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Spotted Fever Cases Reported To Health Dept.

Two cases of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever have been reported to the Warren County Health Department this year.

While the victims, both children, have recovered, local health officials are concerned that county residents take proper precautions against infection with the disease, which can be fatal.

No vaccine against Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever is currently available, according to health department officials. However, the best prevention is inspection of persons who may have been exposed to ticks.

If a tick is discovered, it should be removed from the skin by grasping it slowly with tweezers as close as possible to the point of attachment and pulling slowly and steadily until it is detached.

Fingers, protected with facial tissue, may be used when tweezers are not available, officials say.

Because the secretions of ticks can be infective, anyone coming in contact with the insect should wash his hands as soon as possible.

Symptoms of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever include fever, myalgia (muscle pain), headache and rash. Anyone who develops one or more of these symptoms, even without the common appearance of the rash, and thinks he may have been bitten by a tick should consult a physician.

Failure to treat the infection with tetracycline or chloramphenicol could lead to death, officials warn.

The incidence of infection begins to increase in April and is highest in May and June.

Despite a steady decline in incidents in the past four years, North Carolina led the nation again in 1984 in the number of reported cases with 178. Five deaths were attributed to the disease last year in North Carolina.



Proudly displaying the winners' plaque for the fifth annual Warren County Schools Social Studies Bowl are, left to right, Chenoa Richardson, Ebony Davis, Thomas Vaughan, Cosmos George, II, and Timothy Kearney, members of the team for

Hawkins Elementary School. The bowl was held last Tuesday at South Warren Elementary School, and was sponsored by the Warren County Training School/North Warren High School Alumni Association. (Community Schools Photo)

Board Of Education To Seek Increase From Commissioners

By KAY HORNER
News Editor

Members of the Warren County Board of Education cautioned Monday night that they didn't want to appear ungrateful for increased allocations in the county's proposed 1985-86 budget, but voted to request an additional \$46,000 in current expenses.

The proposed budget calls for a 19 percent increase in allocations for capital outlay and a 4 percent increase in current expense allocations for the schools, bringing their total allocation to \$1,208,833.

However, Schools Superintendent Michael F. Williams estimated that even with the increases, the schools would come up with a \$46,000 shortfall in the current expense continuation budget.

If the budget is adopted as proposed, the schools will receive \$998,833 in current expenses, \$180,066 shy of what was requested.

By law, the commissioners must allocate 40 percent of the proceeds from the one-half percent sales tax levied in 1983 to the schools for capital outlay. The proposed budget also earmarks an additional 20 percent of that tax, pro-

jected at \$70,000, for capital outlay. That 20 percent could be designated for current expenses, if requested, but board members, citing current capital construction needs, were reluctant to request such a transfer.

Board Chairman Henry Pitchford was designated by the board to plead its case before county commissioners in a budget hearing on June 18.

The board also received three bids, ranging from \$54,750 to \$84,640 for installation of lights at the baseball field at Warren County High School.

Only \$32,000 was budgeted for the project this year, and the board authorized Superintendent Williams and Assistant Superintendent James Jordan to negotiate with the low bidder, Tommy Lawrence Construction Co. of Roxboro, on what could be installed with the funds available. Installation of the lights would allow consolidation of all high school athletic events, except five home football games, at the high school where there are shower and dressing room facilities, according to Superintendent Williams.

Currently, the football

team must practice at Norlina. With the installation of the lights, practice could take place at the high school, although home games would still have to be played at John Graham Middle School.

Although the vote was unanimous, Board Members Richard Roddy and Yarbrough Williams voiced concern that athletic needs were being given precedent over academic needs.

"I know its good for the school and community spirit to have a winning team," Roddy said, "but it's also good for the community morale to have kids who can get out of school with some skills and find a job."

The board also agreed to look into a request that two businesses and a housing development proposed for U.S. 158 Bypass be allowed to tap onto the water line to the school. The request was brought by James C. Harris, Jr. of The Warren Group, representing Ben Layton of Rocky Mount, who has a mobile home sales lot on U.S. 158 Bypass and plans a residential development in the area, and local businessmen Roy Neal and Bud Endicott.

The line was constructed by the schools and has not been

dedicated to any other governmental body. According to Superintendent Williams, county officials, at the time the line was constructed, showed no interest in increasing its size to accommodate future growth along the bypass.

In other business, the board voted to:

—Allow Dawn Howard and Leigh Ann Perkinson, students at Norlina Middle School, to take Algebra I through a summer home study program. No credit will be allowed for the course, but it will serve as a requisite for advanced courses if satisfactorily completed.

—Dispose of the 14 cars in the school system's fleet through public auction. The board in February voted to discontinue the use of county-owned vehicles as of July 1.

—Approve a request to provide the Department of Transportation with cost estimates for paving the entrance to the school bus garage. DOT has agreed to do the paving, which is necessary to prevent washing at the gate to the garage.

—Accept resignations from Roberta Telfair, food service employee at John Graham Middle School; Leola Campbell, food service employee at Northside Elementary School, and Daphne Herring, English teacher at Warren County High School, and from Eric Hecht, vocational-agricultural teacher at Warren County High School and William Harrell, vocational cabinet-making teacher at the high school, who are retiring.

—Grant a medical leave of absence for Linda Tharrington, a teacher's aide at Mariam Boyd Elementary School.

—Approve the employment of Matthew Milam, custodian at Northside Elementary School, and Anita L. Jones, classroom teacher at Norlina Middle School.

—Reschedule the board's July 8 meeting to July 15 due to a conflict with a meeting of the N.C. Department of Public Instruction in Asheville.

—The board also received plaques of commendation from the Warren County Unit of the N.C. Association of Educators.

Car Removal Discussed

Disagreement Aired At Town Board Meet

By MARY C. HARRIS
Staff Writer

Prospects of resolving a long-term disagreement between property owners in a south Warrenton residential district appeared slim at the Monday night meeting of the Warrenton Town Board.

Three residents of the neighborhood attended the board meeting for the second time in recent months to request action requiring Warrenton service station owner Cam Comer to remove four abandoned automobiles and to clean up the lot whereon they are parked at the corner of South Main and Dowtin Streets.

Comer also was present and took the opportunity to air his reasons for leaving the vehicles on the property.

At the outset of the meeting in the Town Hall, Mayor B. G. White stated that Comer and the complainants had been invited to the meeting to attempt a solution to the problem which has brewed since last September.

G. B. Hull, whose residence is directly across Dowtin Street from Comer's property, spoke first to the issue, noting that he considered the lot "a nuisance for the neighbors" and that it contributed to "an unsightly entrance to the town."

Down the street neighbor W. L. Turner remarked that he "just sees the lot in passing," but that he feels the beauty of the community would be enhanced if it were cleaned.

Mrs. Ida M. Davis, a resident of South Main Street, expressed her failure to understand the town's "right to zone areas for a specific use without the authority to enforce the zoning ordinance."

Mayor White answered

that Comer does not appear to be in violation of the zoning status of the neighborhood, which is residential. He explained that four vehicles do not constitute a junkyard which, according to law, must occupy 600 square feet.

Cam Comer, obviously distressed by the circumstances, stated that he was "not being vindictive or hard to get along with," and that his personal investigation of the matter had not revealed any law violation. The matter "goes way back and there has been a lot of water over the dam" since the problem originated, he said.

He made reference to a similar situation in 1978 when there were two cars parked on the lot in question and reminded those present that he had then moved the vehicles as requested to property which he had purchased outside town. He has since made his residence on the property on the outskirts of Warrenton.

Comer added that the current issue is a personal matter and that it could have been settled privately had he been approached personally by the concerned parties. Not one of the complainants "has called to tell me of the problem and to ask me to do anything about it directly," he said.

He stated his regret that the town board was "dragged into a situation which made me out to be a villain."

Comer recounted a number of incidents in which he felt members of his family had been wronged by some of the neighbors present and ended by stating that when they apologized to his family he would consider taking steps to remedy the problem.

"We're a close

family," he said, "and I'm tired of being stepped on when I haven't done anything to anybody."

Shaken by the experience of voicing his personal concerns in the matter which he said had become "ridiculous and costly as well as an aggravation," Comer left the meeting immediately following his remarks.

The neighbors expressed regret at the misunderstanding, but indicated that they did not feel compelled to apologize for any alleged unkindness.

Town attorney Charles Johnson advised the board that in his opinion the issue was not covered in the zoning ordinance but added that he would take legal action if so instructed by the board.

It was pointed out by Zoning Officer and Town Administrator Vernon R. (Pete) Vaughan that regulations required the filing of an application by the complainants before he could rule in the matter.

Mrs. Davis reiterated that the town "should do away" with the zoning ordinance if we are not going to do anything about it.

The board members instructed the town attorney along with Councilman Charles White, also an attorney, to consult the State Attorney General for a ruling on the provisions of the ordinance as it now stands.

"If the ordinance won't hold water, we don't want to spend the town's money" to defend it, Councilman White said.

The mayor added that the zoning ordinance is currently being updated and revised but that any changes made now will not apply to the matter

(Continued on page 2)

Warren Man Held On Charge Of Rape

Thomas Earl Shearin of Norlina was arrested Friday and charged in the Thursday rape of an elderly Norlina woman.

According to Warren County Sheriff Theo Williams, the alleged rape took place between 6 and 7 p.m. off State Road 1113 near the home of the 74-year-old victim. Her name was not released.

Shearin, who is being held in Warren County Jail under a \$50,000 bond, was also charged yesterday with common law robbery of between \$9 and \$10 from the woman, Sheriff Williams said. Shearin was scheduled to appear in Warren County District Court this morning for a preliminary hearing.

The victim was taken to Warren Immediate Care Center and then transferred to Maria Parham Hospital where

she was treated and released.

Deputy Lawrence Harrison investigated and Chief Deputy B. D. Bolton made the arrest.

Also arrested this week and charged with breaking, entering and larceny in a break-in at the residence of Leon Williams of Route 3 in the Inez community was Charles Richardson, 25, also of Route 3.

Richardson was arrested Thursday and released on a \$2,500 secured bond pending a preliminary hearing in District Court this morning.

Items, including jewelry, tools, and \$300 in silver coins, were reported taken from the residence last month.

Chief Deputy Bolton made the arrest.

Two thefts were also reported last week at a business and a home on Lake Gaston.

The theft of an estimated \$500 in boating equipment was reported Thursday from a boat docked on Big Stonehouse Creek. The boat was registered to Panda Lawn.

On June 8, Orion Ford of Portsmouth, Va. reported a break-in at his

mobile home in Forest Cove development and theft of items valued at \$500, including a television and AM-FM cassette player and radio.

Deputy Lloyd Newsome investigated.

No arrests have been made in either case.

T. T. Clayton, Jr.

To Practice Law Here

Theodosius T. Clayton, Jr., son of Warrenton Attorney T. T. Clayton and County Commission Chairperson Eva M. Clayton, recently graduated from Boston College Law School where he received a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree.

Clayton was a member of Law Review, the admissions committee and served as president of the Black Student Law

Association while a student at the school.

He is currently preparing to take the N.C. Bar Examination to be given in July and plans to join his father in the practice of law locally.

His brother, Martin Thomas Clayton, recently graduated from Saint Augustine's College in Raleigh with a B. S. degree in business (Continued on page 2B)

Environmental Health Meet Conducted At Lake Gaston

The environmental health section of the Warren County Health Department last week hosted for the first time a North Central Environmental Health District meeting.

Environmental health supervisors, environmental engineers and sanitarians from 17 counties along with the staff of the N.C. Department of Human Resources, Division of Health Services were in attendance for the luncheon meeting at Panda Lawn, Inc. at Big Stonehouse Creek on Lake Gaston.

Among the 84 guests on hand were members of the county Industrial Development Commission, Planning Board, Board of Health, Board of Commissioners and the county manager.

Featured on the pro-

gram were boat tours of Outdoor World, Inc., a membership campground with locations in South Carolina, Florida and Pennsylvania, and Camp Willow Run, a Youth Camps for Christ, Inc. facility noted for its unique train and boxcar dormitory facilities.

"Of particular interest were the on-site sewage systems that allowed development of these projects yet did not interfere with the quality of the lake and surroundings," Irving M. Allen, Warren County environmental health coordinator said this week.

The group also took note of the sewage system at Panda Lawn where a 40-unit motel is scheduled to open in the near future and where a restaurant and office complex are planned.

The daily flow of the sewage system when all three phases of construction are completed will be 12,000 gallons. The system is the largest of its type in a 26-county area.

After an on-site fish fry catered by Taylor's Fish House, meeting participants met for a business session.

"Overall, the meeting provided a firsthand educational experience in the design and construction of large sewage systems on resort property," Allen said. "It also provided an opportunity for guests to see the beauty of the lake and enjoy the hospitality of the people in this region. We are truly appreciative for all those who helped make the event a success."