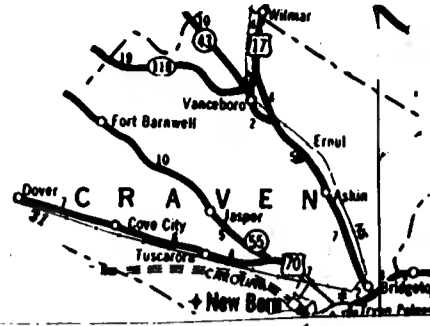


# HIGHLIGHTS



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## Operation Santa Claus

By CATHERINE COOPER

Operation Santa Claus, Craven County, boxes are sponsored by Mental Health located at . . . Whitley's Association of Craven County, Supermarket, Dover; Cove is underway! The purpose of City Town Hall, Craven Evaluation & Training Center, Vanceboro Community Center and St. Paul's Hospital and the mentally retarded at Caswell. Also All gifts should be New and selected groups of mentally handicapped within Craven County will receive a portion of the total received from the campaign.

Many of our mentally handicapped have lost contact with their families, and the gifts received thru Operation Santa Claus will be their only gifts. Your gifts can make a difference to those under protective care by making them feel remembered and cared for.

The campaign will run from November 27th thru December 15th. Suggested gift items: Shirts, blouses, slacks, underwear, sleepwear, socks, panty hose, cosmetics, all types of toilette articles, tobacco products, gloves, toboggans, Simple adult games such as checkers, chinese checkers, cards, board games are also appropriate. All gifts may be left in collection boxes located through-out Craven County. In the western section of

Whitley's Supermarket, Dover; City Town Hall, Craven Evaluation & Training Center, Vanceboro Community Center and St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Vanceboro. All gifts should be New and unwrapped; although, one may provide wrapping paper for the staff which will make individual selections, wrap, and distribute your gift to the residents.

Civic groups, business establishments, and individuals can also choose to contribute money. Checks should be made to Operation Santa Claus and set to P.O. Box 906, New Bern, 28560. Cash donations will be used to purchase larger items such as hair dryers, electric razors, rugs, bedspreads, coats, and jackets.

Deadline for all donations is December 15, 1981.

The Mental Health Association's goal this year is to bring 3,500 gifts to the mentally handicapped in Eastern North Carolina. If you have any questions, call 637-6947. Your gift will make a difference and can say to the mentally ill & mentally retarded, separated from their community, that they are remembered!

## New Residents for Vanceboro

By BETTY DAUGHERTY

The new occupants of the Association for Retarded Citizens Housing Development Services (ARC/HDS) Craven County Group Home in Vanceboro, N.C. will be arriving approximately the first week in December.

The resident couple will be Dan & Debbie Neal.

ARC and Neuse Mental Health Center will manage the home. The program must operate in such a manner as to offer to the client a normalized environment. It includes promoting normalization by encouraging physical and social intergration of the clients into the community. The group home will provide individuals the opportunity to progress at his/her own speed in an environment that is supportive to positive growth and development.

The home is operated according to standards set by the state of North Carolina. License to operate the facility will be issued by the Division of Facilities Service. Program standards set by the Division of Mental Health Services must also be met and the program is subject to review at any time.

Serving on the Board from Vanceboro, N.C. are Janice Morris and Lois Lancaster.



Home of Peggy Williams

## Firemen Respond

By R.L. CANNON, JR.

Two homes in the Vanceboro area were completely destroyed during the past week.

The first home was being used by the Peggy Williams family. It was completely engulfed with fire when the firemen from the Vanceboro Fire Department arrived on the scene. Fire Chief Stanley Kite quickly surveyed the situation and made an assistance call for the Fort Barnwell Fire Department. Just as the Vanceboro Department's water gave out, the Fort Barnwell tanker arrived to continue the effort to control the fire. The house was located on Highway 118 about 5 miles west of Vanceboro.

The dwelling was owned by Terry and Eddie Haddock.

Estimated damages were listed at \$22,000 dollars. Causes are unknown.

In a separate fire on Sunday morning, Mr. Douglas Garris lost his home in an early morning fire. Mr. Garris escaped the fire with minor lacerations about the face which was received as he went through a window to escape the flames which gutted the interior and burned the back rooms of the house to the floor. Estimated damages were in excess of \$25,000.

A barn owned by Thomas Bryant was also destroyed.

The home of Mable Lancaster was slightly damaged on Nov. 30th.



Home of Douglas Garris

## Football Contest Winners

Dexter Jones is the winner in last week's footali contest. Jones had a 9-1 record. Joy Whitehurst finished second while Jimmy Haddock was third. With three weeks remaining, Whitehurst has moved back in the lead in the points standing with 50 points followed by John F. Kite with 38.

## Extended Area Telephone Service

Carolina Telephone customers in Vanceboro and Havelock will soon be able to call New Bern without paying long distance charges by dialing the seven digit number they wish to contact.

Extended Area Service (EAS) will go into effect December 21 at seven a.m. for this area. The EAS was approved two years ago by 79.6 percent of the 90 percent that replied to the vote in the Vanceboro area.

Mr. Zan Munroe, Carolina Telephone's District Commercial and Marketing Manager, says this service should be an asset to the Vanceboro area and it should benefit by helping tie the business community, residential community, and the school systems together.

A revision in the rates will take place with the new service. The increase will be seen in the January 1982 billings. Residential rates will rise from \$5.50 to \$8.20 for a one-party line, \$4.70 to \$7.15 for a two-party line and from \$4.40 to \$6.80 for a four party line. Commercial rates will go from \$13.80 to \$20.60 for one-party, from \$11.70 to \$17.95 for two-party, from \$11.05 to \$17.10 for four-party.

After two years, there are many happy people awaiting this service. The reason given for the two year delay was new equipment had to be purchased and installed before EAS could become a reality.

Carolina telephone is presently serving 1492 residents and 117 businesses in the Vanceboro area.

Havelock will receive the same EAS that Vanceboro residents; however, it will still be a long distance call if you wish to call Havelock or Cherry Point.

Benefits: to tie the business community, residential community and school systems together.

## Camper's Misbehavior Closes Land

Because of continuous problems with littering, danger from open campfires, road damage, and complaints from adjacent landowners, the Koppers Company has been forced to close its land to camping in three Tennessee counties. According to Jim Holton, Craven County Extension Chairman/Agent this can easily happen here in Craven County.

Most forest industries and many landowners open their lands for hunting, fishing, hiking, and other outdoor recreation activities, but because of a few irresponsible people, this privilege can be jeopardized for the rest of us Holton said.

"Try putting yourself in these landowners position when you see gates destroyed, roads rutted to impassible conditions, trees cut for firewood without permission, fences torn down, gates left open permitting livestock to get out, trash dumped in the woods and campfires left unattended," said Leon Harkins, Extension Forest Resources Specialist. "Can we really blame these landowners for closing their lands for our use when these things happen?"

What can we do to assure future use of these lands? Very simply, be considerate of others property; get permission to use the land; do all you can to convince others to do the same; and offer your assistance and help organize others to pick up litter or repair gates, fences and other things damaged by a few irresponsible individuals.