservative viewpoints.

He said, "The people of this area are entitled to honest, effective government at the lowest

(See BARKER, Page 10)

## Fires Plague Area

one was injured.

Toler stated that damages to the house were estimated at \$9,000 and contents at \$2,500.

Arapahoe Volunteer Fire Department was called back to the scene about 11:30 pm that night when the fire re-kindled.

Thursday, December 5, the home of Mary Monroe of

Stonewall was damaged. Toler stated that a gas line had not been plugged when one of several heaters in the home had been removed about six weeks ago. When the gas line was cut on the outside, the build-up of fumes from the unplugged line blew 90

(See FIRES, Page 9)