



Steel being used in construction of the new Owens-Illinois plant near Ridgeway is shown being erected Friday by construction workers. The giant plant, representing an investment of some \$15 million, may be ready for occupancy by October if early projections hold true.

On the opposite side of U. S. 1 construction is expected to start at any time for a facility housing Swing Transport, primary carriers for the Warren County O-I facility.

(Staff Photo)

Warren's Heritage Worth Exploiting, Board Is Informed

By KAY HORNER
News Editor

The prospect that Warren County could turn historical landmarks into tools for economic development brought two preservationists with Warren County ties before county commissioners Monday with preliminary "how-to" suggestions.

William S. Price, Jr., a native of Macon and director of the Division of Archives and History of the N. C. Department of Cultural Resources, told the commissioners that one of the county's greatest resources among both black and white is its history.

"There are still magnificent, visible manifestations of the county's past in its landscape," Price said. "Many communities have taken less in resources and turned themselves around."

Price was accompanied by J. Myrick Howard, executive director of the Historical Preservation Foundation of North Carolina Inc., who has family connections in the Vaughan area.

Their comments were a follow-up to a meeting last year of county officials, members of the local Citizens United for Progress task force, members of the Warren County Historical Association, Sara W. Hodgkins, cultural resources secretary, and members of her staff.

Howard noted that the current interest in renovation of historical properties throughout the state could be a boon to Warren County, which, he said, has a "remarkable set of buildings remaining from its history."

"When you bring people in to restore homes, you put money back into the tax base,"

Howard said, "and looking at it over the long term, you can use it to attract industry."

Howard cited the Edgecombe County town of Tarboro as an example of a local community that recently completed a \$9 million retirement housing renovation project with private funding.

The idea for the project originated, Howard explained, in the efforts of the Edgecombe County Historical Society to get a historical district downtown and culminated with the use of historic preservation as an "economic tool."

Jim Whitley, Warren County's industrial developer present at Monday's meeting, concurred with Howard's theory that "cultural amenities" such as historical residences could be a key to industrial development.

"Often times when companies are looking at an area, all other things equal, the decision becomes subjective as to amenities offered," Whitley said.

The commissioners also heard from several county residents with interest in preservation,

including Col. John Jenkins, former commander of the N. C. Highway Patrol.

A native of Macon, Col. Jenkins recently retired in Warrenton and restored a home on Eaton Avenue.

His travels with the Highway Patrol took Col. Jenkins throughout the state, but he told the board that Warren County had "the prettiest homes of any county that I've traveled in." He also cautioned that the growth accompanying historic preservation isn't always well received.

"People don't like change," Col. Jenkins said. "That's the only problem. But somebody needs to get started and take the first couple of steps. If not, you'll stand still."

Price suggested that while restoration projects bring change, they also provide local citizens with more control over the kind of change they will have than other forms of development.

"But historical preservation does not succeed unless it succeeds at the community level and it must be the (Continued on page 4)

Outcome Is Same Despite Recount

By KAY HORNER
News Editor

A recount Thursday of votes cast in the Sandy Creek Precinct in the recent Board of Education primary runoff resulted in three additional votes for the winner and two fewer votes for the loser than had originally been tabulated.

The vote in that precinct had been certified as 224 for Mrs. Cora T. Watson of Vaughan, a retired school teacher, and 124 for Mrs. Joyce D. Odom of Arcola, a former school board member.

In the total vote tallied in all precincts, Mrs. Watson originally edged Mrs. Odom by a margin of 2,467 to 2,445.

That margin was widened to 2,470 to 2,443 after the recount.

The recount was requested by Mrs. Odom on June 8, three days after the second primary because of a violation of the General Statute barring elected officials from serving as ballot counters in elections.

Warren County Commissioner George Shearin was one of the ballot counters in the Sandy Creek precinct.

"No one had ever called it (the statute) to his attention," L. C.

Cooper, chairman of the Warren County Board of Elections, said Thursday morning before the recount. "We were not aware that George was counting ballots, but I guess we should have been aware."

Ballot counters are solicited by precinct registrars.

Cooper said Shearin was unaware of the statute making him ineligible.

Mrs. Odom, who was present along with Mrs. Watson for the recount, expressed appreciation to the election board for the recount.

"I hope it serves for more attention to the election process in the future," she told the board.

"My philosophy is, if you try to do anything, you'll make mistakes," Cooper responded. "The only way not to make mistakes is to not do anything."

Mrs. Odom also spoke to Mrs. Watson after the recount and pledged her support to her and assured Mrs. Watson of her continued interest in education.

Mrs. Odom had requested a recount in Nutbush Precinct as well as Sandy Creek because of what she termed (Continued on page 5)



DAN WEST

4-H Member Gets Top Honor

A Warren County 4-H member has won top honors in the State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest.

Dan West, 13, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred West of Littleton, was the top individual scorer in the junior division of the contest. He scored 518 out of a possible 600 points and received a plaque from the N. C. Pork Producers' Association, the contest sponsor.

There were 102 contestants in the junior division for ages 9 to 13 and 72 contestants in the senior division for ages 14 to 19. A Wilson County team won the junior division and a McDowell County team won the senior division.

The contest, held June 25 at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh, was conducted by the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service.

Murder Trial Set Next Week

The murder trial of Harrie Mae Kersey of Ridgeway in the shooting death of her husband last October will once again be on the docket when Warren County Superior Court convenes Monday.

Mrs. Kersey's case, which has been continued in past sessions, is one of 62 cases on the docket.

Judge Robert H. Hobgood of Louisburg will preside.

County Will Help Defray Line Cost

Warren County commissioners Monday voted to bear part of the cost of installation of a water line to an industrial site across from the Owens-Illinois property on U. S. 1 near Ridgeway to accommodate future growth in the area.

Swing Transport of Salisbury, primary carrier for Owens-Illinois' products, will pay the cost of installation of a one-inch line under U. S. 1 and the commissioners voted to pay the difference in the cost of that project and the cost of installation of a 12-inch line in order to have the water available for later development.

James C. Harris, Jr. with The Warren Group, which is overseeing the installation of the line for Swing Transport, estimated the county's share of the cost at \$10,310. However, he agreed to charge the county cost plus 10 percent if that figure proved to be less than \$10,310.

The funds will be taken from the special \$100,000 appropriation made last year by the General Assembly to

Warren County for economic development.

Swing Transport will pay the entire cost of installation of its line from the 12-inch line to the building site.

The commissioners also voted to pay Rocky Mount architect C. Robert Shields an additional \$1,800 over original estimates for plans drawn for renovation (Continued on page 5)

Littleton Man Held On Charge

A Littleton man was arrested Monday and charged with felonious larceny in the theft of a 1971 Volkswagen Saturday night in the vicinity of Salmon's Landing on Lake Gaston.

Herome Hooten, 22, was arrested by Warren County Sheriff's Deputy L. E. Harrison and was placed in Warren County Jail on \$1,200 bond.

According to reports, Mary Baskerville of White Plains, Va. left her car on State Road 1357 after it broke down Saturday night and when she returned early Sunday morning the vehicle was gone.

Court date for Hooten has been set for July 11.



A car driven by Destry Fitzgerald Jordan, 19, of Rt. 1, Norlina is shown above resting in a creek bed in Warren County Saturday after it collided with a pick-up truck driven by William Robert Brauer, 65, also of Rt. 1, Norlina. According to Highway Patrol reports, Jordan was headed north on State Road 1107 when he collided head-on with the truck driven by Brauer. Jordan, who was treated and released

from Maria Parham Hospital in Henderson, was charged with driving left of center in the 9 p. m. accident. Damages were estimated at \$3,500 to Jordan's car, which ran off the road, through a fence, and overturned before coming to rest on the creek bank. Damage to the truck, which never left the road, was estimated at \$400. (Staff Photo)

Charges Are Made In Sexual Offenses

Two Warren County men have been charged with sexual offenses in two separate incidents involving juveniles.

John Hargrove, Jr., 33, of Rt. 1, Manson was charged Thursday with incest against a 14-year-old juvenile and was released the same day on \$1,000 bond.

The youth was taken to Warren General Hospital, according to reports, for an examination and after evidence was examined by the State Bureau of Investigation Lab, Hargrove was arrested and charged.

The incident was reported on June 23. Sheriff's Deputies T. H. McCaffity was the in-

vestigating officer and was assisted by Chief Deputy B. D. Bolton.

In another incident, Ivory Ben Davis, 64, of Rt. 1, Warrenton was charged Monday with taking indecent liberties with a five-year-old child.

The child was taken from Warren General Hospital to Duke Medical Center for examination and charges were filed after receiving the medical report.

The incident was reported on June 27.

Davis was freed on \$500 bond Monday afternoon.

Deputy McCaffity investigated.

Warrenton's Tax Rate Stays Same

The Town of Warrenton's tax rate remains at 82 cents per \$100 valuation in the 1984-85 budget adopted by the town commissioners at a called meeting at Noon on Wednesday of last week. The rate was based on a budget of \$558,498.

There was also no change in the water and sewer rate.

The total amount of \$558,498 adopted in the budget last Wednesday

was the same total adopted by the commissioners in the town's tentative budget on June 11.

The only difference in the amounts was a \$250 increase in the town's fire budget, and this will be taken care of by a slight shift of funds.

Mayor B. G. White presided over the meeting, with Commissioners Eddie Clayton, A. A. Wood, Bobby Edmonds, and W. A. Miles present. Commissioner Charles M. White, III, who had been held up in court, arrived at the meeting just before adjournment, but too late to take part in the discussion.

Following the decision to increase funds for the firemen, Commissioner Eddie Clayton, chairman of the finance committee, asked that the budget be adopted. Commissioner W. A. Miles moved that the budget be accepted. Commissioner A. A. Wood seconded the motion which was approved by the four commissioners present.

Macon Rate Same

Commissioners of the Town of Macon met last Friday morning to set the municipality's tax rate at 35 cents, the same as was in effect for the 1983-84 fiscal year, Town Clerk Audrey King reported this week.