

The Warren Record

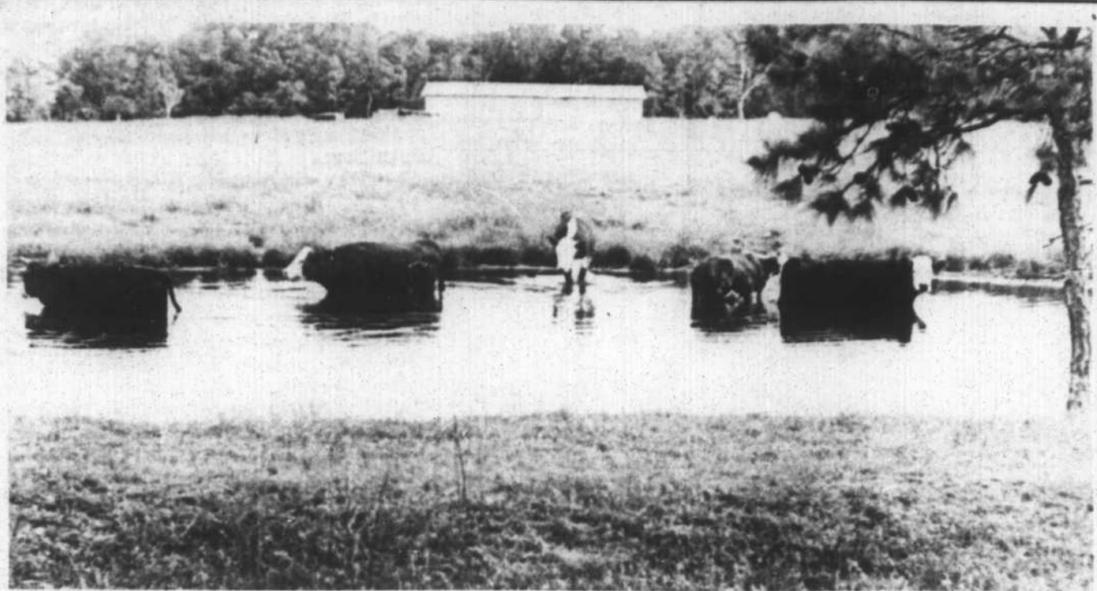
Volume 87

25¢ Per Copy

Warrenton, County Of Warren, North Carolina

Wednesday, May 23, 1984

Number 21



A preview of the Dog Days of Summer was found late Sunday afternoon at this farm pond in the Wise Community of Warren County. As the thermometer rose in mid-afternoon, so did the ingenuity of these cows, who headed for the watering hole when the going got tough. (Staff Photo)

Because Of Lake Development

Zoning Regulations Come Under Study

By KAY HORNER
Staff Writer

Plans by a Virginia developer to construct townhouses on Lake Gaston have revived proposed zoning ordinance amendments that were tabled seven years ago by the Warren County Board of Commissioners.

Plans by a Virginia developer to construct townhouses on Lake Gaston have revived proposed zoning ordinance amendments that were tabled seven years ago by the Warren County Board of Commissioners. A public hearing will be held before commissioners decide how to act on a request by J. R. Brock of Bracey who last Wednesday night presented to the board preliminary plans for Lighthouse Harbor, a multi-million-dollar planned unit development at Eatons Ferry Bridge.

nesday night to voice objections to Brock's proposal to locate a sewage system to serve his resort on an 18-acre tract adjoining Eatons Ferry Estates. "We don't object to Mr. Brock's plan if it is done properly when the guidelines are set," Marty Rooker, attorney for the association told the board. "We do, however, object to him putting the sewage in Eatons Ferry Estates." According to Rooker, West Lake Development, the proposed site of the underground system, falls within the restrictive boundaries of Eatons Ferry Estates. Rooker said this week that the 200-member property owners association has had "problems" with Brock and his development of (Continued on page 8)

Arcola Merchant Hurt

Three Arrested In Robbery Try

Three Warren County men were arrested yesterday (Tuesday) afternoon by the Sheriff's Department in connection with an assault on an Arcola store owner G. W. Davis Monday night. Avon Richardson, Jr., 20, of Rt. 1, Hollister and Craig Arnold Solomon, 22, of Rt. 2, Macon were arrested at Bethlehem Trading Post and in Arcola, respectively and charged with attempted robbery with a deadly weapon, according to a spokesperson for the Sheriff's Department. Freddie Richardson, 18, of Rt. 2, Warrenton was arrested at his home and charged with aiding and abetting and attempted robbery. All three men were being held in Warren County Jail, each on \$2,000 bond, awaiting a

96-hour hearing in District Court today. Reports indicate that Davis was leaving his general store on N. C. 43 about 13 miles from Warrenton about 9 p. m. Monday when he was hit over the head from behind with a stick. He fell and started to get up when his attacker ran. Davis, who lives on Rt. 3, Warrenton, was carrying money from the cash register with him, but the money was not taken, according to reports. Davis was taken to Nash General Hospital by private automobile where he was treated and released, reports indicate. Warren County Sheriff Theodore Williams, and Deputies L. E. Harrison and Lloyd Newsome investigated the incident.

Home Health Program Approved

A proposal by the Warren County Health Department to implement a home health services program was given a nod of approval by county commissioners

at their mid-monthly meeting last Wednesday. The program, which Health Director Joe Lennon hopes to have in operation by July 1, will

provide services for homebound patients under the written orders of a physician. In addition to designating the Health Department as the

home health care agency in the county, the board also affirmed its intent to appropriate \$15,000 from its 1984-85 budget for the program's start-up.

Lennon expressed hope that the county could be reimbursed for its allocation after the program is underway. Prior to last March, HealthCo, Inc. of Soul City was the county's home health agency. However, HealthCo was forced to terminate its program when it was denied further funding from the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Hospital Administrator Dismissed

Warren General Hospital Administrator Frank Hinson was dismissed from his job by Warren General Hospital's Board of Trustees last Wednesday night after a four to one vote, according to Board Chairman Nathaniel Davis. Davis said yesterday (Tuesday) that the action was taken because Hinson was not "abiding by the hospital bylaws," specifically one addressing the amount that can be spent by the

hospital administrator without approval of the board. According to Davis, the hospital administrator must get approval for any expenditure over \$2,000. "We had talked about different situations concerning this in other meetings in order to get on record," Davis said in response to a question about whether the board had on previous occasions discussed infractions of hospital bylaws with Hinson.

Hinson was employed by the hospital in the spring of 1982 under a five-year contract. According to Davis, the contract is "automatically broken if he (Hinson) doesn't abide by the bylaws." When asked if Hinson was present when the board voted, Davis said initially that the action was taken in executive session and that Hinson was not present, but later said he would have to check the board's minutes to see whether the vote was taken in open meeting or executive session.

peared before county commissioners with charges that the administrator was using hospital vehicles for personal errands and was improperly disbursing petty cash funds. The hospital board, which was chaired by Roy Pat Robertson at the time, conducted an investigation of the allegations against Hinson, but the matter was later dropped. As an outgrowth of the incident, however, guidelines governing the use of petty cash funds and hospital vehicles were tightened.

Murder Trial Slated

The trial of Hattie Mae Kersey of Ridgeway in the shooting death of her husband last October is on the docket of Warren County Superior Court scheduled to convene Tuesday, May 29. Mrs. Kersey was originally charged with assault after she allegedly shot James Kersey in the face with a .22

caliber rifle while he was resting in a bedroom of the Kersey home on Lutheran Road. Charges were upgraded to murder after Kersey died on October 6. Judge Giles R. Clark of Elizabethtown will preside over the session, which has a total of 67 cases on the docket.

According to North Carolina's open meetings law as interpreted by the Institute of Government of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, final action on a discharge by a county board must be taken in open session. Hinson's termination was effective immediately. Davis last year ap-

peared before county commissioners with charges that the administrator was using hospital vehicles for personal errands and was improperly disbursing petty cash funds. The hospital board, which was chaired by Roy Pat Robertson at the time, conducted an investigation of the allegations against Hinson, but the matter was later dropped. As an outgrowth of the incident, however, guidelines governing the use of petty cash funds and hospital vehicles were tightened. Davis said Hinson's dismissal was unrelated to those earlier allegations. Mrs. Amy Norwood, assistant hospital administrator, was appointed acting administrator pending the hiring of a new administrator. Contacted at his home in Warrenton Tuesday night, Hinson declined to comment on the dismissal.

Appeal Discussion Is Delayed

Special Board Meeting Postponed

By KAY HORNER
Staff Writer

The question of whether the Warren County Board of Adjustments is the proper agency to hear an appeal of a decision by the Warren County Planning Board has led to a postponement of a special meeting of the Adjustment Board scheduled for this week, according to Richard Roddy, chairman.

Betsy T. Medlin of Littleton has appealed the Warren County Planning Board's approval of preliminary plans for Phase 1 of Summerwood, a development planned by River Forest Associates Clyde P. Harris of Wilson and John T. Nelson, Jr. of Littleton.

Mrs. Medlin, the developer of FernCliff, a subdivision adjacent to the proposed Summerwood, has been in litigation with River Forest Associates over the right-of-way for the new development.

Among the objections cited in Mrs. Medlin's notice of appeal is the Planning Board's approval of Summerwood with only a 30-foot right-of-way into the subdivision. That right-of-way was granted recently in Superior Court, but Mrs. Medlin contends in her appeal to the Board of Adjustments that a judgment has not been entered in the case and that

notice of appeal was given in open court. According to O. L. "Butch" Meek, secretary to the Planning Board, subdivision regulations in the county require a 60-foot right-of-way only for roads that are to be taken over by the N. C. Department of Transportation. A width of 50 feet is permitted if a reduced width is essentially unavoidable and is approved by DOT.

"Summerwood was approved because they (the developers) do have a 30-foot right of way and because it is a private drive that will be turned over to a homeowners association for maintenance purposes," Meek said.

Roddy said yesterday that during his tenure on the Board of Adjustment, it has "never been called into session on a decision of the Planning Board."

"Since I've been on the board, four or five years, we've only met when a decision of the zoning administrator has been assumed to work a personal hardship on an individual," Roddy commented. "There is a question as to whether we even have the authority to rule in this matter."

Roddy said County Attorney Charles Johnson, who also serves as attorney for the Board of Adjustments, is currently looking into the matter.

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Holiday Scheduled

HealthCo, Inc. will be closed Monday, May 28, in observance of Memorial Day. Emergency cases should go to the emergency room at Warren General Hospital. The clinic will reopen Tuesday, May 29, at 9 a. m.

Closings Are Planned

A spot check by The Warren Record this week indicated that most Warren County businesses will be closed Monday, May 28, in observance of Memorial Day, but retail and grocery chains will remain open. Monday is a legal holiday and banks and savings and loan institutions will be closed, as will the U. S. Postal Service and federal offices. Warren County offices will also be closed, but Warren County public schools will be open to make up a day lost because of snow this past winter. Warren County Memorial Library will be closed Saturday, May 26, as well as Monday, and will resume regular hours on Tuesday.

Voting Aids Listed

Warren County voters who will be out of town or unable to cast their vote at the polls in the June 5 run-off election may choose to vote through one-stop voting or an absentee ballot, according to Ruby Jones, elections supervisor. Thursday, May 31, is the last day for one-stop voting in which the ballot is marked and sealed at the Elections Office. It is also the last day for requesting an absentee ballot. Those ballots must be marked and returned to the Board of Elections Office by 5 p. m. on June 4. According to Mrs. Jones, some voters who cast absentee ballots in the May 8 primary also signed up to receive absentee ballots in the June 5 primary. These voters will receive their ballots in the mail. For more information, contact Mrs. Jones at the Elections Office in the Hendricks Building on Front Street in Warrenton or call 257-2114.