



Someone's ducks are in a row and heading for the bank in a spring outing of "Follow the Leader" in the refreshing waters of this pond between Warrenton and Macon. The animals' snow-white reflections

are cast against those of spindly pine trees and rustic storage facilities nearby. (Staff Photo by Dianne T. Rodwell)

Physician's Assistant Fatally Hurt In Wreck North Of Littleton

A physician's assistant with Lake Gaston Medical Clinic in Littleton was killed in a single-vehicle accident early Saturday morning, according to a Highway Patrol report filed by Trooper D. G. Hinson.

John Herman Wharton, 38, was traveling north on State Road 1365 about two miles north of Littleton when he apparently ran off the right side of the road and lost control of his 1970 Porsche.

The report indicates that Wharton's vehicle went off the road as he approached the intersection with State Road 1364, hit a drain pipe and slid sideways some 53 feet before hitting a traffic island at the intersection and becoming airborne.

As the car overturned in mid-air, Wharton was thrown 27 feet through the air, Trooper Hinson estimated, before landing on the pavement and rolling onto the shoulder of the road.

Road Is Closed For Bridge Work

RALEIGH—State transportation officials closed Harris Town Road (Secondary Road 1325) in Warren County on Monday, April 7, in order to allow the bridge over Walker's Creek to be replaced.

Crews from the North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT's) bridge maintenance unit are expected to take about two weeks to replace the bridge with drainage pipe to carry water under the road. The bridge is located on Harris Town Road near Macon. According to Board of Transportation member James Peden of Raleigh, the pipe will be covered with dirt and paved, extending the road across the creek.

During construction, traffic will be detoured for nearly eight miles over Munn Road (Secondary Road 1500) and US-158.

For additional information on the closing, contact M. R. Abbott, district engineer for the state's fifth highway division, at (919) 492-1079. Division Five is headquartered in Durham.

Hunters' Day Is Set By Warren Dog Warden

Frank Twitty, county dog warden, has issued a notice of animal vaccination plans to all hunters. He has scheduled a clinic for Saturday, April 19, beginning at 1 p.m.

"We will come to the hunter's dog pen to perform the vaccination," Twitty said. Interested persons must call the dog warden's office at 257-2711 prior to April 19 to make an appointment.

The accident was reported to the Littleton Police Department by a passerby about 4:30 a.m.

A memorial service was conducted Sunday at 2:30 p.m. at Littleton United Methodist Church by the Rev. Thomas L. Sweeley.

Final rites for Wharton, a native of Reidsville, were conducted Monday at 11 a.m. at Holy Infant Catholic Church in Reidsville by Father Thomas Clements. Burial was in Greenview Cemetery there.

A graduate of East Carolina University and Duke University, Wharton had been employed at Lake Gaston Medical Clinic for the past seven years.

Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Wharton of Reidsville; a sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Gillispie of Martinsville, Va.; three brothers, Robert Wharton of San Diego, Calif., Michael Wharton of Aiken, S.C., and Patrick Wharton of Florida; a grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth Salese of Mechanicsville, Pa.; two step-sisters, Mrs. Diane Roberts of Oak Ridge and Mrs. Deborah Conner of Warrenton, Va.; and three stepbrothers, William Keens of New York City, N.Y., Christopher Keens of Bedford, Va. and Jonathan Keens of Greenville.

Memorial donations may be made to Reidsville Public Library.

Arrangements were handled by City Funeral Home in Reidsville.

Improvement Project Seen As Result Of Local Growth

A construction project designed to relieve telephone facilities has begun in the southern portion of the Warrenton exchange.

Richard Barnes, district commercial manager for Carolina Telephone, said today that construction forces have begun the work which will be completed in June.

The proposed work will place approximately 38,000 feet of buried filled cables. In addition, it is proposed to place in service two Line Concentrator Systems equipped with a total of 86 lines. Each unit is capable of expanding to 96 lines. One unit will be located at the intersection of State Roads 1600 and 1609. The other unit will be at the intersection of State Roads 1625 and 1620.

The work order is also planned to abandon the cables in this area where maintenance costs can be expected to increase due to deteriorating conditions.

All Ends Well After Camper Rolls Under Water At Lake

By KAY HORNER
News Editor

The cliché, "All is well that ends well," took on new meaning for a Greensboro family who came to Kimball's Point two weekends ago for a quiet outing.

According to Park Ranger Robert Kirk, about 11:30 a.m. on March 28, Bobby Knight was launching his 25-foot boat from the Kimball's Point boat ramp when the self-contained camper to which his boat had been hitched jumped out of gear, rolled into the lake and became totally submerged in about 10 feet of water.

Inside the camper was Knight's nine-year-old daughter. After getting his four-year-old son, who had helped in the launch, safely back on shore, Knight dove into the water, and tried unsuccessfully to open one of the camper doors before noticing an open window. He made his way through the window and found his daughter in the back of the vehicle with her head back and barely above water.

Knight managed to get his daughter, unharmed, out of the camper and back on dry land where a relieved threesome met Mrs. Knight, who arrived after the excitement, having stayed in Greensboro to "pack a few more things," Kirk said.

The camper, valued by Kirk at about \$30,000, was retrieved from the water about 4 p.m. that afternoon and this week was declared a total loss by an insurance adjuster.

But for a Greensboro family of four, all is well that ends well.

Dog Problem Brought To Council's Attention

By MARY C. HARRIS
Staff Writer

Norlina's commissioners heard Monday night a delegation of residents from Darden and Rose streets request help from the town in relieving problems posed in their neighborhood by unattended dogs.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawson Burnette, Charles Burnette and Howitt Carter told the commissioners at their regular monthly meeting of property damage and

the general nuisance caused by eight dogs allowed to run at will throughout the neighborhood. The owner, they said, is currently in another state and has left the dogs behind to fend for themselves.

Acknowledging that similar problems exist in other neighborhoods in Norlina, the commissioners decided first to determine what services were available through the county dog warden. Commissioner Eleanor Hayes was appointed to meet as soon as possible with County Manager Charles Worth to learn what protection could be provided and to report her findings at a special meeting to be scheduled by the board.

The existing dog ordinance was reviewed but commissioners decided not to take further action until services available from the county could be defined.

Mr. and Mrs. Sol Fleming also appeared before the board to question the \$214 water bill for one month of service to their restaurant at the Norlina Bus Station. Fleming said the bill normally amounts to about \$25 and he had been unable to find any reason for the substantial increase. A plumber had checked the facility, he said, and had found no evidence of leakage which might have contributed to increased consumption of water.

Town Clerk Mae Gums noted that the water superintendent had checked the meter at the bus station and had detected no malfunction.

The commissioners surmised that water inadvertently allowed to run, in a faulty bathroom fixture, for example, could result in

(Continued on page 10)

Full Complement Or Outside Aid Sought By Board

By KAY HORNER
News Editor

Concerned over continued problems in adequately staffing the Warren County Ambulance Service, county commissioners Monday night asked County Manager Charles J. Worth to investigate two alternatives: fully staffing the service or contracting ambulance services from an outside agency.

Their request followed an executive session on the matter.

"The problem is that everytime we hire somebody, somebody else quits," Worth said yesterday. "The hours are long and most people are not ready to put in the kind of hours required under the present system."

Worth said as many as 12 people could be required to adequately man the service around the clock. Currently, six employees do that, working in 24-hour shifts.

The county is competitive with surrounding counties in salary offered, Worth noted, and with a full complement of attendants on board, long shifts could be alleviated.

The difficulty in the past has been in retaining employees until that point is reached, he said.

The commissioners requested Worth to report back to them within 90 days.

The board also approved Monday a request from County Recreation Director Dickie Williams that the Recreation Department be authorized to use \$2,500 of its revenues for purchase of a used pick-up truck.

Williams said the truck was needed to maintain recreation fields and to transport equipment.

In other business, the board:

—Voted, at the suggestion of Vance-Granville Community College officials, to hire an architect to assist the board in evaluating feasibility of sites in the county for location of a satellite campus of VGCC. Funding for the campus has been allocated by the N.C. General Assembly.

Commissioner J. T. Fleming suggested that bringing in an architect before a site was selected was "putting the cart before the horse," but Chairperson Eva M. Clayton countered that the board needed professional help in evaluating proposed sites and that the architect's services would be limited to consultation.

—Approved a maximum allocation of \$10,000 to the Agricultural Extension Service's 4-H program for repairs of a ten-

ant house at the historic Nathaniel Macon homesite near Macon on Lake Gaston. The county has authorized use of the site as a 4-H Camp. Of the \$10,000, \$1,000 was already allocated in the 1985-86 budget and the remainder was authorized out of federal Revenue Sharing funds.

—Established, at the request of County Emergency Development Coordinator Gary Robenolt, a volunteer county communications officer position and appointed Walter Gardner to fill the post. Gardner will assist in the development of a countywide emergency communications system.

—Agreed to meet in a work session after the mid-month April 16 (Continued on page 10)

Meet Is Held By Democrats

Approximately 60 Warren County Democrats gathered Saturday for their county convention at the Courthouse. Warrenton attorney and county party chairman, T. T. Clayton, presided over the proceedings.

Business during the session consisted chiefly of appointing members to district committees and delegates to the state and district conventions.

The group voted to issue a letter of invitation to host the district convention on June 14.

Committee appointments consisted of the following: Judicial District Executive Committee—Bernadine Ballance and Al Thompson;

State Senatorial District Executive Committee—Floyd McKissick, Jr. and Walter Jack Harris; and

State House District Executive Committee—Maurice Crump and Clementine Hawkins.

Appointed as delegates to the state convention, scheduled for July 12 at the Civic Center in Raleigh, in addition to Chairman Clayton, were Brown J. Hawkins, James Andrews, Kathy McCloud, Dianne Moody, Clinton Capps, Evelynna Norwood, Floyd B. McKissick, Jr., W. Monroe Gardner, Robert V. Alston, Dollie Burwell, Maurice Crump, Delores Hawkins, Margaret Pettaway and Elizabeth Baskerville.

Selected to attend the district convention in June were the chairman or first vice-chairman of each precinct and the county chairman.

Lake Gaston Lions Are Planning Detection Clinic During April

The Lake Gaston Lions Club will sponsor a glaucoma and diabetes screening clinic from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 26, at the Roanoke-Wildwood Fire Department on Lake Gaston, near Henrico. Appointments may be requested in advance through any club member or participants may attend the clinic without an appointment.

Roanoke Rapids ophthalmologist Dr. H. Chaudry will test vision and examine for glaucoma, an eye disease which can lead to blindness without proper treatment. The disease can be detected only by professional examination, since the symptoms often lie hidden until vision impairment begins.

The Warren County Health Department will conduct testing for diabetes at the clinic. Public health nurse Frances Newhard stated that the health department

is anxious to detect cases of diabetes so that early treatment and counseling can be started. Diabetes is a disease which can lead to eye damage as well as other physical disorders.

Blood pressure checks at the clinic will be offered by technicians of the Warren County Rescue Squad.

The International Association of Lions Clubs is dedicated to service in health issues, particularly those associated with the preservation of eyesight. Funds raised by the Lake Gaston Lions Club are used to provide a wide variety of services to the community.

The glaucoma and diabetes screening clinic is free of charge and transportation will be provided for those requesting it.

To make an appointment and request transportation to the clinic, persons may telephone (919) 586-6235.