

\$15 Million Plant Expansion Plans Revealed



Ready
And Waiting

Kara, a Siberian husky owned by Dawson Alston of Breton Street, Warrenton, assumed his master's seat at the wheel recently while Alston was tending to shopping business at a local grocery store. The

resulting picture of Kara, taken by local photographer Mary Hunter, shows the dog ready to drive away, with or without master or food.

Structure Built In 1941

North Warren Gymnasium

Said Not Worth Repairing

By KAY HORNER
Staff Writer

The gymnasium at North Warren Elementary School, built in 1941, has not been used for more than two months, and Warren County School Board members received a report Monday night indicating that the structure is unsafe and that repair would not be economically feasible.

Assistant Superintendent of Schools James Jordan presented the findings of Ralph Self, a consulting engineer with the N.C. Department of Public Instruction.

The report stated that the building was of "minimal construction," that the wood roof

was "deflecting excessively," that the exterior walls had been pulled out of plumb by the roof, and that the wood trusses were not "triangulated in accordance with basic structural principals."

Board members agreed that the building could not be occupied, and that the deterioration was too extensive to justify repairs. However no action was taken on a question of whether to tear the building down.

Board member Henry Bobbitt noted that the building was a liability, and suggested that the board take bids on the cost of razing it.

Superintendent Mike Williams concurred,

recommending that the board advertise the building for sale on the condition that it be removed from the campus.

Williams said he would like to salvage a boiler and heating system for possible use elsewhere in the system from the building before it was sold.

After discussion, the board agreed to table the matter for the time being.

Jordan also presented results of an inspection for friable asbestos in school facilities.

The state and federal government required the inspection for friable asbestos—asbestos that is "crumbly" or disintegrates upon touch. Asbestos, used for fireproofing, has been linked to lung disorders.

The report of 16 samplings tested by Northrop Laboratories in the Research Triangle Park indicated that friable asbestos was found only on worn areas of boiler wrappings in the boiler rooms at Norlina, South Warren, Northside, John Graham, North Warren and Hawkins schools.

No friable asbestos was found in classroom walls or ceilings, cafeterias, or other places inhabited by students and staff.

Jordan said the areas containing friable asbestos have now been coated with latex emulsion, eliminating any danger.

Members of their body to take the matter up with owners or managers of the two stores, but stopped short of official action.

Boyce's Drug Store was also named in the meeting as selling the magazines in question, but it was noted that there the magazines were not on display and not visible to children.

Lennon said this week that he wanted to "commend Harris for not renewing his contract and for his concern for trying to maintain good standards of morality among our citizens."

Gary Stainback, district supervisor for Rite Aid, said yesterday that he had not yet been contacted by anyone representing the town.

He said it was Rite

(Continued on page 5)

Sizeable Increase Asked For Facilities

Members of the Warren County Board of Education voted Monday night to increase the fees for use of school facilities, such as cafeterias and gymnasiums, by 50 percent on the recommendation of the Facilities Committee.

According to Assistant School Superintendent James Jordan, the rates have not been increased since early 1981.

Since that time, the committee reported, the average increases for electrical energy from area power companies has increased 33 percent and across-the-board

operating costs of school buildings has increased an average of 17 percent.

Chairman Henry Pitchford voted against the increase and expressed concern that the increase might make the facilities unavailable for community recreation activities.

But Superintendent Mike Williams cautioned the board members against setting a precedent of providing recreational facilities for county citizens.

He noted that the county is in "dire need" of recreational

(Continued on page 5)

Revenue Bonds Are Asked For Norlina Facility Work

By KAY HORNER

Staff Writer

A Henderson textile company is planning a \$15 million expansion to a facility it owns south of Norlina, and is seeking Industrial

Revenue Bonds to finance a portion of the project.

Marshall Cooper, Jr., president of Harriet & Henderson Yarns, Inc. yesterday declined to comment on the project,

Girlfriend Said Abducted

Man Charged In Kidnapping

A Warrenton man was arrested Monday and charged with kidnapping in the abduction of a 21-year-old woman early Friday morning at Carolina Sportswear Co. on Ridgeway Street in Warrenton.

According to police reports, Thomas Allen Harrington, 25, of Rt. 1, was apprehended by Warrenton Police Chief Freddie Robinson and Warren County Sheriff's Deputy B. D. Bolton around 1 p.m.

As of yesterday afternoon, he was being held in Warren County jail on a \$2,000 bond pending a hearing scheduled for this morning (Wednesday).

Lucy Mae Burchette, a resident of the Warren Plains community, told police she was punching in for work about 7:20 a.m. when Harrington grabbed her arm, forced her outside the building and into a car, Chief Robinson said.

He indicated that Ms. Burchette and other witnesses identified Harrington as her ex-boyfriend.

Ms. Burchette was later able to get away from Harrington, and was not injured during the incident, police said.

Ms. Burchette told police that Harrington drove her to an unpaved road in Warren Plains, told her he had a gun and was going to "beat her up," Robinson said.

She said Harrington hit her in the face.

Carolina Sportswear officials notified the Burchette family of the abduction, and they in turn notified police.

Chief Robinson was joined by two police officers and Sheriff's

Warren General Hospital Patients

Patients in Warren General Hospital on Tuesday afternoon were listed as follows:

Fannie W. Pierce, Rebecca D. Jones, Earl Garner, Pryor Rodwell, Clayton S. Elliott, Sallie R. Clark, Maggie O. Aycock, Geneva Richardson, Henry E. Robertson, Alice H. Vansiver, Johnnie J. Williams, Betty G. Jiggetts, Herbert M. Garrett, Annie M. Rooker, Lela K. Delbridge.

saying that he preferred to wait until a Feb. 6 public hearing before Warren County commissioners before unveiling the company's proposal.

According to a public notice of the hearing in this week's issue of The Warren Record, the project will include the acquisition and installation of new machinery and equipment for the manufacture of cotton and blended yarns and will employ about 100 people.

The issuance of the revenue bonds, to finance not more than \$10 million of the project, must be approved by the county commissioners.

The proposed site, on U.S. 1 is currently under lease to Norlina Mills.

Harriet & Henderson was established in 1895 and employs approximately 1,600 people, Cooper said.

The application for Industrial Revenue Bonds is the second one received by the county in the past month.

In December, county commissioners gave their seal of approval to plans by Cochrane Furniture Company, headquartered in Lincolnton, to finance a \$2 million expansion to its facility in Warrenton.

That expansion is expected eventually to bring about 85 new jobs to the county.

County commissioners are also hoping to entice a Fortune 500 company to Warren County with a \$750,000 Community Development Block Grant that would be used for low-interest loans to the company. The identity of the company has not yet been revealed. County officials are currently in the process of completing the grant application, which has a February 1 deadline.

Warren County Industrial Developer Jim Whitley has said that word on the disposition of the grant could be received as early as June.

Rep. Ballance Files To Keep House Seat

State Rep. Frank W. Ballance, Jr. announced last week that he will seek re-election to the Seventh District House seat in the North Carolina General Assembly.

"My first term in office has been educational, exciting and rewarding," Ballance said. "I have made a conscious and deliberate effort to represent my constituents on all issues that have come before the General Assembly, and to keep them advised of the several issues affecting them. I trust that my constituents will

have the confidence to re-elect me to this position of great trust and responsibility, and I assure them that their trust will not be violated."

A Warrenton attorney, Ballance was elected to the Seventh District seat in November 1982.

A native of Bertie County, he has lived in Warrenton since 1966.

Rep. Ballance is married to Bernadine S. Ballance, also an attorney, and they have three children: Garey, Angela and Valerie.