

# HIGHLIGHTS

## Fireman's Day -- 1978

### Record crowd attends festivities

Vanceboro, N.C.--Over two thousand people thronged the streets of Vanceboro during the annual Fireman's Day festivities October 7. The annual parade, which took a three mile route, featured fire trucks and firemen from Vanceboro and all of Craven County. Highlighting the parade was the West Craven High School Marching Band under the direction of Mr. Joseph Sizemore. Also in the parade were the Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and two beauty queens. I Charlene Page, Miss DeCA and Miss Donna Pappas, Miss Flame of Cove City gave a touch of grace and beauty to the

parade. The United Tabernacle Holiness Church and St. Paul's Episcopal Church both sponsored floats in the parade. Bringing up the rear was a fleet of motorcycles, bicycles, and horses. After the parade the rest of the day was spent in fire truck rides, games, and eating the homemade barbecue pork and chicken that has made Fireman's Day famous. The barbecue pork, seventeen hogs' worth, was gone by three o'clock forcing firemen to purchase extra barbecue to feed the record crowd. The afternoon began with several gospel groups performing in front of the fire station. These groups

included the Gabriels and the Vanceboro Christian Church Choir. Later, the attention shifted to the playing field where young children and older children participated in the egg throw, the greasy pole climb, the frisbee throw, sack races, and bike races. Soon, action shifted back to the front of the fire station where the First Annual Fireman's Auction took center stage. The Fireman's Auction was the culmination of a month-long promotion by the merchants in Vanceboro in which they gave away over 100,000 Fireman's Bucks to customers. Auctioneer Richard Cannon auctioned off mer-



Photo by Rick Cannon



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chandise and services donated by the merchants. Over 500 anxious bidders clutching their handfulls of Fireman's Bucks watched a \$35 power saw bring over 5,000 "Bucks," \$5 worth of gasoline bring over 1,000 "Bucks," a 8-Track tape deck bring over 4,000 "Bucks," a \$30 Camera bring over 3,000 "Bucks," and a \$2 meal at Vera's Diner bring over 900 "Bucks". All in all about 50 different items brought over 43,000 Fireman's Bucks. Cannon announced that Sutton's Supermarket would take any unspent Fireman's Bucks in a drawing for ten \$25 Savings Bonds to be given away December 23rd. Raleigh Ipock was the winner of the drawing for the black & white T.V.



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(Photo by Tony Gatlin)

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