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THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

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30 Cents

Wreck injures three

Winfall woman dies in crash

Poor visibility was a factor in a three-vehicle crash which claimed the life of a Winfall woman and injured two others last Wednesday in Gates County.

Doris Jean Stallings Boyce, 56, of P.O. Box 12, Winfall, died from injuries sustained in the accident which occurred around 9 a.m. on N.C. Highway 32 just south of Sunbury.

Boyce was travelling north on Highway 32 in a 1988 Ford passenger vehicle when she crossed the center line into the southbound lane, colliding with a tractor-trailer operated by Melvin Jones. The crash knocked Boyce's vehicle back into a 1992 Pontiac operated by Barbara Womack of Edenton. Womack was travelling north on Highway 32 behind Boyce.

The Ford came to rest on the northbound shoulder of the highway, as did the Pontiac. The truck landed in a field.

Boyce was pronounced dead at the scene. Jones and Womack were taken to Louise Obici Hospital in Suffolk, Va. Jones was admitted for treatment and was released on Jan. 4. Womack was treated and released the day of the accident.

Damage to the Ford was estimated at \$3,500. The 1986 International tractor-trailer, owned by Petersburg Box and Lumber Co. of Petersburg, Va. sustained \$2,500 in damages. The Pontiac's damages were estimated to be \$1,500.

No charges were filed, according to the report of N.C. Highway Patrol Trooper S.M. Armstead. The trooper listed fog as a contributing factor.

Tax help available

Senior citizens and low income wage earners can get free income tax assistance beginning Jan. 27.

The Tax-Aide program of the AARP will have trained volunteer counselors at the Senior Center on Grubb Street each Wednesday from 1-5 p.m. Jan. 27-April 14. The counselors are trained in cooperation with the IRS.

Mary Sharber, local AARP coordinator/instructor, said the service is designed to help taxpayers understand income tax forms and become familiar with special benefits available to them. The program is specifically geared to older taxpayers with low to moderate incomes, but is also available to low-income wage earners.

"In the past, we have learned that many older persons are unaware of special benefits they are entitled to claim. Some may not be required to file a return because of limited income," Sharber said.

Persons using the service should bring copies of their previous year's federal and state tax returns and forms for the current tax year, including W2s and other relevant materials showing income for the year.

For further information about the service, call the Senior Center at 426-5404 and leave a message for Sharber.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer counselor can attend training sessions at Knobbs Creek Recreation Center in Elizabeth City, Jan. 11-15 from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. There is no fee for the class; however, all who attend must volunteer to be a tax counselor for at least four hours each week. Pre-registration is not necessary. To take the class, just register at the first session.

Apricot, Inc. wins state award

By SUSAN R. HARRIS
Editor

The largest private employer in Perquimans County earned a Job Service Employer Award for 1992.

Apricot, Inc. received the award, sponsored by the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina. Company president Carl Terranova accepted the citation from Governor Jim Martin last month during an awards ceremony in Raleigh.

"Our bright future depends upon our ability to provide quality jobs for the people of North Carolina," Gov. Martin said. "Because you are willing to take the risks necessary to be in business, the citizens of this state reap the benefits of a better quality of life."

Apricot, a garment manufacturing business, employs 191 workers. Formerly DiJop, the firm moved to Perquimans County from New Jersey in 1980. The company later changed its name, and in November 1987 moved into new facilities on Don Juan Road.

"For many employers this past year has not been easy," Ann G. Duncan, chairman of the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina, said at the ceremony. "The dedication, values and hard work of the employers we honor today serve as a shining example of triumph over tough times."

Kathy Keefe, manager of the Edenton Job

Service office, nominated Apricot, Inc. for the award. Firms were nominated statewide by Job Service offices and Job Service Employer Committees. Winners were chosen on several factors including creating new jobs, expansion of existing business, use of Employment Security Commission services, participation in Job Service Employer Committees and providing job stability. Only 88 awards were presented across the state.



Apricot, Inc. officers Carl Terranova (center) and Tom Terranova oversee work performed by sewing machine operator Linda Jordan. Apricot, Inc. recently earned a Job Service Employer Award for 1992. The company was nominated by Edenton Job Service. (Photo by Susan Harris)

Keefe said Apricot, Inc. management has been a good client of the Job Service, and has been instrumental in spreading the word to other employers about the agency's services. "We do appreciate the work that they do with us and the work that they give us," Keefe said.



Perquimans County commissioners toasted the new year with a ribbon cutting on the courthouse annex, commonly known around the county as the Blanchard building. Shown are Wayne Winslow, Leo Higgins, Mack Nixon, Thomas Nixon and Lester Simpson. (File photo by Gary Cosby Jr.)

1992: The year in review

Ask a group of people about the best and worst happenings of 1992, and you'll probably get as many responses as there are people in the group.

Just as one man's junk is another man's treasure, one person's great year is another's nightmare.

What happened in Perquimans County in 1992? Let's take a month-by-month look.

January

Two new businesses opened during the holidays last year. Country Leisure and Custom Interiors opened their doors on U.S. Highway 17 South. Country Leisure has offered modern gas logs, wood stoves, swimming pools, spas and accessories. Custom Interiors provides custom-made draperies to bedspreads.

Tragedy struck on Jan. 5 when Russell Duane Matthews, 26, of Lot 15, Long View Estates, was found dead in his truck on Old U.S. Highway 17 in Woodville. Matthews had been stabbed, and officials were investigating the incident as a possible murder.

On Jan. 10, NCOED awarded

a \$3.6 million contract to widen 3.2 miles of U.S. 17 in Perquimans County to Barnhill Contracting Company of Tarboro.

Over 100 people crowded into the Perquimans County Courthouse Annex on Sunday, Jan. 12 for the building's dedication. County commissioners chairman Mack Nixon tagged the event a proud day for the citizens of Perquimans County.

C. Tommy Harrell took the reins of the Chamber of Commerce on Jan. 27 at the annual Chamber banquet at Holiday Island.

February

In February, six Albemarle-area law enforcement agencies announced plans to form a multi-jurisdictional drug task force. Included in the group were the Hertford and Winfall police departments.

Perquimans County High School entered the battle against drug use with new weapons, thanks to a \$23,500 grant. The school implemented ASAP - Assisting Students at Perquimans. The program was kicked off with guest speakers for both parents and students. Each student and

faculty member at the high school received a T-shirt and button to remind them of the program.

Valentine's Day brought bad news to Don Juan employees. The garment-making factory announced plans to slash 157 jobs by April.

Perquimans High School students celebrated Heart Month by raising money for the Perquimans County Chapter of the American Heart Association.

Four drug dealers arrested in September 1991 received active sentences in court. Joe Willie Brothers, Tony Allen Parker, Willie Lee Jones and Vincent Lee Foster all pled guilty to an assortment of drug charges.

March

Hertford Town Councilmen expressed displeasure over what they tagged double taxation for Hertford residents. The town charged that the county was making town residents pay twice for building inspection services.

The Morgan Building finally welcomed a new business into

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NAACP welcomes new year with Jubilee Day

The Perquimans County branch of the NAACP welcomed the new year with a Jubilee Day celebration on Jan. 1 at New Bethel Baptist Church.

Over 200 people gathered for the annual observance. Ministers, Masons, Eastern Stars, teachers and Winfall VFW members joined in the processional to open the service.

The honorable Milton "Toby" Fitch Jr., majority whip of the North Carolina House of Representatives, spoke on the theme *Empowered Elders, Empowering Our Youth*.

"He reminded us that in order for our youth to be successful and take their respective places in society, elders must give them the opportunity to participate in all aspects of leadership in the community, and groom them to become productive leaders," said Shirley Yates, Perquimans County commissioner and active NAACP member.

Golden Frinks of Edenton, a long-time civil rights worker, also addressed the group, offering praise and encouragement.

Highlighting the Jubilee Day service was the presentation of service awards.

Galatia Baptist, New Bethel Baptist, and First Baptist churches earned awards for outstanding service to the community.

Cheryl Newby received the Teacher of the Year recognition for excellence in the field of education.

Earlene Sellers received a community service award for work in all areas of the community, especially in the field of music.

Youth of the Year Award for outstanding service to county youth went to Fondella Leigh.

Earning the "Citizen of the Year Award" was Shirley Yates. Yates was recognized for her work in the community and her help and concern for senior citizens. She also received her life membership NAACP award.

Host pastor William Sawyer served as master of ceremonies. Inspirational music was presented by the J.H. London Crusaders under the direction of Donald McClain and the dynamic youth group, Essence.

Local NAACP president Fred Yates said the celebration was a success, and thanked everyone who assisted with organization and presentation.

Job Services places workers

During the month of November, the Edenton Employment Security Commission (Job Service) placed 149 individuals in jobs. During the same period of time, the office processed 404 applications for employment.

Since the beginning of the program on July 1, the office has placed 673 individuals in jobs and has taken 2,230 applications for employment.

In addition, 83 individuals have obtained employment as a result of other services provided by Job Service and 63 individuals have been referred to other agencies for services Job Service is unable to provide.

The primary mission of the Edenton Job Service Office is to take applications for employment from job seekers and job orders from employers, and then refer the best qualified applicants available for each job opening.

Anyone seeking employment is encouraged to come in to the office and register for employment and/or utilize the self-service Job Information System (JIS).

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