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One Dead, One Hurt In Mobile Home Fires

One man died and another was seriously burned in two mobile home fires near Wallace early Wednesday of last week.

Dead is George Cavanaugh, believed to have been in his mid-20s.

Suffering serious burns on his feet, hands and arms, is Greg Teachey, who is being treated in Duplin General Hospital in Kenansville.

The fatal fire occurred about 6 a.m. in Cavanaugh's mobile home just off N.C. 11, about a mile north of Ten City, which is about a mile east of Wallace.

Assistant Wallace Fire Chief Lester Caison said someone going to work saw smoke coming out of Cavanaugh's home, tried to enter, but couldn't get the door

open and called the fire department at 6:35 a.m.

The fire still had not broken out through the heavily insulated walls of the mobile home when the department arrived, but it was "burning furiously inside," according to Caison.

He said Cavanaugh appeared to have died from smoke inhalation, but the body was sent to Onslow Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville for an autopsy to determine the exact cause of

death. The man was fully clothed except for his shoes, Caison added.

"The home was so completely burned we can't tell for sure where the fire started, although it appeared to have started in the kitchen-dining room area in the middle," he said.

Teachey's home was located at Tin City Trailer Courts on N.C. 11. The fire was reported at 1:30 a.m. Wednesday.

The fire was started by

burning grease. Teachey was burned when the flames scattered as he tried to put it out with water from a hose, according to Caison.

After Teachey thought he had the fire out, he went to the James Guyer home nearby for help. Guyer went back to the mobile home, where he found only one curtain smoldering. He extinguished that blaze.

Doors and windows of the mobile home were opened to let smoke out. Guyer then

called the Wallace Rescue Squad.

Caison said apparently some fire that remained unseen in the home rekindled in the fresh air and destroyed the entire structure within a few minutes. Wallace firemen found the mobile home engulfed in fire when they arrived.

Caison said he thought someone in the mobile home park had called the department.



HONORED WITH COOKOUT - The secretaries of the Duplin County Public Schools central office were honored during National Secretary's Week with a hamburger cookout on Wednesday, which was National Secretary's Day. Pictured above is Board of

Education Chairman Graham Phillips and Superintendent L.S. Guy enjoying a respite from their busy schedules. Phyllis Rouse, Jean Frazelle and Carolyn McElveen, left to right, are in the foreground.

Rose Hill - Kenansville Back Toll-Free Line

The concept of extended area telephone (toll-free) service between Rose Hill and Kenansville received the endorsement of the Rose Hill Chamber of Commerce this past week.

The endorsement came after a meeting at which Mickey McDowell, Fayetteville division commercial supervisor of Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Co., outlined costs. C.W. Surrat acted as meeting chairman.

Support of Kenansville for the project was obtained when the town board, in a special meeting Thursday, also endorsed the toll-free concept.

If both communities desired the service, the matter would have to be brought before the state Utilities Commission by the company. A mail poll of telephone subscribers involved probably would be required.

McDowell estimated 18 months would be required

from the start of such a project to work out the details and establish the service.

The rates proposed for such a service would be 50 cents a month higher for residential customers and \$1.10 to \$1.30 per month more for business customers than current rates. The current rates went into effect April 14.

At present the toll rate for station-to-station daytime calls between the two towns is 18 cents per minute.

A company 30-day study showed 1,563 subscribers made 7,851 toll calls between the two communities. It has 3,093 phones in service in the two communities.

The present one-party line rate in Rose Hill is \$8.60 per month and the proposed rate for extended service, \$9.10 per month. The two-party line rate would increase from \$7.50 to \$8 per month under the extended area service

plan and the four-party line rate from \$7.10 to \$7.60.

The single-party business rate would increase \$1.30 a month from \$21.50 to \$22.80; the two-party line rate, from \$18.70 to \$20 and the four-party line rate from \$17.85 to \$19.15 a month.

The Kenansville rates, both at present and in the extended area service plan, are slightly higher than Rose Hill's. The single-party line rate would increase 50 cents from \$8.95 to \$9.35 under the plan; the two-party line rate would increase by 45 cents, from \$7.80 to \$8.25; and the four-party line rate, 40 cents, from \$7.45 to \$7.85 per month.

The one-party business rate would increase by \$1.25, from \$22.15 to \$23.40 a month; the two-party, \$1.10, from \$19.50 to \$20.60, and the four-party, \$1.15, from \$18.60 to \$19.75 per month.

An attempt to organize county-wide extended area

(toll-free) telephone service in Duplin County failed in the mid-1970s.

At present Rose Hill exchange customers can call Wallace toll-free. Magnolia and Greenevilles numbers are listed under the Rose Hill heading.

Wallace customers, who pay a one-party residential rate of \$8.60 per month, can call Rose Hill, Chinquapin, Magnolia and Greenevilles number toll-free. Warsaw subscribers, who also pay \$8.60 a month, can call Kenansville and Faison toll-free.

Kenansville subscribers can call Warsaw and Beaulaville numbers toll-free. Beaulaville subscribers pay \$8.20 a month for single-party service and can call Kenansville toll-free. Faison subscribers pay \$7.85 per month and can call Warsaw toll-free.



HAMBURGER COOKOUT - Duplin County Board of Education Chairman Graham Phillips of Wallace joined central office staff personnel for a hamburger cookout this past

Wednesday. He is joined by Jean Stephens, Phyllis Rouse, Jean Frazelle and Carolyn McElveen.

Schools Ask Duplin Panel For Lost Funds

Vocational agriculture teachers in Duplin County may be paid for 10 months instead of 12 and the extended day school program cut from 12 to 10 months because of federal and state fund reductions.

The Board of Education, presenting its proposed budget to the Board of Commissioners last week on Wednesday night, asked the county to provide the \$48,000 needed to keep these programs on their 12-month schedules.

Superintendent L.S. Guy called for \$2,729,422 in county funds for the 1982-83 fiscal year for operating expenses and \$360,275 for capital outlay expenditures.

Guy said the proposed budget asks for \$620,522 more than the school system received from the county this year.

Agricultural teachers are paid out of state and federal grants and have been paid for 12 months instead of the 10 months for which most teachers are paid. Faced with reductions in these grants, the school board decided to cut the two summer months from vocational teachers' pay schedules.

The board said the reduction, which would decrease budget needs by \$18,900 for the year, would have the least effect on students of all proposed cuts.

Elimination of two months in the extended day program would reduce expenditures by \$19,100 a year.

The agricultural teachers protested what in effect

would be a pay reduction.

Commissioners indicated they do not favor picking up state or federal fund cuts at the county level.

But Commissioner D.J. Fussell said the commissioners cannot tell the school board what to do with its money.

"When it comes to taking out or leaving in, we leave it to the educators. We just give them the money," Fussell said.

Roy Houston, president of Coastal Production Credit Association headquartered in Kenansville, said more emphasis should be put on agriculture in the schools.

"There's more to agriculture than farming as so much of the county's economy is based on agricultural business and industry," Houston said. He said career counseling shows little concern for possible careers in these agricultural fields.

Duplin County has topped all North Carolina counties in gross farm income for two decades and has been listed among the 100 top agricultural counties in the nation for many years. Its gross farm income last year neared \$250 million.

The proposed budget provides for an additional 2 1/2 assistant principal positions to eliminate classroom teaching duties for principals, one of the requirements for accreditation of the system.

The budget calls for an additional guidance counselor.

It also provides for eight

non-professional staff positions now funded by the federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act, for which funding has been eliminated.

Board Chairman Graham Phillips emphasized the CETA cuts would increase the system's problems with accreditation unless the

Rabies Found In Skunks

Three cases of skunk rabies have recently been diagnosed in Watauga County in North Carolina, according to Dr. John I. Freeman, head of the veterinary public health branch in Raleigh.

This is the first evidence of rabies virus in the native skunk population in North Carolina in 40 years. Dr. Freeman stated that it is his feeling that the current cases in our state are an extension of the epidemic of skunk rabies in eastern Tennessee. Several counties in east Tennessee, bordering North Carolina, have been experiencing an epidemic of skunk rabies for several years, and it has now extended over into our state.

The mountains and western piedmont are the normal range of both the spotted and striped skunk in North Carolina. While skunks may be found in other

positions were continued. "If there's much slicing (of the budget), we'll have a real dilemma," he added.

Phillips also noted maintenance needs had been put off to save money. Defending the increase in the budget request, he emphasized the sharply rising cost of utilities, especially electricity.

Since oil prices have been dropping and the oil wasn't needed immediately, the county commissioners, asked to advance the money for the oil to the school system out of next year's budget, directed Guy to look into current oil prices.

Guy reported last week that he could buy the oil from E&B Oil Co. of Wallace for 88.5 cents per gallon, a savings of 29.5 cents a gallon from the state bid price. Guy

said he was told the price had bottomed out.

The board authorized Guy to spend \$48,321 for the fuel, which includes the state and local sales tax.

If the county commissioners had purchased the oil for the county government, they could have filed for a rebate of the sales tax. The school system must pay sales tax. However, the county commissioners are not authorized to make direct purchases for school purposes, despite the fact they appropriate local tax funds to the school systems.

County finance officer Russell Tucker told the board that several years ago the county commissioners authorized direct purchase of a computer for the schools and collected the sales tax rebate. The county government had to return the sales tax to the state as a result of turning the equipment over to the school.

In other business, the commissioners approved

Schools Save \$15,000 On Fuel

Price negotiations during the past two weeks resulted in a savings of approximately \$15,000 in the purchase of No. 2 fuel oil for the school system.

Superintendent L.S. Guy told the board of commissioners several weeks ago that the system needed 52,200 gallons of fuel to ballast its underground tanks until they could be filled for the next school year. At that time, the state bid price for No. 2 fuel oil was \$1.18 per gallon.

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In other business, the commissioners approved

revision of costs of land treatment measures for the Limestone-Muddy Creek Watershed project. Kenneth Futrel, county soil conservationist, asking for the approval before submitting the revision to the state soil conservation office in Raleigh to send to federal authorities.

The land treatment costs will be borne by the federal government if the project is funded.

The commissioners, by a split vote, adopted the state wildlife commission's recommendations for antlerless deer hunting areas and dates in the county.

Dec. 1-8 will be set aside for hunting antlerless deer. The area lies southeast of the boundary formed by N.C. 11, N.C. 24, N.C. 41 and S.R. 101 in the southeastern part of the county. Voting for the recommendation were Commissioners W.J. Costin, Allen Nethercutt and Calvin Turner, chairman. Voting against was Commissioner Franklin Williams. D.J. Fussell abstained.

Tucker told the board the county's revenue sharing allocation for the current fiscal year will be \$837,095. This will be about \$16,000 less than previously estimated.

The commissioners will sit as a board of equalization and review at 11:30 a.m. May 3 and 17 at the courthouse.

Gospel Sing At B.F. Grady

A gospel sing featuring The Spiritual Singers, The Anchormen Quartet, and the Limestone Singers will be held on Saturday, May 1st at 7:30 p.m., sponsored by the B.F. Grady P.T.A. and the

Spiritual Singers, and is scheduled to be held at the B.F. Grady School Auditorium.

Advance tickets are \$4 and may be secured from Anderson's Department Store, B.F. Grady School, Quincy's

Service Center, Cathy's Country Ceramics, or Pink Hill Beauty Shop. Tickets at the door will be \$5 and children under 12 will be admitted free. Door prizes will be given away, also.