

## Teacher Charged In Death

Roy A. Alston, black male masonry teacher at Vance County Senior High School in Henderson, is being held in Warren County jail without bond. He is charged with the murder of Clarence Champion, Jr., another black male who is said to have recently returned from New York to the Afton-Elberon section of Warren County where Roy A. Alston also lived.

Alston was scheduled to be given a hearing in Warren County Recorder's Court on Wednesday morning.

According to Deputy Sheriff Bobby Dean Bolton, who investigated the shooting, Roy A. Alston shot Champion at the home of Irene Fields of Norlina, Route 2 with a 32 calibre pistol about 5:50 p. m. Sunday. One bullet struck him in his right knee and another about the middle of the back. The wounds were fatal.

## Tentative Budget Is Presented

The Town of Warrenton was presented its tentative 1981-82 budget at a special meeting of the town commissioners on Monday night. All members of the board were present, including Commissioner Gordon Haithcock, who has been absent for several meetings due to serious illness.

The Warren Record only learned of the budget meeting on Tuesday night near press time, due to a mix up that was really no one's fault.

According to Administrator Pete Vaughan, little changes were made in the budget; no salaries were raised and no changes were made in the tax rate.

Further information will be given in the coverage of the regular June meeting of the town board on next Monday night.



BROWN

## Norlina Graduates

### Will Hear Brown

The final commencement exercise of Norlina High School will be held Friday night at 8 o'clock in the gymnasium.

Malcolm Brown, executive assistant of the North Carolina Leadership Institute for Principals will be the speaker. He is employed by The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

He will be introduced by Principal Clint L. Hege and the diplomas will be awarded by Mrs. Rachel Ricks, assistant superintendent of Warren County Schools, to 83 seniors.



Asa Adkins, right, commander of Norlina Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4096 presents a \$100 check to Gene Medlin, chief of the Norlina Fire Department. Adkins said the check is the first to be delivered to each rural

volunteer fire unit in Warren County. He said the VFW Post intends to use proceeds from its fund raising activities to make the monetary contributions. (Staff Photo)

## For Warren County Residents

# Tax Increase Of Seven Cents Reflected In Proposed Budget

Warren County Commissioners on Monday received the tentative 1981-82 budget calling for total expenditures of \$4,542,564, of which \$1,831,730 is to come from ad valorem taxes.

If the tentative budget is approved by the commissioners following a public hearing on June 24 at 8 p. m. the tax rate will be set at 96c, a 7c increase from the present 87c rate. A workshop will be held on Tuesday night.

The budget provides for a total school budget of \$808,069. Of this amount \$758,069 is for current expenses and \$50,000 for capital outlay.

The budget also provides for an across-the-board raise of 5c.

In submitting the budget, County Manager Glen Newsome said that it is a tight budget that is really not liable to suit many persons, but he tried to be as fair as he could.

Newsome said the budget calls for no new programs or services in the coming year. He said the budget is a "hold-the-line" one that will be necessary for commitments already made in past years.

Among factors that Newsome cited that contributed to the need for a tax hike are the county's bonded indebtedness, anticipated cutbacks in federal funding levels and increased operating costs.

The indebtedness basically derives from a \$2.25 million bond issue Warren County voters approved to help pay for the new consolidated Warren County High School, which will be occupied this fall, according to Newsome.

Newsome said that if all requests had been granted the budget would call for a tax rate of \$1.50. This statement was made before representatives from Lakeland Cultural Arts Center at Littleton, Mark Taylor and Claude Arnold,

## Loan Approved

### For New Truck

The Farmers Home Administration has approved a 20-year loan in the amount of \$58,000 for the purchase of a new pumper tanker fire truck for the Hawtree Fire District.

Announcement of the pending loan, which carries a five per cent interest rate, was made this week by Second District Congressman L. H. Fountain.

appeared before the commissioners, made a good case for the art and cultural works among thousands of school children of Warren, Halifax, and Northampton Counties, and asked the help of the board in an amount not specified. They said they would request a definite amount, as suggested by the board, and have it in the hands of County Manager Glen Newsome the next morning.

Among other matters, the Board of Education, Health and Commissioners met in joint session around 10 a. m. to appoint a member of the Warren County ABC Board, A. B.

## Planning Board Gives Approval To Developments

The Warren County Planning Board Thursday night gave tentative approval to the creation of a 13-lot subdivision in Roanoke Township on Lake Gaston.

Approval for the development, to be known as Turkey Run, came after Mecklenburg County, Va. engineer Marvin Crutchfield showed preliminary plans for the subdivision. These were quickly given tentative approval, pending the addition of easements and street names. The development is owned by Robert Clary.

In a related matter, the

Hair's three-year-term having expired. Mr. Hair was nominated for re-appointment as was W.K. Delbridge, also of Norlina. In a written ballot, Delbridge received six votes and Hair three.

Among new items going to make up the budget was the purchase of voting equipment (voting machines). The Board of Election had requested \$12,000 for this purpose. The budget figure is \$6,000.

The Commissioners had also received notice of the resignation of Clifford Robertson as a member of this board with a request that a person be appointed to fill his unexpired term.

The appointment was tabled until the next meeting of the board.

Also tabled was the appointment of some person to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Jean Burwell, who has retired as a member of the Warren General Hospital Board of Directors. Mrs. Burwell has served as a member of this board for ten years.

The contract for auditing the Warren County records was awarded to the firm of Watts, Scobie and McLamb, CPA, for the sum of \$3950, plus \$30 an hour for additional work. Newsome said this represented an increase of about \$400.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mrs. Bertha B. Forte, Home Economics Agent in Warren County since Nov. 1, 1962, who has resigned effective June 30, appeared before the board and was thanked for her fine work in the county, and presented a plaque bearing words of appreciation for her excellent work in Warren County.

## Tuck Is Freed

### By Warren Jury

Much of the time of the Warren County Criminal Term of Superior Court, which convened here Monday morning with Judge F. Gordon Battle of Chapel Hill presiding was taken up with the trial of a murder case; in a number of other cases were pleas of a comparative minor nature.

Unlike other sessions of Superior Court, a jury was drawn during Monday morning and the trial of State vs. Curly Tuck was called on Monday afternoon. Tuck was charged with second degree murder and with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill causing seriously injury.

The cases went to the jury on Tuesday morning about 11:45 a. m. and the jury returned a verdict of not guilty in both cases around 4:30 on Tuesday afternoon.

While the jury was out in the Curly Tuck case, a second jury was empaneled but did not try any other jury cases. The session recessed around 5 p. m. It convened on Wednesday morning at 9:30 a. m. when The Warren Record had gone to press.

# Final Commencement Is Planned Friday At John Graham High

John Graham Senior High School will hold its final commencement exercise on Friday, June 5, at 8 p. m. in the John Graham Athletic Stadium. This commencement will bring to a close an era which began in 1923 when John Graham High School became a public school. The class of 1981, which is comprised of 153 members, will add to the total of over 4,000 students who have received diplomas from John Graham High School in the past 57 years.

The valedictorian, Jan Yvette Jordan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Jordan, Jr., will deliver the class farewell. The salutatorian is Tammy Louise Roberts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James D. Roberts. Class officers are president, Thomas Coleman Fleming, who will present the class gift; vice president, Michael Anthony Murray, who will give the benediction; secretary, Karen Bullock Hawkins, who will give the invocation; treasurer, Vernon Robert West, who will introduce the commencement speaker; and, parliamentarian, Dorothy Kay Williams, who will read the class poem "Images" which was written by a member of the class, Wallica Vernetta Howard.

The commencement speaker will be Mrs. Thelma Cumbo Lennon, deputy assistant state superintendent of public instruction for student services. Mrs. Lennon, a native of Raleigh, received her undergraduate degree at North Carolina Central University, her master's degree at Boston University, and has pursued further study in the area of guidance and counseling at Harvard University.

During her career as an educator, Mrs. Lennon has been an instructor at St. Augustine's College and North Carolina Central University, dean of students at Allen University of Columbia, S. C., and head counselor at the Governor's School of North Carolina. Since 1967, she has been employed by the North Carolina State Department of Public Instruction as supervisor of guidance, counseling and testing; director of the Division of Pupil Personnel; and, in 1980 was promoted to her present position as deputy superintendent for student services.

Mrs. Lennon holds membership in a large number of professional organizations and is affiliated with professional associations on the state and national level.

Honor graduates are Rhonda Leigh Bowman, Keyto Lamont Brown, Wallica Vernetta Howard, Renee Helen Fincher, Thomas Coleman Fleming, Tammy Louise Roberts, Milvett Simms Alston, Jan Yvette Jordan, and David Anthony Alexander. These seniors have maintained an academic average of 90 or above for their entire senior high school career.

Junior class members of the National Honor Society will serve as marshals. They are Rosita Ann Patterson, chief marshal; Lucy Rebecca Baskett, Margaret Delores Foster,



MRS. LENNON

Valerie Lane Gaither, James Julius Howard, Kathryn Rose Newsome, and William Robert Perkinson.

Members of the class of 1981 are:

David Anthony Alexander, Calvin Douglas Alston, Faye Alice Alston, Fredina McSha Alston, Geraldine Alston, Gloria Diane Alston, Laura Ann Alston, Mark Shannon Alston, Milton Sylvester Alston, Ronald Bernatt Alston, Sheilah Bonita Alston, and Elda Yvonne Ayscue.

Also, Beatrice Banks, Edward Joseph Benge, Jr., Teresa Marie Benge, Katherine Blanche Bowman, Rhonda Leigh Bowman, Vanessa Marline Broadnax, Keyto Lamont Brown, Tracey Alfreda Brown, McDonald Bullock, Sharmaine Doris Bullock, Linda Ann Bunch, Monica Ruth Burchette, Toney Vernesa Burnett and Michael Lynn Burton.

Also, Debra Ann Cameron, Sylvia Carroll, Doris Carter, Lorraine Cecilia Carter, Clarence Roscoe Cheek, Deborah Frances Cheek, William Edward Childers, Carol Denise Cook, Anthony Keith Creech, Brenda Fay Crump, Beatrice Davis, Celvid Sullivan Davis, Jr., and Loretta Lynn Davis.

Also, Lyndel Evangeline Davis, Nancy Loretha Davis, Terry Van Davis, Anita Denise Dunston, Gail Paige Eaton, Sharon Denise Eaton, Malcolm Sylvester Elam, Dwayne Keith Ellis, Cynthia Renee Evans, Dale Hunter Evans, Janet Delois Falcon, Veronica Darlene Fields and Renee Helen Fincher.

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Shown above are Jan Jordan, left, John Graham's valedictorian, and Tammy Roberts, salutatorian.