

# The Warren Record

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BIGNALL JONES, Editor

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## Move The Field

In the early part of the century many neighborhood schools were built and in after years as schools were consolidated these schools were leased or sold by the Board of Education. In many cases the deeds called for one acre of land donated by some interested citizen.

For many years the old John Graham Academy was operated where the John Graham High School now stands. It occupied between one and two acres of land. The Academy boys played both football and baseball on a lot back of the John Graham residence, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Sol Fleming.

In 1923 the Warrenton School district passed a bond issue and built the present John Graham School on the site of the old John Graham Academy. Incidentally, the school was built and paid for by the citizens of the Warrenton School District. As other schools were consolidated with John Graham, they assumed no responsibility for the bond issue, and when the state took over the schools, it did not assume the payment of the outstanding bonds.

The lot upon which John Graham was built was bounded on the west by the home of the late John Ellis, and on the north by the home of the late J. J. Tarwater. There was no room for baseball or football and these sports were played at the Hawkins field in South Warrenton.

During these years Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Harris built their home on a small lot on Wilcox Avenue, about 200 yards from the school. Some years ago the school trustees bought the land, on which the athletic field is now

situated from Miss Amma Graham which extended to Wilcox Avenue next to the lot of Mr. and Mrs. Harris. On this field an athletic field was built upon which the children of Mr. and Mrs. Harris played both football and baseball.

When the Harris boys played on this field the home plate was where the gym now stands. Later the field was enlarged and part of the bank cut down, and the home plate fixed at about 20 yards from Mrs. Harris' bedroom.

Realizing that Warren County's recreational facilities are extremely limited and feeling that schools should be used more fully for the community, the Board of Education recently went on record as making the school athletic fields available to the public under school supervision. There can be little doubt that the use of the John Graham High school is beneficial to the county and to the school.

There can be no doubt that Mrs. Harris has a justifiable complaint (See her Letter to the Editor, page 2). There can be no doubt that she has suffered financial damage as the value of her home has been decreased on account of the action of the school.

Any compromise is not going to be satisfactory to the school, to Mrs. Harris or anyone who may possibly buy the Harris home.

There is one solution that should be satisfactory to all concerned. That is to move the athletic field to the site of the proposed consolidated school off the Norlina By-Pass as quickly as possession can be obtained.



Patrick and Elizabeth Raiford of Rocky Mount enjoy wading in waters of Kerr Lake.

### Mostly Personal

## Taking To The 'Siesta' With Another Generation

By BIGNALL JONES  
It seems but yesterday that I was writing about my children in this column but that yesterday was a quarter of a century ago, and now I write about my grandchildren, Pat and Elizabeth Raiford, children of my daughter, Mary Brodie, who with her husband, Pat Raiford live in Rocky Mount. The grandchildren spent a recent weekend with us and that Saturday Grace and Ann took them to Kerr Lake for a picnic.

I am not much of a man for a picnic, or for outdoor eating, for that matter, as I prefer to eat from a table, comfortably seated, and shielded from flies and gnats, but I decided to go along with the group.

The day proved enjoyable, the children waded in the water and played in the sand and we older ones watched the children having fun, and the boats passing, and the sky blue water, and I took a few pictures and taught my wife to use my camera.

For some reason I was absent from the scene for a short while and when I returned my wife informed me that the houseboat, "Siesta" had passed. Last summer I commented about meeting P. C. Yeatts of South Hill, Va., and the following week ran a picture of the "Siesta" to head this column.

My wife informed the grandchildren of this fact and they both wanted to know if they could go to ride on the houseboat. She told them that she did not know if Mr. Yeatts would come back or if he did whether he would invite us to ride. It was a very doubtful situation, but the grandchildren did not give up hope.

Later I went around a cove to take a picture of a sailboat, and from there walked to a small store to buy some cookies, returned and we were packing up from the picnic, when the houseboat entered the nearby cove and went to its end. Leaving my camera with my wife, I hurried down to the boat and asked to speak to the owner. He came around the boat and we exchanged greetings. We received an invitation to come aboard and to meet the party, which consisted of a few students from a Richmond, Va., high school, whose names I can not recall. Among the group was a pretty young exchange student from Brazil,

who was standing on the front of the boat with Mr. Yeatts, and a girl of about the same age, a classmate of the exchange student. When we came on board we learned that the girl standing with the boat owner was Miss Monica A. Arango of Victoria, E. Santa, Brazil.

Mr. Yeatts ran his boat shoreward but missed land by several feet. Getting on board offered no problem to Ann, who rolled up her jeans and put each of the children on board before crawling on. Grace and I were the big problem. Mr. Yeatts ran the boat to the other side of the cove and waited while Grace and I walked around. Still there was open water between us and the boat. We took off our shoes and waded to the boat where we were helped aboard.

The girl from Richmond was lying on the front deck sunbathing, and I congratulated the exchange student on her pretty tan, only to learn that was the natural color of her skin. I knew that Brazil was settled by the Portuguese and when I asked her if she spoke Spanish or Portuguese, I did not feel too foolish. She said she spoke a little Spanish but Portuguese was her native language.

When Mr. Yeatts told her I was a newspaperman, she wanted to know was I going to put her picture in the paper, I told her probably, and she wanted a copy of the paper, which I shall send her. My wife asked her for the proper spelling of her name and her address. She told us that her father was a farmer who grew coffee, cattle and some rice. Mr. Yeatts later told me that her father was a wealthy coffee planter.

Grace, Ann and I sat on a bench seat in the front of the board, while Patrick and Elizabeth stood near the railing in the front of the boat where they were sunbathing. Mr. Yeatts was in the cabin, and the other passengers were on the rear deck, except for the two girls. The Richmond girl was lying on her stomach on the deck sunbathing but from what I could see appeared to be very pretty.

There is no doubt that Miss Arango is pretty. As she talked to Grace and me we found her to be a well poised, well mannered, intelligent and friendly young girl who added much to the pleasure of the ride.



Miss Monica Arango stands with P. C. Yeatts of South Hill on the back of houseboat Siesta at Kerr Lake.

## Letters To The Editor

**EXPRESSES CONCERN**  
In answer to the letter to you in the June 9 Warren Record.

It is unfortunate the writer does not know that the accused has never complained about John Graham activities on John Graham Ball Field now or ever. That the accused is also fond of athletics. That the accused has never complained to the principal, police, or school board about noise made by the school.

Yes, I have grown boys who were active in athletics at John Graham in past years. At this time I have two grandchildren who each have received a trophy this year in college basketball and high school golf. I was unable to attend either due to the fact that at my age I cannot take the noise involved.

The writer does not know. I am only complaining about the outside baseball games and practice. This is not connected in anyway with John Graham school athletics.

I wish I were your age. Unfortunately, I am older. I am 76 years old. I need my rest and sleep. Old people cannot take noise, such as I have under my bedroom windows. The baseball diamond has been moved since my boys attended John Graham school. In those days it was back where the gym is now. Not under my bedroom windows. The only distance between me and the home base and bleachers is the width of my driveway. There is no place in my house that I can go to get away from the noise. Could your grandmother, if she is 76 take loud constant noise, no rest and no sleep?

Most days there is practice. Weekends start at 8 a. m. and go till 10:30 p. m., lights out but still talking and cars on parking lot until midnight.

The only time I have called the police is to have cars moved from a no-parking zone so I could get out of my driveway. These cars were not school connected.

I suffer with arthritis in my neck, with inner-ear and a hiatus hernia. The above condition is aggravated by nerves. Nerves which are

caused by constant and long hours of ball playing so close to my house.

Last summer my doctor had to put me on a tranquilizer, which I am still on to try to help my nerves. I was so bad I could not talk without tears.

I have always heard that work never hurt anyone, but that nerves would kill you. I believe that. I just want to live as long as I can.

I want it understood, I am not against ball playing. I think its great. I am only against it being played under my bedroom windows.

This softball club, I am told, can play in a large field, which is lighted, not close to anyone's home, located in Afton. It's there for them although they have to pay for the lights and clean up.

Thank you for bringing this out in the open. I never would have. I am sure there are others who did not understand any more than you. Thus this letter. Thanks.

MRS. A. D. HARRIS

**PRAISES STITH**  
To The Editor:

It is my opinion that a certain member of The Warren Record staff deserves a word of praise for his work. Don Stith is

certainly an asset to your paper and to Warren County.

Whether you attend a ball game or an important meeting, you can depend on Don being there. When Don takes his pictures, he is always as quiet and inconspicuous as possible. He is careful not to block other people's views.

In two recent issues of the paper Don wrote an article about Moses Davis and another about W. Harvey Richardson. I read both of these articles and found them both interesting and informative. Neither of these articles just happened. They were the result of much hard work on Don's part.

Don has become very well known throughout the county. He is a good photographer and also an excellent reporter. I feel that The Warren Record and Warren County should stand up and take notice of this fine man.

JAY JOHNSON  
220 North Bragg Street  
Warrenton, N. C.

The National Garden Bureau has suggested that rose growers bury banana peels around bushes to produce bigger blooms because the skins are rich in phosphorus and potash.

## The World Of Books

In The Warren County Memorial Library

**American Flag**

A thoughtful mind, when it sees its nations flag, sees not the flag only, but the nation itself; and...he reads chiefly in the flag the government, the principles, the truths, the history which belongs to the nation that set it forth....Henry Ward Beecher, 1813-1887

To go along with our Chinese Art Exhibit we have on display books on Chinese Art, cooking, love poems, history, travel, oriental rugs, etc.

We have numerous craft books for Bible School leaders. Going along with conservation of gas, we advocate, "See North Carolina First," special display about our wonderful state.

Make plans for STORYTIME to be held last two weeks in July and first two weeks in August. It will be held Tuesday and Thursday a. m. of the above noted weeks. More later on ages and time. We have had one father to volunteer. Let's show children that daddy can read as well as make money.

NEW BOOKS—"America's Forgotten Architecture" (paperback); "Oliver's Story," Segal.  
OVERDUE BOOKS—Please return all overdue books, so that others may enjoy reading them.

**DAVIS**  
Of Henderson, N. C.

**FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL!**

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- HANDKERCHIEFS
- UNDERWEAR



→ Arrow →

THE CHOICE OF CHAMPIONS

**IZOD**

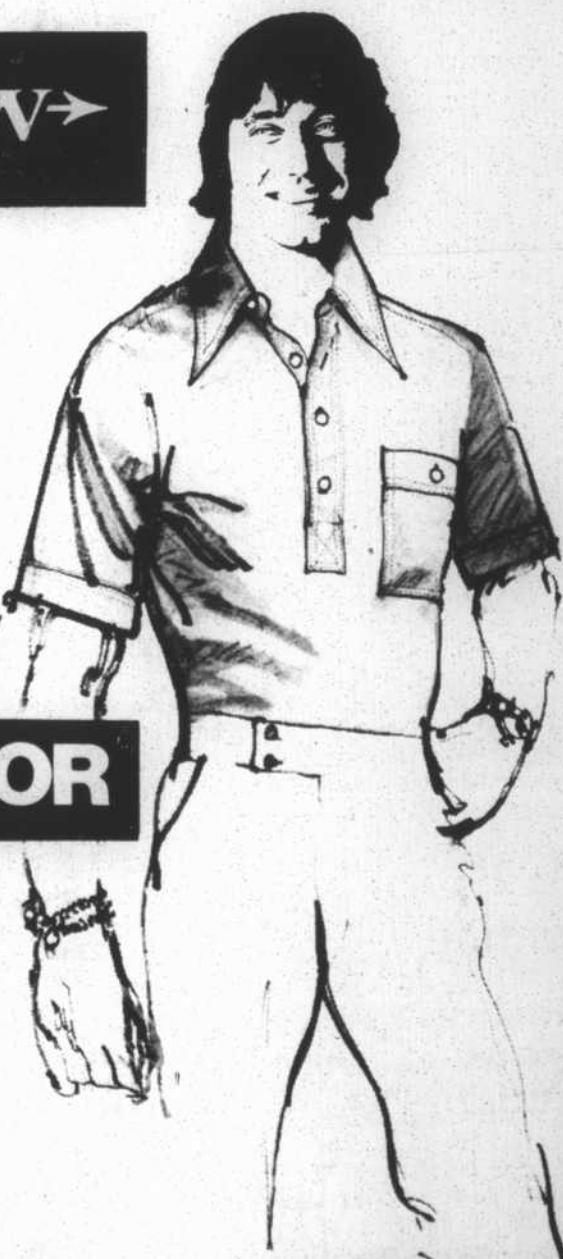
Jantzen

**Essley**

**MCGREGOR**

**Levi's**  
FOR MEN

at  
**LEIGH'S**  
in NORLINA



THIS SUNDAY IS HIS DAY!