

## Two Men Hurt In Accident

Two Warren County men were injured Sunday night in an accident on RPR 1116 about five miles west of Warrenton.

According to Trooper B. R. Pope with the Highway Patrol, James Hartford Brown, 28, of Vaughan and James Spruill, 21, of Warrenton were injured when Brown, driver of the car, ran his vehicle off the road, lost control and hit a tree.

Brown was charged with driving while impaired, according to reports.

Both men were transported to Maria Parham Hospital in Henderson where they were treated and later released.

Damage to Brown's 1971 Ford was estimated at \$800.

The accident occurred around 9:15 p.m.

In a two-car accident Sunday on RPR 1519 in Hollister, drivers of both vehicles were charged with safe movement violations.

According to reports, Queen Anstead Richardson, 57, of Littleton and Tony Kelvin Jones, 17, of Roanoke Rapids were both traveling east when Ms. Richardson attempted to turn her vehicle left into a private driveway and was hit by Jones' vehicle as he attempted to pass on the left.

Damage to Ms. Richardson's 1978 Chevrolet was listed at \$650, and damage to the 1980 Toyota, driven by Jones and registered to Timothy Larnark Jones of Roanoke Rapids, was listed at \$850.

The accident occurred around 9:50 p.m.

## Tax Collection Figures Given

In the latest report from the North Carolina Department of Revenue listing the local one-and-one-half percent sales and use tax collections for the month of March, Warren County showed net collections of \$37,165.44.

Reports from neighboring counties indicated collections of \$84,971.95 for Franklin, \$112,717.60 for Granville, \$246,928.15 for Halifax, and \$178,171.05 for Vance.

State collections for March totaled \$32,439,633.25.

## Mid-Monthly Meet Is Off

The regularly scheduled mid-monthly meeting of the Warren County Board of Commissioners will not be held tonight (Wednesday) so that the board may meet for a work session on the 1985-86 county budget.

The board will meet in special session Monday, May 20, at 7 p.m. at the Warren County Courthouse to hear a report from representatives of the N.C. Department of Transportation on the county's 1985-86 highway program.



Walter Gardner, a member of a Warrenton merchants' committee hoping to display Christmas lights this year, places a sample fixture on a utility pole on Main Street. The decoration, one of 40 the merchants' group hopes to rent for three years at an annual fee of \$1,200, had been used in Scotland Neck for the past three years. (Staff Photo)

## Adjustment Is Sought For Delay In Service

By MARY C. HARRIS  
Staff Writer

Ridgeway Road resident Mrs. Irene Fitz appeared before Warrenton's Town Board at their regular meeting Monday evening to request a financial adjustment to compensate for the town's delay in supplying sewer service to her neighborhood, annexed by the town in 1981.

Mrs. Fitz noted that she and her husband, Charlie Fitz, have paid town taxes for three and one-half years but have only recently been afforded the privilege of tapping onto the town's sewer system. While she has not been charged for sewer service, Mrs. Fitz stated that she felt her payment of town taxes included that dividend and she urged the commissioners to consider an adjustment.

"I'm not trying to make trouble," she said. "I know you will be fair in your treatment of my request."

Water and sewer plant manager Bill Neal and Town Administrator V. R. (Pete) Vaughan explained that low funding and other problems had caused a delay in service.

Following Mrs. Fitz's request, Town Attorney Charles Johnson pointed out that the board does not have the authority to adjust or refund taxes. Such action can be taken, he said, based only on a clerical error, illegal tax, or a tax levy for illegal purposes. He noted that the board members themselves would be liable if they voted to refund taxes

paid by the Fitz.

At the suggestion of Commissioner Eddie Clayton, the board voted to grant the Fitz couple as well as five other residents of the area a free tap-on to the sewer service of the town, providing the privilege is utilized within six months. The fee for tapping into the system is \$150. At the present time, the Fitz residence is the only one of the six in the neighborhood using the system. All residents have been taxed by the town since their annexation.

The commissioners spent considerable time in discussion of an undesirable odor present in a section of Hazelwood Drive and Rodwell Extension, due to a problem in the sewer system. Mayor B. G. White and Neal reported that an engineer from the Environmental Protection Agency had advised that the chemicals now being used by the town as treatment provided the most effective cure for the odor problem.

Commissioner A. A. Wood, a resident of the affected neighborhood, reported that the problem appeared to be less prevalent than in recent weeks and months. Neal said that he and his staff would continue the trial-and-error method to determine the proper amount of chemical needed.

Mayor White stated that he plans to meet in the near future with County Manager Charles Worth and Mrs. Eva M. Clayton, chairwoman of the Warren County Commissioners,

to seek an agreement on the sharing of treatment expenses for the system which serves Warrenton, Norlina and Soul City.

An issue of several months resurfaced at the board meeting when the mayor expressed his frustration at the delay in the settlement of a dispute between Warrenton service station owner Cam Comer and residents of the South Main Street neighborhood where Comer owns a lot on which is parked a number of old cars. Several months ago, representatives of the neighborhood sought the help of the town board in having the cars, which they described as "unsightly," removed from the property.

The mayor pointed out that several discussions with Comer have taken place and that still a settlement has not been reached. Commissioners suggested the scheduling of a meeting to include the board members, Comer, and the neighbors who had earlier expressed their disapproval. The meeting was scheduled for Monday, May 20, at 8 p. m., assuming the time proves convenient for the parties concerned.

Announcement was made of the intent of the Division of Archives and History of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources to erect a historical marker on the south side of Macon Street east of the intersection with Hall Street designating the John Hall grave and homeplace.

## Affirmative Action Plan Is Given State Approval

### Plan Drawn By Manager

By KAY HORNER  
News Editor

A five-year Warren County Affirmative Action Plan addressing recruitment, promotion, training, and grievance procedures for county employees was given the seal of approval earlier this month by the N. C. Office of State Personnel.

The plan was formulated by County Manager Charles J. Worth, who also serves as county Affirmative Action officer, in January following the adoption of an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action policy statement by county commissioners.

Counties are required every two years to submit an Affirmative Action plan to the state, however Worth said Warren has not submitted a plan since 1979.

According to Worth, the county's plan will not be affected by the Supreme Court's recent ruling making unconstitutional the establishment of quotas in hiring of minorities.

"This plan doesn't mean that we have to hire a minority when a position is vacated," Worth said, "but that we look for the most qualified individual, realizing that we're underrepresented in certain areas and that we hope to achieve parity."

A breakdown of the county's 103 employees according to race and sex as of January was as follows: white males, 19; white females, 51; black males, 13; black females, 19; and male Indians, one.

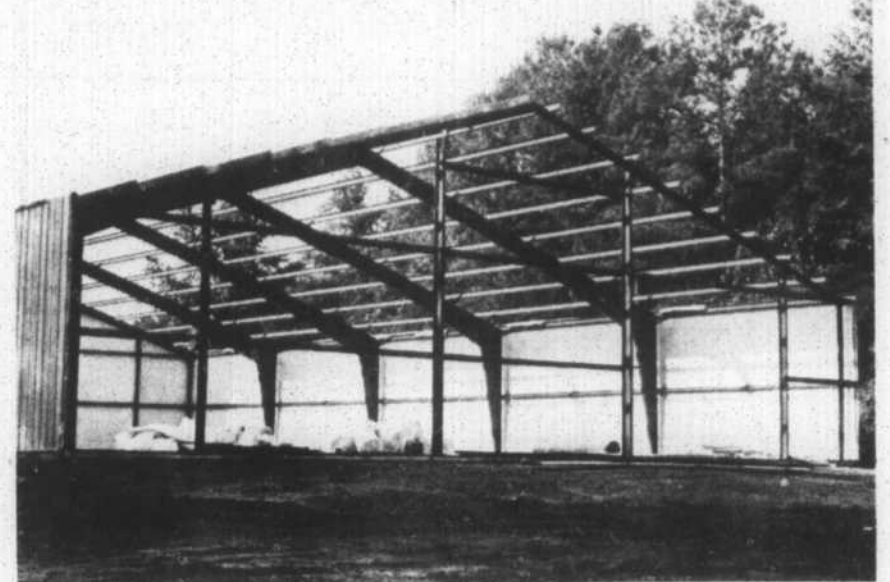
Worth said the county has experienced an unusually high employee turnover in recent months, a phenomenon he blames in part on the county's low wages.

"A number of employees have just gone on to bigger and better things," Worth commented. "Our wages are very low compared to surrounding areas. It's something I've been fighting ever since I got here."

Worth is responsible for the hiring of county employees, excluding the county Health and Social Services departments, which fall under state personnel procedures, the Sheriff's Department and office of the Register of Deeds, where hiring is done by the elected department head, and those appointed or hired by the county boards.

However, he said all county department heads would be briefed on the policy.

The county's goals call for the placement by 1989, if appropriate vacancies occur, of black females in the Industrial Development Commission office, Service and Maintenance Department. (Continued on page 13)



Construction of this gymnasium at Camp Willow Run on Lake Gaston near Littleton is the first of a three-phase building program at the non-denominational Christian youth camp. The gymnasium is slated for completion by the opening of the camp's summer season in June. Plans also call for construction of classroom and meeting room facilities. (Staff Photo)

## Lawmaker Issues Apology For Route Which Bill Took

Representative Frank W. Ballance, Jr. of Warrenton has sent to the town commissioners a letter expressing his apology for failing to consult with the local governing board before introducing a bill in the State Legislature to restrict the placement of fences in the business district of the town.

Mayor B. G. White called the commissioners' attention to the letter at the regular monthly meeting of the board on Monday evening. In the letter, Ballance acknowledged

his error in by-passing the town board and noted that he had asked the legislative committee considering the bill to delay action.

The mayor reported that a resolution voicing the opposition of the board to House Bill 615 had been drawn up and mailed to legislators as directed in a called board meeting on April 22.

The bill, dated April 16, states, "It shall be unlawful to place a fence within eight feet of the boundary line of a lot located in a business

district," and applies to the Town of Warrenton only.

White explained that the resolution of disapproval and accompanying letter had been sent to the 21 legislators serving on Local Government II Committee, which has been charged with initial consideration of the bill, and to area representatives.

White said that he had received notification from the legislative committee's chairman, Representative Edith Lutz, that the local governing board would be contacted before the bill was taken under consideration.

The resolution drawn up by the town board made reference to a private dispute which exists between Ballance and Warrenton pharmacist Alpheus (Doc) Jones regarding a fence located on Jones' property adjacent to Ballance's law office in Warrenton's business district.



MISS HOWELL



MISS WILSON

## Two Are Selected For Gifted School

Warren County High School will be represented at the 1985 session of the North Carolina Governor's School by Holly Elyse Howell and Lisa Jannell Wilson.

The Governor's School is a summer program for gifted and talented high school students and is sponsored by the Division of Exceptional Children of the State Department of Public Instruction.

Miss Howell has been selected for high achievement in mathematics and will attend Governor's School East in Lenoir County. She is a member of the National Honor Society and is a reporter for the newspaper.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Ed-

ward Howell of North Bute Street, Warrenton, Holly enjoys reading, photography and travel.

Miss Wilson has been selected to attend Governor's School West in Winston-Salem, concentrating in English, with minor study in philosophy and psychology. She is a Student Council representative and has participated in the Eagle Chorus and the French Club. She is listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students" and has received awards in academic achievement, English, biology, typing and algebra.

Lisa is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wayne Wilson of Rt. 2, Warrenton.

## Crop Survey Slated Here

A nationwide survey to identify 1985 crop acreage and livestock numbers will include interviews with Warren County farmers, the N. C. Crop and Livestock Reporting Service announced today.

Thurston Coghill with the Service's field staff will contact local producers beginning May 20 for information about crop acreages already planted or planned for 1985 and number of livestock on hand. All individual information is confidential and used only in developing official national and some state estimates.

Coghill, of Henderson, said that farmer cooperation is necessary to provide reliable crop and livestock estimates. The (Continued on page 3)