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In Finding Body Of Victim

Rescue Squad Help Is Sought

The Warren County Rescue Squad has been asked to join in an intensive search for the body of Cleveland Wilson, a murder victim whose body is believed to have been dumped into Lake Gaston two weeks ago.

Sheriff Clarence Davis said Wednesday that he is asking county rescue squadmen during the upcoming weekend. Davis said that ice along the lake's banks have hampered a search of the shoreline.

Davis said his department is doing everything we can to locate the body of Wilson, believed to have been dropped into the lake at the Interstate 85 bridge in Mecklenburg County, Va., just north of the North Carolina-Virginia border. Searchers have continued on a daily basis since the apprehension of two Warren County residents charged with beating and stabbing Wilson to death on January 21.

Two New Patrolmen To Join Warren County's Contingent

The State Highway Patrol headquarters in Raleigh announced on Tuesday that Warren County will receive two new highway patrolmen around the first of March. The Patrol reported that Alfred Moye Bennette, Jr., of New Bern, and William Charles Palmer of Elizabeth City are tentatively scheduled to begin duties in the county. The men are currently in patrol school in Chapel Hill.

Commissioners Kill Four-Day Schedule

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The county commissioners took no action after Jim Hundley, custodian, explained that the boiler in the court house also heated the Agricultural Building and the ESA offices in the basement of that building. The ESA office has been instructed to work a 40-hour week. Hundley said that while heat could be lowered in the courthouse, that it would require more energy to rebuild the heat in the courthouse than would be saved if the boiler were allowed to operate with no expenditure of heat in the court house.

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Said No Longer Needed

Coroner's Position Abolishment Asked

Warren County Commissioners will ask the Legislature to pass a special act abolishing the office of Coroner in Warren County, it was decided at the regular meeting of the board here Monday.

drunk driving. The board instructed its clerk to write a letter to the Chairman of the Onslow board stating that it is in sympathy with the objective of the resolution, but that it does not believe the requested resolution would achieve this objective. The commissioners said they felt that such a law would only result in more continuances, reduced charges or not guilty verdicts.

During the discussion that preceded the decision to abolish the office it was pointed out that Coroner Bobby Blaylock had asked that the office be abolished as it was costing the county \$100 a month and was not needed since the county has a Medical Examiner.

Commissioner Jack Harris was appointed to represent the county as a member of the board of Child Task Force. The board will meet today (Thursday) at 10 a. m. at the First Citizens Bank.

The commissioner also passed a resolution agreeing to participate in a pilot energy program as a part of North Carolina Energy Conservation plan. The board had previously indicated that Warren County was interested in the plan.

Don Everett, Region K director, and Tim Quigg appeared before the Board to present to the commissioners a brochure Status Offender Needs Assessment, and then Mr. Quigg briefly discussed the new agency which will replace Juvenile Homes in the state after July 1.

The board was also asked to pass a resolution in support of a resolution passed by the Board of Commissioners of Onslow County which would require a mandatory short jail sentence for any person convicted of

Senator James Speed of Louisburg and Representative John Church of Henderson appeared before the board to ascertain if there were any services they could provide the county in the Legislature. Rep. Church said that views attributed to him by The Durham Herald in an article announcing the rejection of a EDA water grant to Warren County were those expressed earlier in another setting and had nothing to do with his views about the water main in Warren County. He said he regretted that the grant was not made and would do all that he could to have the verdict reversed. Senator Speed said he felt that the decision was not in the best interest of Warren County and that he too would do whatever he could to have the grant restored.

Sawmill And Trailer Among Fire Losses

A sawmill, a mobile home and a two-story frame house were among casualties of fire fought by Warrenton rural firemen within the past week.

In all, the volunteer firemen answered 11 calls, much higher than the weekly average, in a seven-day reporting period which began on Wednesday of last week.

Rural firemen joined their town counterparts early yesterday morning in battling a blaze that levelled a home owned by Mrs. Emma Yancey at 306 Warren Street.

Warrenton firemen, first on the scene, reported that the roof was collapsing upon their arrival. Mrs. Yancey and her grandchildren made their way to safety after one grandson, Leonard Hargrove, Jr., awoke shortly before 1 a. m. to find the ceiling of his bedroom afire.

Board Meet Is Routine

An agreement to inspect the site of a street light, funds for which had already been placed in the budget, a brief discussion of an application for a rehabilitation grant, and a few remarks about dogs just about

completed the agenda of the Norlina Board of Commissioners Monday night. A few matters of routine business were transacted in the short session in addition to the three items discussed.

Cold Weather Is Preventing Farmers From Doing Field Work

The extremely cold weather this winter has kept farmers inside and away from fields and seedbeds. L. B. Hardage, county extension chairman, said Tuesday that preparation of tobacco seedbeds has been delayed by some farmers. He commented that some farmers were preparing beds this week.

and farmers will need it for good yields. He noted that fertilizer is in ample supply at present with prices being regarded as cheaper than in the past few years. He foresees an increase in the price of fertilizer within the next few months.

The ground has been frozen and it has been too cold for proper seeding operations," he said.

Hardage recommends that farmers who have good storage sites may prefer to buy fertilizer now but cautions that proper stacking for storage is required so fertilizer will keep well.

He noted that the problem is not serious at present. With the use of plastic coverings the beds will produce plants within 60 to 65 days, Hardage said. He noted, however, that if the cold weather continues during the month of February a problem will exist.

The extension chairman said that beds can be ready and that machinery will aid the farmers in getting fields ready if fuel is available.

Hardage said the biggest problem may be nitrogen. Sources have indicated that nitrogen will be in short supply

The cold has caused most damage to grain crops, Hardage said. He believes that grain may be damaged by the continual cold, that pastures are ruined and that hay is both expensive and in low supply.



Sheriff's Deputies Search Tuesday For Body Of Murder Victim Near Railroad Bridge Over Lake Gaston

New Fire Unit Being Pressed In Vance County

Formation of a new fire department in eastern Vance County is being pursued by residents of the Cokesbury community who hope to erect a new firehouse with financial help from Vance and Warren counties.

Approximately 25 residents of Cokesbury are drawing up plans for a new unit, and say they will take their case for funding to commissioners of the two counties the new department would serve. No date has been set for presentation of the funding appeal.

Bobby Choplin, a spokesman for the group, said the new unit would serve a four-mile radius, and would fill a void in fire-fighting capability along the Vance-Warren border. Choplin said residents of the area, midway between Henderson and Afton, have shown strong support in formation of a new fire company.

In fact, a site for a new fire building has already been donated. It was given the fledgling group by Sanford Faucette, a resident of Henderson and owner of the Cokesbury Superette. Choplin said the site is a half-acre tract on the Cokesbury Church road about three-quarters of a mile from the Warren-Vance border.

Proponents of the proposed company, who began talking of a new department approximately a year ago, hope to erect a 50-foot by 60-foot single-story building on the free site.

In the meantime, Choplin said, sponsors of a Cokesbury volunteer fire department will continue to gain public support for financial help and advance plans for the company's formation.

Farm Income Is Up \$4 Million, County Commissioners Told

Total farm crops in Warren County were over \$4,000,000 more in 1976 than they were in 1975, L. B. Hardage, extension chairman, told the county commissioners Monday morning during the monthly Extension Service report to the board. The increase he said was largely due to gains in tobacco.

Much of his talk was taken up with a discussion of 4-Sight, the new six-year extension plan. Hardage also said that an effort is being made to have county commissioners from the North Central Extension District visit North Carolina State University this spring in order that they may become better informed of the work of the university and its extension department. If enough interest is shown, he said, a date will be set and plans announced.

Hardage expressed the hope that Warren Commissioners would find this trip worthwhile and asked that the commissioners let him know if they are interested in the plan. Sixteen former Young Farmers who have attended the banker sponsored short course at N. C. State University are expected to attend the 25th anniversary of the founding of the course which will be held at the McKimmon Building at North Carolina State University in Raleigh on Thursday, Feb. 10. In addition to the former short course students, Hardage said, three bankers and one agricultural agent are expected to attend.

A Warren County cattle grower, who admits he belongs to a minority group, would like to see the ad valorem tax on cattle abolished.

William Bender, who farms in the Elberon section of the county, told the commissioners that since there is no tax on farm crops he could see no justice in putting a tax on cattle which is in reality a farm crop. However, he said, there is a statewide law saying that cattle should be taxed. Bender asked

that the commissioners request the Legislature to have Warren County exempted from the statewide law. The commissioners agreed to discuss the matter with Warren County Representatives in the General Assembly but took no formal action on the request.

The commissioners were informed by the State Highway Commission that signs would

be erected along Highway No. 1 within the town limits of Ridgeway establishing a 45-mile per hour speed limit because of winding road.

The commissioners received a request that one and a half miles on SR 1136 be hardsurfaced. The petition was signed by eight homeowners. The board ordered that the

Use Of Allen Home For Library Asked

Mrs. Henry F. Twitty, president of the Warren County Historical Association, told the county commissioners at their regular meeting here Monday morning that she hoped that the board would accede to the wishes of the George Allen heirs and make School Days a county library with office space for both the Warren County Historical Association and the Warren County Historical Society.

Mrs. Twitty said that while the present library is a splendid research library that it lacks room to house and display present volumes.

Pointing out that 1979 would mark the bicentennial of the formation of Warren County and the Town of Warrenton, Mrs. Twitty said the use of the Allen building for the purpose suggested would enhance the historical and cultural heritage of county and town.

Following a few introductory remarks, Mrs. Twitty read the following letter addressed to W. P. Jones, chairman of the Warren County Commissioners:

Dear Mr. Jones: The County is fortunate to be the recipient of School Days, the gracious and generous gift of the George Allen heirs who expressed the desire that the home be used in part for a library and by the Warren County Historical Commission and the Warren County Historical Association.

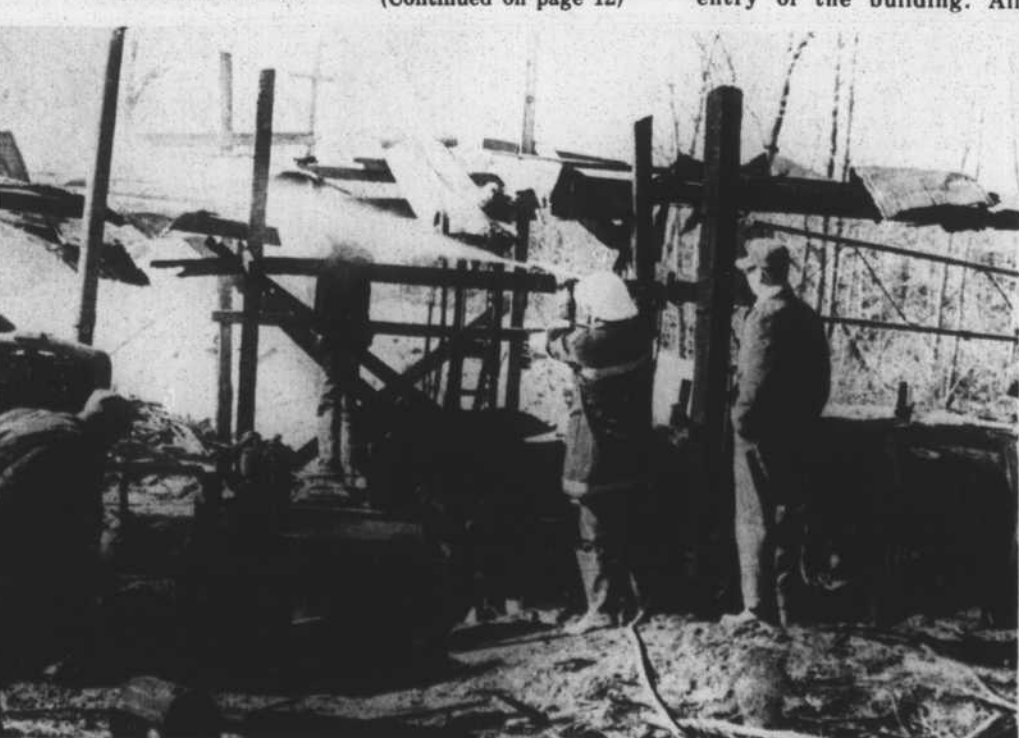
1979 will be the Bicentennial of the formation of Warren County and the Town of Warrenton. What could be more appropriate than for School Days to be used to enhance the historical and cultural heritage of our county by using a portion of the building for a library and as headquarters for the Historical Commission and Historical Association?

A resolution was unanimously adopted by the Executive Committee of the Warren County Historical Association at their monthly meeting on January 25, 1977 to respectfully ask the Warren County Commissioners to comply with the wishes of the donors.

The Historical Association needs a permanent place for meetings, and space for the preservation and display of articles and records that are significant to our history perhaps in a small museum setting.

What better way to show appreciation than to carry out the preference of the donors?

Respectfully,
(Mrs. Henry F.)
Panthea M. Twitty,
President, Warren County Historical Association



Members of the Warrenton Rural Fire Department pour water on a burning sawmill owned by A. K. Mustian. The Monday blaze, three miles south of Warrenton, was one of 11 received by firemen during the past eight days. A mobile home and a house in Warrenton were among other victims of fire this week and last. (Photo by Manley Martin)

Fuel Use, Hours Reduced Here To Conserve Energy

Educational and business leaders across Warren County have begun an effort to conserve energy following a severe winter and requests by Governor Jim Hunt.

Hunt declared an energy emergency last Tuesday, asking businesses to cut operations to 48 hours a week and urging school and church groups to reschedule evening activities.

Superintendent of Warren County Schools, J. R. Peeler, described the schools energy situation as being flexible. He explained that the first goal was to make principals, teachers and pupils conscious of the energy situation. With the difference in school buildings with respect to size, age, and method of heating, Peeler said that each school was asked to conserve on an individual basis.

Peeler noted that for some time electricity and thermostat control had been requested at all schools. Since the crisis, principals have again been reminded to lower thermostats.

Our boilers are set on a clock system," Peeler said. The clocks have been set to turn off at 2 p. m., he noted. Elementary students leave school at 2:30 and buildings are beginning to get a little cooler but not cold by the time other students leave school," he added. Parents are asked to put more warm clothes on children.

Teachers may leave as soon as school is out," Peeler said. Previously teachers remained

Robbery Attempt

Fails At Norlina

An attempted robbery of E. G. Hecht and Sons at Norlina on Monday night was discovered by Theo Hecht when he went to work Tuesday morning, Romeo Williams, Norlina Police Chief, said yesterday.

Williams said that following the report of the attempted break-in he went to the store where he discovered a window in the back door had been broken. Evidently, he said, the would-be robber or robbers were scared away.

Chief Williams said the investigation is continuing.

Breaks Hip

Mrs. Charles Edmonds is in Duke Hospital recuperating from a broken hip.