



Town officials lent a helping hand in replacing 1,200 feet of sewer pipe on South Main Street in Warrenton last weekend in an effort to keep costs to a minimum. Shown above at the project site are

(left to right) Mayor B. G. White, Commissioner Gordon Halthcock, chairman of the water committee, and Bill Neal, town water superintendent. (Staff Photo)

Heat, Drought Draw Blame

Warren Crop Losses Could Top \$15 Million

By KAY HORNER
Staff Writer

Warren County Extension Chairman Russell King has estimated that county farmers may suffer a \$15 million loss this year.

Last year, agriculture brought \$35 million in income to the county.

According to King, the corn crop seems the hardest hit by the summer-long drought and record-high temperatures.

"Corn pollinates in temperatures below 93 degrees," King said. "During the hot spell the last of June and the first of July, it was too hot for pollination."

A loss of 75 to 80 percent is anticipated.

A 50 to 70 percent decrease in yield was projected for soy beans, and a 30 to 50 percent decrease in tobacco, King said.

About 25 to 30 percent of Warren County's tobacco farmers irrigate, and those who have irrigated have had a good year, King explained.

He said he knew of no cattle being lost to heat, but that livestock throughout the county have "suffered greatly" this summer.

On an optimistic note, King commented that there was still hope for small grains normally planted in October if the county gets enough rain to get the land in condition for planting.

The first in a series of steps necessary for Warren County to be declared an agricultural disaster area was completed the first of this month in the submitting of a damage assessment report to the state, according to Thomas A. Watson, executive director of the Warren County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

Watson said this week that the only relief program currently in effect is emergency low-interest loans from Farmers Home Administration (FHA).

However, the state must be declared a disaster area in order for farmers to qualify for loans under the 8 percent Emergency Actual Loss Loan Rate, according to Tucker Nobles, county supervisor of the FHA office.

There are other requirements for loan qualification, including the inability of the farmer to get credit from other sources and the classification of his crop as an actual loss. The latter involves a production loss of at least 30 percent.

Nobles said yesterday that farmers must harvest all their crops before it can be determined if they have a qualifying loss. He estimated the actual

loan processing time to begin some time in October or November, depending on when the county is declared a disaster area by the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture.

Second District Congressman Tim Valen-

tine, in a recent letter to President Reagan, urged him to facilitate the needed assistance for farmers throughout the nation, noting that he feared many would find it difficult to continue farming without immediate financial

aid. Estimates of statewide agricultural losses already exceed \$300 million, involving approximately 50 counties, with figures expected to increase as the harvesting season continues.

New Show Coming To Town

Agricultural Fair Begins Week's Run Here Monday

The annual Warren County Agricultural Fair—one of more than 50 local and regional fairs scheduled this fall in North Carolina—will open here Monday for a week-long run.

Fair Manager J. B. Thompson, beginning his 21st year as manager, said he expects this year's event, sponsored by the Warrenton Lions Club, to be one of the best ever.

One reason for Thompson's optimism is the scheduled appearance on the midway of Inners Amusement Company.

"Inners has the reputation as one of the cleanest midways available," Thompson said. He added that the Glen Rock, Pa. outfit would have a good variety of shows and rides for both young and old.

Inners Amusement Company played the Halifax - Northampton County Fair earlier this month and will be coming to Warrenton directly from an appearance in Madison. It will be the company's first appearance here.

"They are supposed to have six or eight kiddie rides and more than a dozen major rides," Thompson said yesterday.

Completed this year in time for use by carnival personnel are shower facilities.

Monday is traditionally a day in which rides are assembled and exhibits in the large exhibit hall are judged.

Tuesday night will be Senior Citizens Night with free admission for the elderly. Industrial employees will be admitted with pass.

Wednesday and Saturday have been proclaimed school days and \$300 in prizes will be shared by lucky youngsters.

Thursday, all firemen

and families will be admitted free with ticket.

On Friday, a 4-H Pullet Show is planned at 4 p. m. to be followed by a 4:30 p. m. sale.

The Junior Beef Cattle Show is scheduled for 4:30 p. m. on Wednesday and the Feeder Pig Show and Sale begins at 4 p. m. Thursday.

Gates will open Saturday for a special matinee at 2 p. m.

All Seats On Line

Voters Await Parade By Election Hopefuls

The seats of town commissioners and mayors in all three Warren County municipalities are up for election this year on Tuesday, Nov. 8.

The filing period for town elections begins at noon this Friday and continues until noon on Friday, Oct. 7. Candidates should register at their respective town halls.

In the mayoral races, only one mayor, M. C. Clary of Macon, said this week that he would definitely be a candidate for re-election.

B. G. White of Warrenton had not

reached a firm decision, but indicated that in all likelihood he would be a candidate.

Norlina Mayor Kenneth Davis announced some time ago that he would not seek re-election at the end of his term.

Town officials are elected for two-year terms.

To vote in the November elections, unregistered residents of the county must register by 5 p. m. on October 10 at the Warren County Board of Election Office in the Hendricks Building on Front Street in Warrenton.

Board Accepts Harris Bid

Crushed Sewer Line Is Replaced

A crushed sewer line on South Main Street in Warrenton was replaced last weekend by a crew that began work on Friday afternoon and continued through Sunday night in order to take advantage of low-traffic hours.

Town Manager Pete Vaughan said Monday that additional work will be done on the portion of

the street that had to be dug up, but that he anticipated completion of the project by Friday.

In a called meeting last Thursday afternoon, the Warrenton Town Board voted to accept an estimate not to exceed \$15,755 from J. T. Harris, contractor, for the leasing of equipment and labor he would provide for the work.

However, the town was to provide most of the labor under the supervision of Bill Neal, town water superintendent, in an effort to keep costs to a minimum.

Vaughan said Monday that it appeared the final cost might come in slightly under the estimate.

The estimate by Harris included the cost

of asphalt, 1,200 feet of PVC pipe, 300 tons of stone, and the use of backhoes, dumptrucks, motor graders, and several other pieces of equipment, as well as 45 hours of labor.

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Governor Names Six To Assist Warren County

Governor James B. Hunt Jr. has appointed six members of his cabinet to serve as members of the newly established Interagency Task Force on Warren County.

Secretaries from the departments of Commerce, Administration, Cultural Resources, Human Resources, Natural Resources and Community Development, and Transportation will serve on the task force. NRCD Secretary Joe Grimsley will chair the group.

Governor Hunt has taken this step to fulfill commitments made to the citizens of Warren County after the location of the PCB disposal site was decided. The governor has charged the task force with determining ways the state can serve the needs of Warren County residents while

Board Wants Discussion With DA About Poolroom

The Norlina Town Board instructed its attorney Monday night to discuss with the district attorney the possibility of having a Norlina poolroom and bar closed as a public nuisance.

The action came close on the heels of a raid around 12:30 a.m. Saturday on the establishment located in the former bus station on the corner of Hyco Street and U.S. 1, after it remained open in alleged violation of a new ordinance requiring such establishments to close by 11 p.m. during the week, by midnight on Friday and Saturday, and by 11 p. m. on Sunday.

The ordinance was passed by the town board September 6 after numerous complaints by town police, merchants, and neighboring residents.

In the raid, conducted by about 25 law

enforcement officers from Norlina, Warrenton, the Warren County Sheriff's Department and Vance County Sheriff's Department, eight persons out of a crowd of 150 to 200 were arrested on a variety of charges related to police efforts to close the place, according to Romey Williams, Norlina police chief.

Mrs. Gloria Williams, operator of the bar and poolroom, and an em-

ployee, Geraldine Cheek, were charged with violating the Norlina ordinance.

Frank Ballance, attorney for the establishment, appeared before the Norlina Town Board Monday night and said that one of the ways to determine if the ordinance is valid is to get arrested, bringing the matter before the court.

Ballance has been quoted as saying that

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Wood Yard Changes Hands

A wood yard operated at Macon since 1977 by Champion Paper Co. will from now on be operated by Amos L. Capps Pulpwood Company, Inc. of Warren County.

Announcement of the change of management was made this week by officials of the Capps company.

While Champion

bought only pine pulpwood at the Macon facility, Amos L. Capps Pulpwood intends to buy pine and hardwood logs and pine and hardwood pulpwood.

Operating the Macon Wood Yard will be Pete Pinnell and Michael Vick. The yard will be open from 8 a. m. until 4:30 p. m. Monday through Friday.

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An American Red Cross nurse is shown above preparing a young Warren County resident to donate blood at the Warrenton Lioness Club's fourth bloodmobile held last Thursday at the Lion's Den. Eighty-two pints of blood were donated and about 15 volunteers from the Lioness Club gave of their time to assist the Red Cross. (Staff Photo)