

Recent Developments Concern Warren Doctors

By KAY HORNER
Staff Writer

Since January of this year, Warren General Hospital has changed administrators, a surgeon has opened and closed his practice in the community, and one of the county's general practitioners has announced his plans to leave Warrenton at the end of this month citing the "situation" at the hospital and the moving of PCB-laced soil into a Warren County landfill as two of his reasons.

These developments, coupled with what some term a trend of seeking medical care outside the local community, are of concern to Dr. Mark Pomerans, a physician who began the practice of

family medicine in Norlina a little over a year ago. "Residents of the county don't know what the hospital and physicians here can offer them," Dr. Pomerans said recently in an interview.

He said the problem is not a lack of confidence in the ability of local physicians, but a lack of confidence that the physician is going to stay in the area and become a part of the community.

"Doctors come, but do not find patients. Patients don't come because the doctor won't stay."

The fact that doctors come and go is undisputed. At least 11 physicians have opened and closed practices in the county in the past 10 years.

However, the significance of this fact for the

community is not so clearly defined.

Dr. D. R. Coffman, who has practiced medicine in Warren County for 12 years, recognizes that local residents often go outside the county for treatment and for hospitalization, but says it "isn't necessarily bad."

"In the United States, there are many small areas like Warren County that don't even have a doctor," Coffman observed.

It is not unusual to find Warren County residents who seek medical care at university medical centers such as those found at Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and at larger city hospitals such as Rex and Wake Medical

Center in Raleigh, or larger county hospitals such as Maria Parham in Henderson.

Often the treatment required can be best done, and in some cases, only done in a setting where more sophisticated equipment and the expertise of specialists are available.

Dr. Coffman summed it up by commenting, "Why buy a TV in Warrenton when you can get a better one at Circuit City?"

Dr. Kirit Trivedi, who came to Warrenton seven years ago, was cautious in his comments on the subject of the patient's choice of physician and

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Decision To Resign Withdrawn

Norlina Commissioner R. Ben Lloyd, who earlier this month announced his resignation from the town board, this week said he is withdrawing his resignation.

Lloyd, who had said he was leaving the board because he could not tolerate practices of "favoritism" being shown by the five-member board, said his decision to remain on the board came because of "tremendous pressure" put on him by voters and town residents.

Lloyd, a seven-year board veteran, said he had received "numerous telephone calls encouraging me to continue on the board." He said he had talked the matter over with family and friends and decided to reconsider.

He said that he sent a letter on October 15 to the Norlina town clerk stating that he was withdrawing his resignation.



Charles and Margaret Lynch of near Norlina were named the Conservation Farm Family of the Year Monday night by the Warren Soil and Water Conservation District. Presentation of an engraved award given for the Lynch's outstanding work in soil conservation came during an awards banquet

held at The Rafters restaurant of Warrenton. Shown during the presentation, from left to right, are Nat White, Mr. and Mrs. Lynch, John Killian and Travis Pulley. White, Killian and Pulley are officers of the Warren District. The plaque was presented by Killian. (Staff Photo)

Variance Request Is Axed

By BIGNALL JONES
A proposal to build a million dollar complex for senior citizens at Warrenton was unanimously rejected by residents of White Street and other neighbors which borders the proposed site, at a hearing of the Warren-

ton Board of Adjustment on last Thursday night.

The site, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Julius Banzet III, is zoned for single residences and P. H. Burns, representing Phoenix Development Association of Raleigh, appeared before the

board seeking a variance.

Tom Watson, chairman of the Board of Adjustment, called the board to order in the Town Municipal Building shortly before eight o'clock and recognized Burns, who explained what his company wanted to build and gave pertinent information as to the operation of the proposed building.

He said his company had built similar complexes in a number of rural North Carolina towns and the beauty of the building and the type of building and its convenience to the aged and its saving on fuel had won universal praise from officials of the towns concerned.

He showed the architect's rendition of the 36-unit building that his company proposed to

erect at Warrenton, which was very attractive. This building was to be financed through an FHA loan, and would be integrated, but would be privately owned and managed, and the accepted occupants would be carefully screened to protect their interests. Burns said that he wished local people could visit complexes built by his company in other towns. He said that the rents should be government subsidized according to the incomes of the occupants, but in no case would they exceed 25 percent of their incomes.

Watson then called upon other persons for their reaction, several of whom had admitted the need of more housing at Warrenton, but wanted it placed somewhere else in the town where conditions

Peck Planning Firm Expansion

Peck Manufacturing Company of Warrenton has announced that it is initiating a long-range expansion program that will result in an increase in its production capacity.

"At this point, we cannot be specific as to the culmination of these plans, as study of machinery available for expansion purposes has not been completed and will take additional time," Bill Leary, plant manager, said this week.

The first stage will involve an addition of 15,000 square feet at the south end of the plant to provide floor space for spinning and winding machinery. This machinery will utilize the production resources already available at the plant.

The second and third steps of the expansion program will require installation of additional carding and spinning machines, Leary said.

The purchase of these machines will depend on Peck's ability to maintain a full operating schedule. Therefore, completion of the expansion could take several years.

It is expected that the work force will be increased when the additional machinery is in place and production is expanded.

Leary said that completion of the long-range plan will place Peck, which employs about 128 people in Warrenton, in a much

better position to service the yarn markets calling for 100 percent carded cotton yarns.

It will also permit possible diversification of yarn products.

Glenwood Newsome, Warren County manager, in commenting on the proposed expansion

by Peck, said, "Peck is the oldest industry we have in Warren County. We welcome the opportunity to work with the company on its expansion and are certainly appreciative of the additional jobs and capital investment for our area."

At Meeting Next Week

Safety Of Dump To Be Discussed

By BIGNALL JONES

On Tuesday afternoon of last week the last load of PCB-laden soil, after lying on 241 miles of state highways for four years, was placed in the Warren County landfill near Afton, as a state contractor began the dumping of similar soil from Fort Bragg reservation, which is expected to be concluded next week, when the landfill will be water-proofed and capped.

In an open letter to the Citizens of Warren County published in today's Record, Governor Hunt comments on his recent meeting with Citizens Against PCBs in his office in Raleigh, puts in writing the promises made the protesters, pledges his efforts to protect the safety of the landfill, and announces that a public meeting will be held in the Warrenton Army on Wednesday, Oct. 27, at 6:30 p. m.

The state agency officials, engineers and scientists will review the safety features at the landfill and responding to the public's specific concerns and questions.

As the Citizens Concerned About PCBs, witness the winding down of successful efforts to move PCB-laden soil into the landfill, its leaders still vow to continue the fight, which since Sept. 15 has resulted in nightly meetings, marches and physical efforts to block trucks which has resulted in the arrest of 530 adult protesters being taken to the jail by State Highway Patrolmen.

Although such efforts have hardly slowed down the efforts of the

state, as evidence that the pick-up from state roads was completed about two weeks ahead of schedule, leadership of the movement, which has swung from local leadership to that of black activists, vows to keep up the fight until the soil is either moved from the landfill or detoxicated.

They said they will however concentrate protests in different directions. The Rev. Leon White, who remained in the Warren County jail last night after being arrested Monday afternoon, said the group would begin organizing political protest efforts.

"The movement will

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Man Arrested In Home Entry

The home of Mrs. Steven Odom of Arcola was broken into on Wednesday night of last week and stolen were a TV set, around \$100 in cash, a jewelry box, a hair dryer and a watch.

Entry to the home was made through a rear window by removing the storm window.

Assigned by the sheriff's office to investigate the break-in were Deputies T. R. Williams and B. D. Bolton. The officers arrested Ronnie Willis Booth, 19, Rt. 3, Warrenton, on Thursday and recovered the TV set and most of the money. Sheriff Davis said yesterday.

Booth was charged with breaking, entering and larceny, and ordered to appear at the Nov. 10 session of District Court. He is being held under his own recognizance.

Vance Traffic Accident Claims Local Man's Life

A traffic accident early Saturday in Vance County claimed the life of Richard Baskerville, 28, of Greenwood Village in Warrenton. It was the second traffic fatality in Vance County involving a Warren County man in the past two weeks.

Baskerville, an employee with Seaboard Coast Line Railroad, was pronounced dead

on arrival at Maria Parham Hospital in Henderson following the 2:15 a. m. accident on N. C. 39 about a mile south of the Henderson city limits.

A hospital spokesman said the medical examiner was unable to determine if Baskerville died from injuries received in the accident or from a fire that engulfed his vehicle

shortly afterward.

According to Trooper R. C. Smith with the N. C. Highway Patrol, five passengers were in Baskerville's car when it ran off the road to the right, and overturned.

They were: Jeffery Allen, 25, Deborah Street, 22, Ulysses Baskerville, 30, a cousin of the deceased, Luna Southerland, 30, and

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Director Says Emphasis Shift Time Here

By KAY HORNER
Staff Writer

The hazardous waste landfill in the Afton area of Warren County is now a reality, and Warren County Health Director Joe Lennon is among those who feel it is time to shift efforts from protest of the landfill to seeing that the state takes whatever steps necessary to ensure the safety of the landfill.

Some residents have said that the state put the soil in the landfill, and the state can take it back out.

But Lennon feels there is no way the state is going to spend \$3 million removing the dirt after it has spent \$3

million putting it in. Last Friday, Lennon and other Warren County health representatives met for two hours with State Health Director Dr. Ronald Levine. Lennon was pleased with the results of the meeting, during which plans were made for a health-monitoring program in connection with the landfill.

"I'm confident that the landfill will be safe for a period of time, barring something like an earthquake," Lennon commented. However, he added that now is the time to push for detoxification of the PCBs in the landfill.

During the meeting, which was also attend-

ed by Charles Somerville, a member of the Warren County Board of Health, County Commission Chairman Jack Harris, County Manager Glenwood Newsome, and Doris Dryden, a health department nurse, several requests were made.

Among them was that the state monitor the four wells and the leachate collection system at the landfill on a monthly basis. The state originally had proposed monitoring on a semi-annual basis.

The representatives also requested that Richneck Creek and Fishing Creek, which flow into Shocco Creek, be monitored monthly.

Lennon said he feels the state is receptive to the proposed monthly monitoring, which the group has requested be done for an indefinite time period.

A promise by Governor Hunt that the state would monitor all water wells within a three-mile radius of the landfill was also discussed at the meeting, along with his promise of providing a testing of blood samples of residents in the area for traces of the toxic PCBs.

Only six laboratories in the country have been authorized by the Environmental Protection Agency to do the blood testing, which is

still in the experimental stages.

"It has not been established at what level PCBs in the blood would pose a threat to the health," Lennon said. At this point, he said, sampling would not give any meaningful answers. However, he and Levine have discussed the feasibility of freezing samples to be used as a before and after comparison when the analysis has become more refined.

Earlier this month, soil samples from the landfill were analyzed by the N. C. Department of Human Resources' Division of Health Services. This was done to

determine how concentrated the PCBs are in the landfill soil. Most of the spills along North Carolina roadsides measured about four to eight inches in width. The state crews removing the soil for the landfill took up about 30 inches in width and three inches in depth, according to Lennon. Since contaminated as well as uncontaminated soil was removed, the tests were to determine the degree of contamination.

Lennon said landfill soil gathered from six borings, each five feet deep, was analyzed. The PCB concentration ranged from 209.2 parts (Continued on page 11)