

The Warren Record

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Vacancies In Schools Are Filled

By approving the employment of eight persons the Warren County Board of Education Monday night moved to within one position of filling all the vacancies in the public school system in the county.

Only a custodial position at the school's central office on Cousin Lucy's Lane remains to be filled as operation of the schools moved into its second week.

Three resignations were accepted Monday night by board members, meeting with all members present except Mrs. Kathy Wilson. Resignations accepted were those of Diane B. Davis, Mariam Boyd School librarian; Jackie Cameron, Mariam Boyd aide; and Carolyn Lockley, aide at Hawkins School.

Supt. Mike Williams told board members that Mrs. Davis had resigned to accept a position with Vance County schools, Mrs. Cameron is retiring on medical disability and Mrs. Lockley has accepted a position with the Department of Social Services.

Approved for employment were Cindy R. Pharo, classroom teacher at Norlina Middle School; Donna H. Gardner, speech and language clinician unit-wide; Elvelon Williams, secretary at Warren County High School; Gwendolyn C. White, librarian at John Graham and Norlina middle school; Arden D. Knight, librarian at Mariam Boyd School; Jeffrey H. Evans, handicapped and disadvantaged teacher at Warren County High School; Catherine Bray, hearing impaired teacher unit-wide; and Irene Moss, Mariam Boyd School aide.

Williams reported that since April school administrators had hired 17 persons in certified positions and six persons in non-certified positions, a total of six certified persons were transferred from one position to another within the system, he said.

Williams told board members that the system now employs 213 certified personnel, a gain of two from last year, and 226 non-certified personnel, a loss of one position from last year.



A late-summer sun dips behind a Lake Gaston treeline Saturday night, signalling an end to the summer boating and skiing season which begins to wane after the Labor Day holiday. For many in

Warren County, the dove hunting and football season has replaced days spent at lakeside as autumn rapidly approaches. (Staff Photo)

Need For Firemen's Training Site Explained At Town Board Meeting

Allan Adcock, president of the Warren County Firemen's Association, and O. L. "Butch" Meek, vice chairman of the Warren County Fire Commission, appeared before the Norlina town commissioners at their regular meeting Monday night. The purpose of their attendance was to discuss the possible lease or purchase of the discarded pond and pumping station of the Seaboard Airline Railroad now owned by Norlina.

Meek said that Ernest Boyd Harris had agreed to let the association use two acres of land which he had bought from the town, and that other adjoining land might possibly be obtained for additional expansion. Adcock agreed that what the association wanted from the town

was around six acres containing the old Seaboard Airline Railroad's former pond and pumping station. If obtainable, they said this would be the site of a training center for the more than 300 volunteer firemen of Warren County.

They explained that if the site is obtained, the firemen will have to build a road from Highway 401 to the site, to have the pond cleaned of debris fallen and washed in since its abandonment many years ago, to grade and landscape the plot, and to build a multiple-room building of one story possibly with a tin roof to be used in training firemen to enter a smoke-filled room, search individual rooms and closets for bodies and to remove the same from a burning house. The cost of this

building and work would be borne by the firemen in addition to the cost of land and building a picnic area.

The center, they said, would have to be approved by the EPA, and that retaining ditches, in which deadly chemicals could be held, would have to be built. Fire pits would also be built where firemen could learn to deal with the high heat of gasolines and other chemicals.

The commissioners discussed various aspects presented by Meek and Adcock and several expressed a desire to visit the scene. Meek also agreed to provide a written proposal in order that the commissioners might study their proposals. Adcock agreed to contact Calvin Beck, state fire instructor, through N. C.

Department of Community Colleges, and when it is determined when he can come to the county, that he, Adcock and as many others as care to do so might visit the site.

Adcock explained that all Warren County Volunteer Firemen are required to undergo 36 hours of extensive training each year under the supervision of Vance-Granville Community College. He also said that meetings of the fire association, as well as

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Find Worth \$1 Million

Marijuana Found, Warrant Issued

By KAY HORNER
News Editor

Law enforcement officials continued their search this week for a Manson man charged in connection with the discovery in Warren County last Thursday of marijuana crops having a street value of \$1 million.

A warrant was issued late Thursday charging Dennis Johnson of Rt. 1 with manufacture of marijuana with intent to sell.

Chief Deputy B. D. Bolton with the Warren County Sheriff's Department said yesterday that the warrant for Johnson, who is in his late twenties and unemployed, was sought after officers found a marijuana plant in the yard of his residence in the Drewry community on S.R. 1221 near one of three fields where the illegal weed was found.

The other two fields were located on S.R. 1620 near the Licksillet community in southern Warren County and on N. C. 58 about five miles east of Warrenton.

The fields, containing a total of 1,100 marijuana plants, were spotted by specially trained drug agents with the State Bureau of Investigation during a day-long air search using an SBI plane.

According to officials, the plants were a type of marijuana known as sinsemilla which results from the cultivation of female plants only and produces a more potent drug. Some of the stalks were worth as much as \$1,600, Bolton estimated.

The plants, measuring 14 feet in height, had grown to maturity, he said.

Most of the plants were burned Friday morning at the Warren County Landfill, and

others were saved as evidence.

According to Bolton, the Sheriff's Department believes the three fields were planted independently. He declined to say who owned the parcels of property pending confirmation but did say there was no reason to believe the owners were connected with the cultivation of the plants.

The air search was the first of its kind in Warren County, Bolton indicated.

Similar searches in Vance and Granville counties last week led to the seizure of \$104,000 worth of marijuana in Vance and \$40,000 worth in Granville.

Assisting the Sheriff's Department in the Warren County search were two SBI agents who Bolton said asked not to be identified and Vance County Chief ABC Officer Bill Aiken and his Granville County counterpart, Howard Riggan.

Warren Co. Fair To Begin Monday

Final preparation is underway this week for the opening of the Warren County Agricultural Fair, scheduled for September 17-22, according to J. B. Thompson, general manager. The annual event, sponsored by the Warrenton Lions Club, will again feature "fair fun for everyone" by Inners Amusement Company and exhibits of interest to all ages.

Miss Emily Ballinger, home economics extension agent, has reported that Fair Premium books are just off the press and are available at the extension agent's office in the Agricultural Building in Warrenton. Contained therein is information for exhibiting a number of products in clothing, needlework, arts and crafts, canning, pantry, flowers, field crops and horticulture.

Individual exhibits will be accepted in the exhibit hall on the fairgrounds from 8:30 a. m. until 5 p. m. on Monday, Sept. 17. Judging will be done on Tuesday

and exhibits may be removed on Saturday, Sept. 22, between 8 a. m. and noon. Persons wishing additional information on exhibiting may contact Miss Ballinger.

Each day of the fair (Continued on page 11)

Collections For Warren Listed

Mark G. Lynch, secretary of the N. C. Department of Revenue, has released the report of local one percent and one and one-half percent sales and use tax collections for the month of July.

Net collections statewide totalled \$36,849,681, of which Warren County showed a sum of \$47,196. Reports of collections from neighboring counties were: Franklin \$83,875; Granville, \$133,892; Halifax, \$304,620; and Vance, \$216,536.

Warren and the nearby counties listed collect the tax at the rate of one and one-half percent.

Macon Street Parking Restricted

By MARY C. HARRIS
Staff Writer

Warrenton's Town Board voted at its September meeting on Monday evening to prohibit parking on both sides of East Macon Street in the block between Bragg and Hall streets during the hours from 8 a. m. until 6 p. m., except on Sundays and holidays. Discussion revealed that a recent study had suggested no need for a traffic light at the intersection of Hall and

Macon, but the commissioners expressed concern that visibility is poor when vehicles are parked in that block. Board members also voiced their wishes not to interfere with the parking needs of people attending services at the Oak Chapel A.M.E. Church located at the intersection.

All commissioners with the exception of Eddie Clayton were present for the 8 p. m. meeting in the Town Hall. Mayor B. G. White

presided. Other points of discussion and action during the meeting were as follows:

—Water Department —Mayor White reminded board members that 40 percent of the revenues collected from the recent sales tax increase were designated for new water and sewer construction. He urged them to keep that in mind in their planning future water and sewer improvements.

—Police Department

—Commissioner Wood reported that an additional police car, a 1982 Chevrolet in good condition, had been purchased and painted the familiar "Warrenton blue" color and that it was now in use by the department.

It was also reported that Rufus Alston has joined the Police Department on a trial basis.

—Finance Department—Town Administrator V. R. (Pete)

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The combined effort of state and local law enforcement officials resulted in the seizure in Warren County last Thursday of marijuana with an estimated street value of \$1 million. The crop was found in three locations during an air search. Shown above with a truckload of the marijuana are (left to

right) Bill Aiken, chief ABC officer, Vance County; Warren County Sheriff's Deputy Lawrence Harrison; Chief Deputy B. D. Bolton; Sheriff Theo Williams; and Howard Riggan, chief ABC officer for Granville County. (Staff Photo)