

The Warren Record

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A Happy Occasion

For those who recognize that jobs are the greatest single need of the people of Warren County and the need of more industries to provide these jobs, Thursday of last week must have been a happy time when leaders of both Norlina and Warrenton gathered here to have their towns judged for membership in the Governor's Communities of Excellence Program.

The gathering was an exhibition of results that are promised when all people of a community gather together for the attainment of a common objective. There is little doubt that both Warrenton and Norlina will join the ranks of the Governor's Communities of Excellence, but if they should not, both communities will have taken a step forward as the result of their efforts.

We have long recognized that a large town is needed for the growth of any county and have watched for

several years the growing cooperation between Norlina and Warrenton with rising hope that they become for practical purposes of livability one town. Few things could promise more for our dream than the location of the Warren County Consolidated High School, and the end of an athletic rivalry that has hindered cooperation, and the joint sharing of a school that promises to do much for both the short term and long term advancement of Warren County.

Last Thursday a score of our leaders got a view of what years of preparation and the expenditure of some tax money can do as the committee heads answered correctly every question asked by the committee of judges. Listening to the proceedings, we were not only surprised by the amount of talent shown, but received new hope for the advancement of our county as a result of its abundance in the two towns.

By BIGNALL JONES
The timeliness of this column in "The Wake News," by Carol Pelosi, rather than lack of material or inclination on this Labor Day holiday, is responsible for me making it the greater part of my column this week. Each week she writes an interesting feature under the heading "Back Room Notes." Below is reproduced her column of September 3:

There Are No More Afternoon Strip Sessions
I wouldn't want to return to those thrilling days of yesteryear, but I must admit to a slight sense of nostalgia that crept in Monday.

With only one very organized person still in public school, the first day of school is not at all the super-event it used to be at our house. Poor third child! When we had only one going to school, but for the first time, there were all sorts of advance preparations.

Like a good mother, I had inspected the first kindergarten room, the first kindergarten teacher and scouted the route to school, just around the block. For the last high-schooler, we only ask if she has checked on her carpool ride.

Getting to school for much of the first year could be traumatic for everyone. When you are 5 years old, a solitary journey, even if it is just around the block, can be too much. When you are the mother of the 5-year-old and a 2-year-old and a tiny baby, a trip around the block can be an outing or a total disaster. School always started at the same time the 2-year-old started dressing, undressing or playing with the potty and the baby thought it was dinner-time. My mother of the year nomination went out the window while I was wheeling up the pavement, trying to keep the school-bound one calm, the home-bound one half-covered and the infant quiet.

Once they got settled in school, the after-school sessions could be fascinating. "Why are you getting home late?" "I stayed after school because Nancy (the freckle-faced apple of his eye at the time) said she was going to take all her clothes off behind school." "Well, did she?" "Yeah."

"Then what happened?" "I came home." Now I must admit that most of the after-school sessions centered on those items like the above, the interesting ones, while the academic part of the day got little notice except a lot of groaning. Once in a great while they might drop a hint that a teacher or two lurked in the halls of learning, but the interesting part of school was what a friend said what, who was going with whom and what they didn't like about lunch.

This year we haven't even had the annual wardrobe investment. Of course the boys never wore anything that looked like it was new once they got to choose their own clothes, but they had to go buy all this new stuff. I think they had learned how to age sneakers and T-shirts instantly. Their sister had learned the secret of recycling clothes—and she hangs on to them until she is sure they will never be used again. To clean her closet this fall, she gave away a sweater from second grade.

How can I miss spending \$200 on socks, underwear, blue jeans and T-shirts? Why do I feel a vague loss when I don't have to lay out cold cash for something "everybody else is wearing." Mothers have to be strange to miss something they enjoyed about as much as a toothache at the

Mostly Personal

This Article Is Timely

time. O, at least, that's what I said.

The Letter To The Editor of The Smithfield Herald, under date of Sept. 4, is just the kind of letter that I like to read on a rainy Labor Day holiday when many of my friends are asleep and I am working. I thoroughly enjoyed it, and I hope you will also:

A WORRIED GRAND-MOTHER APPRECIATES HUMAN COURTESY-
To The Editor:

Our little five-year-old grandson was coming for his last summer visit before school started. An efficiently kind voice said over my telephone: "We have your grandson here at the Raleigh-Durham Airport."

I stuttered and tried to think: Was this some kind of joke? Then stark reality hit me in my capped teeth: My son and I had failed to communicate again.

I said to the lady on the phone: "May I speak to the little boy?" Scott serenely answered: "Hi, Nana." I said: "Do you have any money for your lunch?" He said: "I have 50 cents and two pennies at home." I said: "Let me speak to the lady again." She assured me that he would be fine for the hour it would take me to get to the airport and that she would feed him.

It seemed like 600 miles from my kitchen door to the airport. I was such a trembling mass of grandmotherly flesh, and I didn't dare drive over 50 miles an hour or break one road rule. I caught every single red light going to that airport, yet I made it in 50 minutes.

As I get older, I get more sensitive to warm, human courtesy.

I drove up to the front of the airport to ask if I could

park closer while I ran in to get my abandoned grandson. A kind gentleman said: "Here is the nearest entrance. He is right inside. He is fine."

The only flight out of Columbia, S. C. to Raleigh was one of those little shuttle planes, and all I saw was Delta, Eastern, Piedmont. But a Delta gentleman winked kindly at me and said: "He's fine. Keep straight."

I knew I looked like the witch of Endor, but I was guided by Eastern, Piedmont, and Delta people and travelers to the kindest pair of eyes I've seen since my grandmother died. She smiled confidently at me and said: "You're Scott's grandmother. He's watching a plane come in."

We went into the waiting room, and I was packed with wall-to-wall people. There was Scott with a lovely young lady holding his hand. He didn't drop her gentle hand quickly. He just said quietly: "Hi, Nana."

My heart ran over at the sight of him. I picked him up in my arms and hugged him so close I was afraid I had broken every bone in his little body.

I did remember to get the good ladies' names: Jean Erler and Emily Bullard. May the good Lord love them—I do.

As we were leaving the airport, a handsome young man in pilot's gear said: "Don't lose him again." And his eyes twinkled with the smile he gave us.

Say anything you like about any airport on this earth. But watch your tongue when you use an unkind word about Raleigh-Durham airport to Scott or me.

LIZZIE WALKER WELLS
Smithfield

Letter To The Editor

To The Editor:

While I was not at all surprised at the ranting, raving and profanity coming from Charles Hayes at the Thursday meeting held at the Warrenton Town Hall, I was extremely surprised that you, a newspaper editor, would in a profane and vulgar manner object to the exercise of my right of free speech. While the subject of racial discrimination in our school system was certainly an unpleasant discussion to be held at a meeting concerning Warrenton and Norlina being accepted in the Governor's Excellence Program, I do not believe that anyone can successfully challenge the truth and accuracy of my statements regarding the existence and practice of racial discrimination in hiring by the Warren County School Board. While I did not take the opportunity to do so, I could have pointed out the existence of racial discrimination in the hiring practices of the Warren County government, as well as that of the cities directly involved.

I did not assume that my statement would gain me a great deal of popularity among those persons present; however, I do not place a great deal of

emphasis on my personal popularity. I am, on the other hand, extremely concerned about the existence of racism and racial discrimination, particularly where they relate to public jobs and public schools. I am certain that many people were very uncomfortable with my remarks and would have preferred that I had "gone along with the program" and "not rocked the boat."

I have always been convinced that racial discrimination exacts a heavy price. In most instances the victims ostensibly pay that price. In the final analysis, we all pay and you must realize that if you desire to "keep a man down in the ditch, you must stay down there with him."

As I stated at the meeting, what I am interested in and I am convinced what the Black community is interested in is simply "fairness and justice" for all. We are prepared to work with anyone for the achievement of these goals. We will not, however, continue to "grin and bear it" nor will we smile and pretend the problem does not exist.

FRANK W. BALLANCE, JR.,
Vice President,
Warren County Political Action Council

Tobacco Program And Card Houses

By REP. L. H. FOUNTAIN
WASHINGTON, D. C. — When we played as children, many of us had occasion to build "card houses." By using a standard deck of 52 playing cards and very steady hands, it was possible to assemble a structure which resembled a small-scale model of a home.

But, as we all know, the removal of just one card from the foundation would result in the destruction of the entire house of cards. Something like that could happen to a large and vital segment of our State and National economies if those who would destroy the present tobacco program are successful.

The tobacco program, like that one card in the foundation of a card house, is the essence, the foundation of our tobacco industry—an industry which helps to keep our economy going through its contribution to the job market, in taxes, and towards a healthier U. S. balance of trade.

To pull the rug out from under our tobacco farmers — by destroying the tobacco program — would cause a severe ripple-like effect, resulting in economic and social chaos, and drastically altering a way of life for millions of Americans.

These days, it seems as if we are constantly hearing how terrible tobacco is, and how the government should disassociate itself from this legal crop. Well, let's set the record straight and take a look at some of the good tobacco generates — good which helps the tobacco user and nonuser alike.

To begin with, the American tobacco industry provides over two million jobs in this country. From the worker in the field to the quality control engineer to the neighborhood businessman who knows his customer's tobacco favorites, the industry employed over 393,000 people, full time, in 1979.

There are, of course, many, many other jobs (about 1.6 million) which result largely from Americans' enjoyment of tobacco. Matchbook makers, packaging supplies, and even flavoring formulators are involved. And the flow of income which is generated by the golden leaf creates jobs too — jobs in sales and service industries of all kinds.

In fact, tobacco and its supplier industries directly or indirectly account for the employment of about 2½ percent of America's entire private sector labor force. Think of it, 2½ percent of all the private sector jobs in the country. Incidentally, in one way

or another, tobacco accounts for nearly 7 percent of the jobs in North Carolina, and tobacco even contributes 3,800 jobs in Alaska — about 3 percent of that huge state's employment.

Apart from the jobs tobacco provides, the leaf is responsible for billions and billions of dollars in revenues for government at all levels. As a matter of fact, tobacco is the most heavily taxed consumer product; and as such, over \$6 billion in direct excise taxes are collected annually — money which helps with everything from road construction to school lunch programs to our Nation's defense.

When all is said and done, the bottom line is that tobacco generates — both directly and indirectly — about \$22 billion in taxes annually. Indeed, the heart of the tobacco industry — farming, auction warehousing, intermediate distribution, including wholesalers and manufacturing sales forces, and retailers and vending — contributed nearly one cent of every Federal tax dollar and more than 1½ cents of every state tax dollar in 1979.

Finally, as the world's largest tobacco exporter, America ships about one third of its crop overseas; and as a result, tobacco contributed \$2.2 billion to our export picture in 1979 alone. This is especially important in light of our Nation's negative balance of trade.

That the tobacco industry is vital to the economy of both our State and Nation is self-evident. What some don't seem to understand is that the tobacco program is of crucial importance — the very foundation — to the continued economic contribution of tobacco to America.

The tobacco program — at an almost invisible cost — has maintained a steady and constant supply of high quality leaf. We must not let those who don't understand the system destroy it.

Make your views known to the President and to every member of Congress from outside the tobacco-producing states. Write, wire, or call them today.



I overheard one Arab oilman say to another: "Let's do it the American way. We won't raise the prices — just make the barrels smaller."

Dairy products provide 60 percent of the calcium needed in our diets.

On The Banning Of Books

In The Fayetteville Times

A new study, said to be the most exhaustive ever, concludes that one school in five has been the target of "censorship." A depressing list of authors deemed "unfit" includes such luminaries as Shakespeare and Solzynitsyn, raising doubt that any author could win the approval of the listmakers.

What is just as depressing, though, is the consistent misuse of the word "censorship."

Censorship means preventing a writer from writing or a publisher from publishing, or preventing either of the two from attempting to sell his work.

There is nothing in the First Amendment that compels anyone to buy what is offered for sale. No publisher has a constitutional right to unload his merchandise on a captive market. A local school system has as much right as a private citizen to say, "No thanks."

The book-banning movement, in short, is not "censorship."

It is, however, a serious problem — not because teachers and school librarians should have exclusive power to choose reading materials, but because there's always someone who thinks he can improve upon freedom of choice.

A parent who tried to keep his child from being exposed to a particular book is, at least in his own mind, behaving responsibly. But a parent who tries to have that book removed from the library altogether is trying to make a decision for all other parents, as well.

Parents, educators, and most

especially students deserve better than that.

A school system that takes reasonable care in choosing compulsory reading material should not feel obligated to defend itself, day in and day out, against ideologues plainly bent on indoctrinating the entire student body.

The key word, of course, is "system" — in this instance meaning a panel of parents, teachers, librarians, and administrators. Perhaps even a student or two. Relying on such an authority is no guarantee of smooth sailing. Even representative government, by far the best kind known to man, has its flaws.

But the alternative is to try to please every parent all the time, at the expense of young minds that need to absorb and grow. First Vonnegut and Salinger, then Solzynitsyn and Shakespeare, then various translations of the Bible, until only one was left. And eventually, rest assured, that too would go.

Diversity is inherent in any institution in a democratic society. And over the long run, diversity is far healthier than all the alternatives.

A child reared in a moral vacuum does not become a moral adult. He becomes an adult who is morally naked, and unequipped for the world into which he inevitably will be thrust. Any parent who refuses to accept that should be politely but firmly advised to go start his own school, and let the public schools get on with their work.

News Of 10, 25 And 40 Years Ago

Looking Back Into The Record

Sept. 16, 1971

The Warrenton Tobacco Market sold 258,373 pounds of tobacco on opening day for \$201,138.58 at an average of 77.85 cents per pound. L. O. Robertson, Jr., sales supervisor, reported on Tuesday morning.

Wayne L. Wicker, 26, of Roanoke Rapids has succeeded Alan Basnight as N. C. Wildlife Protector for Warren County. Basnight resigned several weeks ago to accept a position with the State Highway Patrol.

John W. Edwards and Company, Warrenton engineers, estimated that the cost of mapping plots of real estate to be taken into town under a proposed annexation plan would be \$4200, according to a letter presented to the board of town commissions on Monday night by Mayor W. A. Miles.

Sept. 14, 1956

Voters of Warren County in a special election on Saturday approved the school amendment, commonly known as the Pearsall Plan, by a vote of six to one.

The vote was 2,221 for; 321 against.

The Warrenton Tobacco Market made one of the highest averages in the Middle Belt when the six warehouses here opened on Monday morning at 9:00 o'clock for the sale of the 1956 tobacco crop.

The market had gross sales of 316,292 pounds which it sold for an average of \$55.03.

Homecoming services will be held at the Warren Plains Baptist Church on Sunday morning beginning at 11 o'clock.

An important feature of the service will be the dedication of the new educational annex, the Rev. R. E. Brickhouse, pastor, said.

Sept. 12, 1941

The John Graham High School opened on Monday morning at 9:30 o'clock with an enrollment of 716 pupils, which, according to Principal Paul Cooper, was slightly under last year's enrollment at the beginning of school.

Tobacco averaged thirty-one and a fraction cent per pound here on the opening day of the market this week and brought general satisfaction to the farmers of this and surrounding counties who marketed more than 270,000 pounds of the weed in Warrenton.

Miss Mabel Davis, who is in charge of Warren County Memorial Library, is suffering this week from a carbuncle on her arm. Her weekly column, The Torch, will be missed this week by readers of The Warren Record.



"I don't know quite how to tell you this, Harold, but I have a new best friend."

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
- 1 Observance
 - 5 Gold deposit
 - 11 Pallid
 - 12 Dub anew
 - 13 Abscond
 - 14 Writer, Louis —
 - 15 Bill
 - 16 Glutton
 - 17 Prefix meaning "before"
 - 18 Sullen
 - 20 Craze
 - 21 Time for wassailing
 - 22 Quote
 - 23 Old hat
 - 25 Used a drill
 - 26 Border on
 - 27 Lacerated
 - 28 Criticize
 - 29 Miami Bowl
 - 31 High (mus.)
 - 32 One of Dracula's forms
 - 33 Anger
 - 35 Dawdled
 - 37 Attract
 - 38 Foolish
 - 39 Instead
 - 40 One posting a letter
 - 41 Belgian river
 - DOWN
 - 1 Oodles or George
 - 2 Saracen's faith
 - 3 Political bosses (colloq., 3 wds.)
 - 4 Watch
 - 5 Laud
 - 6 Shelf
 - 7 Anecdotal collection
 - 8 Famous cookie pushers (2 wds.)
 - 9 Important Arab
 - 10 Withdrew position
 - 16 Citizen of Gdynia

TODAY'S ANSWER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11				12					
13				14					
15				16					
18		19					20		
21									
23	24								
26									
28				29				30	
31				32				33	34
35				36				37	
38								39	
40									41

- 19 Lubrication
- 27 "— Horn," prevents it
- 28 "The — is Green"
- 29 Fat
- 30 Expanse
- 31 Pitcher
- 36 Nest
- 37 Ottoman official