

The Warren Record

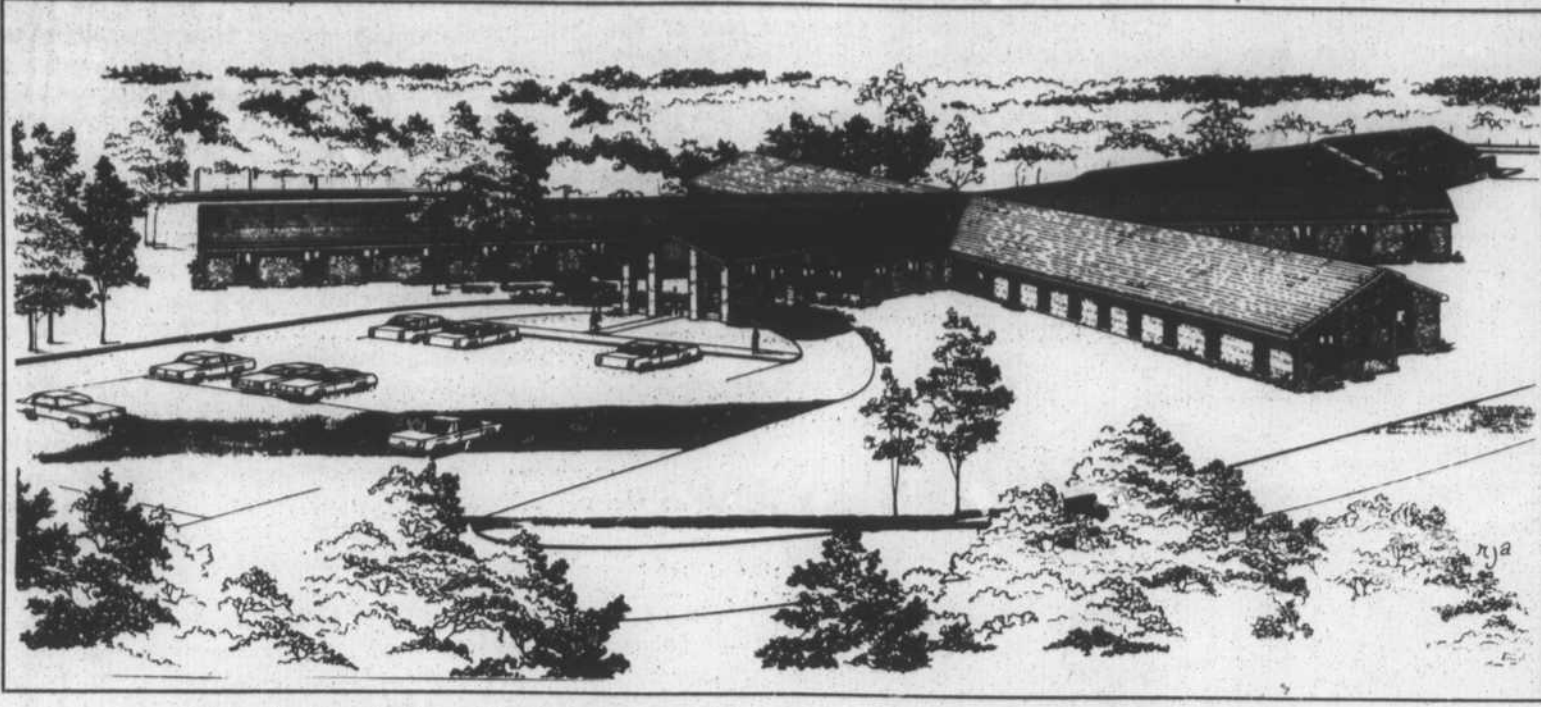
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This Is An Architect's Rendering Of The New Warren County Nursing Home

Nursing Home Groundbreaking Set

By KAY HORNER
Staff Writer

Groundbreaking for construction of the 100-bed Warren Nursing Center will be held Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the 10.5 acre site on U. S. 401-158 between Norlina and Warrenton.

Plans for the 30,000 square foot facility have been completed by C. Robert Shields of Rocky Mount, and construction will be done by Commercial Builders of Rocky Mount, according to Nathaniel L. Williams, Warren County sanitarian and one of the four partners backing the project.

Other partners are Joseph S. Lennon, county health director; Michael V. Barnhill, president of Commercial Builders; and H. William Hull, Jr., of Rocky Mount. Barnhill and Hull are also partners in Westridge Homes, Inc., developers and builders in Rocky Mount.

Williams said he hopes the \$1,500,000 facility will be completed about six months after construction officially begins.

The center will be equipped to handle 25 patients requiring skilled nursing care and 75 patients requiring intermediate nursing care.

Lennon said that patients requiring skilled nursing care, for a condition such as a broken hip, could receive that care at the nursing home for about one-half the cost of care in a general hospital.

Williams stressed that the facility will be a nursing center, not a rest home, and that all patients will be there because they require nursing care. However, intermediate nursing care can often be administered by a licensed practical nurse rather than a registered nurse, he said.

The facility will have eight private rooms with baths. The remainder of the rooms will be semi-private. Each room will have a lavatory, and toilet facilities adjoining each room are shared with another semi-private room.

According to plans, the facility will have four patient wings converging on a central nurses station. There will also be a service wing housing the kitchen, laundry and main-

tenance operations and an entrance wing with administrative offices.

The home will be all on one level, and will also include physical therapy rooms, library, chapel, recreation areas, beauty shop and barber shop.

Lennon said each room will be individually heated and cooled and will have two-way communication with the nursing station. A sprinkler system with an alarm connected directly to the local fire

department will provide fire protection.

The home will be managed by the Autumn Corporation out of Rocky Mount. The corporation manages five nursing facilities with a total of 600 beds.

Lennon and Williams have been working closely with Gerald P. Cox, president of Autumn. According to Lennon, Cox estimates that the facility will employ about 100 full-time and part-time employees with a yearly

payroll of \$750,000 and an operating budget of \$1,250,000.

Lennon indicated that local people will be employed in almost all positions. Vance-Granville Community College has already committed, Lennon said, to help with training of the dietary staff.

The keynote speaker at the groundbreaking ceremony Sunday will be Carl J. Stewart, Jr. of Gastonia, legal counsel for the nursing center. Stewart is a former

representative to the N. C. House and has served as speaker.

Thirty-six citizens of Warren County are listed on the program for Sunday's ceremony as members of the nursing home's Community Support Committee. Lennon said he and Williams had "profound gratitude" for the support of the committee in making the nursing home a reality.

The groundbreaking ceremony will be open to the public.

Anti-PCB Leader Continues Fast

Ken Ferruccio, who was arrested Friday afternoon and charged with trespassing and felonious larceny in connection with the removal of a pipe in a leachate collection system at the Warren County landfill, is fasting in the county jail to protest "inadequate safety measures in the pumping procedures" at the landfill.

Ferruccio, leader of Warren County Citizens Concerned About PCB, and two others are charged with removing the pipe and carrying it outside the landfill entrance site.

Ruffin Harris of The Plains, Va. and Patricia Hubbard of Silver Spring, Md. along with Ferruccio were arrested and placed under \$1,000 bonds on charges of trespassing and under \$3,000 bonds on charges of felonious larceny.

Harris and Hubbard had been released from jail on bond.

A Warren County jailer has said that people have offered to put up bond for Ferruccio, but that he has refused to accept it.

Ferruccio has said he does not intend to starve himself, but to "make a statement."

Ferruccio was scheduled to appear at a court hearing Monday morning, but he sent word that he would not come voluntarily. According to Annette Burrows with the Clerk of Court's office, someone was sent to the jail to hold a hearing and Ferruccio's court date was set for Wednesday.

Ferruccio has said he would stop his protest when "proper safety measures" are taken at the landfill site.

The PCB-contaminated soil in the landfill has collected moisture and state engineers are pumping water from the landfill through filters into a holding lagoon lined with two feet of clay.

Ferruccio has said he doesn't believe state officials who claim that no dangerous levels of PCB will get into the lagoon, and has asked that the water be filtered into a metal tank instead.



Charges that the Warren County Sheriff's Department used more force than necessary when arresting PCB protesters at the Afton Landfill last week have been met with a gesture of friendship from the arrested demonstrators. Sheriff Theo Williams is shown with a large red rose which those arrested sent him in appreciation of his treatment during their arrest. (Staff Photo)

New Court Report Indicates

Warren County Ranks Fifth In Disposal Of Felony Cases

By KAY HORNER
Staff Writer

Warren County Superior Court outstripped 95 counties in North Carolina to rank fifth in disposal of felony cases for the period of July 1, 1981 to June 30, 1982, according to the 1981-82 Annual Report of the Administrative Office of the Courts.

This was in significant contrast to the 1980-81 report in which Warren County Superior Court ranked 95th in disposal of felony cases.

The county did equally well in its rate of disposal of civil cases in District Court, rising from 99th of the 100 counties in the state for 1980-81 to 11th for 1981-82.

Ranking for disposal of misdemeanor criminal cases in Superior Court rose from 34th to 10th.

The report also showed that total caseloads in both Superior and District courts decreased.

The criminal felony caseload in Superior Court decreased from 206 in 1980-81 to 136 in 1981-82. The percent of cases disposed of was 90.4 for 1981-82 as compared with 59.2 percent for 1980-81.

The statewide disposal rate was 74.9 percent.

The number of cases carried on the misdemeanor criminal docket for Superior Court decreased from 153 in 1980-81 to 138 for 1981-82. This represented an 87.6 percent disposal rate for 1981-82 as compared with 81.6 for the previous period.

Statewide, the disposal rate was 78.4 percent.

The caseload of civil cases in Superior Court decreased from 99 to 61 for the 1981-82 period, with 59 percent disposed of, as compared with 54.5 percent of the caseload was disposed of in 1980-81.

The decrease in the caseload in general civil and domestic relations cases in District Court was from 732 to 515, with a disposal rate of 77 percent for 1981-82, as compared with 42.6 percent for 1980-81.

The statewide disposal rate was 66.6 percent. The 1980-81 reporting period had a total caseload of 1,033 for criminal non-motor vehicle cases in District Court. During 1981-82, there was a decrease to 835 cases with a disposal rate of 90.1 percent as compared to 73.1 percent for 1980-81.

Of the 123 felony criminal cases disposed of in Superior Court, 79 ended with pleas of guilty, seven were decided in jury trials, and 35 were dismissed by the district attorney. Two were disposed of by other means.

Of the 121 misdemeanor criminal cases heard in Superior Court, 68 ended with guilty pleas, one was decided by a jury trial, 37 were dismissed by the district attorney, and 15 were disposed of by other means.

Thirty-six civil cases were disposed of in Superior Court. Seventeen were settled by judge, two by clerk of court, and 15 by voluntary dismissal. Two were disposed of by other means.

In District Court, 397 civil and domestic relations cases were disposed of. Of the general civil cases, 58

from Hawks with a breakdown of costs.

Tom McBride, area mental health director, and Jean Toney, local director, made their semi-annual report to the board.

The board, upon recommendation of the County Manager, agreed to buy eight ad-

ditional large trash receptacles at a total cost of \$4400, including cost of delivery.

Consideration of "Hazardous and Low-Level and Radioactive Waste" was tabled.

The commissioners passed a resolution on behalf of R. B. Nelson (Continued on page 13)

\$2 Million Project

Interstate Work Is Being Planned

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is expected Friday to approve a contract calling for immediate construction of safety improvements and sign erection along a 10.5-mile section of Interstate 85 stretching across northern Warren County. The project is expected to cost \$2,154,770.50.

Jean Dodd, spokeswoman for the DOT, said the Warren County project is one of 31 highway improvement contracts which the department will consider for approval at its 10 a.m. Friday meeting. The session will be held in the board room of the Highway Building in downtown Raleigh, and the public is invited to attend.

In all, the 31 contracts total \$18.4 million.

State Secretary of Transportation W. R. Roberson, Jr. said "our main emphasis continues to be on maintenance of existing highways. North Carolinians have over \$25 billion invested in

the state's highway system and it is our responsibility to protect that investment."

The apparent low bidder for the Warren County project was S. T. Wooten Construction Company of Wilson. Ms. Dodd said construction should begin in April with a June 1984 completion date.

She said safety improvements will include guard rail installation; extending acceleration lanes, replacing defective concrete sections of the highway and adding fencing along the right-of-way. Drainage improvements will consist of taking out concrete median drains and replacing them with safer catch basins. Signs will be replaced and new break-away sign posts will be installed.

Ms. Dodd said the DOT has scheduled another similar project on I-85 just south of Henderson and tying on to the Warren project. This is set for bid letting in January 1984.

were disposed of by judge, two by jury, 20 by clerk of court, and 31 by voluntary dismissal. Four were disposed of by other means.

In domestic relations cases, 249 were settled by judge, one by jury, four by clerk of court and 17 by voluntary dismissal. Eleven were disposed of by other means.

The number of motor vehicle criminal case filings in District Court decreased from 3,159 in 1980-81 to 2,473 in 1981-82. A total of 2,700 cases were disposed of, and 1,991 were disposed of with waiver. The remainder were disposed of by other means.

Of the 7763 cases disposed of in criminal non-motor vehicle cases in District Court, 111 were settled by waivers before the magistrate, and 26 by waivers before the clerk of court. One hundred and eighty-five were settled by guilty pleas before a judge, and 95 by guilty pleas before a magistrate. Another 111 were settled by not guilty pleas before a judge. Thirty-five cases involved preliminary hearings and 169 were dismissed by the district attorney.

Twenty-one were disposed of by other means.

The 1981-82 report also showed that in juvenile petitions before the District Court, 14 children appeared before the court for the first time in Warren County as opposed to 12 for the 1980-81 period. Statewide, 8,980 children appeared before the court for the first time during 1981-82.