

## Proposed County, Town Budgets Are Unveiled

### Town Fathers Agree To 15-Cent Rate Hike

The Warren County Board of Town Commissioners at its regular meeting on Monday night levied a tentative budget in the amount of \$474,074, based on a \$16,000,000 valuation and a rate of 82¢ on

the \$100 valuation. The rate is based on a 15¢ per \$100 increase, and is the first budget increase in the past seven years, it was learned at the town office yesterday.

Of the \$474,063 estimated budget, only \$25,000 is expected to be raised from ad valorem taxes. Other items going to make up the budget include general fund items in the amount of \$247,074; water and sewer fund \$205,550, and Revenue Sharing in the amount of \$21,466.

The town faces a \$34,000 budget added in the 1981-82 budget, Mayor B. G. White pointed out, adding, "We held out as long as we could."

The commissioners granted a 5% salary increase for all full time regular employees. However, three department heads—Town Administrator Pete Vaughan, Police Chief Freddie Robinson, and Water and Sewer Department Superintendent Bill Neal—received pay raises for the new year.

Most of the money spent this year is expected to be spent on the Water Department, particularly if a block grant can be received, an official said.

A member of the finance committee said Monday night that it is hoped no further tax increase will be made for the 1982-83 fiscal year, and it is believed by the middle of that fiscal year the town's fiscal affairs will be in good condition.

The tentative budget was adopted as the last item of business in order that ample time might be allowed for discussion before adoption. The vote to increase the tax rate by 15¢ and to adopt the tentative budget was unanimous.

At the public hearing held at 7:30 p. m. Monday night after being advertised for two weeks in the town newspaper, no citizens were present.

Prior to adopting the budget, it was agreed that a separate book would be set up for the operation of the regional sewer system at Warrenton, as would be the cost of treating sewage from Norlina and Soul City, and that only the cost of having Warrenton's sewage treated would be included in the regular town budget. The \$60,000 placed in the town budget for the sewage treater is

(Continued on page 3 B)

### Term Of Court Is Cancelled

A civil term of Warren County Superior Court scheduled to convene here on Monday morning has been cancelled.

A court spokesman said this morning that 65 jurors scheduled to appear here next week should not report.

Reason for the cancellation, the spokesman said, was the inability to have a judge for next week's term. The judge scheduled to be here has been bogged down for some time with a trial in another court.

Letters informing jurors not to report are supposed to be put in the mails as soon as possible, the spokesman said.



**CHIMNEY OBSTACLES** — Warren Wildlife Protector Conley Mangum holds two young raccoons who provided a case of double trouble for a Norlina resident last week. Mangum was called to the home of Glenn Woolard of Highway 158, Norlina after Woolard discovered what he thought were birds in his chimney. He began cleaning out the chimney and saw what he thought was a large, furry animal. After an hour's work, Woolard and Mangum managed to snare and retrieve the young raccoons, thought to be about six weeks old. The youngsters were taken to the Caswell County Wildlife Refuge to be raised and eventually released. Mangum reported that the mother raccoon returned to the chimney the night after the raccoons were taken, made "a lot of racket," and left.

(Staff Photo)

## Computer Breakdown Blamed For Loss Of Phone Service

A failure in the electronic processor of Carolina Telephone's computerized switching office here left Warrenton telephone customers without service for over 14 hours Monday while company employees worked to bring telephones back on line.

Rick Barnes, district commercial and marketing manager said, "Telephone service to our Warrenton customers was disrupted at 6:10 a. m. on Monday and was restored at 8:31 p. m. that night. All customers in the Warrenton exchange were without service during the outage."

"The outage was due to the simultaneous failure of several electronic processor components at the central office in Warrenton. You could liken it to losing memory in a calculator; several components of the processor went out at the same time, thereby making the trouble difficult to isolate and repair."

Although the specific cause of the failure has not yet been determined, Barnes said it may have been due to electrical damage resulting from the recent severe weather, or from fluctuations in temperature inside the office affecting the

sensitive electronic components.

During the outage, Carolina Telephone took several steps to provide emergency telephone service in Warrenton. Using direct lines from Norlina, telephones were placed in service at the hospital, sheriff's station, N. C. Dept. of Correction office, and the two radio stations here, Barnes said.

Throughout the day Carolina Telephone maintained contact with technical experts at the equipment's manufacturer in Johnson City, Tenn. A manufacturer's representative was flown into Warrenton to assist the local repair forces and

additional employees from Carolina Telephone's Rocky Mount office also were dispatched. Repair parts were brought in from other company locations to supplement existing repair inventories.

"To our knowledge, the outage on Monday was the longest on record for a central office in Carolina Telephone's history," Barnes said. "We regret any inconvenience this highly unusual situation may have caused our customers."

Ed McGee, Division Public Offices manager, said all Warrenton phone bills will be adjusted to compensate for the outage.

## Summer Reading Meeting Scheduled At Library

All children who registered for the summer reading program at Warrenton Memorial Library, and those who have not registered but are interested in the program, are asked to meet at the library on Monday, June 21.

Children in Kindergarten through second grade are to meet at 10:30 a. m. and those in third through eighth grades are to meet at 11 a. m.

The program, "Just Open a Book," will be explained at these times and library cards will be issued.

Those who are unable to attend the Monday sessions are asked to come by the library as soon as possible for orientation.

The program runs through August 21.

Art sessions are planned after July 4, and further details will be available at a later date.

## No Tax Increase Forecast In Warren County's Budget

A tentative budget for Warren County for the next fiscal year would require no change in the current tax rate of 96 cents per \$100 valuation.

The budget, submitted

by County Manager Glen Newsome, was filed in the office of Warren Register of Deeds Jim Hundley on Friday. Newsome said the county's property taxes, which have increased for

the past three years, could remain unchanged because of a surplus in this year's general fund, interest earned through investment and an increase in revenue sharing funds.

A public hearing on the proposed 1982-83 budget is scheduled for 8 p. m. on June 23 in the Warren County Court House.

The proposed budget calls for a general fund appropriation of \$3.4 million, up 1.4 percent over the 1981-82 year.

The tentative budget recommends an eight percent salary increase for county employees, who got a five percent increase last year. Newsome pointed out that Warren's employees are considered for salary adjustments on an annual basis only and do not receive such benefits as merit pay, longevity pay and a personnel classification plan.

The proposed budget calls for increases of 9.9 percent in current expenses for the Warren County school system, and a 100 percent increase in capital outlay.

(Members of the Warren County Board of Education, meeting Monday night, expressed gratitude for the school system's share of the budget, and instructed Supt. Mike Williams to express the board's appreciation to county commissioners.)

An increase of more than 68 percent is recommended for the Warren County fire departments and rescue

(Continued on page 8)

## Wilkerson Named Principal At WCHS

James T. Wilkerson, veteran Warren County educator, has been named principal of Warren County High School, succeeding Benjamin T. Terrell, who resigned earlier this year.

The action to name Wilkerson, one of three finalists seeking the job, came on June 9 during a special closed meeting of the Warren County Board of Education.

Monday night, the board appointed Ben F. Howard as principal of John Graham Middle School to succeed Wilkerson. At the same time, Shirley H. White was appointed principal of Vaughan Elementary School to succeed Howard. Mrs. White was formerly a reading teacher at Mariam Boyd School.

Wilkerson, a native of Granville County, has been employed in the Warren County school system for the past 17 years. He has served as teacher and coach at North Warren and Norlina High schools, and as principal of Hawkins Junior High School and John Graham Middle School.

A graduate of North Carolina Central University, Wilkerson has nine years' experience in school administration. He, his wife, the former Carole Ann Jordan of Warren County, and their daughter make their home in the Norlina area.

Howard has been principal of Vaughan Elementary School for the past three years. Prior to that he taught and coached a very successful girls basketball team at John Graham High School for nine years. Howard is married to the former Helen Rose Andrews and



WILKERSON

they, along with their two children, make their home in the Afton community.

Howard holds degrees in education from East Carolina University. Both Wilkerson and Howard are currently enrolled in the Advanced Degree Program at ECU.

Mrs. White has a background in education in

(Continued on page 8)

## 3 Convicts Escape, 2 Are Recaptured

By KAY HORNER  
Staff Writer

Two of three minimum security prisoners who escaped from the N. C. Correction Unit in Warren County early Monday morning were apprehended the same day, according to H. J. Carter, correction unit superintendent.

Randy Allen Clark, 26, originally from Ohio, was captured Monday at the

Wise Truck Stop by Warren County Deputy Sheriff Bobby Bolton. He was serving a two-year sentence for escape and breaking and entering.

Danny Griffin, 26, of Zebulon was captured by Department of Correction personnel as he exited from the woods onto a public road in the Snow Hill Community between Warrenton and Ridgeway.

(Continued on page 8)

## Methodist Appointments Have Impact On Warren

Bishop William R. Cannon of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church has announced annual ministerial appointments for the 56-county conference, including five in Warren County.

The Rev. James L. Summey will be coming to Wesley Memorial in Warrenton from St. Pauls in Tabor City.

The Rev. Charles E. Owens will be leaving Wesley Memorial for the Durham District and the Brookside - Brookland charge in Roxboro.

The Rev. James A. Williams is coming to Norlina from Salem Church in Oxford. Williams has been an

ordained minister for 20 years and Norlina will be his 11th pastorate.

The Rev. Curtis Campbell will be assuming responsibilities at Grace Church in Burlington.

The Rev. Jonathan E. Strother, who is originally from Sanford, will become pastor of the Methodist church at Macon. He has been assistant manager of a discount store in Coats for the past two years, and will be entering Duke Divinity School this fall.

The Rev. Martin Armstrong, now pastor at Macon, will become associate pastor of Jarvis Memorial in Greenville.

Coming to Jerusalem-Zion is the Rev. LaVerne B. Womack, Jr. who was

appointed last June as associate pastor at Englewood in Rocky Mount.

The Rev. Gordon Allen, now at Jerusalem-Zion, will be going to Allanville Church near Roxboro.

The Rev. Charles R. Cooper will be coming to Bethlehem-Shady Grove from the Merritts-Ebenezer charge in the Sanford District. An Arkansas native, Cooper is a student at Duke Divinity School.

The Rev. John Bowman will be leaving Bethlehem-Shady Grove for Spring Valley and Flat Rock, outside of Henderson, in the Vance District.

The appointments are effective tomorrow (Thursday).