

Half-Cent Sales Tax Received

The additional one-half percent sales tax levied by Warren County commissioners beginning last October produced \$48,006 for local governments for the quarter ending December 31.

According to a N. C. Department of Revenue report, Warren County received \$42,649 of the revenues.

Warrenton received \$2,645 and Norlina and Macon received \$2,322 and \$391, respectively.

Actually, revenue from the new one-half percent sales tax during October, November and December will turn out to be more than

the \$48,006 because December's collections will be counted in January collections and included in the current quarter's distribution three months from now.

Proceeds from the one-percent sales tax already in effect for the quarter ending December 31 were: \$71,666 for the county; \$4,445 for Warrenton; \$3,901 for Norlina; and \$657 for Macon.

Sales tax funds are distributed in Warren County according to the population served by each governing unit.

Frozen Food Facility Forecast For Warren

Board Seeks Block Grant

By KAY HORNER
Staff Writer

Warren County commissioners Monday voted to apply for a federal Discretionary Block Grant of between \$750,000 and \$1 million that would be used to establish a frozen food facility in the Soul City area.

After a presentation by Franklin D. Williams, president and general manager of Institutional Foodservices Group, Inc. of Greenville, the commissioners allocated a maximum of \$5,000 from the county's \$100,000 Economic Development Fund for assistance with the grant application process.

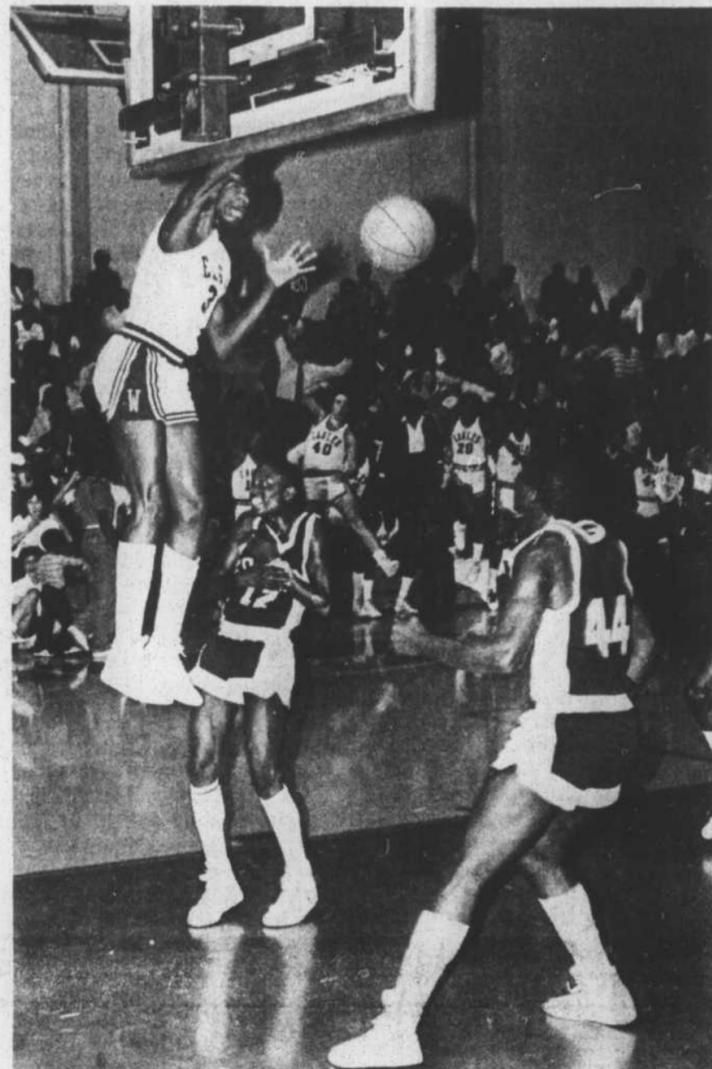
The venture was described by Williams as a partnership between public and private interests which would eventually get into the production of pre-packaged frozen meals, vegetable processing, storage and distribution of frozen meals, and agricultural product cooperatives with local farmers.

One of the requirements of the grant is that private investors contribute matching funds for the project. Williams said five investors are lined up, but declined to identify them.

The site of the project, an 85-acre industrial tract in part of the Warren Industrial Park, is being purchased by private investors, Williams said. The group also plans to acquire an adjacent 44 residential acres.

Dr. John Thomas with the Agricultural Investment Fund of Washington, D. C. is involved in the land purchase and yesterday told commissioners that any "rumors" that he "could not come up with the money" should be discounted.

Williams said he expected the real estate (Continued on page 4B)



Monte Stevenson of Warren County High School goes high into the air to slam dunk the basketball during the semi-final game of the district tournament held Saturday night at Weldon. In the background the Eagle bench explodes with approval. The basket was not quite enough as the highly favored Eagles dropped 67-65 contest in overtime. Warren County's hopes for further competition were ended when Northampton East scored two foul shots in the final five seconds. Warren County, which had beaten the Rams three times this season, ended play for the year with a 20-4 record. The Eagles were champions of the conference and won the league tournament. (Staff Photo)



Members of the Warren County Board of Health whose terms expire this month were honored Monday night at the regular meeting of the board. Shown above with County Health Director Joe Lennon (left) are outgoing members (left to right) Alpheus Jones, Warrenton pharmacist who has served the board for 18 years but was ineligible by state statute for another term and Dr. Kirit D. Trivedi,

Warrenton physician who served seven years but now resides in Henderson and is ineligible for another term. Also shown is Warren County Commissioner and Chairman of the Health Board George Shearin (right). Jones and Dr. Trivedi were presented with plaques in recognition of their service. (Photo by Mary Hunter)

Unemployment Rate Soars Among Warren Workers

The January unemployment rate in Warren County soared into double digits in January, according to statistics released this week by the N. C. Employment Security Commission.

Warren's jobless rate, which stood at 9.4 percent in December, rose to 13.1 percent in January, when unemployment rates increased in 97 North

Carolina counties.

Glenn Jernigan, chairman of the ESC, said the increased unemployment reflected a statewide rise to 8.1 percent, generally due to seasonal influences and adverse weather conditions. He said most affected were the retail trade and construction sectors.

Double digit unemployment rates were posted in 43 counties with Swain the highest at 28 percent. Orange County had the state's lowest unemployment rate, 2.8 percent.

Area unemployment rates for January stood at 11.9 percent in Vance, 12.8 percent in Halifax, 11.1 percent in Northampton and 10.2 percent in Franklin.

Man Is Charged

Following Stabbing

A Manson man was released on a \$1,000 bond Tuesday morning after being charged with assault with a deadly weapon in the stabbing of John Sumler of Castalia Saturday night.

According to Chief Deputy B. D. Bolton with the Warren County Sheriff's Department, Sumler and Charles Lewis Seward were passengers in a car being driven on Oine Road near Norlina when the incident occurred.

Reports indicate that Seward allegedly jumped from the front seat of the car into the back seat and stabbed the victim in the abdomen with a small knife. Deputy Bolton also said Sumler received minor cuts on the arm.

Deputy Bolton declined to identify the driver of the vehicle or other witnesses.

Sumler was listed in stable condition Monday at Duke University in Durham.



Organist William Hilderbrandt and Trumpeter Ned Gardner will present a recital on March 19 at Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church in Warrenton. The public is invited.

Two Area Musicians Will Appear Locally

Trumpeter Ned Gardner, visiting artist at Vance-Granville Community College and William Hilderbrandt, organist at the First United Methodist Church in Henderson, will present a joint trumpet/organ recital on Sunday, March 18 at 3 p. m. in the sanctuary of the Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church in Warrenton. The program is free and open to the public.

A native of Eden, Gardner is a graduate of the N. C. School of the

Arts and Catholic University. Before being named visiting artist at Vance-Granville Community College, he was visiting artist at both Martin and Wayne Community Colleges.

A native of Miami, Fla., Hilderbrandt is a graduate of Barry College, where he studied organ with Robert Fulton. For the past seven years, he has been organist and choir director at First United Methodist Church of Henderson.



The old Norlina Depot in the heart of town is being dismantled and town civic groups and clubs are planning to landscape the area with trees and shrubs. The depot, which was constructed in the early 1900s, was in existence when Norlina was in-

Commissioners Adopt New Appraisal Schedules

New appraisal schedules for property in Warren County were adopted Monday by county commissioners, and the revaluation of property and buildings in the county is expected to significantly increase the county's current tax base of \$223 million.

Mrs. Janice Haynes, Warren County tax supervisor, this week

declined to comment on what the new tax rate might be, but tax rates traditionally decrease as the tax base is broadened. The current tax rate in Warren is \$1 per \$100 of value.

Mrs. Haynes said that she anticipated that property would be listed at between 80 and 85 percent of true market value.

According to infor-

mation presented to commissioners by Carroll Phelps Company of Winston-Salem, which recently conducted a field survey of property in the county and proposed the new appraisal schedule, some parcels of property have more than quadrupled in value since the last appraisal eight years ago.

The new schedules reflect a significant increase in the value of lakefront real estate and property used for recreational purposes.

The new tax values become effective January 1 of next year. However, Mrs. Haynes said her office expects to have the revaluation completed and notices of the new appraisal values in the hands of county property-owners by May or June of this year.

Property must be reappraised every eight years by state statute.

The new schedule of values will be posted in the tax supervisor's office next week, and property owners are welcomed to inspect it, Mrs. Haynes said.

corporated in 1913. The town was originally known as Mount Regis, but the name was changed after a post office was established there in 1900.

(Staff Photo)