

## No Strings Attached To Lodge

With a full board present for a Veterans' Day monthly meeting, Warrenton commissioners voted to release the restrictions the town has held on Colonial Lodge, a retirement home on North Main Street.

Formerly The Hotel Warren and owned by the town, the Colonial Lodge was sold in 1964, and the town continues to hold a deed of trust with strings requiring the owners to keep the restaurant open and to permit civic clubs to meet there. The board authorized Mayor B. G. White to sign an agreement releasing the restrictions.

The request for such action came from Julius Banzet, III, representing persons interested in purchasing the retirement home. He was accompanied by Warrenton realtor Selby G. Benton and the prospective buyers, Warren and Joan Deines, residents of Halifax County, formerly of Rhode Island.

According to Banzet, Mr. and Mrs. Deines have reached agreement with the present stockholders, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Ormsby and Howard Oakley of Warrenton, and Tom Wilson of Nashville, and they plan to purchase the stock and operate the retirement home in a manner similar to the present management. They hope to enlarge their services by offer-

(Continued on page 4B)

## Premium Bright

**EDITOR'S Note:** The following article by Luther Perkinson, a Warren County Tobacco farmer, was published in the November issue of "The Flue Cured Tobacco Farmer," an agricultural publication for farmers in South Carolina and Georgia as well as North Carolina.

Perkinson, who lives in the Paschall Community, cultivated about 40 acres of tobacco this year.

The article is reprinted here with permission.

While strolling through one of my favorite warehouses, after witnessing a feeble effort of a tobacco sale, I noticed these three piles of tobacco, joining each other, but worlds apart in every way.

The two bright bundles were from piles (sheets) that went into Stabilization, the other bundle came from a pile that sold for \$1.91. Can you explain this?

As a tobacco farmer, I am sick of hearing "Premium Bright" from ASCS to Todd and Collins to "Country Morning" (Channel 5 in Raleigh, North Carolina.)

I personally believe that every farmer worth his fertilizer has had "Premium Bright" on his mind through every aspect of the last few crops, only to have it backfire now with a good crop being marketed.

Evidently the tobaccos that would be classed into a "Premium Bright" category are also the ones that stand cheap storage and aging the best. Lately it seems that the better tobaccos are the ones that are funneled into the Stabilization pool. At this point I am bound to ask why not? The tobacco companies have done an excellent job of practically eliminating the Stabilization program by allowing farmers to store, at their own expense, the products that in the past have been the foundation for the reputation that American tobacco products have enjoyed worldwide.

I am bound to feel that lately we, the tobacco farmers of this country, have been used to produce and store a constant supply of good tobacco while the tobacco companies buy time to perfect their import technicalities and see their investments in foreign production reach the point of making us a memory.

If it were to be made public, I wonder how many people might be amazed at the money U. S. tobacco companies probably have invested directly in actual production of tobacco in other countries.

Right or wrong, I do know that a cigarette or chew of tobacco has a tainted taste lately.



Stephen Daniel, rural carrier for the Norlina Post Office, was recently given a lifetime membership in the exclusive Million Mile Club of the National Safety Council for driving more than one million miles without a preventable accident. Daniel is shown above receiving a walnut and bronze plaque commemorating the honor from Sarah Neal, Nor-

lina postmaster. Membership in the international honor society is limited to those professional drivers of any type of vehicle who have demonstrated their expertise and safety consciousness over many years despite continued exposure to accident-causing traffic situations. (Staff Photo)

## Number Of Accidents Reported On Highways Of Warren County

A Macon man was charged with driving while impaired Thursday after he lost control of the car he was driving and hit a flatbed truck on U. S. 158 about 10 miles east of Warrenton.

According to Trooper B. R. Pope of the Highway Patrol, Robert Samuel Sutton, 45, of Macon was traveling west on U. S. 158 at a high rate of speed when he lost control of the 1977 Hornet station wagon he

was driving. He crossed the yellow line and hit a 1979 Chevrolet truck driven by James Arthur Manley, 45, of Halifax.

Trooper Pope said Manley in trying to avoid the collision, ran off the roadway to the right and lost control of his vehicle. The car hit the ditch embankment and overturned before coming to rest.

Manley and two passengers in his vehicle, Horace Purnell of Roanoke Rapids and Glenwood Arrington of Weldon, were treated and released at Warren General Hospital for minor injuries.

Sutton was treated at Warren General Hospital and then transferred to Maria Parham Hospital where he was treated and released.

Damage to the truck driven by Manley was estimated at \$8,000, with \$10,000 damage to freight being hauled, Trooper Pope reported.

Damage to Sutton's car was estimated at \$2,000.

Four other accidents were also reported recently.

According to Trooper Pope, Ken McCarroll Green, 17, of Warrenton was traveling west on RP 1118 about four miles west of Warrenton Sun-

day when he attempted to turn left into a private driveway. The 1969 Chevrolet pickup truck he was driving was hit by a 1980 Chevrolet driven by Jennie Seward Mayfield, 47, of Manson. Ms. Mayfield was trying to pass Green's vehicle when Green turned into the path of her car.

Damage to Green's truck was estimated at \$500, Trooper Pope said, and damage to Ms. Mayfield's car was estimated at \$1200.

No charges were filed in the 1:45 p. m. accident.

Another accident Sunday involved a deer. Annie Parham Burchette, 22, of Warrenton was traveling east on U. S. 158 in a 1979 Oldsmobile when a deer ran onto the roadway. She was unable to avoid hitting the animal, Trooper Pope reported. Damage to the car was estimated at \$1,000.

The deer was killed on impact in the accident which occurred at 5:30 p. m.

Two accidents were reported on Thursday of last week.

According to Trooper Pope, Jackie Gene Hawkins, 41, of Henderson was charged with driving while impaired

after a single-vehicle accident on Interstate 85 about 4.5 miles south of Norlina.

Hawkins' 1973 Dodge station wagon ran off the roadway to the right and Hawkins lost control of the car when he brought it back onto the roadway. He then ran off the roadway to the left and struck a guard rail, Trooper Pope said.

Hawkins was taken to Warren General Hospital after he complained of pain, but was later released.

Damages were estimated at \$1,000 to the vehicle and \$500 to the guardrail.

No charges were filed in an accident Thursday night on U. S. 158 about 10 miles east of Warrenton.

Herbert Taylor, Jr., 45, of Littleton was traveling west in a 1978 International 18-wheel tractor-trailer rig when he attempted to turn left and was hit by a vehicle traveling east.

According to Trooper Pope, Sallie Clements Hudson, 63, of Roanoke Rapids failed to see the truck in time to avoid a collision.

Damage to the truck was estimated at \$50, and damage to Ms. Hudson's 1981 Chrysler was estimated at \$2,000.



An estimated \$8,000 damage was done to this flatbed truck and \$2,000 to freight it was hauling in an accident last Thursday on U. S. 158 about 10 miles east of Warrenton. The driver of a car that crossed the yellow line and collided with the truck was charged with driving while impaired, according to Trooper B. R. Pope with the Highway Patrol. (Staff Photo)

## On Proposed Apartment Complex

# Dissent Heard At Public Meet

By MARY C. HARRIS  
Staff Writer

Friendly dissent pervaded the Town Hall on Monday evening as a standing - room - only delegation appeared to air their views regarding a proposed apartment complex at the edge of Warrenton on State Road 1107, locally known as the Ridgeway Road. The 7 p. m. public hearing was conducted before a joint meeting of the Warrenton Planning Board and the Warrenton Town Board.

Roy Pat Robertson, chairman of the Planning Board, presided over the proceedings, with board members Anne Harris, McCarroll Alston, Virginia Andersen Lawrence Boyd, and Lee Cheek present to hear "public consideration and comment concerning rezoning" of property belonging to L. C. Cooper of Warrenton from R-20 (low density residential) to R-8 (high density residential) to allow for construction of apartment complexes by K and B Walker Corporation, of which Cooper is a partner.

Warrenton attorney T. T. Clayton, acting on behalf of the developers, presented the request for rezoning and showed preliminary plans for the proposed 36-unit development, providing for eight one-bedroom, 24 two-bedroom, and four three-bedroom apartments on 3.63 acres of land. The plans showed the apartments, an office, and a laundromat contained in five separate buildings, with accompanying parking areas and landscaping, a complex valued at \$2.2 million.

Further explanation was offered by Cooper, who expressed excitement about the proposed venture and beside whose residence the apartments would be constructed. He stressed the need for available housing as an attraction to industry in the area and pointed to the aesthetic value and economic boost to be realized from the intended construction.

When questioned about prospective tenants, Cooper emphasized that the project would not be subsidized and that leases would be granted only to those who could pay.

The suggested rent, which Cooper indicated had been set by the intended lender, Farmers Home Administration, ranged from \$190 to \$245 monthly, with a built-in utility allowance.

Clayton stated that he sees Warren County as being on the "brink of economic growth" and believes in the potential of this project to contribute to that progress.

Spokesman for the residents of the Ridgeway Road neighborhood to be affected by the development was Ron

Douglas. Voicing their opposition, he listed one by one the concerns of those who had been attracted to the neighborhood by the space and privacy afforded, a condition he felt would be threatened by the

proposed construction. Among the reasons for objection was doubt that the county could support the amount of rent required, leading to the possibility of foreclosure at some point in (Continued on page 8B)

## For Fire Dispatchers

# Certification Is Proposed Locally

By KAY HORNER  
News Editor

Plans are underway to require an annual certification for all dispatchers operating Warren County's fire communications system, according to V. R. (Pete) Vaughan, Warrenton town administrator.

Certification was approved in a meeting of the Police Committee of the Warrenton Town Board on Nov. 5. Although the county contributes the majority of the funding for the system, the town is responsible for the supervision of the fire dispatchers, who also serve as dispatchers for the Police Information Network (PIN) communications system. Certification for the latter is required by the state.

Charges by fire officials that they received incomplete directions about the location of a Norlina fire on Oct. 28 in which two children died led to the request for dispatcher certification. Fire Commissioners O. L. "Butch" Meek and Walter Gardner, took the request to the town commissioners.

Gardner, who is also radio control officer for the County Fireman's Association, said this week that training for the certification could begin as soon as mid-December.

Gardner taught a similar course to dispatchers two years ago when the fire communication system was first installed. Currently hands-on training is given at the time a new dispatcher is hired, but Gardner said no follow-up training has been required on a regular basis for employees already on board.

Among the areas to be covered in the certification course is the procedure followed upon receipt of a fire call and laws pertaining to radio communication.

"We will also cover what the firemen and the public expect from a dispatcher and what the dispatcher, in return can expect," Gardner commented.

Employment as a dispatcher will depend on successful completion of annual certification, Gardner said.

Fire officials are hoping that the certification program will ensure an efficiently-run dispatcher system.

In commenting on the Norlina fire last month, Meek, a Norlina volunteer fireman, said yesterday that as many as eight minutes might have been saved in reaching the fire had firemen had complete information as to the location of the home.

"On Oct. 30, Norlina firemen, authorized by the fire chief (Gene Medlin), retraced the route they took and the route they would have taken had more information been relayed," Meek said. "There was an eight-minute difference in time."

According to Meek, there are six questions a dispatcher is supposed to ask when a fire call comes in. They should obtain the name of the person calling, his phone number, the type of fire, the location of the fire, landmarks near the location, and the nearest fire department.

The dispatcher last month obtained only the name of the residents and the street location of the house, Meek said.

The road, located west of Norlina, was identified as Old Oine Road, which Meek said state maps identify as Bad Eye Road.

The house is located within sight of White's Grove Christian Church, a well-known landmark which some fire officials feel would have been included in directions if more questions had been asked by the dispatcher.

The location of fires is made more difficult in rural areas like Warren County, Meek said, because of the number of roads identified locally by more than one name.

Meek said he'd like to see county road signs erected like those in neighboring Greenville County to identify properly lesser known roads.

**EARLY NEXT WEEK**  
The Warren Record will be printed on Tuesday of next week, a day earlier than usual, in order that copies might be received by readers before the Thanksgiving holiday.