

# WEST CRAVEN HIGHLIGHTS

Wilmar Piney Neck **Serving The** Askin Epworth  
 Cayton West Craven Heights Ernul **Vanceboro Community** Spruilltown Dudley's Crossroads  
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in the Education field. After receiving his B.S. in Social Services from East Carolina University in 1968, he taught at Brinson Memorial Elementary for two years. His last year at Brinson saw him as Assistant Principal while he also taught seventh and eight grades. In 1970, he served as principal at James City Junior High School finishing his Masters in Education Administration in 1971. Since 1971, Rivenbark has served as principal at Ft. Barnwell Elementary School. He finished his Advanced Principals and Superintendents Degree in 1975 also at E.C.U. Mr. Alan Smith, also with about ten years in the schools will serve as assistant principal and athletic director. Rounding out the staff are Kathryn Adams - Secretary, Marguerite Jones - Bookkeeper, Leslie Sadler - Media Specialists, Janice Jordan - Library Aide, Lynette Dudley - Cafeteria Manager, Fred Moore - Maintenance Supervisor, Floyd Cox and Carie Gatlin - Custodians and Helen Midgette and Bonnie Norman - Reading Aides. There will be about thirty-one teachers. Mr. Rivenbark invites parents to come out and visit the new school. An official Open House will be held in April at the same time as the Dedication.

## New Junior High School Opens

"Instead of just a school, we like to call it a 'personalized environment,'" said Principal William B. Rivenbark when asked to describe the new West Craven Junior High School whose first day of classes is Monday, January 30, 1978. The over two million dollar facility, is located off Spring Garden Road about eight miles south of Vanceboro.

"Before the first architectural drawings were made, a committee of administrators and teachers, including myself, spent hours planning how each inch of space was to be used. What we have is a school built almost entirely according to our specifications," Rivenbark explained, indicating that he feels the people got their money's worth. As we toured the new facility, he pointed out the various sections and the purposes of each. One outstanding innovation in the school is the use of carpeted halls to reduce the noise level during the change of classes. West Craven Junior High is probably unique in that it has, in addition to a regular principal's office in the administration wing, an open principal's office on the main hall with comfortable chairs for conferences and an adjacent conference room for private meetings with parents or students. In this way either principal is always available. Mr. Rivenbark explained that his office is always open to any parent who wishes to talk to him. He invites parents to come out and talk to him if any problem comes up so he can act to do something about it.

In regard to school transportation, Mr. Rivenbark

explained that five buses would run on each side of the river. Students would meet their bus at the same place they presently do. Students living in Vanceboro will be picked up by the bus at any point along Main Street. This may be changed if it does not work out. "Regrettably there will be some very early routes," Mr. Rivenbark sighed, "but we will do everything we can to minimize these, even if we have to redraw the bus routes." At present, the parking lots have not been paved. Plans are under way to pave them as soon as weather permits.

For the rest of this year only seventh and eighth grades will go to the new school. No classroom time will be lost since classes will merely be transplanted to a different building. Starting this fall, the classes will be mixed with the rising seventh graders being added to make a student population of about five hundred students and about thirty-five teachers. Rivenbark explained that landscaping would begin in the spring. For outside activities the facilities at the other schools will be used. Twelve foot high fences are being erected to protect students from the river on one end and an irrigation ditch at the other end of the property. Beginning this fall, the junior high will have its own football field, baseball diamond, and track facilities. Plans are to add tennis courts later.

The school is equipped with an up to date Media Center with sections for each major subject area, and some individual study desks.

A New Bern native, Mr. Rivenbark has over ten years

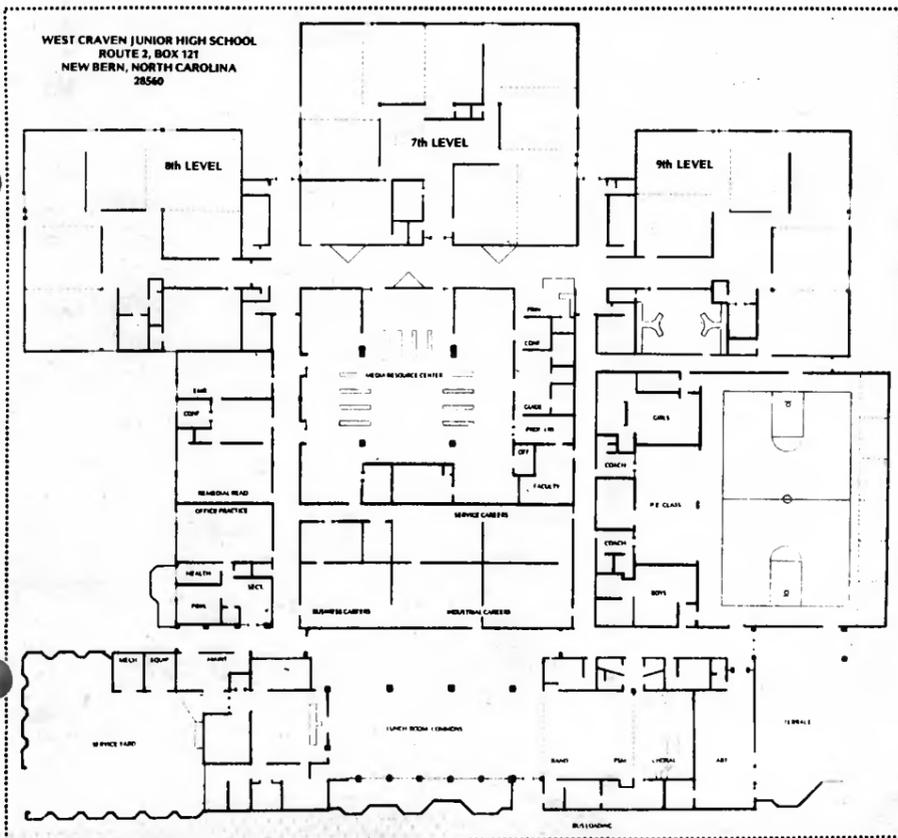
### Citizen of the Week



Anita Whitford

On Friday night Anita Whitford was a member of the Pickle Classic Court when it was presented at the annual Mount Olive Pickle Classic. The Pickle Queen and her court are chosen from the student body of Mount Olive College. The Classic is an Invitational College Basketball Tournament which is sponsored by the Jay Cees of Mount Olive. The proceeds from the tournament are donated to Mount Olive College.

A sophomore at the college, Anita was co-chief of the Marshalls her freshman year and co-recipient of the Perrett Award given to the highest academic average of the freshman class. This year Anita is president of the Henderson Science Club and Phi Theta Kappa as well as a member of the Academic Honors Program, and has been named to Who's Who Among American Junior College Students. She is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Harvey A. Whitford.



Mr. William B. Rivenbark  
Principal of West Craven  
Jr. High School

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