

Local News

Drivers urged to exercise caution

CHARLOTTE, NC—According to estimate issued by the N.C. State Motor Club, 15 North Carolinians may lose their lives in traffic accidents over the 78-hour Easter Holiday week-end, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Friday, April 17 and ending 12:00 midnight Monday, April 20.

Last year 16 were killed and 999 injured during a similar period with speeding and DUI-Alcohol leading causes of fatal accidents.

Traditionally, Easter signals the beginning of spring vacations and an increase in recreational travel. "Unfortunately, it is in this vacation travel area that more vehicle accidents occur," said Dr. John G. Frazier, III, president of the statewide motor club.

Enforcement of safe driving laws will be intensified over the holidays, however, the greatest contribution to safety is the voluntary action of individuals of all ages.

To help insure a safe and happy spring holiday, Frazier urges all drivers to observe speed limits, use safety belts, don't drive and drink, and if possible travel during their

non-rush hours.

With the recent passage of the highway bill, an increase in the speed limit to 65 miles-per-hour on some rural and Interstate highways will be permitted. "There is no doubt that there will be areas in North Carolina where the speed limit will be raised," DR. Frazier stated. "The routes which can accommodate a higher limit with safety must be carefully selected, and we are hopeful that a very critical look will be taken at the number of accidents and fatalities before the limit is raised," he added.

Based on Federal Highway Administration figures, it is estimated that North Carolina has 628 miles of rural Interstate eligible for 65 miles-per-hour speed limit.

"It is every driver's personal responsibility to drive safely," Frazier stated. "We urge all motorists to keep this in mind as they travel to their destinations this week-end, and realize that only the drivers themselves can help reduce the morbid figures showing the loss of life."

To date 334 fatalities have been reported due to traffic accidents in North Carolina.

Artificial reefs placed

RALEIGH—A two-year, \$500,000 project to sink 209 discarded railroad cars off the North Carolina coast for use as artificial fishing reefs has been completed by the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development (NCRD).

Tommy Rhodes, Secretary of NCRD, said additional reef projects are underway by the Department's Division of Marine Fisheries in coastal and off-shore waters from Dare to Brunswick counties. The expansion of the artificial reef program is one of Governor Martin's major proposals to improve commercial and sports fishing along the coast.

The state funds have been spent to transport and sink 209 railroad cars donated for the artificial reef program by CSX Transportation, for-

merly Seaboard System Railroads. The reefs are now located at 20 spots on the ocean side of the Outer Banks.

Rhodes said the state is preparing to expand the artificial fishing reef program by sinking a 125-foot barge for the Manteo region, a 105-foot tug off Hatteras, and a 440-foot Liberty ship off Cape Lookout.

Division officials are working with Brunswick County officials to free \$12,000 from the state program to help offset costs already incurred in the moving of a damaged draw bridge to serve as a fishing reef off Southport.

Brunswick County, the most active of coastal counties in artificial reef placement, already had sunk four 30-ton steam boilers, a 180-foot oil barge, and a large dredge donated for reef projects.

Jones begins search

Elizabeth Jones announced last week that she is beginning a search for memorabilia to create a historic tableau highlighting the career of her husband, Congressman Walter B. Jones.

The Congressman, she said, has been elected to offices beginning with the Town Council in Farmville, N.C. he went on to become Farmville's Mayor and held seats in the N.C. House of Representatives, the N.C. Senate the U.S. House of Representatives, the N.C. Senate the U.S. House of Representatives. He is serving his 12th term in Washington, D.C. "Walter Jones must be doing something right in public office," she said. "The people keep electing him to serve. And he really tries to serve them honestly, openly and industriously. He has been a representative of the people for over 40 years. The people of the First District are his life."

"A vibrant and active Member of Congress," Mrs. Jones said, "he is Chairman of one committee—the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee—and is a ranking Member of the Committee on Agriculture." Mr. Jones is also Dean of the North Carolina Congressional

Delegation.

"As one of the most senior Members in Congress," Mrs. Jones said, "Walter is in a position to bring even more assistance to the needs of North Carolina's people. Recently, he was national co-chairman for a benefit at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. The Gala raised over \$120,000. The funds will go toward the new Roanoke Island Center for the Arts," she added.

The Joneses are currently touring the First District in an effort to foster economic development in Eastern North Carolina.

Mrs. Jones explained that she is collecting photographs, newspaper articles, letters, political campaign artifacts, etc. from his political career, and from the early years when he was a child in Fayetteville, N.C., later a student at North Carolina State University, the owner of an office supply business and a referee at football and basketball games. She said contributors will receive a certificate of appreciation and be appropriately acknowledged by the Congressman.

For now, the artifacts will be on display at the Jones' home in Farmville, N.C.

Dep. Secretary named

RALEIGH—Secretary of Transportation James E. Harrington recently announced the appointment of Thomas J. Harrelson of Southport as Deputy Secretary.

Harrelson, 46, joined the D.O.T. on April 8. He is monitoring and directing selected matters, concentrating on the department's day-to-day operations.

Secretary Harrington cited Harrelson's governmental and business experience as a major factor in his selection. Harrelson is a former member of the North Carolina General Assembly and served as Chairman of the State Environmental

Management Commission. He is president of Harrelson's Appliance Center in Southport.

"Tommy Harrelson is well regarded and highly respected," Harrington said. "His experience is an asset to the department, and his perspective as a well-read, well-traveled citizen of North Carolina is of great benefit. I have long counted Tommy as a close friend, and look forward to the opportunity of working with him. I am delighted that he agreed to join the department."

Harrelson became one of two deputy secretaries for the department. The other deputy position is held by William W. Cobey.



Pictured is Joe Brickhouse being presented with Mercury Marine's Prestige Master Mechanic award by his area technical service representative Rusty Cheeh. The award is given for outstanding performance in providing the highest standard of service on Mercury outboards and Mercruiser stern drives. Joe Brickhouse is the owner of Hertford Marine in Hertford, N.C.

Budget transfer to cut federal funds

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission could lose up to \$230,000 in federal funds this year if Congress approves a U.S. Department of Interior Budget proposal to transfer \$25 million from a wildlife trust fund to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Under the Interior Department's proposal, \$25 million of \$174 million anticipated as proceeds for the 1988 Wallop-Breaux Trust Fund would be diverted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's basic operating account for general fish and wildlife programs.

The Wallop-Breaux Trust Fund is designed to provide money to the 50 states for specific projects that enhance boating and fishing opportunities. That includes improving access to lakes and rivers and improving the fishery resource. States must match the money received from the Wallop-Breaux Fund.

Of the amount dispersed to the 50 states, North Carolina received a total of \$974,210 last fiscal year, with \$557,567 going to North Carolina's Di-

vision of Marine Fisheries. If the funds are transferred, Marine Fisheries would also lose their share of the money.

Donald J. Tobaben, program manager for the Commission's Division of Boating and Inland Fisheries, said his division would have to cancel some soon-to-be-implemented programs to build fishing piers, boating ramps and lake and stream access areas across the state if North Carolina loses the funds.

The Wallop-Breaux amendments to the Dingell-Johnson Fund legislation in 1984 resulted in significant increases in the level of funding for states. The trust fund was created when boaters and fishermen agreed to contribute to the fund through excise taxes on fishing tackle and motorboat fuel if they were direct beneficiaries of the money.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service already receives 6 percent of the Wallop-Breaux funds for administrative purposes.

Board to hold meeting

ASHEBORO—The North Carolina Board of Transportation has allocated more than \$12 million to cover the cost of snow and ice removal this past winter and early spring.

The board approved the allocation at its April 10 meeting in Asheboro.

The snow removal funds are part of \$234 million approved by the North Carolina General Assembly in July for highway and bridge maintenance.

The board annually reserves money to cover weather related other unexpected maintenance costs.

This year's snow and ice removal cost is almost three times the \$4.4 million spent by the department last winter for clearing state primary, urban and secondary highways.

The board also awarded highway improvement contracts for \$7.7 million for work in 21 counties statewide.

Included were contracts for construction of an interchange on US-164 at Cary Parkway southwest of Raleigh for \$2.2 million, demolition of the existing bridge over the Bogue Sound between Atlantic Beach and Morehead City in Carteret County for \$975,000 and construction of a bridge over the Northeast Cape Fear River on NC-25 east of Kenansville in Duplin County for \$626,098.

The board awarded contracts for work in Northampton, Duplin, Wake, Mecklenburg, Carteret, Hertford, Edgecombe, Halifax, Ashe, Rowan, Dgavidson, Davie Forsyth, Stokes, Alleghany, Surry, Yadkin, Avery, Caldwell, Watauga and Wilkes counties.

Members of the state Board of Transportation are: Philip P. Godwin of Gatesville; Randy D. Doub of Greenville; John E. Bishop of Rocky Mount; Elwood Goodson of Mount Olive; James M. Peden, Jr. of Raleigh; Nancy Rand of Durham; H. Terry Hutchens of Fayetteville, W.B. Buchanan of Graham; John Thomas, Jr. of High Point; Richard K. Pugh of Asheboro; Herman G. Thompson of Southern Pines; Charles M. Shelton of King; James E. Nance of Albemarle; John W. Harris of Charlotte; James B. Garrison of Albemarle; Brent B. Kincaid of Lenoir; Lucy C. Everett of Elkin; Harry Robertson of Taylorsville; Ken Younger of Cherryville; Joseph H. Palmer of Clyde; John R. Sutton, Sr. of Candler; and James P. Myers, Sr. of Bryson City.

Secretary of Transportation James E. Harrington serves as an ex-officio member and is chairman of the 24-member board.



The Spanish once believed bread on the window sill would avert a storm.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to everyone who remembered me with cards, flowers, gifts and visits and especially your prayers while I was in the hospital and since my return home. Your thoughtfulness will always be remembered. May God bless each of you.

Willie Ainsley

PERQUIMANS COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE

Except for the Sheriffs Department and Dispatch office, all county offices in the Perquimans County Courthouse, Social Services, Agricultural Extension Service, Perquimans County Library and Perquimans County Recreation Department will be closed on Monday, April 20, 1987 for observance of Easter. The Water Department office will be closed but emergencies may be reported to the Dispatch Office by calling 426-5751.

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners' regular meeting has been changed from Monday, April 20th to Tuesday, April 21st at 8:00 p.m.

Randy Keaton, County Manager

PUBLIC HEARING Perquimans County

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 21, 1987 at 8:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' room to hear comments on a proposed Animal Control Ordinance. Copies of the proposed ordinance are available for public inspection in the County Manager's office. All interested citizens are invited to attend and comment.

Randy Keaton, County Manager

Soap star coming to Riverspree this year

"Young and Restless" fans will have an opportunity to meet the young man who has zoomed to popularity because of his singing ambitions and good looks in the role of Danny Romalatti. "I don't think there are many people who won't recognize Michael Damian," said Billie Buell, Riverspree Entertainment Co. Chairman. "Even people who don't watch the soaps have heard about him and are excited about seeing him perform." Damian has surprised many as his popularity has grown to include people of all ages.

Entertainment Co-Chairman Charles Gregg reported that a number of people have already gotten word about Damian's visit and are calling to find out when he will perform. "It appears that he'll be one of the most popular entertainers we've had since the inception of Riverspree," he stated, "and that sure makes us feel good since we've been working with his agent since last August. However, we aren't far enough along to have started scheduling entertainment times as yet. So, folks will have to wait a little longer to see the times for Michael's three appearances.

Begun in 1982, Riverspree was dubbed "a celebration of life on the river" by a local reporter and the tag has stuck. Riverspree has gained a reputation of being a family festival with a jam-packed weekend of things to see, do and taste. The addition of a third festival day on Monday, May 25, there will be even more to do. Monday Morning, prior to the school's early release day, has also been designated as Riverspree Senior Citizens Day. Seniors will have an opportunity to view exhibited arts and crafts and take advantage of Senior discounts. Traditional southern-style cooking as well as more exotic

dishes will also be available.

"Most people don't know that Michael Damian was a singer before becoming an entertainer," said Buell. Twenty-five-year-old Damian grew up with music. His Italian mother was a classical pianist and his Irish singing father encouraged the musical talent of each of their 9 children. Michael played trombone, vibes and keyboards in addition to occasionally singing in the family rock band, The Weirz. The group achieved success in their San Diego hometown and moved to Los Angeles in 1977.

They became one of L.A.'s "hottest" acts and headlined every major club in the area. When Michael's older brother saw the attention Michael was getting from their audiences, he sent a series of photos to national teen magazines which brought incredible responses from their readership. And Michael Damian soon left The Weirz to begin his solo career that led one reporter to report that he was "on a collision course with superstardom."

A record deal in 1981 brought about his first charted record, "She Did It". He began headlining concerts at attractions such as Knotts Berry Farm and Disneyland, but his big break came after an appearance on Dick Clark's "American Bandstand." "Young and Restless" producers saw his performance and offered a 3-month summer spot as Dammy Romalatti. He has twice received the Youth in Film Award and now has a long extended contract.

Damian has made numerous other television appearances and he is recording a new album, which he and two brothers are producing at his own 24-track recording studio in California. He is also considering feature film work later this year.

Home improvements payoff

Location. Location. Location. If you've ever been in the market for a house, chances are you've heard these words referred to as the three golden rules for real estate. But, according to the North Carolina Association of CPAs, many people don't realize that location is an equally important factor to be considered when planning major home improvements.

Because the value of your home is largely determined by the value of the home around you, you're not likely to recover remodeling costs that take your home well above the values of similar homes in your neighborhood. As a general rule, you should not expect to sell your house for more than 20 percent above the average in your area. So if you buy a \$90,000 home in a \$100,000 neighborhood, you probably shouldn't spend more than \$30,000 in home remodeling costs.

Homeowners often overlook the way in which remodeling can actually help to cut their tax bills. While many people are aware of the tax advantages of buying and owning a home, fewer homeowners equate remodeling with tax savings. But with

careful recordkeeping, your remodeling efforts can cut your tax bill considerably when you eventually sell your home.

Like any other investment, you must report to the Internal Revenue Service any profit you make when you sell your house. In order to determine your profit, you must first calculate your cost basis by adding the cost of all improvements you have made to the original purchase price.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Board of Equalization and Review

The Perquimans County Board of Commissioners, as the Board of Equalization and Review will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, April 27, 1987 in the Commissioners Meeting Room in the Perquimans County Courthouse.

They will examine and review the 1987 tax listings and hear any property owner regarding the listing and assessed value of their Personal or Real Property. Anyone desiring to meet with the Board of E&R should contact the Tax Supervisor's office by 9:00 a.m. on April 27, 1987 426-7010.

Keith W. Haskett
Tax Supervisor
Perquimans County