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Foster Homes Available Here For Abused Warren Children

By HELEN HOWARD
The Department of Human Resources, abetted by a proclamation from Governor James Hunt, has declared March as "Child Abuse and Neglect Awareness Month."

Child abuse across the country has been on the rise in recent years and articles of children in Wake County dying from being beaten and a little girl in Tennessee being made to walk the floor for hours and drink Tabasco sauce until she died have caused alarm to many.

Figures are shocking. From July 1, 1975 to June 30, 1976 four children died of abuse and nine of neglect in North Carolina. Reported cases for abuse mounted to 2108 while the Social Services departments only confirmed 1472 cases. During this period 10,555 cases of neglect were reported with only 2,404 confirmed. What happened to the other 636 abuse cases and the 8,151 neglect cases?

Dr. Sarah T. Morrow, state human resources secretary, noted that in the five years the child abuse reporting law has been in effect, 25,000 children were confirmed to have been abused or neglected with 108 of these children dying from abuse.

She also noted that cases of neglect have decreased in the five year period while the number of confirmed abused children has more than doubled.

The Warren County Department of Social Services is aware of problems of both abuse and neglect reflecting that most cases reported to them are neglect rather than abuse.

Learning of cases is the biggest problem because we live in an age where "no one wants to get involved." Problems of child abuse and neglect are common knowledge to the society, but according to Mrs. Sally White, social worker for family and children services in Warren County, complaints must be reported.

Mrs. White noted that the procedure in Warren County, following a complaint, is that a social worker go directly to the family referred to in the complaint and discuss the problems to determine what procedure to follow.

According to Mrs. White, neglect may mean one thing to one group of people and something different to another. Determining the seriousness of the problem then depends on what the social worker finds by interviewing the family.

If they find that a child is abused or neglected, the complainer or the social worker will sign a petition for a hearing at juvenile court. In severe cases a temporary order can be obtained immediately to place the child in a foster home.

There are six foster homes in Warren County. At present there are 14 children in these homes taken from parents, "mostly from neglect," said Mrs. White.

These children range in age from eight to 16 and can legally

remain in foster care until 18 or 21 to complete high school.

The social workers continue to work with the parents and children after removal of a child, said Mrs. White. "Parents do help support some of the children in foster homes," she said.

More foster homes are needed in Warren County but Mrs. White is quick to point out that foster parents receive very little money for their services. Most parents receive only \$100 or \$115 a month to cover all the

expenses of the child, including clothing and food.

Schools work very closely with the Social Services Department. They are often the ones who refer children who need clothes or come to school dirty or improperly dressed for weather conditions or show signs of abuse.

The Social Services received "maybe 20 complaints" last year, social workers White and Ann Walker reported. Of these

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Funds Are Denied For Health Clinic

Haliwa Make Plans To Offer Halifax As Alternative Site

Federal officials have turned down a request for funding for a health clinic in southeastern Warren County.

Leland Gottschalk of Elberon, a board member of Capital Health Systems, Inc., said refusal by Health, Education and Welfare Department officials in Atlanta ended the possibility of a clinic sought by Haliwa Indians being located in the old Haliwa School near Arcola.

Gottschalk said the denial of funding spelled an end to three years of effort to have the site approved. Capital Health Systems is a health systems coordinator for 11 counties of Regions K and J.

He indicated that proponents of the health clinic will turn their attention to Halifax County in the hope that funds can be obtained if a site is found outside Warren County. Gottschalk said Warren County was denied funding since it already

has a similar facility—Health-Co, Inc. — in operation at Soul City.

"We are already in the process of turning over information on our application to Halifax County," Gottschalk said Monday. The grant proposal will be handled by the regional health coordinating agency which serves Halifax County. Agency headquarters are maintained in Greenville.

Attention now turns to a building just inside Halifax County, about 1.5 miles from the Haliwa School, Gottschalk said.

If approved, Warren County would have received federal funds for renovation of the Haliwa School, plus \$200,000 in first-year operating funds. The amount of funds for the second year would drop to 60 percent with HEW funds providing only 30 percent of operating costs during the third year of the clinic's existence.

Sewer Construction Bids To Be Opened

Bids for the construction of a sewer line from Soul City to Warrenton by way of Norlina will be reviewed by the Board of County Commissioners at their meeting Monday when contracts may be let.

The bids were opened at the office of Charles Hayes on Tuesday afternoon and turned over to the county's engineers.

Norlina Pastor Heads Ministers

The Rev. Nat Burgess, pastor of the Norlina United Methodist Church, has been selected as president of the Warren County Ministerial Association for 1977. Other officers include the Rev. Claude Pepper, who is now retired, vice-president; the Rev. Dudley Neal, pastor of Brown's Chapel in Warrenton, corresponding secretary; and the Rev. Richard D. Bullock, Jr., who serves several churches in the Manson area, co-secretary-treasurer with the Rev. Bill Crouch, pastor of the Warrenton Baptist Church.

This group of pastors from all denominations in the area are seeking, according to the Rev. Mr. Burgess, to make "brother ministers and the congregations aware of help that is available for those in need, especially for indigent persons." Plans for the year include programs by guest speakers from Seminary, from some areas of government and from service organizations.

Commented the Rev. Mr. Burgess, "We are growing in attendance because we are meeting not only the social and professional need of the pastors, but we are supplying help through friendship."

The Ministerial Association meets again on Monday, March 14, at the Norlina United Methodist Church at 10 a. m.

Hazen and Sawyer, for study. The commissioners will also examine the architectural plans for the renovation of "School Days," the former Allen home on Cousin Lucy's Lane.

Architect Dan Knight is expected to appear before the commissioners Monday to exhibit sketches and discuss costs with the commissioners. Knight, a native of Norlina, appeared at the office of County Manager Charles Hayes on Wednesday of last week where he discussed plans for the renovation with Hayes and Commissioner Jack Harris.

An executive session will probably be held during the morning. Hayes said, when applicants for the position of Ceta director will be reviewed. During this session it is expected that trustees of Warren General Hospital will be appointed.

During the day the commissioners are expected to discuss the tax valuations on livestock, hear reports from county agencies and attend to a number of routine matters.

Corn, Bean Meet Planned March 21

Marketing and production educational meeting on corn and soybeans will be held March 21 at 7 p. m. at Norlina High School.

L. C. Cooper, Agricultural Extension Agent, says all corn and soybean producers are invited to this dinner meeting. However, the cafeteria accommodates only 150 people, so we will take the first 150 producers; therefore we are asking all producers to call the office or return your card on or before March 18th, Cooper said.

Cooper says the meeting is being sponsored by Monsanto Chemical Corps and the Agricultural Extension Service.



The body of Cleveland Wilson was pulled from the bottom of Gaston Lake on Sunday morning by the Granville County Rescue Squad after grappling for 18 minutes. Thirty-one Rescue Squads from North Carolina and Southside, Va., took part in the search. (Staff Photo)

Warren Residents On Hand As Easter Seal Drive Begun

North Carolina's First Lady, Mrs. James B. Hunt, Jr., hosted a morning coffee at the Governor's Mansion in Raleigh Tuesday, March 1, to kick off the 1977 Easter Seal Campaign. Among over 200 friends of the Society in attendance at Tuesday's event were Mrs. Anna Butler, State Easter Seal President, Mr. Rufus Edmisten, Honorary Easter Seal Chairman and Brenda and Sandra Newcomb, State Easter Seal Children.

The campaign, which runs from March 1 through April 10 (Easter Sunday), is part of the annual effort of the Easter Seal Society on behalf of handicapped children and adults who live in the Warren county area.

Campaign activities include the mailing of "Easter Seals" to many households in North Carolina, distribution of coin canisters to businesses, and the yearly Livv Days conducted by 4-H Clubs throughout the county.

Resides owning and operating two specially adapted residential camps for physically

and mentally handicapped persons in North Carolina, the Easter Seal Society provides transportation, equipment loan and purchase programs, and an information, referral and follow-up service to thousands of the state's residents each year. In 1976 alone, Easter Seals in the Pine Valley Chapter of which Warren county is a part touched over 1,000 persons, either through those programs or through other Society activities such as advocacy on behalf of the handicapped, public and professional education, and research. At least 95% of the money raised by Easter Seals stays in North Carolina.

Easter Seals maintains nine Regional Offices in North Carolina, located in Raleigh, Asheville, Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Southern Pines, Greenville, Jacksonville and Durham. Persons who wish to learn more about the 1977 Easter Seal Campaign or who might benefit from the services described here are urged to call the Pine Valley Easter Seal

Office in Raleigh at #834-1191, or to call the regional office nearest them.

Easter Seals is the oldest and largest voluntary health agency providing direct service to the handicapped in the world.

Bench Placement Greets Arrival

Warrenton authorities welcomed the entry of March and the promise of spring Tuesday afternoon by placing half a dozen metal benches in front of the court house lawn. Three of the benches, painted green, were placed on the sidewalk on each side of the old water fountain.

Office Shut Saturday

The license tag office in Henderson will not be open on Saturdays it was reported this week. The daily hours will remain the same, 8 a. m. to 4 p. m., Monday through Friday. The Saturday closing is effective March 5.



Joining Mrs. Hunt at the Governor's Mansion are State Easter Seal Children, Brenda and Sandra Newcomb of Raleigh; standing, left to right: Attorney General Rufus Edmisten, Honorary Campaign Chairman, Mrs. Eva Holtzman of Ridgeway, Mrs. R. B. Butler, State Society President of Warrenton, and George W. Koonce, Warren County Extension 4-H Agent.

Lake Surrenders Body Of Victim

Thirty-one Rescue Squads from North Carolina and Virginia and some 240 men and women participated in a joint operation Sunday morning which resulted in the recovery of the body of a man who was robbed, slain and dumped into the waters of Gaston Lake at the I-85 bridge on the borders of North Carolina and Virginia.

The body of Cleveland Alonzo Wilson, 28, of Warrenton was found in very deep water at the bridge just where investigators had expected to find it during numerous other dragging expeditions in the past 37 days.

The massive search Sunday was arranged and conducted by Thomas K. Collie, Regional Coordinator, Office of Emergency Medical Services, who set up a command post at the Steel Bridge in Virginia where the boats were launched for the search some two miles down the lake. Helen Collie and Angie Callihan manned the radios at the post at the Wildlife Landing near the bridge.

Two Warren County men, described as friends of Wilson, already had been indicted for murder, robbery and auto larceny in the Jan. 22 killing. Dorsey Capps, chief deputy of the Warren County Sheriff's Department, said William McLean Davis, 19, and Joe Edward Hampton, Jr., 20, both of Warrenton, Route 2, are accused of beating Wilson to death with an automobile jack and robbing him of \$21 before his body was dumped into the lake.

"The were supposed to be very good friends," Capps said. Capps said the search Sunday was arranged because the victim's family was concerned that the body had not been found and the sheriff's department wanted to be able to produce the body by the time Davis and Hampton are tried. Among those watching the search and recovery of the body was Wilson's father.

Capps said "We have been going out every day to see if the body had floated to the surface." He said Virginia Wildlife Commission officers had assisted deputies in the daily checks. Wilson's moss-covered body, clad only in a shirt and pants, was found at the bottom of the lake. Capps said the channel of the Roanoke River and ice that had clogged the lake had made dragging operations very dangerous until recently. He said the body apparently had not floated to the surface because the water in the lake had remained so cold.

The victim's body was found after only 18 minutes of dragging by a rescue squad from Granville County. After Wilson was first reported missing, rescue squads and other volunteers dragged the lake almost continuously for about four days without finding the body.

The body, not badly damaged by its long emersion in the lake, was taken to Chapel Hill Medical Center for an autopsy. Sheriff Clarence Davis, who took part in several sweeps of

the lake, described the search Sunday as the greatest gathering of boats ever seen on Gaston Lake. He praised the skill of Collie in his command of the search and the discipline of the crews of the many squads participating in the search. Many of the squads had several boats, some of them as many as a half dozen. Sheriff Davis said

in commenting on the number of boats gathered for the search.

Following the recovery of the body, rescue squad members were served hamburgers and soft drinks by the Sheriff's Department. At this time Sheriff Davis expressed his

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Woods Fires Abound

Warming Weather Turns Out Firemen

Warrenton Rural Volunteer Firemen were kept busy over the past week, answering a rash of fire calls, mostly to grass and woods fires.

The Warrenton rural firemen responded to two fire calls on Wednesday and last week at two farms belonging to Sidney Cooper. The first call at 10:30 was to a woods fire three-fourths of a mile north of Macon. The fire, caused from burning brush, burned over an acre of land. The second call at 10:45 was to a woods fire on the Churchill road. Ten acres were burned over.

A third call on Wednesday, at 1 p. m., was to a woods fire on the farm of F. H. Cheek on the Embro-Littleton Road. Damage was not estimated.

Ten men and three trucks responded to a woods, laps and grass fire at the farm of Harry Williams, Jr., at Inez at 12:30 p. m. Friday. Three acres were burned over.

The rural firemen responded to eight fires Saturday. At 1:15 p. m. the firemen responded to a call to the home of Clay T. Brown, at Rt. 2, Warrenton, where a 1974 GTO car was on fire. The fire was extinguished with the use of water. Damage was estimated at \$50.

Six men and three trucks responded to a grass fire on the lawn of the Tom Burton estate on the Warren Plains road. The firemen soon had the fire extinguished. No damage was reported.

At 11:55 a. m. the firemen responded to a woods fire at Lickskillet. Owner of the property was not known. Two acres were burned over.

Members of the Macon Fire Department responded to a call to a woods fire at Gaston Lake Estate at 1:30 p. m. About two acres were burned over, but no damage was reported.

Twelve men and two trucks responded to a woods fire at 3:30 p. m. on the farm of Edward R. Carroll on the Warren Plains By-Pass. The fire was put out with water, but no further details were reported.

Twelve men and one truck responded to a woods and grass fire at the Robert Arrington Store at Hollister at 4:45 p. m. The Arcola Company extinguished the fire. No further details were given.

At 1:30 p. m. Warrenton firemen responded to a car fire at the home of Nelson Harris on Route 1, Macon. The 71 Camaro was reported a total loss.

The Afton, Norlina, Arcola, Inez and Warrenton fire companies responded to a woods fire on the farm of Howard Hawkins at Inez. Time of the call was not given, but the fire was reported extinguished with water. Amount of burn over was not reported.

At 5:10 on Sunday the Warrenton rural firemen sent ten men, two trucks and a crash wagon to Greenwood Church on SR 1001 where a tree in the church yard had been ignited by lightning. The firemen used water to extinguish the fire.

Four men and one truck were dispatched to the land fill at 10:15 a. m. Tuesday to extinguish a trash fire at the dump.

Ice Cream Fire

An ice cream truck owned by Morocco Stetson of the Snow Hill Community, caught fire Wednesday morning at 7 a. m. around the transmission of the truck.

The Warrenton Rural Fire Department responded to the call. Fire Chief A. A. Wood said that damage to the truck was slight. He estimated the damage at \$10.00.

Pesticide Meet Plans Revealed

The third Pesticide Applicators School will be held March 28 and 30 in the court room of the Warren County Courthouse, reports L. C. Cooper, Agricultural Extension Agent.

All classes will begin at 7:30 p. m. and will be in session for two hours each night.

Farmers and users of restricted pesticides are required to attend two classes for a total of 4 hours.

Farmers who fail to attend this class will not be certified until the Fall of 1977.

Gospel Sing Set

The Warrenton Pentecostal Holiness Church will feature a gospel sing with the Gospelaires of Roanoke Rapids on March 6 at 7 p. m. The public is invited to attend. No admission fee will be charged.