



# West Craven Highlights

News From Along The Banks Of The Neuse



VOLUME 11 NO. 47

DECEMBER 8, 1988

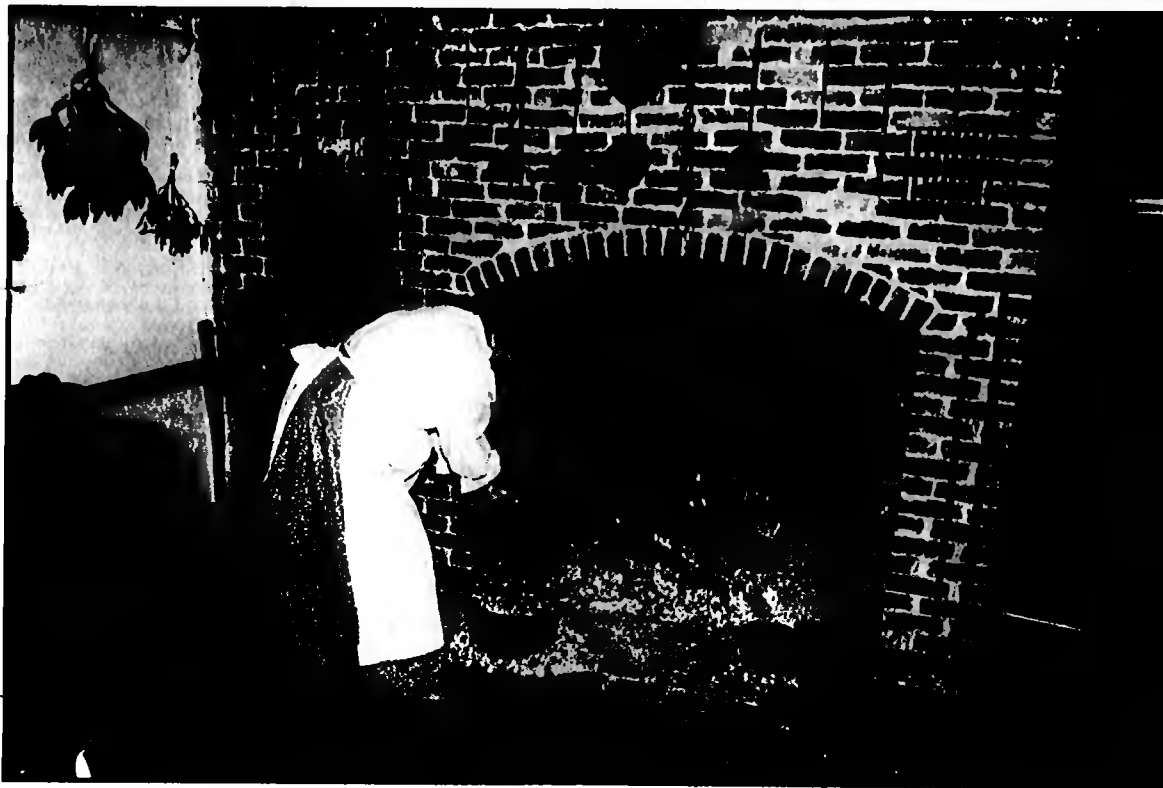
VANCEBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

PHONE 244-0780 OR 946-2144

(UPSP 412-110)

25 CENTS

SIX PAGES



## An Old-Fashioned Christmas

Eastern North Carolina is dotted with historic towns that dip into history when Christmas comes around each year. Here at one historic house in the eastern edge of the state, workers in the garb of the

day prepared foods the old-fashioned way for guests who drop in for a taste of Christmases past.

(Elmo Carawan photo)

## Vanceboro's Scout Family Earns Honors

### Pack 58 Leads Food Drive; Leader Receives Top Award

By TERRI JAMIESON  
Staff Writer

Scouts in the Vanceboro area have been busy collecting this fall — collecting awards and food.

Vanceboro Boy Scout Troop 208 was presented the Baden Powell Award recently at the Neuse Basin District Banquet held at Bangert Elementary School Nov. 17.

The Baden Powell Award is a distinguished award presented annually. The troop that receives the honor of holding the trophy for the year must meet rigid criteria including participation in at least four district events, with the highest average of points among competitors in the events.

The scouts are interviewed anonymously and spontaneously, then awarded points. The troop is also judged on scout spir-

it, enthusiasm and scout growth. The Baden Powell Award is named after the founder of Boy Scouts, Baden Powell.

Scoutmaster for Troop 208 is Raymond Laughinghouse Jr. and Assistant Scoutmaster is Larry Hayes.

At the Neuse Basin District Banquet, Debbie Laughinghouse picked up one of several awards presented to Scouts and their leaders.

Ms. Laughinghouse was presented the Cub Master of the Year Award. She is Cub Master of Pack 58 in Vanceboro.

The award is presented to individuals who have been nominated by scouting leaders and then approved on a district level. Criteria considered include past scouting history and scouting contributions.

(See SCOUTS, Page 5)

## Acreage, Several Crops Show Decline In County

By MIKE VOSS  
Editor

State farm statistics show that Craven County lost productive farm acreage and that the county's economy appears less dependent on farming than in the past. The farm figures show that the state again led the nation in tobacco production.

The state as a whole ranked first in the nation in production of flue-cured tobacco, sweet potatoes, turkeys and forest products in 1987. N.C. farmers grew

452 million pounds of tobacco, 66 percent of the nation's production.

State farmers also ranked in the top ten nationally in production of pickle cucumbers, burley tobacco, peanuts, commercial broilers, chickens, hogs, apples, eggs, peaches, strawberries and pecans.

The state had a total farm income of \$4 billion. Nationally, farm income was \$155 billion.

There were approximately 70,000 farms in the state in 1987

and the average size was 150 acres. The more than 2 million farms across the country averaged more than 463 acres each.

Farms in the state had an average net income of \$19,689. Nationally, the average net income for farms was \$21,261.

According to statistics compiled by the N.C. Agricultural Statistics Division on last year's growing season, Craven County did not rank in the top 10 in production of any crop or livestock category, but several surround-

ing counties did.

In tobacco, Craven County farmers slightly over 300,000 more pounds of flue-cured tobacco in 1987 than they did in 1986. They produced 8,346,000 in 1987 compared to 8,024,000 pounds in 1986. County leaf growers harvested 3,900 acres of tobacco in 1987, up from the 3,850 acres harvested in 1986. The yield per acre increased from 2,085 pounds in 1986 to 2,140 pounds last year.

Pitt County led the state with over 24 million pounds and

Lenoir County was 10th with 15 million pounds.

Farmers planted and harvested less corn for grain last year than in 1986. Growers harvested 1,214,000 bushels (69 per acre) from 17,700 acres in 1987. In 1986, growers harvested 1,742,000 bushels (80 per acre) from 21,700 acres. Beaufort, Pitt and Lenoir counties were third, fourth and seventh respectively in top 10 county producers.

Soybean production was up in 1987 compared to 1986, but there

were less acres harvested in 1987. Farmers grew 587,000 bushels (27 per acre) on 21,700 acres last year. The year before, farmers harvested 24,400 acres and produced 581,000 bushels (24 per acre). Beaufort and Pitt counties were third and eighth respectively in the state's top 10 county producers.

Craven County's sweet potato production increased from 5,100 hundredweight to 5,600 hun-

(See CROPS, Page 5)

## British Christmas: A Merry Old Time

Retired Methodist minister Bill Wells wrote in August, before he and his wife, Dixie, left for England, that he planned to send reports every two weeks during his three-year ministry in the north of England. However, Mrs. Wells' homesickness and depression meant that they had to return to their home in Laurinburg, where she is recovering and he is writing us. He has sent additional reports for publication in the New Year.

By BILL WELLS

Christmas arrangements have been in full swing for quite a while in England. Some decorations were seen before Halloween, and the church was making plans long before then.

Our circuit of 15 churches, four ministers, and a fulltime pastoral assistant, is called the Redcar, Saltburn and Guisborough Circuit of the Methodist Church. Circuit Plan No. 106, which was published in mid-August, shows that there will be a 7 p.m. service on Christmas Eve in Saltburn Methodist Church and an 11:15 p.m. service of Holy Communion in Marske Methodist Church, also on Christmas Eve.

On Christmas Day, Marske will have a 9:30 a.m. worship service, and Saltburn will have a service at 11 a.m. Although I was "planned" to conduct all four of those services, they will go on as if I had not left. Another minister

(See BRITISH, Page 5)

## Churches Announce Christmas Programs

Holly Hill  
Pentecostal Holiness

The Holly Hill Pentecostal Holiness Church Youth Ministries will present "King Jesus," a Christmas musical, Dec. 11 at 5 p.m.

The story takes place in the village where the shepherds live who first visited Jesus on the night of his birth. The time is two years after the night they were visited by angels and they saw the newborn savior. The shepherds have planned to lead their village in what they hope will become a yearly celebration of the events that happened on the night of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem.

There will be a recitation by the younger children of the

church. After the musical, gifts will be exchanged by the Sunday school members.

Refreshments will be served by the Women's Ministries in the Linly Morris Fellowship Building following the musical.

The public is invited to attend.

Juniper Chapel  
Free Will Baptist

Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church will present a Christmas program Dec. 18 at 7 p.m.

On Christmas, the church will hold regular morning worship services with no Sun-

(See CHURCHES, Page 2)

## 'Adopt-A-Highway' Sweeps Craven Clean

Since the announcement of North Carolina's Adopt-A-Highway program in April, approximately 1,600 miles of the state's roadways have been adopted.

According to Jean H. Dodd, director of Keep North Carolina Clean and Beautiful in the N.C. Department of Transportation, "This is one of the fastest-growing civic programs in the state."

At the local level, Craven County Clean Sweep and DOT are working together to see that the highways in Craven County are kept clean. Approximately 45 miles of the state's highways in Craven County have been adopted and that number is increasing daily. According to Joe Lamb, district engineer for DOT, in the past two weeks 13 orga-

nizations have agreed to maintain a segment of a highway.

In order to adopt a highway, an organization agrees to clean a minimum of two miles of a state road four times a year. Organizations are provided with safety vests, trash bags and a 10-minute video outlining safety rules. In return for keeping their portion of highway clean, a white sign with "Adopt-A-Highway" and the name of the adopting agency in green letters is placed beside the road to mark the adopted section of highway.

DOT spends \$1 million annually to clean roadways. The money saved by an organization adopting a highway can be used for badly needed highway maintenance and improvements.

(See HIGHWAYS, Page 2)

## West Craven Sweeps Three From Hurricanes

West Craven and D.H. Conley earned three-game sweeps while the North Lenoir varsity split with Ayden-Grifton as three of the other six Coastal Conference teams saw action.

In Vanceboro, Lamont Cox came off the bench to score 13 points while Lee Becton had 14 and Tony Jenkins 12 as West Craven improved to 2-2 overall with a 63-58 win over Pamlico County.

Marcel Hill's 17 points led the Hurricanes, 0-3.

"Lamont had some big baskets for us and he came through with some good defense, although offensively, we tried to give the game away," Eagle coach Lorenzo Jones said. "We missed eight one-and-ones in the fourth quarter."

West Craven's Lady Eagles got out of the gate early against the Lady Hurricanes of Pamlico County Tuesday night to take a wire-to-wire 61-22 win.

The Lady Eagles, ranked among the best teams in eastern North Carolina, are 4-0 on the season.

Linetta Bryant pumped in 16

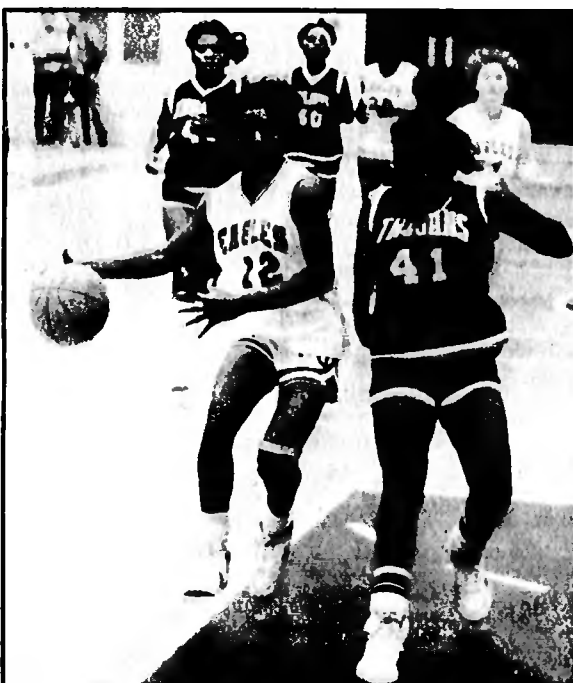
points and Chandra Crouell added 15 to pace the Lady Eagles' scoring attack. The Lady Hurricanes were led by three players with four points each.

The Lady Eagles galloped to a 19-3 lead after the first quarter and never looked back. They took a commanding 31-7 lead into the lockerroom at the half. The Lady Hurricanes were held to single-digit scoring in all but the final period, when they tallied 10 points.

"We're playing a whole lot better. A lot of the girls are getting some playing time. We've played pretty good and last night was a lot better than the other night when we had 40 turnovers. We're not playing at our best, but we can go deep on the bench with confidence," said Lady Eagle coach Liz Cox.

Cox said it was experience over inexperience that was the difference in the game. "They were pretty quick and they stayed with us. She (Pamlico coach Laura Lancaster, a West Craven product) has a lot of

(See EAGLES, Page 5)



West Craven's Linetta Bryant (12) drives against Trojan forward Tera Jones during Friday's action. (Jim Green photo)



## Letters To Santa Claus 'Write' Holiday Spirit

"He knows if you are sleeping. He knows if you're awake. He knows if you've been bad or good. So be good for goodness' sake."

Santa Claus is coming to town. That's right, Old St. Nick will make his annual rounds again Christmas Eve.

And with so many children to see just in one night, the West Craven Highlights thinks Santa may need some help.

In order to give the jolly, old elf a helping hand this Christmas, the Highlights will once again receive letters from chil-

(See SANTA, Page 2)