

The Warren Record

Volume 89 25¢ Per Copy Warrenton, County Of Warren, North Carolina Wednesday, June 25, 1986 Number 26



Floyd Myrick, employee of the Warrenton Post Office, receives a 30-year pin from Postmaster Sherwood Knight in recognition of his years of service with the postal system. The presentation was made at a recent staff meeting. Myrick is in charge of maintenance at the local post office. (Staff Photo by Howard Jones)

Arcola Given Funding Aid

Arcola Rural Volunteer Fire Department is among 109 volunteer fire departments in North Carolina receiving matching fund grants as part of the Rural Community Fire Protection Program.

The department was granted a total of \$485.

North Carolina received \$68,635 in federal grant funds for the program for fiscal year 1986. The money will be used to purchase a variety of firefighting equipment ranging from "turn-out gear" (helmets, coats and boots) and hoses, to pumps and pumper trucks.

"Volunteer fire departments are important to North Carolina," said Harry F. Layman, director of the N.C. Division of Forest Resources. These volunteer fire departments were very instrumental in fighting fires this past spring, he said.

Volunteer fire departments interested in receiving grants must file an application with the Division of Forest Resources that shows the department's need for the funds. In addition, volunteer fire departments must be able to match the grant received.

To qualify for the Rural Community Fire Protection Program, volunteer fire departments must serve fewer than 10,000 people. The program is administered by the Division of Forest Resources and the U. S. Forest Service.

Warrenton Will Be Host For Region K COG Meet

Warrenton will serve as host to the 14th Annual Meeting of the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments tomorrow (Thursday) at the Warrenton Lions Den.

Warrenton Mayor B. G. White, outgoing chairman of the council, will preside over the meeting.

Incoming officers for the next fiscal year will be installed as follows: chairman, Richard G. (Dicky) Whitten, Henderson councilman; vice chairman, John T. Stallings, Creedmoor mayor; and treasurer, Randall Thompson, Roxboro councilman.

The program for this year's annual meeting is dedicated to the memory of J. D. (Don) Everett, who served as executive director of the Council of Governments from Jan. 2, 1974 until his death on Sept. 12, 1985.

Elected officials from the five counties and 15 municipalities that comprise Region K will be in attendance at the event. Also invited are representatives and senators serving the region, federal and state program representatives, area chambers of commerce, community colleges and numerous government representatives.

Cucumber Markets Are Now In Operation In Warren County

Warren County cucumber markets opened last week.

Syd Cooper, local representative for Cates Pickle Company, reported:

"The market has been slow; we need rain."

Bob Butler, of Mt. Olive Pickle Company, also indicated that "climatical conditions" would play a crucial role in this year's crop.

Butler has nine buying stations. Five of these are located in Warren County. The others are in adjoining counties. Butler said his acreage is approximately the same as last year.

Butler made special note of the fact that farmers who sign contracts will have protected prices during the season for the cucumbers they will sell. These cucumbers will be divided into three grades.

The Warrenton station for Mt. Olive Pickle Company is at High Dollar Warehouse on North Main Street across from Bowers and Burrows.

Cates Pickle Company has two stations in the area. One is in Granville County and the other is in Warrenton. Cooper said that his acreage is twice what it was last year. His Warrenton station is located at the Warrenton Railroad Depot site.

Appear Before Commissioners

Firemen Fill Court House Asking For Budgetary Aid

By JAY JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Warren County firemen filled the Warren County Courtroom on Wednesday night to present their views in a public hearing before the Warren County Board of Commissioners. Their complaints were that the county manager was recommending a "50 per cent cut in the fire department's operating budget," and that the Warren County Fire Commission was "refused the opportunity to assist in the budgeting process."

Allan Adcock, president of the Warren County Firemen's Association, spoke on behalf of 13 Warren County Fire Departments. Adcock said, "We, the firemen of Warren County, take this recommendation as a personal insult to the service that we offer the taxpayers of the county. Whether the county manager and the county commissioners realize it or not, there are a lot of taxpayers in this county that feel that fire protection is about the only service they get for their tax dollar."

Adcock cited the financial problems that confront fire departments. Many fire trucks need to be replaced and buildings must be kept up. He said the price to outfit one man for a fire is \$817.60. He broke this down into more specific prices of certain items: a coat costs \$158; a pager costs \$400; and a breathing apparatus costs \$992. Adcock commented that he thought fire departments were raising all of the money that they could raise. He said, "the communities can't stand any more raffle tickets, stews, barbecue and chicken dinners and fish fries. The county has ridden a free horse to death."

Adcock emphasized the volunteer nature of the fire department and the personal sacrifices that the firemen make. He reported that the fire departments provide 58,808 total man hours. The National Fire Protection Association released the figures that "in 1984 in the U.S. 86,015 firemen were injured in the line of duty." Five men were in-

jured in Warren County last year in one fire. One of those men is scheduled for surgery in a few weeks. He reminded those present that firemen must be on call 24 hours a day.

Adcock's wife, Carolyn, spoke concerning the role the firemen's wives play. She commented on the clothes closets they furnish and the work they do in fund-raising and other projects. Dr. Sam Massey, Ernest Boyd Harris, Mrs. Belle Bright and other citizens spoke in favor of the fire departments as did George Shearin, a member of the board of commissioners.

The firemen supported Adcock by driving fire trucks to the meeting, and representatives of the various fire departments stood in front of the board of commissioners as Adcock spoke.

Mike Williams, superintendent of Warren County Schools, also appeared before the board in behalf of the board of education. He thanked the commissioners for the amount of money that they had budgeted for the schools. Williams mentioned that his board could always use any additional money that might come available.

Sheriff's Men Investigate

Weekend Break-Ins Of Two Stores Probed

Two convenience stores off Interstate 85 in Warren County were reported broken into last Friday and Saturday, according to the Warren County Sheriff's Department.

John Baskett, manager of R&J Convenience Mart at the Ridgeway exit of I-85, reported Friday that thieves entered the store sometime between closing Thursday night and 8:30 Friday morning and made off with approximately \$100 in merchandise, including seven cartons of cigarettes, one case of beer, submarine sandwiches, milk and cigarette rolling paper.

Chief Deputy B. D. Bolton investigated.

About 3:15 a.m. Saturday, Deputy Harold Seaman, on routine patrol, discovered a break-in at Lewis Richardson's Oine Road Amoco Station.

A door leading to the garage bay area had been pried open. Reported missing were \$75 in coins from a video machine, a small amount of cash, and nine cartons of cigarettes.

Department officials suspect that the two cases are related.

Also on Friday, James R. Hemby of Zebulon reported the theft of a 12-volt battery from a pickup truck at his mobile home near Nocarva on Lake Gaston.

The battery was valued at \$60.

On Monday, Everett D. Brooks of Oxford reported a breaking,

entering and larceny at his mobile home at Lake Gaston Estates.

Entry was made through a rear door and merchandise valued at more than \$2,357, including meat from the freezer, fishing gear and antique furniture, was taken.

Richard Lee Patrick of Alexandria, Va. reported to the department on June 15 the theft of a battery and propeller from his boat docked behind Ben's Store near Wildwood Point Subdivision on Lake Gaston.

The battery was valued at \$75 and the propeller at \$150.

Chief Deputy Bolton investigated.

The department also reported this week that warrants have been issued for the arrest of two 17-year-olds for trespassing at Wildwood Point Clubhouse.

Maria Schuster of Route 1, Norlina and James David Prewitt of Route 3, Henrico are charged with trespassing at the clubhouse Friday by the Wildwood Point Homeowners Association.

Miss Schuster was injured while climbing a fence to the association's recreation area, according to a Sheriff's Department spokesman, and was treated and released from Halifax Memorial Hospital.

Deputies J. A. McGowan and Seaman investigated.

Commissioners Give Approval

On Wednesday night, the Warren County Board of Commissioners approved a request by John Hawkins on behalf of the Warren County Board of Elections. Hawkins said that the board wanted to extend its hours to 6 p.m. The reason is that people were having trouble getting off of work to register. The effective date for the new time is July 1.

The board also approved, for forwarding to the NC Department of Transportation, three petitions to add road portions in Warren County to the State Highway System. Those roads were .58 mile in Cedar Point Subdivision, .6 mile in Warren County Acres, and 2.5 miles at Hillcrest Point. Such requests are routinely forwarded to DOT by the commissioners.

Also on the agenda was a recommended proclamation honoring Floyd B. McKissick, Sr. McKissick, an Oxford attorney, was the leader in the Soul City Project. The proclamation recognizes him for "his outstanding contributions, numerous acts and deeds in making Warren County and surrounding areas a better place to live." The board endorsed this proclamation unanimously.

The board renewed its Blue Cross/Blue Shield policy for county employees.

Graveside Services Held For Former Local Mayor

Graveside services for John Edward Rooker, Jr. 83, community leader, were conducted at 11 a.m. Monday at Fairview Cemetery by the Rev. Ed Beddingfield.

Mr. Rooker died Friday night at his home on North Main Street. He was born in Warren County and was the son of the late John Edward Rooker, Sr. and Lizzie Weldon Rooker. He was married to the late Mary Andrews Crinkley of Elgin in Warren County.

A retired magistrate, Mr. Rooker was a former mayor, town manager and town commissioner of Warrenton. He was a longtime employee of Peck Manufacturing Company.

Mr. Rooker was a lifelong member of the Warrenton Baptist Church which he served as a deacon, Sunday School teacher and choir member.

He was a charter member and past president of the Warrenton Lions Club. He also was a member of the Johnson-Caswell

Masonic Lodge Number 10 AF&AM of Warrenton.

A member of the Warren County Shrine Club and of the York Rite and Scottish Rite Bodies of North Carolina, he was a past potentate and past recorder of the Sudan Temple Shrine in New Bern.

Mr. Rooker was a member emeritus of the Masonic Red Cross of Constantine and was a former grand master for the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States.

Surviving are two daughters, Miss Edwina Rooker of Warrenton and Mrs. Robert L. (Mary Alice) Elkins of Charleston, W.Va.; a sister, Miss Elizabeth Rooker, with whom he made his home; two grandsons and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Warrenton Baptist Church or to Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children, c/o Recorder Sudan Temple, P.O. Box Drawer 480, New Bern 28562.

Arrangements were by Blaylock Funeral Home of Warrenton.



Seventeen Warren County firemen representing five volunteer fire departments recently spent a day at Seymour Johnson Air Base in Goldsboro being briefed on procedures for responding to a crash of the Air Force's F-4 Phantom II, which routinely conducts training missions over Lake Gaston and the surrounding area. Firemen watched a simulated plane crash and response of emergency crews and viewed an audio-visual program on the

twin-engine, all-weather tactical fighter-bomber, which can operate at speeds of more than 1,600 miles per hour at altitudes close to 60,000 feet. Firemen from Norlina, Warrenton Rural, Macon, Churchill-Five Forks and Roanoke-Wildwood fire departments attended the five-hour session. Local participation was coordinated by Warren County Emergency Management Coordinator Gary Robenolt.