

No-Name Streets, No Mail, Either

By Marty Vega

Dora Simpson, and her son, Mason Ray, live on a narrow street crowded with houses, many of them dilapidated and decaying, in a densely populated black residential section east of St. Pauls Dr., within the city limits.

Although city sewer lines were put into the area, Mrs. Simpson, 70, and her son, 57, still do not have indoor plumbing and their bathroom is an outdoor privy, until they can afford getting pipes installed.

They pay city taxes, and when they pay their taxes, the address is recorded as St. Pauls Dr. When their neighbors who are paying city water and sewer charges open accounts, the city lists the accounts as St. Pauls Dr., because the streets they live on have no names.

"It ain't got no name", Ray shrugged when asked what street he lived on. "I'm paying taxes and they ain't ever numbered the streets. We got no signs, if you come to look for anybody you got to ask for them by name", he said.

Although the street Ray lives on, and one intersecting it which runs east from St. Pauls Dr., are paved, residents in the area cannot get door-to-door mail delivery, like other city dwellers.

"I put a box out there but the mailman don't come down here, he just goes down St. Pauls Dr., to McRae's store, and he don't come down these streets," Ray said.

Ray and his neighbors either pick up their mail at McRae's or maintain a post office box, but for the large number of elderly residents living in the area, door-to-door service is what is wanted, Ray said.

Unless street signs are put up by



CITY DWELLER - Mrs. Dora Simpson, who said she has been ailing, is one of the city dwellers in a blighted area east of St. Pauls Dr. with no street signs and no mail delivery.

the city, the residents will never be able to get mail delivery, according to the post office.

"Somebody has got to request service, and we haven't had a request from there", Raeford postmaster George Carver said.

Carver said door-to-door delivery for the area should be no problem, but the post office has a regulation that they cannot begin service until street signs are put up and houses have number.

Acting city manager Bill Sellars said Friday there was no problem in naming the streets, the city had just never gotten around to it.

"About three or four years ago, they finally got enough easement to lay down asphalt for those streets. They have to be a certain width before you can get them under

Powell Bill funds, and when I was working in the street department, we got the additional width," he said.

"They carried on the water books as St. Pauls Dr. All those addresses are St. Pauls Dr.", Sellars said.

Although residents who need to phone the police in an emergency cannot give an address, police chief Leonard Wiggins said this is not a great problem.

"That's a very quiet neighborhood, and I don't believe we average more than three or four calls a year from there", Wiggins said.

"Usually if there is a call, the people will give us directions, say 'turn behind the church, and the house is so far to the left or right, like that'", he said.



JOB CORPS -- Job Corpsman Vellie W. Jones of Rt. 3, Box 142, Raeford, took part in the 198th Graduation Exercise of the Singer Breckinridge Job Corps Center December 3, at Morganfield, Ky. Corpsman Jones successfully completed studies in building trades and plans a career in the field of plumbing.

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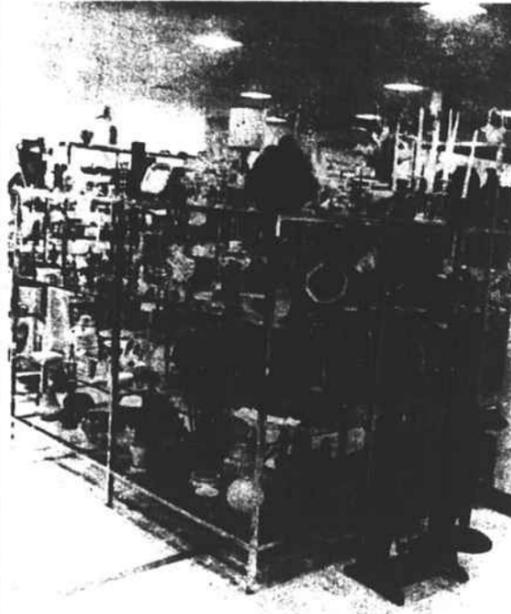
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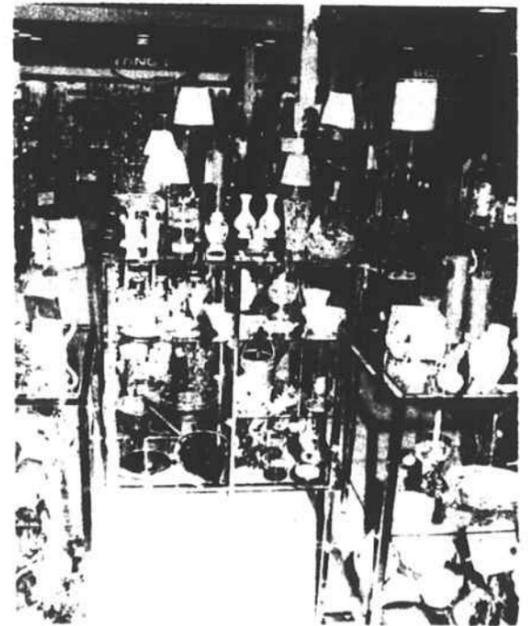
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RAP SESSION -- Teenagers got a chance to meet for a rap session Friday night at DeVane's Auction Barn, where police officers and merchants joined to sponsor an evening of entertainment and a "place to go". Costs of the dance were paid by the merchants, who are supporting better communication lines between law enforcement and the youth in the community.

Dance - Rap Session Termed A Success

The Friday dance-rap session jointly sponsored by Police and Merchants was termed a success by juvenile officials Monday.

"We were very pleased with the turn-out. We had approximately 200 young people there and I think they all had a good time," said juvenile officer Charles Campbell.

"The response to our rap session was fair. We received such suggestions as a horseshoe tournament, basketball tournaments, and possibly the opening of a new recreation center from the response," he said.

"I think it was a success. It gave the young people a place to go and talk and socialize," said J. Watson McNeill, juvenile probation officer.

"I was really please with the turn-out," he added.

Upchurch Teams Win

By Pat Scott

The Upchurch girl's basketball team tipped off its season Dec. 8, defeating Elizabethtown 54-14.

One of the coaches said that she was pleased with the team's effort but would like to cut down on mistakes and be a more aggressive team.

She also said that she would like to create as much enthusiasm for the girl's game as there is for the boys.

In the boy's game, Upchurch defeated Hamlet 61-21 Dec. 10, at home. The team played more as a team in this game than they did against Elizabethtown. They're improving with experience, the coach said.

Campbell and McNeill said they were taking the suggestions offered into consideration and hoped to have a similar function again in the near future.

They expressed appreciation to the merchants for their support and cooperation.

"Without their help, the function could not have taken place," said Campbell.

J.A. Webb Listed 'Poor'

County commissioner J.A. Webb was listed in "poor" condition Tuesday at St. Joseph's Hospital in Southern Pines, a hospital spokesman reported.

Webb, in his 80's, has been in ill health for most of the year and unable to attend commissioners' meetings.



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