



West Craven Highlights

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Sure Sign

A sure sign that spring is here and summer is just around the corner is a farmer on a tractor cutting high-growing grass in a field. This busy farmer was spotted between Vanceboro and Epworth Tuesday evening making his rounds in the field. One could say he

was probably cutting down this field to size. Some nearby cows would have loved getting hold of the just mowr grass for some afternoon snacking.

(Mike Voss photo)

West Craven Course Earns Top Honors

By MIKE VOSS

Editor

Employers in Craven County will tell you they are sold on the marketing education program at West Craven High School. And with good reason.

The program, under the direction of Richard Cannon Jr., is one of just a handful of model programs in the country. Tucked away in rural eastern North Carolina is one of the more successful marketing education programs in the country. That's why it has been selected as a model program. But getting there hasn't been easy.

Cannon is finishing a two-year internship with Ohio State University's Marketing Education Resources Center. The center sponsors the model program. Cannon has been asked to become an instructor in the program. He will help other marketing education programs in the state east of Raleigh and make out-of-state trips from time to time.

There are five model programs in the state, two in Florida, one each in Georgia, Wyoming and

New Hampshire, said Cannon.

The marketing program at West Craven was evaluated recently and passed "with flying colors," said Cannon. The evaluation was made by staff from the center at Ohio State and by Horace Robertson, the state's chief marketing education consultant from Raleigh.

Students in the program will find it different from the usual classroom atmosphere, said Cannon. "We try to have a no-fail situation," he said. Students are assigned work in 11 areas and have to score a minimum number of points in each area. A student keeps taking a test until the student passes it. Those about to fail are given opportunities to pass.

"A student can take the test until he masters the material," said Cannon.

Students are responding "very well" to the highly-structured program. "I feel like we're on the right track for this thing," added Cannon.

The program demands a lot of (See WEST CRAVEN, Page 2)



Colvin Joyner

Teacher Adds Chapter To Life With Publication About Farm Life School

By MIKE VOSS

Editor

Colvin Joyner could walk into a classroom today and everyone in it would know she belonged there. Some people were just meant to be teachers.

But Ms. Joyner is also an author who has chronicled one of Vanceboro's oldest institutions — the Farm Life School.

In 1975 she published *Fond Memory Turns To Thee*, a book that tells the story of Farm Life School. This year the revised edition has been printed and it adds information and clears up details from the first edition. And if ever there was a love of labor in writing a book, Ms. Joyner had it.

The 79-year-old veteran teacher taught at the school. She began teaching there just out of college in 1930. And it's been a love affair ever since.

Not many people would take on the task of writing a book in their 70s, but Ms. Joyner has energy the belyes her age. "I'm so happy I'm as active as I am," she said. And she plans to be around for her 80th birthday. Few would doubt her.

Ms. Joyner recalled the beginnings of the school. In the early 1900s, said Ms. Joyner, the Legislature appropriated money to create "farm life" schools in the state. The schools were to deal with problems in agriculture and teach "home sciences" as part of

their mandate, said Ms. Joyner. Vanceboro became the first town to open a "farm life" school in 1915. To borrow a phrase, the rest is history.

The schools were required to have a "model" farm next to the campus. In the early years the school had a dormitory to house boarding students. "They really offered a service," said Ms. Joyner, who compared the school's programs to today's extension service programs.

"The school was more like a research station," she said.

Ms. Joyner taught business in the grades eight through 11. The twelfth grade did not appear in high schools until 1946, said Ms. Joyner.

She taught at Farm Life School for 26 of her 43 years as a teacher. The other years were spent teaching in the other schools of western Craven County. Four families have sent three generations through the classrooms of Ms. Joyner.

The idea for the book came from her husband, Bill, one of the early graduates of Farm Life School. "He wanted a record of it," said Ms. Joyner. But she hesitated, not sure if those born and raised in the area would accept an "outsider's" efforts to chronicle the school's past.

She told her husband that if

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Survey Seeks Input From Citizens

(Editor's Note: This survey is being run as a public service upon request of Sen. Bill Barker. The survey was submitted to the West Craven Highlights by Barker. The results of the survey will be published at a later date and will be carried in the West Craven Highlights.)

To the citizens of the Third Senatorial District (Craven, Carteret and Pamlico counties):

This questionnaire gives to you personally an opportunity to advise me on how you feel about issues pending before the General Assembly.

I feel, as your senator, I should reflect in my vote in the Senate your feelings and your position on the issues as much as possible.

The big "special interest" groups with their full-time lobbyists are around the Legislature every day pushing for their interests, but you cannot be there every day to push for yours. Frankly, I am more interested in your feelings on the issues, and for that reason, I submit this questionnaire to give you an opportunity to help me serve you better.

Radioactive Waste

Realizing that low-level radioactive waste is a fact of life we must deal with, whether it is generated within or outside the state, do you favor North Carolina pulling out of the Southeastern low-level Radioactive Waste Management Compact? If we stay in the compact, we take everyone's waste for 20 years and then the compact will take our waste for 140 years. If we pull out, we must manage our own waste forever. Those in favor of pulling out say we were not selected fairly and that it is better to store our own waste forever than the compact's waste for 20 years. Those against pulling out say we gave our word and we won't be trusted by our sister states in future dealings if we pull out. They also say

it is better to manage the compact's waste for 20 years rather than our own waste forever.

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

DWI Law

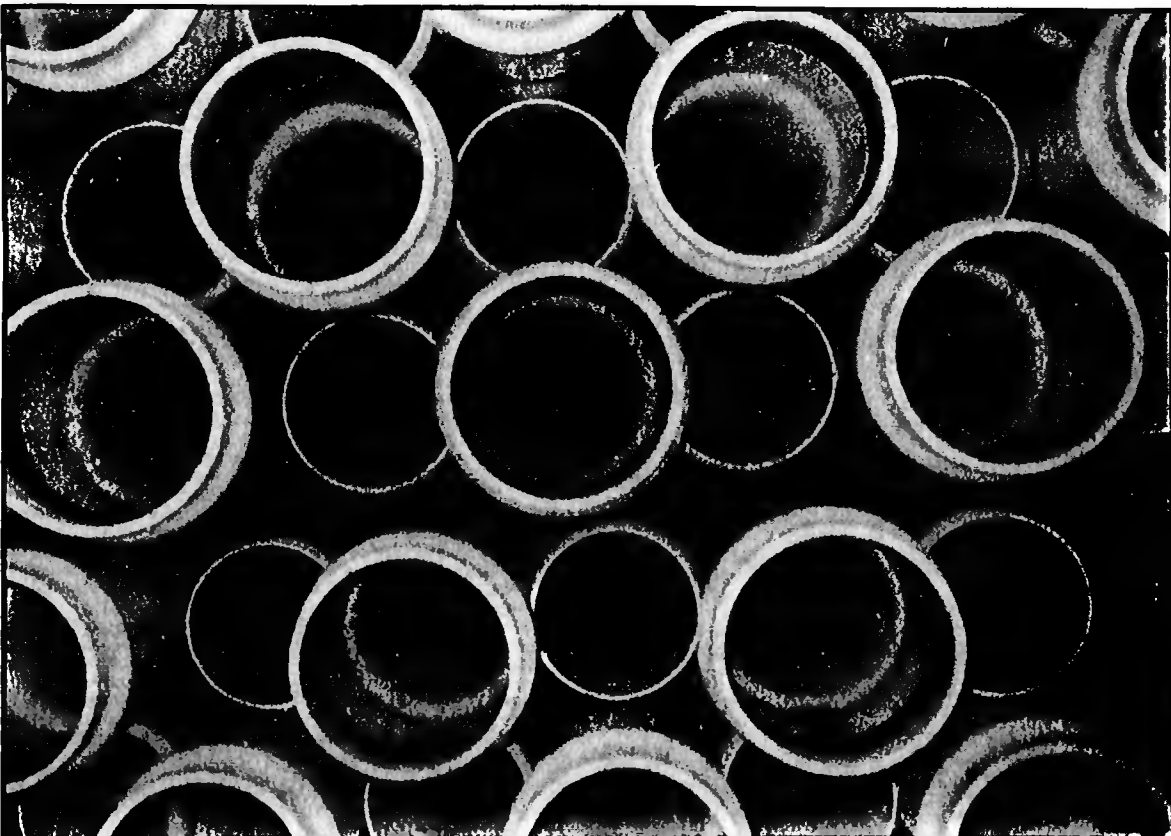
The DWI law has been in effect about four years. Many people that blow less than .10 on the Breathalyzer are impaired but are not being prosecuted or convicted. A few people that blow slightly over .10 are being convicted even when there is no evidence that the person is under the influence. Do you feel that the DWI law needs to be changed to ensure that every person who is actually impaired is prosecuted and convicted and that the state must have some evidence of actual impairment in addition to the Breathalyzer reading?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

School Construction

Local school boards have estimated that they need in excess of \$2 billion to pay for school construction. Our statutes provide that this is the responsibility of county government. County commissioners have only one way to meet that commitment — property taxes. The governor has proposed a \$1.5 billion bond referendum to allow local counties to borrow and pay back with interest over a long period of time. Senator Kenneth Royall has also

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(Mike Voss photo)

Give Up?

Have you figured out what this is a picture of? Well, for those of you that have given up, it is a close-up view of pipes sitting near Vanceboro. The pipes are waiting to be installed as part of a county-

wide water system. Meanwhile, they offer an interesting view. Let's just hope a swarm of honeybees don't confuse the pipes with a honeycomb in a beehive. It could lead to some sticky problems.