

## Water Cost Compromise Reached

A compromise settlement here Monday morning, Warren County commissioners agreed to reduce the water and sewer rates from a beginning rate of \$14, and adopted complete tables for Soul City users based on amount of water consumed.

Charles Worth, HUD representative at Soul City, headed a large delegation from Soul City several months ago to protest against the commissioners setting Soul City water rates at the out-of-town rates charged by Warrenton. He and other members of the delegation said that they felt that Soul City should only be charged Warrenton in-town rates. The county manager was instructed to meet with Worth and work out a compromise.

When only a few dollars separated County Manager Newsome and Worth, Chairman Eva Clayton ordered that the difference be split, over Newsome's objection. Her demand was adopted along strictly racial lines, with Chairman Clayton and Commissioners George Shearin and Francis Alston voting for and Commissioners Jack Harris and Bill Skinner voting against.

When Mrs. Clayton suggested that a staff with secretary be employed to handle the recent block grant programs, Commissioner Jack Harris objected saying that the added staff was not needed as the programs were being handled successfully by the county manager.

Commissioner Bill Skinner  
(Continued on page 13)

## Pedestrian Is Injured

A Warren County pedestrian was injured early Saturday morning when he stepped from in front of a parked vehicle into the path of an oncoming car one-tenth of a mile west of Warrenton on Highway 1001.

Trooper B. R. Pope of the N. C. Highway Patrol said the pedestrian, Robert Lee Alston, 56, was struck by a car driven by Shirley Miller Person, 28, of Ridgeway, in what Pope described as a freak accident.

He said Ms. Person was travelling east on the highway at 3:10 a. m. Saturday when she came up behind a vehicle parked in the highway. As she attempted to pass the stopped vehicle, Alston walked into her path.

Alston was taken to Warren General Hospital where he was admitted for treatment. Ms. Person and two passengers — Melinda Miller, 19, of Ridgeway and Alfreda Williams, 20, of Norlina — escaped injury. There were no charges filed, Pope said.



**RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP** — Warren farmer Henry Wilson, seated at right, is representing Warren County at the annual Bankers Short Course in Modern Farming now being held at N. C. State University in Raleigh. Seated at left is Russell C. King, Warren County Extension Chairman. The scholarship to the short course was provided by

three local banks. Representing the banks when the scholarship was awarded were, standing from left to right, Brad Carroll of First-Citizens Bank, Roy Pat Robertson of Peoples Bank, and Steve Medlin of Branch Banking and Trust Company.

(Staff Photo)

## Additional Jurors Found

# Pool Of Jurors Depleted As Limer Trial Proceeds

By KAY HORNER  
Staff Writer

The Warren County Superior Court which opened here Monday depleted its roster of prospective jurors Tuesday morning and sheriff's deputies took to the streets of Warrenton in search of citizens to provide the needed 11 jurors and two alternates for the trial of Earl Limer of Afton.

It took almost all of Tuesday morning to seat a full complement of jurors satisfactory to both the prosecution and the defense.

Limer is charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury in the September 30, 1982 shooting of E. N. Brantley, a neighbor, also of Afton.

He is also charged with two counts of assault by pointing a gun, at Brantley's daughter, Linda B. Kimball, and her husband, Alvin H. Kimball.

Limer is married to Brantley's daughter, Alice.

The shooting occurred after a dispute between Limer and Brantley over horses owned by Mrs. Kimball and kept on Brantley's property.

In his testimony on Tuesday, Brantley said he was told by his daughter that her horses had been found on the Limer property.

Previous testimony by a neighbor established that Limer had sent a message to the Kimballs and Brantley that they were to pick up the horses.

According to Brantley's testimony, he and the Kimballs went to Limer's home around 5:40 p. m. and found the gate closed. They found

Limer on U. S. 401 near property he farms. Limer said they couldn't get the horses until 6 p. m., but Brantley and the Kimballs wanted to retrieve the horses then.

They followed Limer to the gate of his home.

Brantley testified that Limer was "in one of his moods" and pulled a gun, threatening to kill Brantley. Limer fired a gun at the ground, according to Brantley, between his (Brantley's) feet, then shot him in the ankle.

He also testified that Limer pointed the gun at the Kimballs. Mrs. Kimball was seven months pregnant at the time.

On cross-examination, Brantley testified that he knew no reason for the shooting and he and the Kimballs testified that they had no weapons in their possession at the time.

Five witnesses appeared for the state, including Brantley and the Kimballs, before the state rested.

A motion was made by the defense attorney Charles T. Johnson, Jr. for dismissal of the charge of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury.

This motion was denied.

Limer testified that Brantley had threatened him on previous occasions, and that he feared for his life at the time of the shooting because he knew Brantley often carried a knife.

According to testimony, at the time of the first meeting, Limer told Brantley not to come back for the horses until 6:30 p. m. when his wife would be at home. This was more convenient since his wife was away and he was tied up with company. Brantley became angry, Limer said, and followed him to the gate of his home and later advanced on him making threats. Limer said he warned Brantley not to advance further and that he took a gun

out of his back pants pocket when he saw a gun in Alvin Kimball's hand, and that he shot twice at a nearby fence.

Limer testified that he did not realize Brantley had been wounded until minutes later when Brantley sat down and took off his boot.

Testimony for the defense was also heard Tuesday by Dr. Francis W. Green of Albemarle, who was with Limer at the time of the shooting. Limer farms land owned by Green's wife, and Green testified that Limer warned Brantley not to "come up on me" before firing two shots. Green was sitting in Limer's truck at the time of the shooting.

The defense was expected to call several more witnesses when court reconvened this morning (Wednesday).

Several other cases were disposed of in the Superior Court session presided over by Judge

(Continued on page 13)

## Locating At Soul City

# Financing Approved For New Firm

The Warren County Board of Commissioners in regular session here Monday with all members present unanimously approved the issuance of \$1,150,000 in revenue bonds to Interco for the acquisition and renovation and acquisition of machinery at its new cutting plant at Soul City.

Prior to the regular meeting of the board, a public hearing was held at 9 a. m. in the commissioners room attended by Jim Whitley, indus-

trial director, who made the request for endorsement of the revenue bond request, and Jerry Costa, vice president of Interco, who briefly spoke of plans for the new facility where he said the work of moving was to be started this Friday.

The commissioners approved a resolution supporting the re-enactment of General Revenue Sharing with the request that a copy of which be sent to Congressman Tim Valen-

time. An ad hoc committee for the school budget, which Mrs. Clayton said she understood performed very well last year, was adopted for this year by the commissioners. Members of this new committee are Commissioners Jack Harris, George Shearin, Mrs. Clayton, and County Manager Glenn Newsome.

The commissioners agreed to continue its participation in efforts to prevent water being

# Commissioners Give Hospital Operating Funds

Heeding a warning from Roy Pat Robertson, chairman of the Warren General Hospital Board of Trustees, and Frank Hinson, hospital administrator, that time is needed to work out plans to keep the emergency room at the hospital open, the board of county commissioners Monday unanimously voted to appropriate \$12,000 to keep the hospital open for 90 days.

The donation was based on Hinson's estimate that it would require \$4,000 a month for doctors from Duke Medical Center to keep the emergency room open on weekends and holidays. However, both Hinson and Robertson pointed out that no definite agreement has yet been made with Duke Medical Center or with N. C. Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill, which Mrs. Clayton said had also promised to help.

The hospital representatives also pointed out that there is some hope of obtaining other doctors here, which would relieve the main problem. Hinson pointed out as a last resort that if the hospital had to be kept open with additional part-time help that it would cost at least \$4,000 a month, or \$48,000 a year (approximately a 2% increase in the tax rate) to keep the hospital open. This would be in addition to the \$92,000 yearly appropriation from the county which the hospital now receives.

In addition, hospital representatives are working to establish closer relations with other health facilities.

Also appearing briefly before the board was Nathaniel Davis, Jr., vice chairman, who said that he endorsed Chairman Robertson's and Mr. Hinson's remarks, and Joe Lennon, Warren County health director, who spoke of efforts to bring all health facilities into closer cooperation.

Mrs. Clayton said that she had spoken to Dr. Sarah Morrow and General Wilkerson during the week and both had assured her that there were a number of other options that

the hospital has in additional options, whole and full time, not offered by the hospital representatives. These, she said, with those offered by the hospital will be carried through.

By Norlina Board

# Groundwork Laid For Block Grant

Norlina commissioners Monday night formally began laying the groundwork for seeking a Community Block Grant which would help upgrade areas in town along Darden Street and in the eastern section of town.

The prospects of receiving a 100 percent grant which would involve no local funding appealed to commissioners, who earlier in the meeting had heard residents call for increased street lighting in the eastern section of town.

Councilman Ben Lloyd made the motion, seconded by John Dore, that the town should reapply for a block grant which the municipality narrowly missed receiving in 1977. That grant application was for \$269,000, and Norlina failed to receive it by a single point.

Mrs. Mae Gums, town clerk, said she would like to talk with Bill Barlow of the town's engineering firm of L. E. Wooten and Company, and with Benny Finch of the regional Council of Governments to make sure there would be no expense to the town before proceeding further with the grant application.

The financial condition of the town was discussed at several points during Monday night's meeting, with commissioners agreeing there are no funds available for making town improvements in this year's budget.

In other action during their hour-long session Monday night, the town board agreed to help opponents of a southside Virginia proposal to tap Lake Gaston for drinking water, but tabled the form of their opposition until their next meeting. The delay came after commissioners were told that the amount of assessment to communities participating in the opposition had not been firmly determined.

The board did go on record in support of continued federal revenue sharing, a stance commissioners were told is being taken by virtually all communities.

The board accepted a bid of \$355.99 for a surplus dump truck from Fred Mulchi, one of six bidders for the vehicle, but rejected all bids for a surplus garbage truck, saying the bids were too low and indicating that a buyer might be found through negotiation.

The board was told that there were no new developments in the status of the Seaboard Depot, which the town is anxious to have removed.

Commissioner James Vaughan reported that the town fire company had answered five fire calls in January. Commissioner William Leonard reported that the police department had answered 30 calls and made 19 arrests during the previous month.

## Civil Suit Asks For Recovery Of Damages From 4

Three Warren County employees and a former sheriff have been named in a lawsuit filed in connection with the mass arrest of PCB protesters seeking to block completion of the PCB Landfill at Afton last October.

The suit was brought by Betty G. Perry and names former sheriff Clarence Davis, Deputy Bobby Dean Bolton, County Manager Glenwood Newsome and Mary Sommerville, jail superintendent, as defendants in the civil action.

The plaintiff is seeking \$400,000 in actual and punitive damages, and asks an additional \$10,000 in damages for her husband, Jewel M. Perry, for the loss of his wife's companionship and consortium as a marital partner.

The plaintiff alleges she suffered injury while being placed in the Warren County Jail by Deputy Bolton, and that the Warren officials were lax in providing proper operation of the jail and protection of its female inmates.