

LOCAL NEWS



Pictured above are local dispatchers who participated in a training seminar of Emergency Medical Services sponsored by the N. C. Office.

Local dispatchers attend emergency training seminar

Have you ever wondered whose voice it was that answered the phone when you called in to report an emergency? This person, known as the dispatcher/telecommunicator, is one of the unrecognized professionals in the public safety field.

Twenty-six people from throughout the ten-county Albemarle Region participated in a "Public Safety Radio Dispatchers' Seminar" on December 1 & 2.

The course was taught by Joseph D. Hamilton in affiliation with the University of Delaware Division of Continuing

Education.

Designed to instruct dispatchers in modern dispatching techniques, they also developed a better understanding of their role within the system.

Ways of more efficiently performing their duties were presented along with instruction in dealing with stress.

Stress is a major factor of the dispatchers' position. They must elicit exact information from callers quickly and effectively to coordinate the dispatching of proper personnel and equipment to handle emergency situations.

They are called upon to make split second decisions which affect the life or death of emergency personnel and citizens.

Participants in the seminar felt that the course was very worthwhile and would enable them to better perform their duties. The training was coordinated by Annemarie Newton, Emergency Medical Services Project Director, for the the Albemarle Commission.

The training was paid for with grant monies made available by the N. C. Office of Emergency Medical Services.

Health Hints

Alcoholism can shorten life

Alcoholism is a chronic, progressive and potentially fatal disease characterized by tolerance and physical dependency or pathologic organ changes; or both, according to the National Council on Alcoholism (NCOA). Alcoholism can shorten life expectancy by as much as 10 to 15 years.

The NCOA stated that alcoholism is one of the most serious public health problems in the United States today. An estimated 10 million Americans suffer from alcoholism and alcohol-related problems.

It is the direct or indirect cause of about 95,000 deaths a year. Cirrhosis of the liver alone, one of the many known medical conditions associated with alcoholism, causes nearly 30,000 deaths a year.

Every one is human and most adult Americans at one time or another drink alcoholic beverages. Man has enjoyed alcohol's pleasant (or unpleasant — depending upon the individual) effects for a long time and lived by the myth that he will not become addicted.

Specialists in the field say, however, that in the course of a lifetime, one out of every eight adults now living in the United States will become either alcoholic or seriously handicapped by alcohol dependency.

Who is the alcoholic or potential alcoholic? Only three percent of the total alcoholic population is on skid row. Most often persons suffering from alcoholism are found in homes, offices, places of business and in every walk of life.

The disease attacks without regard to social standing, occupation, intelligence, education, national origin, color or race. Authorities say many are not noticeably different from the rest of us except in their addiction to alcohol.

Alcoholics after recovery generally prove to be gifted, talented, generous, responsible and idealistic people, as well as good parents and good citizens.

Most authorities agree that alcoholism has no single cause but results from a combination of

factors. They conclude that there is no certain evidence that alcoholism or a tendency toward alcoholism is inherited.

Alcoholism may be communicable, though, in the sense that circumstances in the home of an alcoholic pave the way for children to become alcoholics.

A biochemical tendency — an inborn error in metabolism, unrelated to heredity — also has been suggested as a causative factor. It has not been determined, however, whether such metabolic changes predispose to or result from alcoholism.

Another factor that should be considered is that after alcohol

has been metabolized and its depressant effect has worn off, the nerve tissue reacts with a period of excitability — often resulting in "morning-after" tremors.

Alcoholics discover they can obtain relief by drinking again. Soon drinking becomes necessary to get relief from the state of excitability, and physical, as well as psychological dependency is established.

Refinement in research techniques and well controlled experiments may eventually shed light on the role, if any, that physiological, psychological and biochemical factors play in causing alcoholism.

Authorities say, so far none of these has been identified as a specific causative factor. (A Service of the North Carolina Academy of Family Physicians.)

Obituary

WARD

Mattie Twine Ward, 81, of Route 2 died Thursday in Chowan Hospital. She was a native of Perquimans County and the widow of Thomas D. Ward.

She attended the Methodist Church.

Survivors include three daughters, Flora Hurdle of Belvidere, Loretta Stallings of Hobbsville and Della Allen of Hertford; a stepdaughter, Dorothy Mae Johnson of Wilmington; a sister, Della Long of Edenton; two brothers, Elwood Twine and Milford Ray Twine, both of Elizabeth City; 21 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 p.m. Saturday at graveside in Ward Family Cemetery, Route 2, Hertford, by the Rev. David Goehring. Williford-Barham Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

You and Your Car

Tips from the Mobil Auto Tech Group

Hot Stuff (or Cold)

Driving in the heat, you won't need a water-cooled helmet, like Keke Rosberg's in his victory in 1984's Dallas Grand Prix. Though temperatures were said to be 145 on the track, the Formula One drivers had to stuff themselves into skin-hugging fire-resistant suits, then into tight open cockpits.

To protect his engine, Rosberg used a "man-made" oil that retains lubricating flow in extreme temperatures. His special racing synthetic, like its related Mobil 1 available to motorists, is assembled from selected "building blocks." Conventional motor oil, on the other hand, is refined from crude oil into a mixture of thousands of hydrocarbons working together more or less.

Utility bills to show sales tax

RALEIGH, N. C. —Beginning in January, customer bills received from various utilities will show an amount identified as sales tax.

In the area of electric service, this involves private utilities, cooperatives and the 64-member cities of Electricities of N. C. Inc. which own their municipal electric systems.

Taxes have always been

included in customers' utilities' bills. Because of legislation enacted by the 1984 N. C. General Assembly, the sales tax will now be broken out and shown separately as of Jan. 1, 1985.

This will allow customers who itemize sales taxes as a deduction on their federal income tax returns to also include the sales tax from electric bills. The intent of the

legislation is to show customers what amount of sales tax is included in their bills, not to increase their bills.

A customer who has questions about the change should call or visit his city's utilities office for more information.

Electricities is a joint municipal assistance agency serving the interests of 64 of the 71 cities in North Carolina that own their municipal electric systems. Of these 64 cities, 51 are supplied electric power for their customers through one of two North Carolina municipal power agencies.

N. C. Eastern municipal Power Agency supplies power to 32 cities through its joint ownership with Carolina Power & Light Co. in four generating plants.

N. C. Municipal Power Agency No. 1 supplies power to 19 cities through its joint ownership with Duke Power Co. in Catawba Nuclear Station.



Before it can obtain enough food to add one ounce to its body weight, the sea sponge must filter a ton of water through its pores.

PHOTOGRAPHY

by george

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COUNTY PROPERTY FOR SALE

The Board of Commissioners of Perquimans County hereby requests sealed bids for the purchase of the following property:

- One Large Drafting Table with Chair.
- One 3M Copier Model 191
- One Small Typing Table
- One AB Dick Mimeograph Machine with Cabinet
- One Adler Electric Typewriter
- Two Remington Manual Typewriters — Long Carriage
- One Royal Manual Typewriter
- One Remington Rand Adding Machine
- One Underwood — Olivetti Adding Machine
- One 3M Copier Model 732
- One 3M Copier Model 257
- Two Vinyl Reclining Chairs — White
- Twelve Light Fixtures — Assorted

All items will be sold in their present condition (as is) and may be seen by contacting the County Manager in the Perquimans County Courthouse. Separate bids must be submitted in writing to the County Manager on or before 10:00 A.M. January 7, 1985. The Board reserves the right to reject all bids.

Perquimans County Board of Commissioners
By: Randy Keaton
County Manager

Bernie S. Baker, Sr., M.D.

Announces The Re-Location Of His Office For The Practice Of

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