



These tiny marijuana plants were discovered in a field about one-half mile south of Inez last week by law enforcement officers. Shown above with the marijuana, which officers estimated would have a street value of more than \$1 million when grown, are

(left to right) Deputy Lloyd Newsome, Vance County ABC Officer Bill Aiken, and Chief Deputy B. D. Bolton. An estimated 1,000 plants were in the field. (Staff Photo)

Basic Education Program Praised By Superintendent

By KAY HORNER
News Editor

If a Basic Education Program currently being considered by the General Assembly is adopted as proposed, it

would be "the best thing ever to happen to public education in Warren County," Superintendent of Schools Michael F. Williams told the county Board of Education Mon-

day night.

The program, two years in the making, is the outgrowth of concern on the part of the General Assembly that all children in the state do not have the opportunity for the same educational advantages.

"The General Assembly said to the Board of Education, spell out for us what kind of education every child in the state should have and what it will take to provide it," Williams explained yesterday.

"Many school systems in the state are meeting the standards proposed in the Basic Education Program, and doing it with state and local money," Williams continued. "In Warren County, we are not meeting the standard because state money is not enough and we don't have the local funds to do it."

The proposal, similar in concept to the General Assembly's commitment

several years ago to provide a public school kindergarten program, would be phased in over an eight-year period, beginning in 1985-86.

Among the benefits of the program for Warren County would be the addition of 32 regular teachers and 11 support positions including a nurse, six counselors, a librarian, and two psychologists. It would also enable the system to reduce class size while expanding curriculum to include areas such as foreign languages.

The program is designed to eliminate inequities in education throughout the state.

"The child in Durham County has advantages the child in Warren County doesn't," Williams said, "and it shouldn't be that way."

The board went on record in support of the program, and Richard Roddy urged fellow board members to con-

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Clayton Is Named Head Democrat

Delegates to the Warren County Democratic County Convention Saturday elected Warrenton attorney T. T. Clayton chairman of the party for a two-year term to succeed outgoing Chairwoman Anna G. Butler.

Clayton was also appointed representative on the State Executive Committee.

Other officers elected were Virginia Anderson of Warrenton, first vice chairwoman; Archie Williams of Arcola, second vice chairman; Cathia W. Pope of Afton, third vice chairwoman; Nell Whitley of Warrenton, secretary; and Ronnie Reaves of Warrenton, treasurer.

All of Warrenton's precincts were represented at the convention, attended by about 75 local Democrats.

The sole resolution adopted by the convention called for lower property tax valuation for property owners in Shoc-

co Township due to the location by the state of a hazardous waste landfill there three years ago.

Chairman Clayton appointed Delton Green of West Warrenton Precinct to coordinate organization of a Young Democrat Club.

Local Democrats interested in attending a dinner honoring Secretary of State Thad Eure on April 26 at the Civic Center in Raleigh and an April 27 Jefferson-Jackson Breakfast at the Hilton Inn and dinner at the Civic Center in Raleigh may contact Chairman Clayton for tickets and additional information.

Rep. Frank W. Ballance, Jr. of Warrenton gave the convention an overview of issues currently before the General Assembly, including the intangibles tax, repeal of the sales tax on food, and raising of the legal drinking age from 18 to 21.

Firemen's Relief Fund Established

The Warren County Firemen's Association has set up a Firemen's Relief Fund to assist financially firemen who because of injuries received in the line of duty are unable to work.

According to Bruce Perkinson, chief of the Hawthree Volunteer Fire Department and treasurer of the association, the funds will be used initially for those injured in the recent fire at Currin's Warehouse in Warrenton.

Most seriously injured was Dennis Harris, Jr. with the Warrenton Rural Department, who is still hospitalized in Wake Medical Center in Raleigh with burns and broken bones and is expected to be out of work for some time.

Also currently undergoing treatment for less serious injuries are Ronald Rivers with the Warrenton Rural Department and Danny

Bland with the Churchill-Five Forks Department.

The firefighters were injured when a wall of the warehouse collapsed.

Firemen hope sufficient contributions will be received to enable the association to have an on-going Relief Fund.

Merchants and civic organizations, as well as individuals, are being urged to contribute, and all donations are tax deductible, Perkinson said.

Contributions may be sent to the Warren County Firemen's Association, P.O. Box 563, Warrenton, N.C. 27589.

The Warren County Firemen's Association last week contributed the first \$500 to the fund, Perkinson said.

Commissioners Will Sit As Board Of E&R

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The Warren County Board of Commissioners will sit as the County Board of Equalization and Review on Monday, April 22, Wednesday, April 24, and Monday, April 29.

According to Janice Haynes, tax supervisor, 76 property owners had requested appointments with the board as of Tuesday morning, a figure she said was not unusually high in light of the county's recent property revaluation.

The commissioners are required by law to sit annually as the Board of Equalization and Review, which is technically a function separate and apart from their roles as county commissioners.

State statute provides for the Board of Equalization and Review to hear appeals from any property owners who feel an unfair value has been assigned to their property.

The board may adjust, within the bounds of law, such valuations to bring them into compliance.

The board will meet in the office of the county tax supervisor on 114 W. Market Street in Warrenton from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the designated days.

In order to schedule an appointment, write to Mrs. Haynes at the above address, or call (919) 257-4158.



Brenda M. Clarke, owner of Jacob's Ladder in Warrenton, readies one of her stained glass creations for the upcoming Crafts Fair scheduled for April 27 at the National Guard Armory. Ms. Clarke is among some 57 crafters slated to participate in the event. (Staff Photo)

Large Number Of Crafters Will Be On Hand At Fair

Fifty-seven crafters will display their wares for sale at the Crafts Fair on Saturday, April 27, at the National Guard Armory in Warrenton, according to Mrs. Karen White, chairperson of the event. The hours of the fair will be 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

A number of artists who participated in the fair last spring will be returning and the offerings will include wooden items, sculptured lamp shades, needle-

work, ceramics, Cabbage Patch Doll clothes, baskets, jewelry, stenciled rugs, pottery, paintings, wreaths, quilts, leather goods, stained glass, candles and a number of other handcrafted items.

Food will be available throughout the day, beginning with country ham and sausage biscuits at 10 a.m., Mrs. White said. At lunch time, hot dogs, Brunswick stew and desserts will be ready for eating in or taking out.

A supper will be sponsored by the Warrenton Rural Fire Department and will be served from 4:30 to 8 p.m. Plates selling for \$3.50 will include barbecued pork, boiled potatoes, slaw, rolls, coffee or tea, and dessert, and may be eaten at the Armory or taken out. Tickets are available in advance through members of the department or the Blazettes.

The fair will include also a table of home-

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Hydrant Charges Are Not Expected

No charges will be brought against a Warrenton man who April 1 drove over a fire hydrant at the corner of Plummer and Bragg streets and reportedly left the scene of the accident with the hydrant still connected to his automobile.

According to police reports, Vance Lagarde Williams, 20, was driving a 1974 Chrysler registered to his father, Norlina Police Chief Romey Williams, when he hit the hydrant.

Warrenton Police Chief Freddie Robinson said this week that no charges would be brought because the elder Williams'

automobile insurance would pay the estimated \$1,060 in expenses incurred by the town in replacing the hydrant.

Residents of the area reported being awakened about 5:20 a.m. by the sound of the accident and the driver trying to extricate his car bumper from the hydrant.

Town Administrator V. R. "Pete" Vaughan said shortly after the accident that he followed a trail made by flat tires on the car and the dragging hydrant to Williams' residence on Halifax Street, but the report identifying the driver of the car was not available to the press at presstime last week.

last week.

Statistics Listed For Currin's Fire

When Currin's Warehouse in Warrenton caught fire two weeks ago, residents of Warrenton no doubt thought every fire truck and fireman for miles around had converged on town.

Statistics compiled this week by O. L. "Butch" Meek, a county fire commissioner, give credence to that notion.

A total of 17 departments responded to the fire, including all those in Warren County and others from neighboring Vance County and from South Hill, Va.

Figures from the Town of Warrenton Department were not available, but a total of 223 firefighters, 197 from Warren County and 26 from outside the county, responded to the alarm.

Thirty-two pieces of firefighting equipment were on hand, including 14 pumbers, 12 tanks, two squad or utility vehicles, one ladder, two portable pumps, and one mini-pumper.

A total of \$959 in gas and diesel fuel was used during the eight hours of firefighting and damage to equipment was listed as \$4,295.

Most of the equipment loss was suffered by Warrenton Rural Fire Department when a wall collapsed on several hoses and other apparatus.

Town Manager V. R. "Pete" Vaughan reported that 1.5 million gallons of water were pumped through the town's water system in fighting the fire and 275,000 gallons were collected from Connell's Pond on the eastern outskirts of Warrenton.



FLEMING

OVERBY

Two Are Picked For Boys' State

Perry Twitty, commander of American Legion Post Number 25 in Warrenton, has announced the selection of two Warren County students to serve as delegates for the 1985 session of American Legion Tar Heel Boys' State.

Selected for the six-day intensive workshop in state government and politics were Mark B. Overby of Warren Academy and Michael Y. Fleming of Warren County High School.

Overby is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Braxton R. Overby of Norlina. He is a member of the basketball and baseball teams at Warren Academy. He attends Norlina Baptist Church.

Fleming, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Y. Fleming of Manson, is president of the junior class and a member of the football team at Warren County High. He is a member of the

Warren County Task Force on Delinquency Prevention. Fleming attends Norlina Baptist Church.

Boys' State delegates participate in a variety of activities which are designed to improve their awareness and understanding of the organization and operations of government and politics in North Carolina as well as major areas of state public policies which are being debated currently in the state. The objective of Boys' State is to improve citizenship for future and present generations of Tar Heels.

Candidates for Boys' State are carefully screened for qualities of leadership, character, scholarship, and service. Young men who are members of the rising senior class are the candidates considered for attendance at Boys' State.