

## Two Homes Destroyed

### Smoke Detectors Help Save Lives

Smoke detectors have been credited with saving the lives of two Warren County families in the early morning hours on Monday.

Fire officials said noise from a detector awakened the nine persons sleeping in the home of C. J. Terry of Rt. 2, Macon shortly after midnight. Macon firemen were the first to arrive on the scene with a pumper and tanker, but the blaze had made too much headway to save the structure.

Firemen reported that damage to the house and contents totalled \$67,000.

Units from Warrenton and Arcola were called to the scene of the Embro fire. Captain Walter Gardner of the Warrenton unit said two of nine persons at home when the fire occurred injured themselves on broken glass while fleeing the house. They were taken to Warren General Hospital for treatment.

Efforts of fire fighters were hampered by sub-

freezing temperatures, Gardner reported. A wood stove has been blamed as the cause of the fire which gutted the one-story brick home.

While still at the Terry home, firemen got a call from the residence of Samuel Hayes of Rt. 2, Warrenton. The Hayes family had been awakened by a smoke detector and found their one-story frame house ablaze.

The Afton-Elberon Fire Department responded to the call for assistance and sent two pumps to the scene. Macon dispatched one unit, which was being refilled with water at Warrenton when the alarm was turned in. Warrenton firemen also went to the scene, between Afton and Warrenton.

Gardner said the flames which destroyed the Hayes residence began in the ceiling, possibly from defective wiring. The loss of the house and contents was said to total about \$45,000.

## A-E Fire District Approved By Board

The Warren County Board of Commissioners on Monday approved the Afton-Elberon Rural Volunteer Fire Department as a fire district, but held up the approval of the Arcola Department as a fire district when it was revealed that the Arcola Company had not yet been approved by the Fire Commission.

The board recommended and sent to the Highway Commission a request that a loop road in the Glen Haven Development in Nutbush Township be added to the state system.

The Rev. J. S. Spruill, a black minister of the Embro Community, appeared before the board and made an eloquent plea to have the highway running by his home hardsurfaced. For a number of years the minister has appeared before the commissioners asking that the road be improved, but the project is still a long way from the top priorities. Mr. Spruill said

that he is now 88 years old and did not know whether he would appear again. He said the road had mail route, school busses, and the required number of houses to qualify, and that because of mud the church had been moved to the highway, but the cemetery remained. He said that while the road, No. 1511, had not been paved a road serving Grove Hill and running to the Reedy Creek Church had been paved, although it was not as well qualified as the Embro road.

Mr. Spruill said that he knew the first mail carrier on the road now known as 1511, and how he had helped him with shovel and hoe get out of the same mudhole in which the present carrier has been stuck.

Chairman Harris told Mr. Spruill that it was possible that part of the road, serving the greater amount of traffic, could be obtained by splitting the road. He said

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## Jury Clears Woman In Embezzlement Case

The mixed term of Warren County Superior Court which convened here on Monday of last week with Judge Robert L. Farmer of Raleigh presiding, ended a day earlier than anticipated because the snow storm of last Thursday.

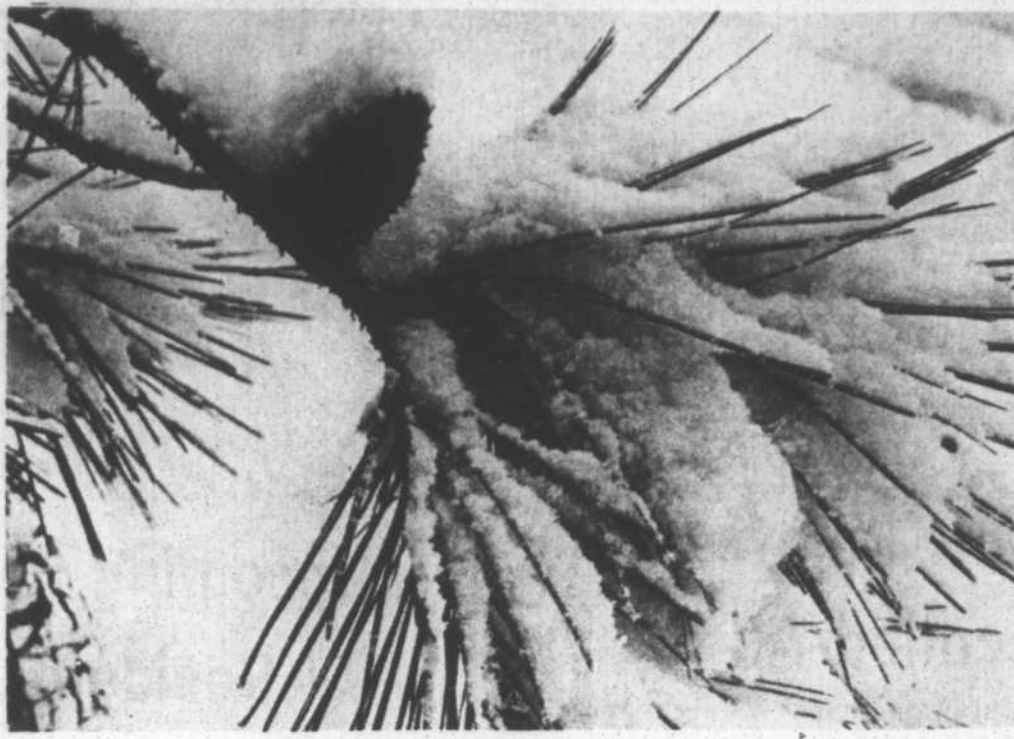
Judge Farmer had announced that he would be unable to hold court here on Friday due to a previous appointment.

When court recessed at around 5 o'clock on Wednesday night, it was with the expectation that it would convene on Thursday morning, but snow and freezing weather dictated otherwise.

Judge Farmer returned to Warrenton Monday morning where he signed a few commitment papers, but was unable to sign court judgments because he was due to hold court in Oxford that

day. When The Warren Record went to press on Wednesday morning of last week, a jury was hearing evidence in the case of State vs. Grace Clayton, charged with embezzling \$5,000 from the A&P Store here. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty late Wednesday afternoon.

Following the charge of Judge Farmer to the jury and while the jury was deliberating, the court heard pleas in a number of other cases, the judgments of which were not released by the office of the Clerk of Court because the judgments had not been signed by the presiding judge. All cases tried in the court term last week are expected to have been processed in time for inclusion in next week's paper.



This sight became commonplace on Wednesday as the season's third snowfall blanketed Warren County surroundings. Snow began falling about 5:30 a. m. on Wednesday and was continuing at press time. (Staff Photo)

## Commissioners Allow Change In March Date

The Warren County Board of Commissioners will not hold their regular monthly meeting in March, but will meet instead on March 10, the second Monday.

The commissioners authorized the change in date in order that members of the board may attend the National Association of County Commissioners Legislative Conference in Washington, D. C., March 2-5, where among other items to

be discussed will be the need for the federal government continuing its revenue sharing program.

Glen Newsome, county manager, also announced that a district meeting of the NACo. would be held in Raleigh on Feb. 20, from 7 p. m. to 9 p. m.

Newsome told the commissioners in his report on CETA that there are at present 35 CETA workers in the county, and that efforts will be made to have the

state supply funds to continue the program for the remainder of the fiscal year.

The county commissioners are scheduled to meet with the Sanitary District directors at Soul City on Feb. 27 to complete plans for abolishing the district. Henry Morgan, an employee of the Sanitary District, told the commissioners that there are a number of loose ends to be tied up before the work is completed.

## Subdivision Wins Approval Of Board

The Warren County Planning Board has given its approval to development of a 48-lot subdivision approximately two miles from Littleton on the Odell Road.

Developer Vernon T. Bradley of Roanoke Rapids met with planning board members to discuss plans for the development, to be known as Ben's Creek Subdivision.

Bradley's plans were among six brought before the planning agency meeting in the Grand Jury Room of the Warren County Court House.

Preliminary approval was given a plan for creating nine lots in Roanoke Township on land previously owned by Clyde Delbridge on Lizzard's Creek. A Dr. Gilbert of Virginia was present to discuss his planned use.

Mrs. Alvis Fleming appeared before the board to request a change of status of one acre of her property near Lake Gaston. She said she was requesting a change from farm land to neighborhood business in order to allow her to build a real estate office. She was told that the matter must be

brought before county commissioners in order to advertise a public hearing at which time the matter will be decided.

Not approved by the board was a request from Harold Mullen and Thurston Debnam that a seven-lot subdivision below Inez on Highway 58 be endorsed. Planning board members would not give approval since the development appeared to be in a flood zone.

Approved was a request from Samuel L. Stowe of Roanoke Township that several lots he is developing be consolidated for increased acreage. Also approved for Earl Beddingfield was a request that he be allowed to use property leased from Mrs. C. H. Woodburn for use as a mobile home park.

## Routine Business

Only a few items of routine business were brought before the Norlina Board of Commissioners meeting on Monday night.

The meeting was one of the shortest ever, ending after 25 minutes. Mayor Bill Perry and all members of the board were present.

## Postponed By Weather

The threat of inclement weather and conflict with other meetings has forced the postponement of the annual Warren County Chamber of Commerce banquet until Monday night.

The meeting was first set for last Thursday night, but snowfall prevented the meeting. At the time it was hoped that the meeting could be held tonight (Thursday).

Executive Secretary J. T. Fleming said yesterday that the format of the dinner will be unchanged by the delay. The meeting is scheduled to begin with a fellowship period at 7 p. m., followed by dinner at The Carriage House at 7:30 p. m.

## Seven Posts Are Involved

### Races Are Assured In County Elections

Races have been assured for all seven county posts up for election in the May Primary.

A flurry of last minute filings at the Warren County Board of Elections ruled out non-contested races to be filled in the May 6 Primary.

Four posts on the Board of Education will be filled by voters during a non-partisan election. Three incumbents will be seeking to turn back challenges from three political newcomers while two persons are seeking the seat vacated by the January death of Ernest Turner.

Henry D. Bobbitt, III, and Loyd C. Hawkins will vie for the District Two seat now held by Bobbitt.

Leigh Traylor and Ms. Joycelyn McKissick-Myers will compete for the District Three seat now held by Traylor.

Kathy Harris Wilson is seeking to unseat Joyce Darnell Odom for a seat on the board representing District Four.

The vacant seat from District Five will be filled by either Harold L. Harris or Yarborough Williams.

## Samuel Russell Is Seeking Spot On County Board

Samuel A. Russell, a resident of the Embro Community, has filed as a candidate for county commissioner, subject to the May Democratic Primary. He will oppose William Skinner, incumbent, and newcomer Arthur R. Bobbitt.

Russell, a self-employed and licensed cabinet maker, is a 1941 graduate of John R. Hawkins High School. He is a veteran of World War II and spent two years in the Navy.

Following his return from the armed forces, he was active in the Veterans Farm Training Program and began a carpentry vocation in 1950 with Eugene Branch and later with Robert S. Thomas. He became self-employed in 1959 and continued for several years as a licensed contractor.

Russell was certified by the State Department of Public Instruction as a carpentry teacher in 1965 and was employed in Nash County schools for six years as a teacher at Swift Creek High School and Northern Nash High School. He was employed by the Warren County schools in a similar position from 1973 to 1976 when he worked with students at North Warren Middle School.

As a member of Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Russell serves on the Deacon Board as co-chairman and as church treasurer. His other community involvement and service include adult education teacher in evening classes; HealthCo Advisory Board; Agricultural Extension Advisory Board; The Brotherhood Club, where he serves as president; vice president of the Friendly Four Rural Development Club; and past master of Grove Hill Lodge No. 523.

In the contests for two seats on the five-man Board of County Commissioners Frank Ballance will seek to unseat Jack Harris, who serves as board chairman, and Arthur R. Bobbitt and Samuel A. Russell will try to unseat William T. Skinner.

J. H. (Jim) Hundley will be opposed in his re-election bid as register of deeds by James W. Byrd.

Floyd B. McKissick, Jr., filed Monday morning for one of three district House seats now held by Democrats William Watkins, T. W. Ellis and John Church.

In a Republican challenge for state senator of the Seventh District, John J. Hawkins has filed to attempt to unseat either Sen. Dallas Alford or Sen. James Speed.

## Manson Road Closed

RALEIGH — The Division of Highways of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will close the railroad crossing on Collins Road (Secondary Road 1102) in the Warren County town of Manson for approximately four days, according to Division Engineer C. C. Painter.

The road will be closed from Feb. 4 to Feb. 8. The temporary closing will allow Seaboard Coastline Railroad Company to repair the crossing.

Traffic will be detoured over local roads. S. R. Ross, district engineer, said that every effort is being made to complete the project as soon as possible to minimize any inconvenience to the traveling public.

## Mrs. Wilson Files For Seat On County Board

Kathy Harris Wilson, a resident of Warren County's Fishing Creek Township, has filed as a candidate for the Warren County Board of Education. She will face Mrs. Joyce D. Odom in the May 6 non-partisan Primary.

"I feel that the children in the county school system need my support," Mrs. Wilson said. "I am dedicated to improved curriculum, fair and honest opportunities for all students, adequate facilities and more community involvement in the educational process."

She said she was asking the citizenry of Warren County "to give me the opportunity to represent you honestly and with a sincere devotion that will bring quality education to our students."

Mrs. Wilson is employed with the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe, Inc. as a

planner and deputy director for the community organization. She is an active member of the Mt. Bethel Baptist Church where she is a teacher, sings in the Young Adult Choir and sings in a group known as the "Carolina Travellers."

A member of various commissions and boards in Warren County, she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Harris of Rt. 3, Warrenton. She and her husband, Marshall, have two daughters: Vonda, 14, and Kimeko, 9.

## Cheek Is Given Medal By Army

Lt. Col. Forrest H. Cheek, Jr., commander of the 130th Signal Battalion of the N. C. Army National Guard and a resident of Warrenton was presented with the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service as the assistant division signal officer for the 30th Infantry Division.

The award was presented in Greensboro on Jan. 27 by Col. Kenneth Newbold, brigade commander of the 113th Artillery Brigade. Lt. Col. Cheek resides at 129 Ridgcrest Drive with his wife, Margaret, and three children.

## EPA Approves Grant Increase

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency has approved a grant increase of \$11,771 to Warren County for the initial phase of a sewer system evaluation survey to be done in conjunction with construction of a new waste treatment plant near Warrenton on Fishing Creek.

Second District Congressman L. H. Fountain announced that the grant increase brings to more than \$26,000 the amount earmarked for the survey.

## Open House Rescheduled

Open House for Branch Banking and Trust Company's remodelled Warrenton office has been postponed to February 24 from 2 p. m. until 5 p. m. a bank spokesman said yesterday.



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