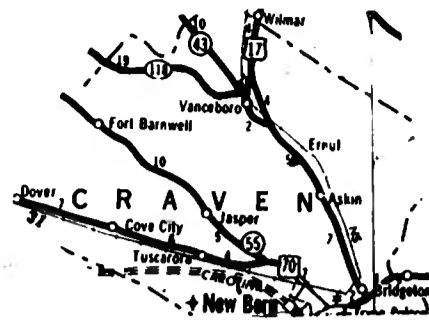




The West Craven

HIGHLIGHTS



Volume 4, Number 51, Vanceboro, N.C. Thursday, December 17, 1981 16 Pages 20 Cents

Swiss Bear Inc. Asks For Funds

Swiss Bear, Inc., was incorporated in 1979 as a non-profit tax exempt downtown development corporation. Its purpose is to revitalize New Bern's Historic Downtown by stimulating business, recreational and cultural activity in the Historic District. Swiss Bear's approach to revitalization includes focusing simultaneously on business recruitment, economics and design planning, strengthening of existing retail business, improving design quality and clarity of signs, preservation of commercial buildings through storefront rehabilitation, the promotion of the downtown area. Part of the process has included building local commitment from the private sector through involvement in the planning process and through volunteer activities.

Swiss Bear, Inc., receives more than a third of its funding through private contributions and money raised by festivals and other fund raising activities. The remainder has come from City and County funding. Membership contributions are solicited each November and December for the following calendar year. All donations are fully tax deductible.

The Board of Directors of Swiss Bear consists of 19 members who annually elect a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. Part of the board members are elected for 3 year terms by the Board and others are on the board by virtue of positions they hold in other community organizations. The Board of Swiss Bear represents a cross-section of groups active in cultural and business activities in the

downtown area.

Executive Director Kay Williams stressed even though you do not live in New Bern you can contribute time, money, or both to help New Bern enter a new age of growth. Williams has stated she feels New Bern is the county's downtown too and that is why help is being sought outside the city limits.

This year's fund raising effort will be to raise \$35,000 mostly from the private sector. In past years moneys have come from private sector, city, and county government.

They have been about 1,000 letters sent to the private sector requesting donations. Those who did not receive a letter and wish to contribute should address contributions to Swiss Bear, 417-A Tryon Palace Drive, New Bern, N.C. 28560.



Site of Methodist Cantata

(Photo by Richard Cannon)

Vanceboro Methodist Hold Cantata

After several weeks of practice under the direction of Mrs. Don Hughes and Mrs. Perry Morris at the piano; the Vanceboro Methodist Church Choir will present for your enjoyment a Christmas Cantata entitled, "The First Christmas". This event will take place in the Vanceboro United Methodist Church at 2:30 p.m., on Sunday, December 20. The public is invited to attend. The location of the church is

Farm Life Avenue.

The Cantata will consist of two readers, R.L. Cannon, Jr. and Connie Bryan, and eight songs pertaining to the birth of Christ. The choir consists of eleven female voices and six male voices. These voices are Mrs. Don Hughes, Mrs. A.D. Morris, Mrs. Clay Jordan, Mrs. Randy Bryan, Mrs. W.R. Copeland, Mrs. Lee Johnson, Mrs. Leonard Taylor, Jr., Mrs. Jimmy Gaskins, Mrs.

Mike Mills, Mrs. R.L. Cannon, Jr., Mrs. Claude Wilson, Mr. Don Hughes, Mr. Lee Johnson, Mr. Perry Morris, Mr. Clay Jordan, Mr. Mike Mills and Mr. Oral D. Morris.

This is a first for the Vanceboro United Methodist Church Choir, and they encourage you to be present for this rendition of "The First Christmas" in song.



(Photo by Richard Cannon)

CT&T Executive Speaks to Rotary

Mr. G. A. "Zan" Monroe, the District Commercial and Marketing Manager of Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company, was the speaker at the local Rotary Club last Thursday night. Mr. Monroe explained the workings of the Extended Area Telephone Service that would go into effect on December 21st for the Vanceboro, New Bern, and Havelock residents. This system will enable the Vanceboro residents to call anywhere in the county, except to the Havelock

residents. The Havelock residents will be able to call all New Bern numbers, but they will not be able to call Vanceboro except by long distance. Mr. Monroe stated this service will probably draw the communities of Craven County closer together, plus it will be very beneficial to the school systems in the county.

Discussion was held and Rotary members were given a chance to ask questions. There were very few questions submitted by the Rotarians. Most of the

questions was dealing with the increase in rates for the Vanceboro residents. Mr. Monroe stated that by 1983 all telephones would be on a one party line and that residents could look to the one party rate as their future rate, even though they now are on a two, or four party line. He further stated that the city of Vanceboro is completely on one party system at present time, and the rural lines were being changed to the one party line.



Christmas Festival Music

On Sunday afternoon, December 20, at 1:30 p.m. the air will be filled with music. The public is invited to attend the Christmas Music Festival at Morris Plaza. The Vanceboro Jr. Women's Club is proud to present for your enjoyment the Hand Bell Choirs from the New Bern First

Pentecostal Holiness Church. The Hand Bell Choirs have received National Awards for their outstanding performances, and will surely add a special spark to your Christmas joy with their special renditions.

In addition to the choirs, other area groups have been invited to attend and there

will also be an opportunity for us to share Christmas together as a community.

There will be some seating available. Please bring lawn chairs for your comfort.

Please help us in making this year a special Christmas by joining together in this Community Christmas Music Festival.