

# The Warren Record



## Wintered Words Along The Way

The lettering was added, but the rustic barn is a rendering of the old Katzenstein barn at Warren Plains. The acrylic painting is one of two entered in the 16th annual C. M. Russell Auction of original western art in Great Falls, Montana by Warren Plains artist Dianne Rodwell. The auction will be held in late

March and Mrs. Rodwell will fly there for a two-week stay in order to attend the auction, and conduct painting workshops at two Montana locations. The Katzenstein barn painting is entitled "Wintered Words Along The Way."

## Warren General Obstetric Ward Is Sought Again

By KAY HORNER  
Staff Writer

The first step toward re-establishment of an obstetrical ward at Warren General Hospital was taken last Wednesday night when hospital trustees gave administrator Frank Hinson the go-ahead in making application to the N. C. Department of Human Resources for a certificate of need.

Obstetrical services have not been offered at the hospital for about a decade, Hinson said. The state approval is necessary if the services have not been offered in the past 12 months.

According to Hinson, the obstetrical ward would entail no additional beds, and would involve minimal expense to outfit.

Warrenton physician Cosmos N. George, whose specialty is obstetrics and gynecology, said in an interview last week that the hospital basically has the facilities needed for deliveries.

He cited two essential pieces of equipment, a fetal monitor and newborn warmer, that would have to be purchased, but added that he thought the obstetrical services were needed in the county and that the plans for the ward were "very feasible."

During 1982, there were 207 live births to Warren County mothers, according to Joe Lennon, Warren County health director. Of this number, 102, or about half, were patients of the health department who delivered at Duke Hospital or at other area hospitals.

Dr. George estimated that about 60 percent of the babies born to Warren County mothers could be delivered locally.

He explained that ideally mothers would seek pre-natal care and could be screened before the time of delivery for possible complications. Those more complicated cases could then be sent to Duke Hospital or other facilities better equipped to deal with emergencies.

Dr. George and the nursing staff from Warren General Hospital have met twice with a team of nurses from Duke University Medical Center who assist county hospitals in training nurses for obstetrical duty. The service is offered free of charge to the county, Dr. George noted.

The training involves three phases: a review of basic science, clinical exposure at Duke Hospital, and initial assistance in gearing up an OB ward locally. Dr. George said the

birthing center concept, in which a mother can deliver and be back at home in about 12 hours, is still being pursued by local health professionals.

"However, this is a high-risk area," he said. "Many expectant mothers here would not qualify for the birthing center set-up because they must be able to

take care of themselves and the baby before they go home."

He said current plans call for the birthing center option to be available to mothers who are prepared to utilize it, but noted that the obstetrical ward will focus primarily on the traditional delivery with the three-day hospital stay.

## County May Take Collection Steps

By KAY HORNER  
Staff Writer

If Warren County's percentage of 1982 ad valorem tax collections doesn't improve significantly after the second tax notices are sent out in March, the tax collector's office may dip into delinquent taxpayers' paychecks and take its rightful due.

Susan Whitley, county finance officer and tax collector, told Warren County commissioners last week that garnisheeing of wages - the deduction of up to 10 percent of a delinquent taxpayer's monthly paycheck until his taxes are paid in full - is one of the options her office has by law in collecting taxes.

Warren County's collection rate was down by an estimated 2.3 percent in 1982 compared with average collection rates for the previous three years.

Ms. Whitley said this week that collections in June were about \$45,000 shy of what was needed to match previous collection rates.

"Since June, we've received about \$20,000 on the 1982 levy," she said. "But the N. C. Local Government Commission feels we should have it by June 30."

It is that commission that expressed concern recently in a letter to county commissioners over Warren's 90.3 percent collection rate in 1982. The commission functions under the state treasurer and each year reviews local government audit reports for signs of financial and budgeting problems.

Ms. Whitley attributed the lower collection rate to the general state of the economy and the unemployment in the area.

"The problem is that we have few large corporate taxpayers," Ms. Whitley said. "Our two largest bring in only about 4 percent of the levy with a little over \$100,000. We have to count on a lot of small taxpayers."

Two notices are sent from the county tax collector's office for tax payment.

In the past, the first has been mailed in late summer or early fall and the second in April.

Ms. Whitley told the commissioners last week that she planned to begin sending out the second notice several months earlier to allow additional time for the taxpayers to make arrangements to pay taxes due before the fiscal year ends in June.

Other measures the tax collector may take to collect delinquent taxes, in addition to garnisheeing of wages, include freezing of bank accounts and withdrawal of the tax payment, and prosecution of delinquent taxpayers by the district attorney.

Wages of delinquent taxpayers in Warren County were garnished two years ago, Ms. Whitley said, and about \$15,000 in payments resulted.

The county commissioners gave Ms. Whitley their approval to implement any of the methods she felt necessary to bring in the needed revenue.

## Mailing Scheduled

Copies of "Sketches of Old Warrenton," which is being reprinted under the auspices of the Bragg-Ransom Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, should be in Warrenton by early February, according to Mrs. Robert Kotal, project director.

Mrs. Kotal said this week that the publisher has notified her that the books will be shipped next week. "Most of the 200 books

have been reserved, and I am still receiving orders from as far away as California, Texas and even Canada," she said. "This has been a very interesting project because many of the people I hear from inform me of their family ties in Warrenton, or other comments of their pleasure that the book is being reprinted."

For further information, call Mrs. Kotal at 257-1234.

## Second One In Progress

# Block Grant Application Is Made

With the county's application for a \$750,000 community development block grant almost complete, Warren County commissioners last Wednesday authorized the application for yet another block grant.

The application for the first grant is "substantially complete," Warren County Industrial Developer Jim Whitley told the commissioners, and will be filed by the Feb. 1 deadline.

The grant will be used to entice industry to Warren County and could take such forms as low-interest loans or site development.

The second of two public hearings requir-

ed before submitting the application was held Wednesday before the commissioners' mid-monthly meeting, but no members of the public sector appeared to comment.

Whitley has said that he expects final word on the grant around April 1, after a 60-day review period for all applications submitted.

The second grant is being sought by Community Developer Willie Griffin and is similar to a grant now being used for improvements to the Red Hill community on the eastern outskirts of Warrenton.

Griffin told the commissioners that the \$340,707 grant project

now underway should be completed by April 15. That grant funded the installation of water and sewer lines to 40 homes in the area and has rehabilitated five homes.

Several areas were cited by Griffin as targets for future improvements, including the Baltimore Road, Quick City, Perrytown and Afton communities.

The first public hearing for this grant application will be held Monday, Feb. 6 at 9 a. m. Deadline for the grant application is April 15.

In other business, the commissioners heard Agricultural Extension Service Director Russell King request additional space for the extension service.

The federal Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, currently housed in the basement of the Agricultural Building adjacent to the county courthouse, is in the process of looking for other quarters due to the general deterioration of the building.

King said his department, which employs 11 people and currently occupies the top floor of the building, could use the offices vacated by ASCS.

The board postponed a decision on the matter until the time when ASCS makes a decision on relocation.

The board also approved a request by County Planning Board Secretary Butch Meek that the county's current subdivision regulations be amended to conform with the latest state regulations. Meek said this week that among the changes is a

lessening of the 60-foot right-of-way required before a road can be dedicated to the state. In some cases, Meek said, the requirement will now be only 40 feet.

In other business, the board appointed John Hawkins to the Town Board of Adjustments to replace Charlie Fitz. This was done on the recommendation of Warrenton Mayor B. G. White.

Charles Worth, county

manager, was appointed contact person for the revenue sharing handicapped discrimination regulations and the sheriff's department was appointed to head the Search and Rescue Coordinating Agency for the county.

A public hearing on "spotlighting" by local hunters was scheduled by the commissioners for Wed., Feb. 15 at 7 p. m.

## Valentine Is Here To Announce Bid

Congressman I. T. "Tim" Valentine of the Second Congressional District paid a short visit to Warrenton on Thursday afternoon following filing for reelection in Raleigh on Thursday morning.

Congressman Valentine was met in the court house at 5 p. m. by a small group of his supporters, and when his county manager, Brad Carroll, explained that several persons were prevented from attending, Valentine said that the meetings being held over the Second District were not intended as rallies. He explained that he had decided that when he filed as a candidate in the spring primary, that he should at least show himself in every county in his district and in O'Neal Township in Johnston County even if no one but the courthouse keeper were present.

Congressman Valentine was accompanied to Warrenton and other counties in his district by A. B. Swindell of Oxford, his administrative

assistant, and by Frank Wright of Nashville, a member of his staff, and a former agricultural agent in Nash County.

Congressman Valentine expressed his appreciation during a short speech for the kindness of Warren County people and said he was happy to believe that he could again count upon their support. He said that at times representing the Second District in Congress was arduous, but at the same time he found it very rewarding; and that while he was his own man he realized that his first responsibility is to the citizens of the Second Congressional District.

The Congressman said that he had joined with other congressmen from North Carolina and Virginia in an effort to prevent water from Gaston Lake being piped to Virginia Beach, Va., and that he had also worked hard with other congressmen to retain the tobacco industry in (Continued on page 13)

## Rites Scheduled Today For Retired Principal

Funeral services for William Owen Reed, 62, of Norlina will be conducted today at 2 p. m. at Norlina Baptist Church by the Rev. Jack Little. Burial will be in Warren Dale Cemetery.

Mr. Reed died Monday in Durham Community Hospital.

He was the son of the late William Baylus and Violet Kinkerdal Reed, and was principal of Norlina High School from 1943 until 1966, when he retired.

Mr. Reed did his undergraduate work at Wake Forest College and received his master's degree from Appalachian State University.

He was a member of Kappa Phi Kappa and Phi Delta Kappa, as well as a member of Francis Packard

Masonic Lodge in Norlina.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Anne Woods Reed of the home; a daughter, Anne Reed Boone of Rock Hill, S. C.; a brother, Frederick Reed of Murphy; and two grandchildren.



W. O. REED