



Four people were injured in a single-vehicle accident early Sunday morning on S.R. 1001 near Warrenton. Dennis Paschall, director of the Warren County Ambulance Service is shown above working with emergency crews that freed the victims from the

automobile, which was severed in two when the driver lost control of the car and it ran into a stand of trees.

(Staff Photo by Howard Jones)

To Work For Growth

Committee Of 100 Is Formed Locally

By MARY C. HARRIS
Staff Writer

A non-profit corporation has been established locally to promote the expansion of economic growth and job opportunities in the county and surrounding area, according to Mrs. Cathy Wilson, director of the Warren County Economic Development Commission. Members of a planning/steering committee for the group, Warren Committee of 100, met Monday night at First Citizens Bank.

Goals set for 1986 include the enlistment of 350 members in the corporation and the soliciting of \$50,000 in contributions from individuals and corporations. The group will seek to attract one new industry providing 100 jobs to the county in the next year.

A top priority of the Committee of 100 is the planning, development and construction of an industrial incubator facility, Mrs. Wilson stated, with funding provided in part by the committee. The corporation will afford seed monies to receive grants from the N. C. Technological Development Authority and the N. C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development for completion of the incubator project.

The program, which will be administered at no cost to the local system, will provide for outside evaluation of employees, as opposed to the current in-house evaluation, Superintendent Michael F. Williams told the board.

"The biggest advantage to our participation," Williams said, "is that there is strong evidence that the state is heading in this direction and we'd be one of nine systems working on it now as opposed to one of 142 later."

Three school systems will be selected by the state for outside evaluation of principals and assistant principals, three for teachers, counselors and media personnel, and three for all five employee groups. Williams indicated that he would like to see the county selected for evaluation of all personnel. His second and third preferences were for evaluation of teachers, media and counseling personnel and for evaluation of principals and assistant principals, respectively.

Application for participation must be made to the state by Nov. 15. Selection will be made by the state board in January, with implementation of the program for the schools selected in 1986. The schools selected will participate for four years in the project.

Individual evaluations would become a part of the employee's personnel record, Williams said.

Williams also updated the board on the status of the system's liability policies.

General liability insurance against claims for personal injury and property damage is no longer available.

The system's policy, arranged by the N.C. School Boards Association, was not renewed this year.

The economic director quoted the high unemployment rate and low economic level of the county as incentives for membership in the Committee of 100. "Your tax-deductible contribution will be the most worthwhile charity of all — helping people

find jobs to support themselves and get off... government programs that cost far more than the annual dues. It will be a vote of confidence in the future of Warren County and a positive step to help ourselves in difficult economic times," she stated.

Warren Schools May Participate In Pilot Program

By KAY HORNER
News Editor

The State Board of Education is looking for nine school systems to participate in a pilot program for evaluation of certified school personnel, and the Warren County Board of Education voted Monday night to volunteer for the project.

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According to Williams, the company refused to renew the policy at any rate, and the state has found no other company willing to issue the insurance.

In the absence of the insurance, Williams explained, a school system can plead governmental immunity from suit.

The system's legal liability insurance, which provides protection against claims for violation of civil or constitutional rights, was recently renewed for three years.

But, insurance companies have begun refusing to provide this type of coverage and companies who do provide it are requiring premiums of as much as \$15,000 a year, Williams commented.

The board's current policy premium is fixed at \$1,225 per year until 1987.

The state School Board Association is working toward formation of a self-insurance trust for systems in North Carolina, and Williams urged to board to consider future participation.

The board also reviewed, but made no changes in the system's employee hiring procedure.

Board Member Yarbrough Williams had requested a review of the 1977 policy which allows the superintendent to offer new teachers contracts, after he and the school principal have interviewed the candidates.

The contracts are not finalized until approved by the board, as required by N.C. General Statute.

Williams voiced concern that the board's chairman was not involved in the process until it reached the board for a final decision.

"I think we ought to do something about the policy to have the board chairman in on the last year or so before the full board gets the report," Williams told fellow board members.

Superintendent Williams explained that the policy was an attempt to deal with vacancies in the interim between board meetings, and that applicants are informed that their employment is not official until acted on by the board.

Rash Of Road Accidents Reported In Warren

A rash of accidents on Warren County roads have been reported in the past week.

A single-vehicle accident Sunday morning on S.R. 1001 about seven miles south of Warrenton's city limits left four men injured, one seriously.

Robert Lee Balthorpe, 34, was still hospitalized Tuesday at Duke Medical Center following treatment for broken ribs and a back injury sustained in the accident, and three passengers in his car, James Alston, Donnell Hayes, and Rod Taylor were treated and released from Maria Parham Hospital.

According to reports filed by Trooper L. W. Holt with the Highway Patrol, Balthorpe lost control of his car, ran off the left side of the road and hit a stand of trees.

Reports estimate that Balthorpe was traveling at 90 mph when his car left the road, and that he hit the trees when traveling at an estimated speed of about 40 mph.

The car was severed in two, and members of the Warren County Ambulance Service, Vance County Rescue Squad and Cokesbury Volunteer Fire Department worked for almost an hour freeing the accident victims from the car and treating them at the scene.

Balthorpe was charged with careless and reckless driving and

driving with no operator's license.

Another single-vehicle accident Friday on Chicken Farm Road left the driver, George R. Hawkins, Jr. of Route 2, Norlina uninjured but did \$1,000 to his vehicle.

According to reports, Hawkins was traveling east when his car ran off the road, hitting a drainage ditch.

He was charged with exceeding the speed limit.

Trooper A.M. Bennett reported a third single-vehicle accident late Saturday night on S.R. 1133 eight miles south of the Warrenton city limits.

According to reports, the accident occurred when the driver of the car, Macy Gregg Bolton, of Route 1, Warrenton lost control of his vehicle after entering a sharp curve. He ran off the shoulder of the road twice and came to a stop after hitting the railing of a bridge.

Damages to Bolton's car were estimated at \$1,500, with \$1,200 damage to the bridge.

Bolton was charged with driving left of center.

A tire blow-out was blamed for an accident Saturday on S.R. 1620 about 4.5 miles south of Warrenton.

According to Trooper T. S. Wright, Alfonso Cheek of Route 2, Warrenton was traveling north when a rear tire exploded, causing the

car to leave the road, strike a ditch and overturn.

Cheek was charged with an inspection violation. Damage to the vehicle was estimated at \$4,500.

Trooper R. T. Futrell reported a two-vehicle accident Thursday morning on U.S. 401 at its in-

tersection with S.R. 1625 about 4.5 miles south of Warrenton.

Reports indicate that the accident occurred when Clara T. Champion of 603 Plainview St., Warrenton, was attempting to make a left turn and her car struck an oncoming pickup truck driven by Charlie M.

Aycock of Route 2, Warrenton.

Mrs. Champion was following a school bus at the time of the accident and indicated she could not see the oncoming truck.

She was charged with failing to see before turning that movement could be made safely.

as the William Eaton home, then proceed to Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Warrenton Presbyterian Church, and the Green-Polk home on South Main Street, now the home of T. K. Davis.

The group will be served lunch at Cherry Hill, an antebellum plantation home in the Inez community believed to have been constructed by noted Warren County builder Jacob Holt and now the home of Edgar Thorne and his sister,

Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson. Tickets for the Oct. 30 dinner and lecture are \$8. Cost of the Nov. 2 tour is \$15 for members of the foundation and \$20 for non-members. The price includes bus trip, tour and lunch.

For more information, contact the Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina, Inc. at (919)832-3652. The address is P.O. Box 27644, Raleigh, 27611-7644.

The registration deadline for both events is Oct. 28.

The Ridgeway Volunteer Fire Department will sponsor a turkey shoot on Saturday, Nov. 2 in cooperation with Field and Stream Magazine and the National Volunteer Fire Council's Second Annual Turkey Shoot Sweepstakes.

The sweepstakes are to help local fire departments raise needed funds.

Turkey shoots are traditional autumn or pre-holiday events held at volunteer fire departments. Eight to 12 shooters fire at a target

with new policeman be executed prior to their training with provision for reimbursement to the Town for training should the officers leave before a designated date; and that the collection policy for outstanding water and sewer bills and property taxes be reviewed.

Police Commissioner A. A. Wood reported that the police department had completed the move to new headquarters in the Town Hall. He reported that adequate police protection for the town was

now in effect and that results of the department's move appeared favorable.

Water superintendent Bill Neal explained his dilemma of too little help in the water department. He noted that he had difficulty providing adequate service with the present work force and asked the commissioners for assistance. The Water Committee was asked to meet with Neal to assess the needs of the department and to report to the board so the situation could be remedied.

Board Takes Steps To Control Heavy Traffic

The Warrenton Town Board took the first step Monday night toward controlling the traffic of heavy vehicles on back streets. The commissioners adopted an ordinance designating certain routes in town for heavy traffic.

Town attorney Charles Johnson was requested to review existing regulations before penalties for violation of the ordinance could be established. Mayor B. G. White pointed out that the Department of Transportation would erect signs on

the appropriate streets to designate truck routes.

According to the ordinance which was approved on Monday, vehicles with more than two axles or more than two wheels on the rear axle may travel only on the major streets, namely East Macon, Ridgeway, South Main, North Main, West Franklin and Halifax. Exceptions include vehicles such as repair, service, delivery or garbage trucks which may be performing a service or making a

delivery within the prescribed off-limits area.

The commissioners also heard Kermit C. Copley, local accountant and auditor for the town, report his findings in review of the past fiscal year. Copley stated that both the General Fund and Enterprise Fund showed substantial surplus.

Among Copley's suggestions for improvement were that the town consider the purchase of a computing system for bookkeeping and water and sewer billings; that contracts

with new policeman be executed prior to their training with provision for reimbursement to the Town for training should the officers leave before a designated date; and that the collection policy for outstanding water and sewer bills and property taxes be reviewed.

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