

## Jury List Drawn For Court Term

Jurors for the criminal term of Warren County Superior Court, beginning Monday, Jan. 31, were drawn this week as follows:

Mrs. Ethel R. Alexander, Bettie Williams Alston, Van Dawson Alston, Mrs. Gertrude G. Alston, Betty B. Benton, Edward Bolton, Marrison Thomas Bolton, Mildred B. Brown, John M. Burton, Mary Callahan, Leon Cheek, Betty Carroll Coleman, Effie Dew Collins, Linda Delois Cooper, Sidney Ray Cooper, Jesse L. Currin, Merritt Davis, Willmon B. Davis, Robert D. Edmonds, Nannie Lena Epps.

Also, John Plummer Fitts, Roy Lee Foster, Sr., Iris Meadow Frazier, James D. Green, Marion Wesley Hamm, William L. Harrell, Sr., Thomas Jennings Harrington, C. E. Harris, Hazel Davis Harris, Bertie Dill Hecht, A. B. Hight, Wallace Phillip Holtzman, Barbara Williams Holtzman, Calvin Howerton, Francis F. Ingle, Lugenia Kearney, Rita Edwards Loyd, Albert Lee Lynch, James H. Mayes, Jr.

Also, Margarette Mills Mayfield, Candis D. Miller, Edger Gardner Neal, Roy G. Neal, Lue Williams Perry, Helen D. Pickney, Lucille Williams Randall, Gladys R. Richardson, Harvey Lee Richardson, Willie Joe Robertson, Naomie Clementine Robinson; Junius Byre Russell, Pauline Edwards Shaw, Grover L. Shearin, Miss Laura Short, Shirley Lois Townes, Sid Towns, Myrtle Williams, Robert R. Williams, Gertha B. Woodard.

Jurors held over from former sessions are as follows: Armelia Belle Harris, Vernon Nash Whitmore.

## Comprehensive Personnel Book Wins Adoption

A comprehensive personnel policy covering all permanent municipal employees was passed by the Warrenton Board of Commissioners Monday night without a dissenting voice. The new guidelines were ordered into effect immediately, and provisions made retroactive to January 1 of this year.

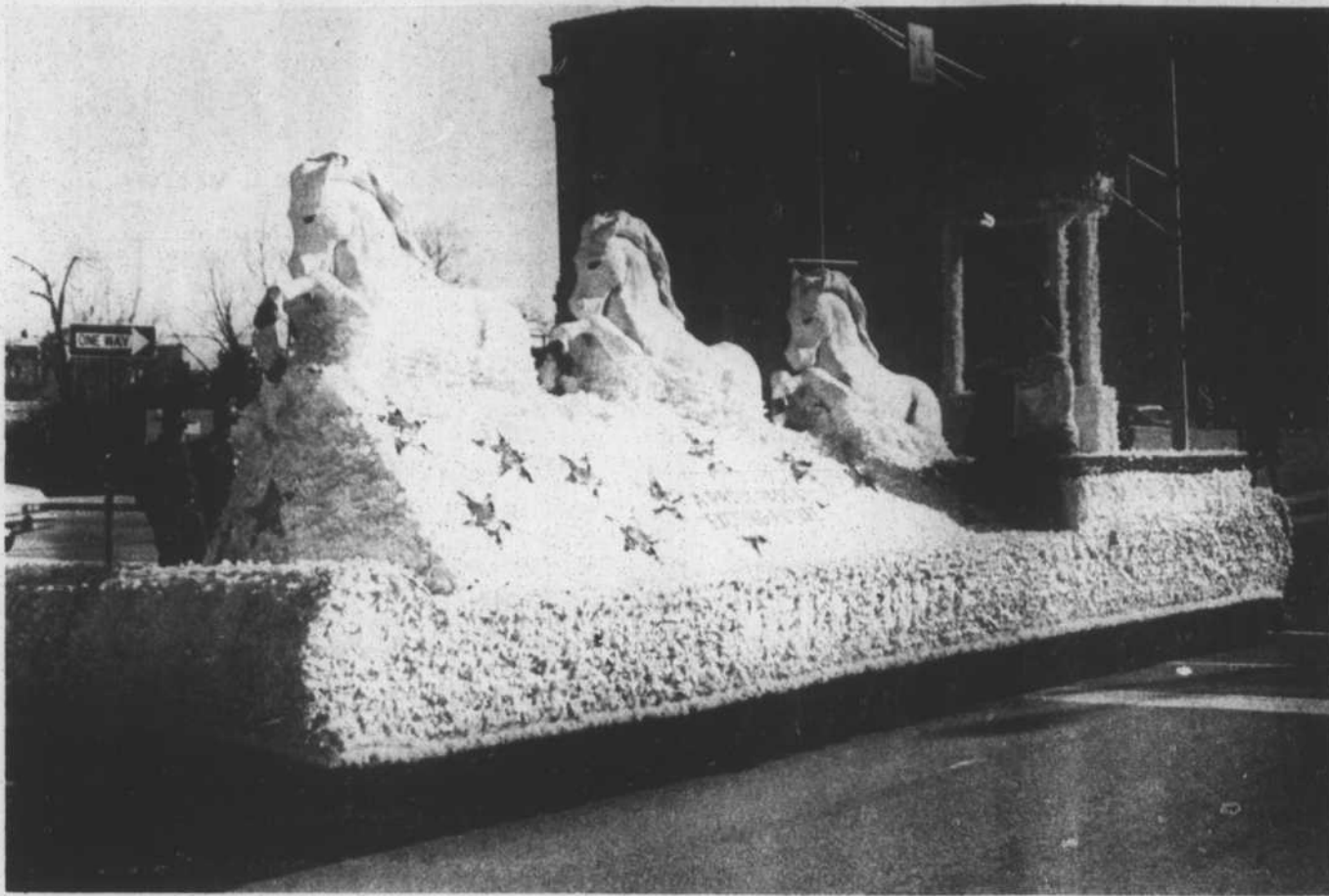
Following a half-hour discussion by Ms. Mary Ann Current, a federally funded representative of the State Personnel Department, commissioners gave their approval to the new guidelines which contain provisions for hiring and firing, fringe benefits and grievance appeals.

Commissioners were told that a growing number of North Carolina governmental units are adopting personnel policies, stemming largely from recent federal anti-discriminatory legislation. In the words of its author, Mrs. Current, the policy "reflects every legal guideline" and is being used as a working manual designed to protect local government from any legal action.

Included in the policy are provisions for holiday, vacation and sick time, a dismissal grievance procedure and a stipulation that employees be retired at age 65, with one-year extensions permitted to employees until age 70.

Ms. Current said public personnel had come under review in 16 cases handed down by the Supreme Court last year, and that Warrenton would get the advantage of policy revision at no cost as her department kept abreast of changing guidelines and would be in a position to pass them along to town officials at no charge.

Under terms of the new policy, all employees will be expected to go through a six-month probationary period, and a graduated vacation schedule was designed to reward employees for length of service. A 180-day ceiling was placed on sick leave.



Warren County was on parade in Raleigh Saturday as this float, containing students from Warren Academy, rolled along in the inaugural parade honoring Governor James B. Hunt, Jr.

The float featured three stallions and carried the county slogan, "A Proud Past, An Exciting Future." Other Inauguration Day pictures can be found on Page 10. (Staff Photo by Don Stith)

## Dunn To Address Chamber Commissioners

Charles Dunn, television news director and former head of the State Bureau of Investigation, will be the featured speaker when the Warren County Chamber of Commerce holds its annual business session and installation of officers here later this month.

Dunn, whose editorials now appear on television and radio stations in North Carolina, will speak at the Mariam Boyd Cafeteria on Monday, January 24. Tickets for his address and the installation banquet will be put on sale later this week at \$5 each.

Chamber directors will be in charge of ticket sales. The annual event will begin at 6:30 p. m. when hors d'oeuvres will be served guests.

Randy Garrett, chamber president, said ticket requests can be handled by any chamber director, or by calling Leggett, First-Citizens Bank, Warrenton Furniture Exchange or Carolina Power & Light Company.

Before joining Capitol Broadcasting Company last September, Dunn had been manager for Ed O'Herron's campaign for the Democratic nomination for governor. Earlier, in addition to

being SBI director for six years, Dunn was administrative assistant to Governor Dan Moore and administrative aide to Congressman Horace Kornegay.

He is a former North Carolina newspaperman, having worked for the Durham Morning Herald, the Chapel Hill Weekly and the Hertford County Herald.

## Mobile Homes Topic Of Talk At Board Meet

Mobile homes provided the subject matter last Thursday night as the Warrenton Board of Adjustments met to hear requests for zoning variances here.

Two of three requests to allow trailers in areas where they would not be in compliance with the town's zoning ordinance were approved by the board, with T. E. Watson sitting as chairman.

A request by Comer that he be allowed to place trailer on two lots of a residential area on Dowtin Street was not allowed by the board.

Mary Jones Privette, who sought to put a trailer on Haley Street won approval after several neighboring property

owners appeared in support of her position.

Millard Newsome was given permission to install a double-wide trailer on a North Main Street lot in an industrial area. Board members expressed the opinion that granting the variance would improve the appearance of the lot.

Tonight (Thursday) the Board of Adjustment is scheduled to reconvene to hear a request for a variance by Mamie Solomon who wishes to install a trailer behind her home on her lot on Bute Street. Although the area is zone R-8, residential property where trailers are allowed, the size of her lot is too small to comply with zoning restrictions if the trailer is installed.

## New Pastors Begin Work

Two new pastors have been appointed to United Methodist Churches in the Warrenton area according to Bishop Robert M. Blackburn, Episcopal leader for the Raleigh area of the United Methodist Church.

The Warren Circuit, including Prospect, Providence, and Shocco United Methodist church, is served by Dennis P. Levin. Mr.

Levin is former executive director of the National Guard's Continuing Education Program in Raleigh. He resides in Henderson with his wife, Peggy, and four children.

John M. Bowman is serving Bethlehem United Methodist Church, Areola, and Shady Grove United Methodist Church, south of Creek.

## Oil Purchases Total 57,000 Gallons Here

Fifty-seven thousand gallons of fuel oil has been purchased this year by the Warren County school system, Supt. J. R. Peeler told the members of the Board of Education at their regular meeting Monday night.

He said that the Board of Education placed in the school budget this year for water, lights and power, \$55,631.

Unusually cold weather this winter and the increased prices of fuel oil and electricity have put a strain on the school resources, Peeler said. He listed December electric bills for Warren Schools as follows: John Graham, \$2265.70; Mariam Boyd, \$1941.54 (Mariam Boyd is an all-electric school); Norlina, \$1301.77; Hawkins, \$1205.44; North Warren, \$922.00; Vaughan, \$567.96; South Warren, \$451.84; Northside, \$355.71. Total for the month, \$9,397.96.

## Snow, Icy Roads Draw Blame In Wreck Rash

Snow and icy roads caused many minor accidents during last week as motorists slid into ditches, ran off roads and plowed into fields.

A slippery curve on the Oine Road caused Ahmadreza Abbasi Boroujeni of Chowan College to run head-on into a vehicle driven by Wallace Edward Bowers of Norlina on Jan. 6 during the heavy snowstorm. The accident occurred around 9:05 p. m.

Patrolman Michael Miller reported that while he was en route to the scene, a car driven by Herbert Lee Burton of Route 1, Manson, ran into the back of the Bowers vehicle.

Miller said no charges were filed against the drivers in the accident; however, Bowers was charged with an expired operator's license. There were no injuries.

Miller estimated damages to the Bowers' auto in the first

sequence as \$300 and after Burton hit the auto another \$500 in damages resulted. Damages to the other vehicles were estimated at \$250 each.

Allen Harris of Brooklyn, N. Y., hit a patch of ice just beyond the prison camp road on Sunday at 12:25 a. m. as he was travelling toward Warrenton. He lost control of his vehicle and ran off the left side of the road, hitting about 75 feet of fence on the property of Frank Newell.

Passengers in the auto, William Perry, 15, and Willie Williams, also 15 of Warrenton and the driver received minor cuts and bruises in the accident.

Miller stated that no charges were filed due to the weather conditions. Harris' auto was deemed a total loss. Estimates of the damage to the Newell property were not immediately known, Miller stated.

## New Lawyer Is Sought

# School Sale Funds Held For New Unit

The Warren County Board of Education at its regular meeting Monday night confirmed the sale of the Littleton High School to Dick Harris for the sum of \$38,324.

Consensus of the board was that the money be used towards the purchase of a site for a consolidated high school. The funds should be available as soon as the deed can be drawn.

W. L. Rose, principal of the North Warren Middle School appeared before the board to discuss progress of the school toward accreditation. The board asked that efforts be continued to have the school accredited and agreed to have the school band room torn down and replaced by a mobile building if it is possible to obtain an excess building from the federal government or a surplus building from another school in the county.

The board also agreed to appropriate \$25,000 for adding plumbing and dressing rooms to the North Warren gym as soon as this money becomes available.

Supt. J. Roger Peeler told the board members that two consultants had been obtained and that further work on having the school accredited would be carried on as quickly as possible.

All the schools in the county are accredited with the exception of North Warren and Hawkins. Both have been handicapped due to the physical conditions of their buildings.

Supt. Peeler briefly discussed factors which led the county to fail in its efforts to obtain a Public Works Grant of around \$1,000,000 to be used to build a consolidated high school in the county.

Selection of an attorney to replace Frank B. Banzet as attorney for the Board of Education was tabled until the next meeting of the board. Mr. Banzet, who has been attorney for the board for many years, had previously informed the board that he would like to retire as soon as his replacement can be found. Supt. Peeler told the board members that Mr. Banzet is presently engaging in winding up a number of items for the board, and the board agreed to bring the matter up for consideration at its February meeting.

The board accepted the resignation of Theresa L. Harris, math and science teacher at North Warren, and named Joyce Hargrove Brothers as her replacement.

Councilman H. H. Massey, who serves on the local beautification committee, said the use of benches would fit into the scheme of beautifying Warrenton and represented part of the town's culture. He said he did not believe litter would be increased, due largely to the nearness of the benches to the town police station.

Councilman Bill Leary agreed, adding that the benches could always be removed if they proved undesirable. Councilmen agreed that the matter was one for resolution by town officials, since the benches will be placed on the sidewalk and not on county property.

In a related action, board members gave approval to Dr. Massey to purchase 100 Foster's American Holly trees to be placed on Franklin and Front Streets. Massey said the trees do well in areas which are unsuitable for larger trees, and that he could purchase the trees at a cost of \$3.25 each. He said he had earlier feared that the trees might cost "nine or ten dollars each."

The responsibility for leaf disposal will shift from municipal employees to individual property owners in Warrenton next week, Town Manager Bill Davis said this week.

Davis said that effective at 5 p. m. on January 21, the leaf pickup operation will be discontinued by town workers. After this time, Davis said, leaves will not be picked up at curbside, and the responsibility will shift to the homeowner for disposal.

Robert Kelly, director of HealthCo at Soul City since May, 1975, resigned last Friday "for personal reasons."

Mrs. Eva Clayton has been appointed interim director until a successor to Mr. Kelly can be found.

The Warren County Association for Retarded Citizens will meet Thursday, Jan. 13, in the Parish Hall of All Saints Episcopal Church.

The board elected Princine Owens as teacher of the trainable class at North Warren replacing Cynthia Alston who resigned effective Dec. 21.

Supt. Peeler explained to the board the superintendent's accumulative vacation leave. He also discussed for the benefit of the three new board members his philosophy of administration.

Supt. Peeler said that a rather extensive study is being made of evaluations—teachers, principals and all other personnel covered by the Tenure Act. He said that Mr.

Robert Boyd was to meet with the principals Tuesday, Jan. 11, to review the board's present policy, the evaluation sheets being used as well as other factors related to the Tenure Act.

Supt. Peeler also discussed briefly some changes in the procedure used in informing the public when the schools will be closed due to inclement weather. He said he believes the new plan will improve the procedure by making a wider distribution of persons notifying radio stations, plus several checks.

## 'Most Dangerous' In Town

# Speed Will Drop At Fatality Scene

The Warrenton Board of Commissioners moved Monday night to reduce speed on Highway 401 as it approaches an intersection where Mrs. F. P. Hunter lost her life in a traffic mishap last week.

At the urging of Commissioner Anna Butler, board members unanimously instructed police to post signs indicating that the speed limit between Marshall and Plummer Streets along South Main Street (Highway 401) is 20 miles per hour. Previously the speed limit was 35 miles an hour.

Commissioners also voted to have the state, which erects signalling devices on the street, give immediate consideration to installation of a blinker light at the intersection of Main and Plummer streets, which Police Chief Freddie Robinson called the most dangerous in town.

The board learned that a federal grant in the amount of \$2650 has been approved which will allow for replacement of a stoplight at the corner of Fairview and Front streets. Town Manager Bill Davis said

the town will be expected to bear 30 percent of the cost of the light replacement, and that federal financing could not exceed the approved amount.

Davis also reported that the town had received a \$1500 revenue sharing grant as part of an anti-recessional payment beyond that which the town is normally entitled.

In other action, commissioners voted to replace Mrs. Ruth Bugg, a member of the Board of Adjustments who resigned because of moving out of the corporate limits, with Mrs. Richard Hunter.

## Arts Commission Sets Artists' Reception

This Sunday, Jan. 16, the Warrenton Arts Commission will sponsor a reception for artists Joe Wohlmut and Maggie Hayes from 3 to 5 p. m. at Warrenton's Town Hall. The public is invited. Mrs. Hayes is a resident of Warren County and Joe Wohlmut is of Raleigh and has done projects on Warrenton.

## Board Asks Clarification Of School Closing Procedures

At the Board of Education meeting Monday night, members suggested that the Superintendent outline for the newspaper the system being used in informing the public when there is a question about the opening or closing of schools due to inclement weather. It is as follows:

Mr. Tharrington, Transportation Supervisor, contacts the Highway Dept., State highway patrol (if possible) and the Police Dept. at an early hour and gets information concerning the condition of the roads. He then calls the Superintendent soon after 6:00 o'clock and the two of them make a decision, considering all of the information available, on whether or not schools should operate or be closed.

Mr. Peeler then contacts all of the principals, who, in turn, call as many of their bus drivers as can be reached. Each school has its own system of notifying teachers and all other school personnel.

Mr. Peeler also notifies local radio station WSPV of the decision and they are prompt to make the announcement. He then calls Mrs. Frances Davis whose duty it is to call WRAL-TV Channel 5, Radio Stations 101-Raleigh, WIZS-Henderson and WARR-Warrenton. The Superintendent then calls Mrs. Angie Edwards, who calls WXNC and WHNC-Henderson.

Even though the Superintendent feels that the system being used is as efficient as it can possibly be, he realizes that

some parents will miss the announcement. Also, some of the announcements are not made by the stations when they are requested to be made. In such cases, the parents should call the principal, bus driver, Mr. Tharrington at the school garage, or the Superintendent's office.

The school patrons of Warren County may be assured that every effort possible is made to let them know as early as possible in the day when there is a change in the school schedule due to snow or ice.

## Home Loss Is Put At \$5,000

Household goods estimated to have been worth \$5,000, were stolen from the home of Mrs. Hilda Mae Alston, around 70, in the Parktown section of Warrenton County on Tuesday night of last week.

Deputy Sheriff Dorsey Capps said Monday that Mrs. Alston had been spending the winter with her niece near Warren Plains, returning to her home occasionally. When she returned last week she found out that some person or persons had been to the rather isolated home and had removed most of her household goods. Included was an antique organ, a stove, and a number of other antique articles.

Sheriff Capps said no arrests have been made but the investigation is being continued.