

## Schedule Of School Is Revised

Because of the loss of school days in Warren County during the recent inclement weather, several changes have been made in the school schedule.

Friday, January 29, will not be a teacher workday. It will be a regular school day for teachers and students.

Schools will be on regular schedule Monday through Friday of each week from now until Easter.

Friday, April 9, will be a teacher workday.

Easter Monday, April 12, will be a holiday for students and teachers.

School will be in session April 13-16, which originally was scheduled as Easter break.

## Four Arrested Following Loss At High School

Four out of five batteries and a TV set stolen from the John Graham Middle School parking lot during a sleet and snow storm on Friday night of last week have been recovered and four black men who allegedly stole the batteries and TV set from parked cars have been arrested and are being held under bond.

Arrested on Sunday by Deputy Sheriff Bobby Dean Bolton and Town Police Officer Mac McGowan, who investigated the thefts, were Francis Boyd, 30, charged with breaking and entering a motor vehicle and larceny, held under \$1,000 bond; MelRoy Boyd, 31, possession of stolen goods, \$500 bond; and Alvin Miller, 34, two counts of misdemeanor larceny, bond \$500.

Owners of the vehicles from which batteries and a TV set were stolen were: Shirley Foster, Rt. 2, Henderson, one 12-V battery; Joe Ross, Macon, one TV and one 12-volt battery; James Hayes, Rt. 2, Warrenton, one 12-volt battery; Robert Evans, Ridgeway, one 12-volt battery; Charles Coleman, Norlina, one 12-volt battery.



These officers were installed Monday night to direct activities of the Warren County Chamber of Commerce during the coming year. They are, left to right, Wayne Clower, second vice president; Grace Miles, secretary; Steve Medlin, first vice president; and Charles Hayes,

president. Not present was Butch Scott, treasurer. Hayes, in accepting the top post, called on chamber members to accentuate the positive while pushing for the development of Warren County. (Staff Photo)



These Warren business people will direct activities of the Warren County Chamber of Commerce during 1982. They were installed as directors of the organization during an installation banquet held at the Warrenton Lions Den on Monday night. Shown, seated, left to right, are David Gardner, John Andrews, Maybelle Heuber and

W. A. Miles. Standing, from left, are Walter Gardner, Carroll Harris, Roy Pat Robertson, Donald Wimbrow and Butch Meek. Not present were new directors Bill Leary, Kermit Copley, Alan Adcock and Vonnete Robertson. (Staff Photo)

## Public Assistance Costs Examined

By TALMADGE EDWARDS, JR.

The North Carolina Social Services Commission is attempting to help poor counties with local public assistance costs.

One problem encountered by the commission is that most county commissioners think their county is poor. They would all like some of the \$2,803,778 appropriated by the N. C. General Assembly for 1982-83 equalization purposes.

Since 1974, all persons eligible for public assistance in North Carolina have been entitled to the same level of assistance for similar needs, regardless of county of residence.

State law authorizes the N. C. Social Services Commission to come up with some way to reconcile disparities among counties in ability to pay public assistance matching costs.

An equalization formula, based on how much each county spends on public assistance in relation to population, was proposed at a Jan. 19 meeting of the commission. Opposition to the formula was voiced by representatives of some counties which would receive nothing, or less than what they received under the current formula.

This formula took into account the tax base for each county, the number of public assistance recipients, and other fiscal considerations.

A committee appointed in October of 1981 by John Syria, state social services division head, defined "need" as the money required for public assistance by each county, regardless of the number of recipients. To reach a fair reference point for distribution of state funds, the committee determined the state average expenditure per capita for public assistance programs for which counties must pay their share.

These programs were Aid to Families with Dependent Children, (AFDC), Foster Care, Medical Assistance, and Special Assistance to Adults. County administrative costs and programs such as Food Assistance and Low Income Energy Assistance, not requiring county participation, were excluded.

Computations, based on the 1980 U. S. Census and 1981 fiscal year expenditures by all counties for the four programs, indicated a \$10.94 expenditure per capita.

Halifax County ranked first with a \$21.10 per capita expenditure. Macon County was last, spending \$4.87 per capita.

Warren County ranked third behind Halifax and Northampton Counties with an \$18.95 per capita expenditure for public assistance.

Per capita amounts and state rankings for other local counties were: Vance - \$16.55 (5th), Franklin - \$14.02

(14th), Person - \$13.95 (16th), Wilson - \$13.70 (22nd), Nash - \$12.87 (28th), Durham - \$12.61 (31st), Johnston - \$12.04 (36th), Granville - \$10.86 (54th), and Wake - \$8.91 (74th).

The committee proposed that any county paying in excess of the \$10.94 average statewide expenditure be considered "in need" of assistance from the equalization appropriations.

To the extent of available funds, each county above the average expenditure would be allocated an amount sufficient to allow reduction of the actual county expenditure to the statewide per capita average.

The committee noted, however, only 50.4 percent of funds needed under the proposed formula have been appropriated.

Fifty-one counties would get no equalization funding if the proposed formula is adopted by the Social Services Commission. Representatives from these counties have both monetary and political reasons to oppose it.

## For Distribution To Poor

# Warren Is Seeking Free Surplus Cheese

The Warren County Department of Social Services has made application to the U. S. Department of Agriculture for 7,500 pounds of surplus cheese to be distributed to low-income residents of the county, according to Julian Farrar, county Social Services director.

Households currently receiving food stamps are eligible to receive the cheese, but application must be signed at the Social Services office and the cheese must be picked up when it becomes available for distribution.

Households not receiving food stamps with a limited income (130 percent of the poverty level) may also be eligible.

Households with cash on hand and readily available liquid reserves in excess of \$1,500 will not be eligible.

Applications will be taken from 9 a. m. until 12 noon on Monday, February 1, at the Social Services office in Warrenton.

Distribution will be on a one-time basis and is not expected to begin until after February 15.

Cheese will be distributed in five-pound blocks as follows: one to three in household, one block; four to six in household, two blocks; seven to eight in

household, three blocks; nine or more in household, four blocks.

Farrar stated that the office is planning to use volunteers for the application and distribution pro-

cess. Four persons have already volunteered, but at least five more are needed. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Farrar at 257-3242 or 257-3000.

## Loan Is Approved

The Farmers Home Administration has approved a loan of \$70,000 for the Roanoke-Wildwood Volunteer Fire Department.

Announcement of the loan's approval was made today in a telegram sent by Second District Congressman L. H. Fountain.

The congressman said the funds will be used to purchase a new pumper and tanker fire truck, other equipment and to improve the fire house.

## Construction Bids Opened By State

A bid of \$362,619 by Jim Lineburger's Grading and Paving, Inc., Gastonia, was the lowest of 13 bids submitted for the construction of a PCB landfill in Warren County.

Officials of the N. C. Department of Crime Control and Public Safety opened the bids January 21 and indicated the company's bid was well within state estimates.

The estimate for the total cost of building and maintaining the landfill is around \$2.5 million.

According to M. Russ Edmonston, a department spokesman, the Greensboro engineering firm of Sverdrup and Parcel will review all the bids. In a process that could take another week, the firm will determine which bids meet all construction specifications.

The Capital Building Authority will make the decision on the granting of the contract.

Oil containing the PCBs was illegally dumped along 210 miles of road in 15 counties in 1978. State officials decided to build a landfill in Warren County to store the PCB-laced soil that will be removed from the roadsides.

Warren County officials and many residents have opposed the construction of the landfill in their county, fearing that toxic wastes from the site might infiltrate groundwater.

The Warren County commissioners have appealed a ruling that allowed the state to proceed with the project and the case is pending before the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Va.

## Warrenton Merchant Given National Award

John W. Riggan, III, operator of CarQuest Auto Supply Co., Inc. of Warrenton, has been named CarQuest's February Jobber of the Month nationwide and Jobber of the Year for this region.

Riggan's store, located on Macon Road, was cited for its strategic location, lighted and litter-free parking lot, well-maintained exterior, manicured landscape, overall organization and neatness, and

was described as a "sparkling, superbly operated CarQuest jobber store."

Each week, according to Riggan, shelves are cleaned and stock is dusted and rearranged, one of the extra efforts that brought the store recognition.

The 3,200-square-foot store includes 1,600 square feet in the lobby where merchandise is displayed and a 500-square-foot shop where specialized jobs such as turning of brake drums and rotors and installation of universal joints are handled.

Riggan's store is serviced out of a Raleigh warehouse. There are more than 100 CarQuest jobbers in the Raleigh area, and Riggan competed with them as well as others in the region for the recent distinctions.

Riggan shares his honors with counterparts in the store, J. D. Wright and Charles Haynes, and Emily Johnson, bookkeeper.

A native of Warrenton, Riggan is married to the former Nancy Harris, and they have three children. She is head teller with Branch Bank and Trust Co. in Warrenton.

Riggan has been a member of the N. C. National Guard for the past 20 years and is a platoon sergeant with Henderson's Detachment 1 headquartered in Warrenton.

## Gold Standard Interest Seen

Pending legislation which would return the United States to the gold standard was explored Tuesday night at a meeting of the Warrenton Rotary Club.

Warrenton Attorney Frank Banzet, a member of the State Senate 20 years ago, expressed amazement that two national bills to restore the gold standard have met with virtually no publicity.

Banzet said that he had seen nothing in the newspapers and nothing on television about the proposal, and that a new story indicating a possible desire by President Reagan to back U. S. currency with gold had been relegated to page four of the Raleigh News and Observer.

He said restoration of the gold standard "would affect everyone in this (Continued on page 6)



John W. Riggan, III, a Warrenton merchant, is shown in his business establishment on East Macon Street. Riggan was recently named regional dealer of the year

and national dealer of the month. His business was the first to be erected in the Hall Springs Shopping Center, now under construction. (Staff Photo)



PITCHFORD

## Pitchford Seeks Term On Board

Henry T. Pitchford, Jr., a member of the Warren County Board of Education, has filed as a candidate for re-election. Pitchford, 40, paid his filing fee on Monday.

He is seeking his first full term as a member of the Warren County Board of Education. He was named to the board in April, 1981 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. L. B. Henderson, Jr.

Pitchford, who is president of the board, is president of the board.

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