

THE GRAY
SAYS
By NELLIE M. SANDERS
Director, Pettigrew Regional Library

HOOTS
THE WELCOME MAT — One of the primary goals of all the staff members of the Pettigrew Regional Library is to make people feel welcome when they come into one of the libraries in the region (Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library in Edenton, Perquimans County Library in Hertford, Tyrrell County Public Library in Columbia, and Washington County Library in Plymouth). Our policies specify that public library service is to be supplied to residents of all four counties. But we do not stop there. Everyone is welcome, whether resident or not, and we do our best to make them feel at home.

On occasion, we have visitors that need extra attention, for whom the usual welcome mat is supplemented with red carpet treatment. This week, we will have such a visitor — the new Adult Service Consultant for the State Library, Nancy Wallace. She has a new title, new responsibilities, and a new hat, so to speak, but Nancy is not new to the State Library. She has functioned as the very able Young Adult Consultant for a number of years and this is just an expansion of the age range that she will serve.

According to the News Flash from the State Library, "Nancy will assist public library personnel in expanding services to adult/young adult users and nonusers. She will consult on collection development, resource needs, programming, facilities, and outreach services for ages fourteen and above. Nancy will organize workshops on subject areas relevant to adult young adult services, and she will prepare library materials' lists on appropriate subjects." In order to achieve a better understanding of the needs in the "real world," instead of sitting in her "ivory tower" and making decisions based on what she thinks or even what other librarians have said in professional journals, Nancy is touring libraries in the state.

When she asked if she could visit the Pettigrew Region to see what we need, it was not a difficult question for me to answer. Naturally, my invitation was immediate and sincere. We are always glad to have visitors from the State Library. We learn from them and we are proud to have them see what busy places our libraries are.

SCHREECHES
A HEAT WAVE — Perhaps one of the reasons that the libraries have been so busy is that they are blissfully cool, making them very popular during the heat wave we have been experiencing. Four days of temperatures close to 100 degrees have made outdoor activities less attractive than usual.

New Laws Are Affecting Benefits

Amendments to North Carolina's Employment Security Law that became effective July 3, will disqualify certain workers from receiving unemployment payments.

Mrs. Alice W. Bond, Manager of Edenton ESC Job Service office reported that the new provisions deny jobless payments to persons who:

- quit their jobs or job training without good cause,
- are discharged from jobs or training because of misconduct,
- refuse offers of suitable jobs or training without good cause, or
- fail to return to customary self-employment when directed.

Under the old law, claimants who quit, were discharged or failed to take job referrals without good cause were disqualified from receiving unemployment payments from four to 12 weeks.

Mrs. Bond also said that workers receiving pensions who qualify for unemployment may, in many cases, have payments reduced or done away with entirely.

"Workers drawing jobless benefits while receiving any type of pension based on prior employment will have their unemployment payments reduced by the amount of the pension. Persons whose weekly pension entitlement meets or exceeds their jobless benefit amount will not receive unemployment insurance," she explained.

Individuals receiving pension benefits not based on their prior employment, such as wives receiving social security payments based on their husband's employment will not be affected by the amendments.

The amendments were passed by the General Assembly in March to provide tighter control on unemployment payments.

Civic Calendar

SUNDAY, JULY 17

The Snug Harbor Civic League picnic will be held at 1 p.m. in the park.

MONDAY, JULY 18

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners will meet in the board room of the courthouse at 7:30 p.m.

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The Memory Lane Senior Citizens' Club will meet at the Perquimans County Office Building at 2 p.m.

TUESDAY, JULY 19

The Hertford Rotary Club meets.

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The Perquimans Masonic Lodge will meet.

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The Snowhill-Whitehat Homemakers Club will meet at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20

The Durants Neck Ruritan Club meets.

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Children's Hour will be held at the Museum of the Albemarle on U.S. 17, Elizabeth City from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Children, ages 8 to 12, are invited to participate. Lunch will be served and children are asked to bring a sandwich and 25 cents. Children's hour is held at the museum every Wednesday at the hours listed above.

THURSDAY, JULY 21

The Hertford Business and Professional Women's (BPW) Club meets.

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The Hertford Lions Club will meet.

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A meeting of the Hertford Volunteer Fire Department will be held.

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The Helen Galtier Home Extension Club will meet at 8 p.m.

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