

# Area shakes off wintry grasp



By DICK PARRELL  
Conditions in Tuscarawas County are elsewhere in the state continued to improve today in the aftermath of Thursday's storm that became a test of endurance for nearly everyone.

Electricity was to be restored to about 600 area customers of Ohio Power Co. by 8 p.m. today, according to area Manager Vernon Staup.

"We're keeping our fingers crossed," he said. "Things are looking a little brighter today."

Staup added that Ohio Power crews have been working 18 and 20 hours a day since the blizzard struck Thursday. He reported that several areas still were experiencing "scattered outages" as of this morning, but that crews would attempt to restore electricity to all customers.

"They (crews) have been through hell," Staup said. "And they're back at it today."

He said that attempts to buy the men ski masks failed because stores were sold out. There have been few injuries, although one worker suffered frostbite on four fingers.

Ohio Power also has issued an appeal to customers to conserve electricity because of the coal strike. As of today, the company has a 59-day supply of coal stockpiled.

MANY OHIO BELL customers in the Newcomerstown area were without telephone service today because of downed trunk lines. A spokesman for the company said he did not know how extensive the problem was. Telephone company

employees were working to restore service today.

Tom Souter, service department supervisor of General Telephone Co., said about 65 customers were without service as of this morning. "We'll have seven to eight times the number of men working today than we normally do on a Saturday," Souter said.

He added that the demand on telephone lines has lessened noting that the situation was returning to normal.

Road conditions also have improved. The Ohio Highway Patrol said all interstates in the state were passable. State highways also were open to traffic, although some were partially snow covered and slippery. A spokesman for the Tuscarawas County

Road and Bridge Department said county roads 81, 85, 81, 78, 50 and 12 were closed because of drifting snow.

County roads 73 and 76 in the Barra-Mills area are closed because of high water. Other county roads were passable this morning.

In Harrison County, all state routes are passable with the exception of Rt. 799, which is closed because of high water. County Rd. 21 also is closed because of flooding.

The 148th Transportation Company of the Ohio National Guard remains on standby at its New Philadelphia armory. First Sgt. Kenneth Van Sickle said there was no indication of when the unit would be deactivated.

THE STORM also has played havoc with mail delivery. Postal workers were to attempt delivery of mail today after curtailment Thursday and Friday.

Movement of mail to Tuscarawas County has been slowed by poor driving conditions, a spokesman said.

A telephone check of area supermarkets and grocery stores this morning showed that most had received deliveries Friday or today to restock depleted shelves.

Some stores had received no deliveries since Thursday, the day of the blizzard and had run out of bread.

See WORST...A-3

## Thanks...

- ...To the people who continue to make things go. They prove we're a tough bunch who can't be stopped — Mother Nature's quirks.
- They include:
  - Power and telephone company linemen and supervisors who worked double and triple shifts to restore service to customers.
  - The road crews — city, village, township, county, state — and others who happened to have a blade and a four-wheeler and put it to work.
  - Ferris Chevrolet, Austin GMC Truck Corp. and others who own heavy-duty, go-anywhere vehicles and put them at the disposal of disaster services agencies.
  - The strangers and neighbors who pushed, shoveled and offered rides to the snowed-in and stranded.
  - Store and supermarket managers and owners who offered to open up to accommodate those in need.
  - Union Hospital cafeteria personnel who made arrangements to provide emergency food needs.
  - Doctors and nurses who were on call.
  - Those who offered coal and wood to others who needed it.
  - The service clubs which offered to help people get what needed to be done, among them the Jaycees and the Mineral City Lions Club.
  - Those who transported nurses and other hospital personnel to and from work, among them Bob Laska and Ed Penick of New Philadelphia.
  - Firemen, including those in Bolivar and Navarre, who went door-to-door during power outages to make sure residents were okay and transported some to emergency shelters.
  - The fire stations, churches, Salvation Army, schools and others, including Mrs. Henry Cochran of Bolivar, who opened their doors as temporary shelters.
  - All the volunteers — REACT members, Red Cross personnel, off-duty firemen and policemen, auxiliary safety forces, emergency squad, medical technicians, funeral directors — who offered assistance, including transporting people who were snowbound.
  - Safety forces — police, firemen, sheriff deputies, state troopers, guardsmen and county, municipal, village and township officials.
  - Timer-Reporter carriers and motor route deliveries.
  - The people who keep the power plants going and the gas flowing.
  - The people driving tow trucks and operating service stations who kept us all rolling.
  - The workers who showed up for their jobs when others didn't bother.
  - The people at Radio WIER and Cable TV, who provided constant weather updates and advisories.
  - And the countless others, impossible to name, who offered to help in any way they could.

# The Times Reporter

75th Year No. 174 Dover-New Philadelphia, Ohio Saturday, January 28, 1978 Price 20 Cents

### Index

38 Pages 4 Sections

Court Records	A-4
Editor's Comment	A-4
Hospital	A-8
Hot Line	C-8
Love Is	Section D
Obituaries	A-5
Sports	B-1, B-3
Stocks	A-8
Television	C-8

## Farm damage at \$48.2 million

T-R Staff Report  
While the blizzard crisis was easing today, the devastating weather has put a serious crunch to farm equipment and livestock throughout Ohio.

Agriculture Director John M. Stackhouse said today that an estimated \$48.2 million damage has been caused in the past two days.

He said that figure includes about \$1 million worth of milk dumped by



The Herb Torgler family's home near Dundee was one checked by guardsmen Friday, after they were told the family had been without heat. Mrs. Torgler (R) told Spec. 4 Richard Shaffer (L) of RD 2, New Philadelphia, and Sgt. Edsel Dillon of RD 1, Dover, that heat had been restored. (Photo by Bob Lauria)

## Families airlifted near Fresno

By ROSA DAVIS  
COSHOCOTON — Helicopters from the Air National Guard at Columbus airlifted several families Friday from Crawford Township, where homes were without electricity and cut off by closed roads.

Coshocoton County Sheriff's Department said it has not been determined how many people were flown from the Fresno and Baltic areas in Crawford Township. About 50 families had restored service to the area, the families are remaining with friends and relatives in this area because the roads were impassable this morning. Sheriff William Hoop said.

Guardsmen were dispatched to dig out two other areas isolated by snow, according to deputies. About 50 families at Tiverton Center and New Bedford could not get out of their homes to get fuel and food, and were without electricity. The service is supplied by Holmes-Wayne Electric Co.

Members of the Virgil Beach family of RD 1, Brinkhaven, were hand-carrying fuel oil from Warsaw to the stranded families in their area, deputies said.

About 18 persons took refuge overnight at the Wesley United Methodist Church, according to Carol Lahna, secretary of the Coshocoton County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

One family at the Salvation Army post here had an additional problem — mumps. Mrs. Wilma Hart and her three children were being isolated because one of her daughters has the mumps, according to Lahna.

## Guardsmen lend a hand to help weather storm

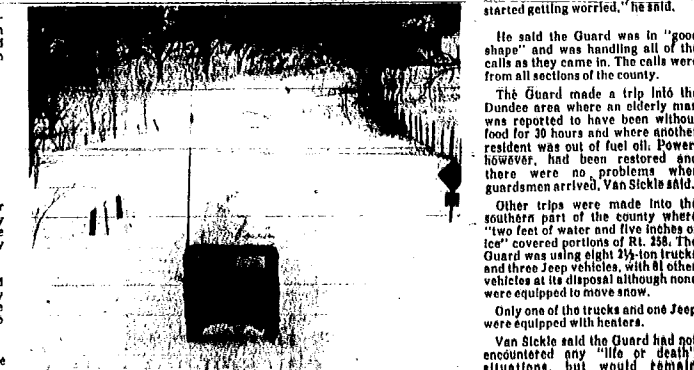
By JOE MIZER  
"You know what, Mr. Soldier?"  
"What?"  
"When I grow up, I'm going to move out of the country!"

That's what one young rural Goshen Township boy told a National Guardsman as he carried food to the boy's family through knee-high snowdrifts to their home Friday.

The guardsman, Sgt. 1st Class Joe Incarnato of Dover, drained water from his boots as he related the incident at the Ohio National Guard Armory, off County Rd. 21 near New Philadelphia.

Incarnato was one of 15 guardsmen on duty all day Friday and one of the 10 who had been there since Thursday at 11 a.m. The guardsmen were hauling food, water, and fuel to Tuscarawas Countians who were isolated by the blowing and drifting snow.

FIRST SGT. KENNETH VAN SICKLE of New Philadelphia, who is coordinating the local Guard effort, said most of the calls so far have



GUARDSMAN PATROLS IN JEEP On desolate stretch of Rt. 610

been from persons who were without heat or food.

Guardsmen said a Roswell area couple was using a kerosene lantern to provide warmth for themselves and a small baby. A farmer who lived nearby reportedly had to milk his dairy herd of 100 cows by hand when there was no electricity.

Van Sickle said there had been few calls for assistance Thursday night, but the number of calls increased Friday. "People probably thought they could make it through the night, but when they woke up Friday and saw the roads were not plowed they started getting worried," he said.

He said the Guard was in "good shape" and was handling all of the calls as they came in. The calls were from all sections of the county.

The Guard made a trip into the Dundee area where an elderly man was reported to have been without food for 30 hours and where another resident was out of fuel oil. Power, however, had been restored and there were no problems when guardsmen arrived, Van Sickle said.

Other trips were made into the southern part of the county where "two feet of water and five inches of ice" covered portions of Rt. 258. The Guard was using eight 2½-ton trucks and three Jeep vehicles, with all other vehicles at its disposal although none were equipped to move snow.

Only one of the trucks and one Jeep were equipped with heaters.

Van Sickle said the Guard had not encountered any "life or death" situations, but would remain prepared as long as necessary.

The Guard also assisted with the rescue of eight persons in the Gilmore Point area who were without heat because of fuel or electricity problems. The rescue was initiated by the Newcomerstown Fire Department and the evacuees were taken to the fire station there.

## Hospitals getting by

By DORIS KEENER  
We're managing... administrators of the county's two hospitals told The Times-Reporter Friday afternoon. Both reported they put patients inside, but said cooperation from staff members and others during this week's blizzard had been tremendous.

At Union in Dover, executive director Harold Alden said the daily patient load in January was averaging 11 above last year's. He said the January 1977 average was 135 while the average so far this year had been 170. Union has 218 beds.

Dale Long said the \$3-bed Twin City Hospital is averaging 90 percent (approximately 57 beds) occupancy.

Neither administrator attributed the increase to any special weather-related increase of patients.

The biggest problem at Union, officials said, was getting the staff to work at home again. Logan Dutton, assistant executive director, said two Harry Humphries Inc. employees, Bob Unkefer and Ed Penick, had been especially helpful in transporting nurses and other hospital personnel from as far away as Onadunkhuten, using four-wheel-drive vehicles. He said Dover police and New Philadelphia firemen and a number of other people also had provided assistance.

Long said some members of the Denton hospital's staff had formed car pools but that no special transportation arrangements had been necessary.

BOTH HOSPITALS reported that several of their staff members had stayed overnight Thursday, sleeping in extra beds.

Long said the possibility of a power failure had been his biggest worry because a good portion of the hospital's new addition is electrically heated.

He said problems had developed with the regular emergency generator and it was feared that the portable generator used as a backup would not provide sufficient power.

In addition to looking into the possibility of obtaining more standby generating power, Long had extra blankets brought in Thursday from disaster hospital supplies stored in the village.

He spoke highly of the close communications maintained between the two hospitals in the interest of meeting the health-care needs of area residents.

Long said the possibility of a power failure had been his biggest worry because a good portion of the hospital's new addition is electrically heated.

He said problems had developed with the regular emergency generator and it was feared that the portable generator used as a backup would not provide sufficient power.

In addition to looking into the possibility of obtaining more standby generating power, Long had extra blankets brought in Thursday from disaster hospital supplies stored in the village.

He spoke highly of the close communications maintained between the two hospitals in the interest of meeting the health-care needs of area residents.