



One of two massive chicken breeding houses being built at Ridgeway stretches into the distance. In the foreground is lumber being used to complete the

16,000-square-foot building. The buildings will be part of Perdue's Warren County operation. (Staff Photo)

## First Signs Of Activity By Perdue Seen In County

Warren County's first two breeder houses, a part of Perdue Farms operation near Soul City, are under construction on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Reubin Holtzman of Ridgeway.

Perdue is the main contractor for both of the 100x40 foot buildings. The 16,000 square foot buildings will each house a flock of 7,500 hens and 800 cockrels. Holtzman said the target date for the completion of the buildings is June 5 and that he hopes to be producing eggs by June 15.

While in many cases farmers' wives look after the chicken business, this is not the case with the Holtzmans. It is clearly understood by both Mr. and Mrs. Holtzman that the chicken breeder houses are the responsibility of Mr. Holtzman, a farm boy who retired three years ago from Roses in Henderson where he had worked for 16 years before deciding to return to the farm.

It was at Roses that he met, Barbara Kappesser, a native of Louisville, Ky., who attended school in Lexington, Ky., and who is now Mrs. Holtzman. Last Friday she

### History Group

### To Hear Talk On Shocco Springs

The Warren County Historical Association will hold a meeting on Monday night, May 19, at 8 o'clock at the Warren County Memorial Library.

Mrs. Joseph W. Watson of Rocky Mount will deliver a talk on Ann Johnson and Shocco Springs. Mrs. Watson has written articles on Shocco Springs for State Magazine. Her comments on the Springs and one of its owners should be of interest to all members of the Association.

Other business will be the election of officers for 1980-81.

resigned her position at Branch Bank and Trust Company at Warrenton where she had served as teller. She and her husband have bought and are renovating the old Capt. Collins home at Ridgeway where they now live. The breeder houses are located at the edge of the large grove northeast of the home. Mr. Holtzman is the son of Mrs. Eva S. Holtzman, for many years Ridgeway Postmistress.

Holtzman said that the chickens are fed automatically and eggs are collected automatically. The next thing, he said with a laugh as he reflected on his seven days a week job, is for Perdue to develop a hen that does not lay on Sundays.

Perdue in a recent brochure says of the hens to be delivered to the Holtzmans and other breeders that they are descendants of hens which were given specially outfitted pens that allowed positive identification of each egg. These pedigreed birds, representing only 2 1/2 percent of the foundation flock, were selected on the basis of overall excellence in fleshing, feathering and growth rate. Their progeny are the grandparents which will in turn produce breeder hens, which are expected to lay an average of 155 hatchable eggs in only nine months. Their offsprings must show an ability to survive under normal stress, growing fast and most importantly develop the superior meaty conformation that's made Perdue chickens famous. There is an extra bite in every breast. It's no surprise the world is beating a path to Perdue's door.

Eggs from the Holtzman's breeder houses are expected to be collected every three or four days in specially conditioned trucks and delivered to hatcheries in Eastern North Carolina.

Plans for an integrated poultry products plant, offering jobs to more than a thousand workers, with feed mills, hatcheries, processing and other operations connected with the poultry business, are being carried forward at an estimated cost of more than \$50 million.

When this is completed within a two-year period, the Holtzmans and other nearby breeders will have their eggs delivered to the plant located in western Warren County.



**SPELLING CHAMPS**—Winners of the first annual Warren County Spelling Bee are shown above following Thursday's spell-down. Winners were (left to right) Richard Roddy, a student at Vaughan School and winner of third place; Stephanie Wilken, a student at North Warren and winner of first place; and Sharon Jefferson, a student at Mariam Boyd School and winner of second place.

(Staff Photo)

## Stephanie Wilken Named Top Sixth Grade Speller

Stephanie Wilken, a student at North Warren School. Thursday night was named top speller among Warren County's sixth grade students at the conclusion of the first annual Spelling Bee held at North Warren.

Miss Wilken, a student in Mrs. Naomi Allen's classroom, correctly spelled the word "bachelor" to take top honors in the spelling bee. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Carey of Soul City. Second place was captured by Sharon Jefferson, a Mariam

Boyd School student. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Jefferson of Warrenton.

Richard Roddy, a student at Vaughan School, took third place. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Roddy of Rt. 3, Littleton.

Fifteen sixth grade boys and girls competed in the spelling bee, which will rotate among other schools in the county in the future. Two students were selected from each sixth grade class with one student being selected

## Possibly At Norlina

# Interest Is Revived In Cable Television

Chances that Warrenton and probably Norlina, will have cable television within the following 12 months, and possibly within six months, are good, according to information given Warrenton commissioners at their meeting here Monday night by Attorney Bobby Rogers of Henderson, representing a Henderson group.

Cable TV here will be provided by the same citizens who now provide that service for both Oxford and Henderson, although the company may be incorporated as "The Warrenton Cable TV Company," Rogers said. Rogers told the commissioners that cable television would offer to each customer 12 channels, at a cost of not more than \$8.00 a month, with probably a dollar additional charge for each additional television set. He said that his company would require no prior sign-up as a requirement for locating the service at Warrenton, and that all he wanted at the present time was a 10-year franchise, renewable at the end of 10 years for an additional five years. His

company, he said, is well financed, and the value of its service has been proved at both Henderson and Oxford.

Mayor White, whose son lives at Henderson, said he had often listened to TV at his son's home and it is excellent.

Rogers said that he had not yet visited the Norlina commissioners, but that if interest is shown it is likely that the new company would serve both towns. This may depend, he said on the

accessibility of a site for a tower between the two towns. There is a possibility, he said in response to a question, that the service might later be extended to Macon and outlying sections of both Warrenton and Norlina.

Rogers said that the giving of a franchise by a town does not prevent that town from issuing a second or more franchises, although as a rule the company with the first franchise has an advantage.

If the commissioners are sufficiently interested and believe other citizens are interested, Rogers said, he would return to Henderson, prepare the necessary papers, and return with them to Warrenton when he would ask for a franchise.

While the commissioners took no official action, there was little doubt that they are very much interested in obtaining cable TV for Warrenton.

## No Alternative Seen

# Sewer, Water Rates Hiked For Warrenton Customers

The Warrenton Board of Town Commissioners unanimously passed an order at its regular meeting on Monday night raising water and sewer rates by one-third, effective on May 15, with new billing on July 1.

Under the order water rates will be increased \$2.00 and sewer rates \$1.00, resulting in an increase of the minimum rate from \$6.00 to \$9.00.

Commissioners A. A. Wood and Charles W. White, III, were absent from the meeting due to illness. Commissioners Eddie Clayton, Billy Lanier, Richard Hunter, Gordon Haithecock and A. C. Fair, approved the increase, following its presentation by Commissioner Haithecock, chairman of the water committee.

Action was taken following a discussion by Haithecock, Bill Neal, superintendent of the Water Company, and Mayor Beverly White, in which it was revealed that rising costs gave the commissioners no alternative. Neal pointed out that increases in chemicals and other materials made it impossible to operate the water plant with present income. Mayor White said that, based on past costs, \$18,000 was put in the budget to operate the plant during the 1979-80 fiscal year, but that with nearly two more months to go, the company had already spent more than \$23,000. Due to the low tax base, he said, it is not feasible to meet the deficit by increasing taxes.

In other "bad news" Superintendent Neal revealed that leaks had been discovered in the regional sewer line between Soul City and Warrenton. It was suggested that Superintendent Neal and Town Administrator Pete Vaughan investigate the leaks to determine whether or not they were minor or major before any further action of the board.

Following the action on water and sewer rates

increase, and the sewer line, Mayor White briefly discussed a resolution on balanced growth, which was adopted and sent to the North Carolina Balanced Growth Board as a government service center. It was agreed that having pertinent information about the town in the state file would aid in both the receipt of government grants and industrial growth.

The commissioners approved a budget transfer request made by Mrs. Carolyn Robertson, finance officer. This approval was necessary in order that different allocations could be shifted to other departments, without changing the over-all budget.

In the absence of Commissioner A. A. Wood, Police Chief Freddie Robinson announced

the resignation of Grady Haynes, III, as member of the Warrenton Police Force, effective May 17. Haynes retirement was in order to accept a higher paying job with the State Department of Transportation, Robinson said. The board voted to accept the resignation of Haynes. Administrator Vaughan is to write him a letter of appreciation for his service to the town during the past 14 months.

Commissioner Eddie Clayton told the board that the local Masonic Lodge, which has rented upstairs quarters in the municipal building for years, plans to move to its new building around July 1. He said that he wanted permission to move plumbing facilities installed by the Lodge. Permission was granted.

## Board Is Notified Of Federal Grant

A federal grant amounting to \$135,046 annually has been received by the Warren County School System and will be used to provide music and art instruction for hundreds of school students.

Notification of the grant award was made Monday night during the May meeting of the Warren County Board of Education. Assistant Supt. James Jordan told board members that the funds were approved by officials of the Emergency School Assistance Act (ESAA). He said the grant was awarded for a three-year period with a possible annual review.

Superintendent Mike Williams praised Jordan for his efforts in having the project funded. "He worked long and hard on it," Williams said.

The project calls for part-time music and art teachers in grades four through six at Mariam Boyd, South Warren, Vaughan and North War-

ren schools, art and music instruction for selected students in grades seven through nine at Hawkins Junior High School and one art instructor to be shared between Norlina and John Graham high

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## Democrats

### Plan Supper

The Warren County Democratic Party will sponsor a chicken-picking at the Lions Den at Warrenton on Thursday, May 22, at 6 p. m., Charles Hayes, party treasurer, announced yesterday.

A social hour will be held at 6 p. m., followed by the picking at 7 p. m. Tickets, at \$5.00 each, may be obtained from Hayes or any of the precinct chairmen.

The featured speaker will be the Hon. Rufus Edmisten, North Carolina Attorney General.