



West Craven Highlights

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SIX PAGES

Crops Taking Heat, Storms Well: Official County Weathers Problems Of Affects On Summer Crops

By MIKE VOSS
Editor

When it rains, it pours. But not in all cases and especially if you're a farmer.

For weeks area farmers, or some of them, suffered through extremely high temperatures and little, if any, rain. Those who got rain usually didn't get enough to do much good.

Area farmers seem to have a "too-much-rain or not-enough-rain" problem. Too much rain when farmers don't need it and too little rain when the crops need a drink. Farmers can do a lot to make their fields more productive, but there is little they can do to make it rain. Even the hopeful "let's pray for rain" doesn't seem to have a prayer of a chance these days, according to farm experts.

A few farmers have been forced to use irrigation to help

crops, those farmers who have irrigation systems to use.

And when a major storm blew through eastern North Carolina Monday afternoon, some farmers got more than they bargained for. Luckily, according to local reports, those farmers were just outside the Craven County line. Farmers in Pitt and Beaufort counties suffered severe crop damage from hail and wind.

But Craven County agricultural officials say the storm left Craven County untouched. Rain fell, but no reports of crop damage had been received by mid-afternoon Tuesday.

A poll of officials in Cove City, Dover and Ft. Barnwell revealed that Monday's storm brought rain in varying amounts, but even the largest rainfall was not enough to meet water needs, said

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Craven County farmers were spared from hail damage Monday — neighboring counties weren't spared

Waste-To-Energy Viable Option In County

One In A Series

Glenn Forrest of Vanceboro accompanied state and local officials on a tour through Maryland and Virginia to study methods of garbage disposal. Forrest is working to solve garbage problems facing Craven County. Forrest was to have met today with military representatives and area county managers in Newport to discuss garbage problems.

By MIKE VOSS
Editor

BALTIMORE — The garbage produced by Baltimore County is enough to provide electricity for all of western Craven County through waste-to-energy plants, with some left over.

That fact didn't go to waste on government officials and region-

al planners on a state-sponsored tour of alternatives to landfills. All of the facilities toured processed garbage into fuel or used it as fuel.

Weyerhaeuser Company's New Bern operation has been asked to provide information, said Glenn Forrest of the Neuse River Council of Governments, to see if it could benefit from a facility similar to the ones toured by the group. Forrest said Weyerhaeuser uses steam at the New Bern site and might be a potential customer for steam and/or power generated by a waste-to-energy plant.

The Baltimore County Resource Recovery Facility takes a

mixture of about 70 percent residential garbage and 30 percent commercial garbage and separates glass and ferrous metal from "fluff." The "fluff" is what remains after the glass and metal have been removed. It resembles shredded paper.

The plant is owned by Baltimore County and operated by National Ecology of Timonium, Md. Plant officials said "fluff" is another term for refuse-derived-fuel, RDF for short.

The RDF is sold to Baltimore Gas & Electric Co. which burns it with coal to produce electricity.

Ted Hill, vice president for business development for National Ecology, said the utility uses a mixture of 80 percent coal and 20 percent RDF to produce electricity. Hill said the use of

RDF cuts the use of fossil fuel. Using less coal, said Hill, meant the company could save money and use less natural resources.

Hill estimated that the alternative fuel saves Baltimore Gas & Electric \$1 million a year.

A pound of RDF produces 5,500 to 8,000 BTUs and has about half the heating value of coal, said Hill.

His company uses about 20 percent of the RDF produced by the plant. The rest is trucked to a landfill.

"What we put into a landfill is a small percentage of what would have been put there if we didn't process it," said Hill. "If nothing else, we at least extend the life of a landfill significantly."

The plant is also shipping RDF to a power company in New

Hampshire, said Hill.

The plant can handle 1,200 tons of waste a day, but usually processes 900 tons a day. By comparison, the amount of waste produced by Beaufort and seven other eastern North Carolina counties is estimated at 800 tons a day.

The facility was built in 1976 at a cost of \$11.4 million on a six-acre site. Hill said the plant has been closed, other than for routine maintenance, for just six days in 11 years.

Hill said it costs about \$12 a ton to process the RDF and it is sold for about \$18 a ton. The plant does not make a profit, said Hill.

He said the plant costs about \$5 million a year to operate and

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Renovation Plan Made By Town's Community Panel

The Vanceboro Community Association discussed fund raising efforts and renovations to the Vanceboro Community Center at its July meeting held at the center.

A Trustee Board was appointed to handle the fundraising efforts and renovations. Members of the Trustee Board are: John Bryant, chairman; Bobby Mitchell, vice chairman; Slover Edwards, secretary; James W. Dawson, banking committee; Tony Moye, treasurer; Troy Dawson and Joseph Dixon.

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Pigging Out On Reading

Orville the pig, mascot for the Summer Reading Game, visited the Vanceboro-Craven County Public Library recently during the library's story hour. Orville was on hand to participate in a skit. The Summer Reading Game awards children for the number of books they read during the summer.

Organizers say it helps children improve reading skills and provides some summer adventure for the children. Those who take the game seriously can usually be found at the library a few times a week. Did anybody ask Orville if he could read? (Richard Cannon photo)

Farm Life Principal Finishes Executive Program At UNC

CHAPEL HILL—Richard W. Bowers, principal of Vanceboro-Farm Life Elementary School, is the fifth Craven County school manager to improve his school administrative management techniques through the Principals' Executive Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Other Craven principals who have completed the program are Robert E. Jolly, West Craven High School in Vanceboro; Ethridge H. Ricks, Brinson Memorial Elementary School in New Bern; Susan H. Rivenbark, Oaks Road Elementary School in New Bern; and Richard P. Wilson, Trent Park Elementary School in New Bern.

Bowers is one of 33 administrators in the program's 11th session, which began April 21 at UNC's Institute of Government and concluded July 10. Participants strengthened their skills through coursework in 23 management and education areas during four five-day sessions.

The program is designed to help educators stay up-to-date to maintain effectiveness, hone their skills and continue their

commitment to professional development.

"These principals will lead the state's public schools into the next decade and will help to construct a strong bridge between the university and the public school system," UNC Chancellor Christopher C. Fordham III said.

More than 350 principals across the state have completed the intensive executive education program, which began in September 1984.

The Principals' Executive Program was developed in response to concerns about school management expressed by Fordham and C.D. Spangler Jr., former chairman of the N.C. Board of Education and now UNC system completed. Programs scheduled through September have been filled.

"The program brings principals back to the classroom to learn new administrative skills and to think creatively about management in a school setting," said Robert Phay, program director. He noted that the curriculum teaches principals how to run more effective instructional programs and has an impact on

participants long after the program has ended.

During the program, participants spend more than 150 hours in classes focusing on such areas as leadership, personnel management, personal development, improvement of instructors and curriculum, students and legal issues. Also included are special presentations by UNC faculty in the arts and humanities. Many of the 120 sessions of the program are taught by the case method and all classroom teachings attempts to engage the principal in discussion of various topics.

Program faculty come primarily from the Institute of Government, the business and education schools and the College of Arts and Sciences.

Principals are nominated by their superintendents. One principal can be nominated for every 13 principals in the school district.

Program costs, including housing and meals for participants, are covered by a special legislative appropriation.

Upon completion of the (See PRINCIPAL, Page 2)

Jordan Vows He'll Fight Severance Tax

AURORA — "Whatever happens in the future, I shall fight every effort to enact a severance tax on phosphate in North Carolina."

It was Lt. Gov. Bob Jordan speaking during a visit yesterday to Texasgulf Chemicals Co. complex near Aurora.

"I'm against a phosphate severance tax. Such a tax will be a burden to your county and to this company," he said. "I cannot understand why Sen. Bo Thomas ever introduced such a bill, and I told him at the outset I was opposed and that his severance

Lt. Gov. Speaks At Texasgulf

tax bill did not have a chance."

Jordan flew into Lee Creek from Asheville where he spoke in the morning. He arrived at the Texasgulf runway at 1:40 and for more than two hours he toured the phosphate operations and met with company officials, supervisors, and workers.

"We want to see our companies expand, and I shall help that end in every possible way. Up in Raleigh, surely we'll adjourn this session of the legislature shortly

and North Carolina will be safe again," he said with a smile.

In conclusion he added, "You may or may not know Rep. Joe Mavretic but he introduces some crazy bills, and his bill to abolish property taxes and increase sales taxes and thus allow the state to dish out the money to the counties heads his list."

The lieutenant governor toured the mining excavation site and he climbed one of Texasgulf's huge draglines. Jack Hird,

mine manager, explained the operations there. Jordan also saw the refinement area where such acids as sulphuric and phosphoric are turned out along with solid phosphate used in fertilizers. He also was told of the land reclamation program carried out by the company.

Rann Carpenter, public relations officer, showed the group a short film depicting the complete Texasgulf operations. Carpenter also told the party that Texasgulf employs 1,218 work-

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Jordan, center, meets Texasgulf Vice President Thomas Regan, left, and spokesman Rann Carpenter