

# The Warren Record

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## Yuletide Season Is Begun Locally

The advent of Santa in Karl Hehl's "one-horse buggy" in Sunday afternoon's Christmas Parade heralded the arrival of the holiday season in Warrenton.

Sponsored by the Warren County Jaycees, the parade was well attended by children of all ages. Among the 40 entries were the Warren County Steppers, "Smokey The Bear"—courtesy of the Fire Service, the Warren County High School Band, and two striking antique cars.

Winners of the cash awards for floats were: first place—the Warren County Jaycees (\$75); second place—American Legion, Post 308 of Littleton (\$40) and the Shocco Sunday School (\$35).

The challenge for next year from Jaycee Walter Gardner: more floats, bands and entries. "We want to make each year's parade even better."



Karl Hehl and Jamie bring in guest of honor, Santa, in their "surrey without the fringe on top."

## SBI Assists Probe Of Warren Break-In

The State Bureau of Investigation is assisting the local police department in the investigation of a weekend break-in at Warrenton Supply Company on North Main Street.

Police Chief Freddie Robinson said Monday there were no suspects in the incident which is believed to have occurred during the night Sunday. Owner of the business, Vernon Whitmore of Manson, discovered the break-in when he arrived about 7 a.m. Monday to open for the day.

Entry was made through a side window on the north side of the building, Robinson said, and tools and money were taken. The value of the missing items had not been determined Tuesday afternoon, he reported.

## Procedures Aided By Modernization

Modernization of procedures used in the Office of the Tax Collector have had a positive impact on the operations of the office.

In a report submitted to Warren County commissioners by Susan W. Brown, county finance officer/tax collector, the effects of computerization were outlined. "Conversion of tax collection procedures from manual to computerized have freed staff members of long hours of manual calculations, typing and handling of statements that the computer can generate in a matter of minutes," she reported.

County Attorney Charles Johnson agreed. "Before computerization, reviews were done slip by slip, but when all delinquent accounts are on-line, there will be one tax bill instead of individual ledger sheets," he said.

According to Mrs. Brown, revisions have made it possible to instigate aggressive collection of current and delinquent taxes. "A program of attachment and garnishment measures has brought in an estimated \$75,000 in the last six months," she reported.

Virtually 100 percent of taxes are collected after a period of time, but the percentage of collections as of June 30 of a particular fiscal year may vary. For the 1984 levy, 91.40 percent of taxes were collected by June 30. "The tax collection rate for the 1985 levy as of June 30 was 93.34 percent, an increase of 1.94 percent in one year," Brown noted.

According to Chairman Eva Clayton, evidence is such that the collection rate will be better, but urged consideration. "We should move aggressively and fairly," she said. Commissioner George Shearin agreed that fair treatment was important and hoped that everyone would realize the importance to the county of tax dollars in light of tax cuts and the loss of revenue sharing. "We need to talk about how to meet the needs of the county and we must work together to make it work," he said.



Precision-stepping members of the Warren County High School Band brought musical splendor to the Parade festivities.



The patriotic float entered by the Littleton American Legion, Post 308 was second-place winner in the Christmas Parade.



The energetic Warren County Steppers displayed their synchronized movements in the Christmas Parade.

(Staff Photos by Howard Jones)

## Cable Concerns Are Expressed At Board Meeting

By THURLETTA M. BROWN  
Staff Writer

Warren County commissioners in their monthly meeting Monday heard more concerns about the requested franchise sought by the Henderson-based cable television firm. On the agenda for a second reading after receiving a first reading at the last meeting, the item was tabled for further study and for more aggressive negotiations with Warren CATV, Inc.

Prior to final vote, concerns expressed by Frank Ballance and others in attendance resulted in delay. Citing dissatisfaction with present service and with plans by the company for expansion into outlying areas of the county, Ballance called for more negotiations. "We are not well served at the present time and I wonder how they make their decisions for expansion. Density of homes cannot be the only criterion," he said. "Scrambling of cable signals and the cost of satellite dishes make that alternative impractical," he added. "We are in a better position now to put conditions on the franchise."

County Attorney Charles T. Johnson, Jr. agreed that the needs of the people should be considered. "I fail to see how communities can be ignored," he said.

Commissioner Francis Alston echoed the concerns. "The service is needed, but the firm should be stimulated to expand and should be given some guidelines on what they should be doing," he said.

Chairman Clayton indicated that the firm should be urged to meet its public service commitment by providing service to Northside School. Other area schools receive service as promised; Northside does not. "The

idea would be not that we turn them down, but that we make certain conditions," she said. "If they do not meet them, then they deny themselves," she added.

A meeting will be arranged between Warren CATV and two representatives of the board of commissioners to negotiate expansion into the Greenwood Village, Soul City, Macon and Lake Gaston areas and the ex-

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## VGCC Satellite Moving Closer

The mood is positive and the dream of a satellite facility in Warren County for Vance-Granville Community College is closer to reality. In a report presented Monday morning to Warren County Commissioners, Dr. Ben Currin, president of VGCC, outlined the status of the project.

A \$400,000 allocation by the General Assembly to the Division of Community Colleges was made in 1985. The allocation, to be used for acquisition, renovation or site improvement of existing facilities, came with the stipulation that the funds be matched by the county. Because Warren County lacked the resources necessary to meet the matching requirement, it was expedient to involve the Board of Education with a proposal of joint use of the John Graham site until students could be moved to a more permanent facility. "I detect a real spirit of cooperation," Currin said.

According to Chairman Eva M. Clayton, the progress is the result

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## Local Preacher Assigned To Church In High Point

The Rev. Cameron West, pastor of Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church, has been appointed pastor of Welch Memorial United Methodist Church in High Point. West's appointment was announced this week by Bishop L. Bevel Jones, resident bishop of the Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church.

West, who has served Wesley Memorial since June 1984, will assume his ministry in High Point on Jan. 29, 1987. His last Sunday at Wesley Memorial will be Dec. 28.

"I leave Wesley Memorial with gratitude for the ministry of its members and with appreciation for their commitment to the church's role in the community," West commented this week. "Christ's Spirit lives each day through the United Methodists of Warrenton, in quiet deeds of charity and in organized programs of the church," he continued.

West expressed gratitude for many accomplishments by his church members during the last three years. "An expanded Sunday School, a new family Vacation Bible School, a new tape ministry for the homebound, a new service of volunteer meal deliveries to the homebound, a recently organized weekly Bible study and prayer group, establishment of an Acolytes' Guild, participation by the Chancel Choir in North Carolina Conference worship services, new cooperative youth and children's programs with Emmanuel Episcopal Church, cooperative worship with Emmanuel Episcopal Church and re-establishment of August services with the Warren-

ton Baptist Church, a new cooperative summer Children's Day Camp and new cooperative Holy Week services with the other Warren County United Methodist churches, major renovations of the church and parsonage and increased leadership from younger adult members all point to a vital United Methodist presence in Warrenton," West commented.

"I have been blessed by the friendship and support of people throughout Warren County. In particular, I will cherish the memories of shared ministry with my dear and longtime friend Ed Beddingfield of the Warrenton Baptist Church, my United Methodist colleague in Norlina, Gene Cobb, and my Episcopal brothers Henry Presler and Ray Selby," West concluded.

## Raleigh Pastor Is Assigned Here

The Rev. James Columbus Loy of Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church in Raleigh will assume the pastorate at Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church at the beginning of the new year, District Superintendent Dr. Joseph Bethea has announced.

The Rev. Mr. Loy will begin his duties here on Jan. 1, according to Dr. Bethea, of the Raleigh District which includes, in addition to Warren County, Wake and Franklin and parts of Vance and Johnston counties.

A native of Alamance County, Loy is a graduate of Elon College and Duke Divinity School, married and the father of two sons.