

HIGHLIGHTS

Search continues for new police chief

VANCEBORO - Police Commissioner Alton Whitley reported that as of Monday evening only one application had been received for the police chief position here. The position came open when temporary Police Chief Melvin Hudgins resigned to take a position with the Craven County Sheriff's Department effective May 12.

The lone applicant thus far is William Aldridge of New Bern, Whitley confirmed. Aldridge has six to eight years of experience in police work, serving in the past with the Grifton and Kinston Police Departments. More recently, he has served as a Highway Patrolman and with the Craven County Sheriff's Department.

Mayor Jimmie Morris commented that during this interim period the Craven County Sheriff's Department is providing protection to the town at no charge until a new police chief is hired.



A GHOST? - Flames consume the former Kay Stewart home on Main Street as a shadowy figure seems to appear in the middle window. The Stewart house was burned as a training exercise for Vanceboro fireman Wednesday night, May 14. The Gus Lilly house, said to be the oldest house in Vanceboro, located behind the Stewart house was burned Monday night.

PHOTO BY TIMMY WEATHERINGTON

Medical Center Board corrects irregularity

by Rick Cannon

The Vanceboro Medical Center Board of Directors voted to refund \$852.50 to Board member Alton Whitley at their regular monthly meeting Tuesday night. According to Medical Center Treasurer Jimmie Morris, the money had been deposited by mistake into the Vanceboro Medical Center account during the fund-raising drive in July 1978. Morris explained that the auditors had discovered the deposit slip and checks the deposit slip when going over the books and brought it to his attention. "Apparently, Whitley must have just picked up the wrong deposit slip," Morris commented. "It was a simple mistake."

FNP George Roberts reported that he is continuing to receive excellent support from the doctors. They are coming in on Wednesdays and plan to serve the center as long as needed.

Tornado rips through area

by Rick Cannon

A sudden and fierce evening thunderstorm lashed Vanceboro with ripped up trees and tore off roofs about three miles north of Vanceboro on Highway 43 Tuesday

evening. A tornado apparently ripped the roof off the shelter at Vanceboro's airstrip but did not harm the two planes inside. Two other planes anchored outside were damaged somewhat by the high

winds. The tornado, which occurred a little after 7:30 p.m., tore the tops out of at least six trees surrounding a home owned by Levi Anderson. None struck the house. In a mobile home next door, Johnnie Ray Anderson witnessed the

fury of the storm. "I'm not going to lie about it," Anderson said, "Yes, I was scared." Anderson explained that his home shook violently jarring plates and silverware. Another witness of the storm, Debra Barrow, found that her

car's windshield was shattered.

Tin, branches and lumber were scattered everywhere on the airfield. One of the planes damaged is a crop duster owned by George Fell of Rocky Mount. It suffered excessive damage to the right wing but it should be back in operation before spraying season. George Ewell, who, along with Royce Jordan and W. R. Copeland, owns some of the planes there, explained that he was very relieved to find no more damage. "We were very lucky," Ewell commented.

Local teacher meets with Rep. Jones

Mary Coples, contact team member, and teacher at West Craven Junior High School in Craven County Schools recently returned from Washington



Mary Coples talks with Representative Walter Jones in Washington, D. C. She conferred with Jones to urge him to support the Impact Aid for Education funds.

D. C., where she conferred with Congressman Walter B. Jones of District One Congressional District seeking his support for continuing Impact Aid to Schools in our educational district. Congressman Jones assured Miss Coples of his strong support of Impact Aid for educational programs for fiscal year 1981.

The Administration's budget proposes to reduce by \$57 million aid to category (A) children, that is those children who live and whose parents work on federal property. It also proposes to reduce by \$268 million aid to category (B) children, that is children who either live or whose parents work on federal property. This proposal would virtually eliminate category (B) funding.

Fire guts Brock home

by Mrs. B. H. Mitchell

Other related damages in the area reported by Fire Chief Ed Nobles was a house fire about a mile further up the road. The fire was apparently caused by broken electric wires. Nearer Vanceboro on the same road, fallen limbs lay on top of a Craven County Schools bus.

MAPLE CYPRESS - A fire recently destroyed the home of Mrs. Anna Mae Brock of the Maple Cypress Community. The home and all her belongings were completely lost in the fire. Mrs. Brock was a school bus driver for Craven County and a custodian at the Vanceboro Elementary School.

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