

The Warren Record

Volume 90

25¢ Per Copy

Warrenton, County Of Warren, North Carolina

Wednesday, January 14, 1987

Number 2



Mrs. Rachael Ricks, retired assistant superintendent, receives a silver platter at an event held Monday in honor of her 27 and one-half years of service to Warren County schools. Presenting the platter is Superintendent Mike Williams. Among other tributes received were travel gear, Pound Puppies, a vase, an engraved plaque and the scrapbook of memoirs presented by Mrs. Betsy Clark, teacher observer/evaluator, shown below. Well-wishers (left to right) Mrs. Melba Johnston, Mrs. Lois Williams, John Hudgins, Mrs. A. Wright and Henry Greene share Mrs. Ricks' joy at the event attended by over 150 persons. Among those family members attending the party was Mrs. Ricks' daughter, Ms. Anna Fischel. The party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hunter.

(Staff Photos by Howard Jones)

Davis Murder Suspect Nabbed In Philadelphia

A 23-year-old Philadelphia, Pa. man has been charged in the murder last week of a Henderson taxicab driver whose body was discovered in Warren County.

Willie Eugene Jones, Jr. was charged on Monday with armed robbery and the murder of William Thomas Davis, 78, of Henderson, a spokesperson in the Warren County Sheriff's Department said.

Jones was picked up for questioning Monday morning by Philadelphia authorities and charges against Jones were stated later in the day by the local sheriff's department.

Chief Warren County Deputy Bobby D. Bolton along with SBI Agent Rick Sims and Detective Mike Grissom of the Henderson Police Department went to

Philadelphia Monday to question Jones and request extradition. The outcome of efforts toward bringing the suspect back to Warren County had not been learned at press time. Nor had it been determined whether additional charges would be brought against Jones by the Henderson Police Department.

Jones, who has relatives in both Warren and Vance counties, has been considered a prime suspect since the case opened. The charges came just one week after Williams' body was discovered by a hunter in the Licksillet community and his cab was found abandoned in Henderson.

Jones has prior convictions in Philadelphia, a sheriff's spokesperson said.

Town Tax Collection Rate Is Almost 90 Per Cent

By MARY C. HARRIS
Staff Writer

Approximately 89 percent of 1986 property taxes due the Town of Warrenton had been collected as of Jan. 8, Mayor B. G. White reported to the town commissioners at their regular monthly meeting Monday night.

Commissioners appeared pleased with progress of the collections and with Mayor White's report that additional efforts were being initiated to collect taxes on the books from previous years. Town Administrator V. R. (Pete) Vaughan said Tuesday some \$14,000 are due the town from years prior to 1986.

Administrator Vaughan told commissioners at the Monday meeting that Mrs. Martha Page, owner/manager of Warren Plaza Rest Home, has accepted the

town's rate for hooking onto the wastewater system with the understanding that the town will maintain the line once it is installed.

Mayor White reported that Richard D. Harmon has indicated to town officials he will accept a cash settlement for the town's use of his pond equal to the minimum bid which can be obtained for cleaning the pond. White said bids from two local contractors have been received, one from Harold Harris for \$9,750 and another from John T. Harris for \$11,500. Commissioners took no action on the matter pending further contact with Harmon.

Other routine committee reports were heard before the commissioners adjourned to attend an informal merchants' meeting at the Warren County Courthouse.

Principal Expresses Concern Over Possible Loss Of Class

Move Seen As Unwise

By THURLETTA M. BROWN
Staff Writer

Lucious Hawkins, principal of South Warren Elementary School, Monday night voiced to board of education members his concern that the proposed transfer of sixth graders to the middle school would have a negative impact on his school. He asked that the board consider increasing the South Warren enrollment by 75-100 students.

To justify his request, Hawkins listed current problems directly attributable to the limited enrollment. "We have three empty classrooms, only a part-time librarian (state guidelines require a minimum enrollment of 267 for a full-time librarian), and scheduling problems that result from combined classes," he said. "If the current plans are implemented, all other county school's enrollments will be larger than South Warren," he noted.

Yarborough Williams, board member and South Warren community resident, spoke to the need to utilize the facility to its fullest capacity. The matter will be reviewed.

In other business, the board: —adopted the \$10.8 million estimate of the long-range building plan as a statement of facility needs to be submitted to the State Board of Education.

—Received as information a report from the Superintendent on the organization of the school system and instructional program director job description.

—Adopted a policy defining parental involvement in ECIA Chapter I programs.

—Heard a report on eight class size violations.

—Approved amendments to the 1986-87 budget.

Heard a report on seven vacancies.

—Approved the employment of Ms. Turnette R. Chestnut as math teacher at Warren County High School, effective Feb. 1.

—Approved leaves of absences for Ms. Connie Alston (Northside food service employee), Ms. Diane Reavis (Northside teacher) and Ms. Tona Alston (Warren County High School math teacher).

Denied the request of Mrs. Perry that her son be released to attend school in Vance County.

—Endorsed the participation of school personnel in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event to be held 3 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19, at All Saints Episcopal Church.

Course Is Under Way

Fifteen health department, ambulance service, law enforcement and emergency management personnel are completing a 12-hour course in crisis management. The course, a crisis management workshop, is taught by Ms. Mary Edith Watkins, counselor. At the conclusion of the course on Jan. 15, participants will receive credit from Vance-Granville Community College.

According to Gary Robenolt, emergency management coordinator, the course is designed to teach the best methods of dealing with those in crisis. Targeted populations are violent, angry or suicidal individuals. "Participants also learn how to interpret body language," he said. In addition to lectures, role playing and videotaping exercises are included.



Dennis Paschall, director of ambulance services, is shown with the new 1986 Type II Ford Ambulance recently put in service in the county. The vehicle features oxygen, a 4-wheel cot, a spine board, splints, first aid supplies and other items required

by the Office of Emergency Medical Services. It is housed in a three-bay shelter at the Warren County Ambulance Service located at the old hospital grounds. (Staff photo by Howard Jones)

Owens-Illinois Is Biggest Warren County Taxpayer

Warren County's top 10 taxpayers for 1986 will contribute a total of \$395,488 in revenue into the county's budget according to information received from County Finance Officer Susan W. Brown.

The valuation of property owned by those 10 businesses and industries \$54,176,436. This represents 12.5 percent of the county's \$433,159,800 total base. Using that base figure, the county should receive \$3,214,466 in 1986 taxes.

The top 10 taxpayers and their approximate amounts of property tax owed in 1986 are:

Owens-Illinois	\$110,921.90
Carolina Telegraph	\$46,538.79
Carolina Power and Light	\$44,966.55
Champion International, Inc.	\$39,109.08
Peck Manufacturing	\$37,467.65
Cochrane	\$27,220.79
Norlina Mills	\$26,626.98
Vepco	\$23,136.53
Halifax Electric Membership Corp.	\$22,764.37
Carolina Sportswear	\$16,735.34

Subdivision Regulations

Need Update, Board Told

Economic Development Director Cathy Wilson advised the Warren County Planning Board Thursday night of the need to update local subdivision regulations to make them more in line with the trend of development in the county. The subdivisions governing current development were formulated in 1978 with no changes since then except for minor alterations required by the Register of Deeds Office.

Board members concurred with Mrs. Wilson's suggestion and scheduled a planning session with attorneys and other interested parties for Jan. 21 at The Rafter's.

Local residents would also benefit from advice in estate planning, which could help eliminate some property division problems posed for the Planning Board, Mrs. Wilson pointed out.

Items on the Thursday night board agenda included a request by Lake Gaston developer Clyde Harris for a variance on a peninsula lot of Summerwood subdivision on the lake. Zoning regulations call for a lot width of 125 feet and Harris noted this would require a prospective buyer to build on the lot in question at considerable distance from the water. Board members determined that allowing building closer to the water's edge would not present problems for neighboring property owners and

voted to recommend approval of the variance by the Board of Adjustments, which oversees zoning matters.

In other business Thursday night, the board:

—Approved, subject to health department approval, Gordon L. and Evelyn S. Pittman's final plat for four lots on Highway 43.

—Approved a request by David Bell to cut off for sale one lot of a 15-acre tract at Nocarva.

—Approved, subject to health department inspection, the final plat for WhiteRock subdivision for 27 lots on SR 1317 and SR 1320 in Fishing Creek Township.

—Approved the final plats for the three phases of Capps Ridge on SR 1636, subject to a road maintenance agreement and subject to on-site inspection by the Warren County Health Department, with variances granted on two lots.

Haywood Assumes Director's Post

Charles P. Haywood assumed his post as director of social services Monday, Jan. 12. The Warrenton native returns to the county following a career in California. His office is located at 532 Ridgeway Street.

"We want to be progressive and meet the needs of the people here in so doing," Haywood said.

New Ambulances Are Put Into Use In Warren County

Warren County boasts a new ambulance, Director of Ambulance Services Dennis Paschall announced this week. The new 1986 Ford Type II Ambulance was put in service Wednesday, Jan. 7. It replaced a 1981 Chevrolet van taken out of service and scheduled for release to the sheriff's office for use by that department.

The vehicle, manufactured by Frontline of Florida, was purchased from Southeast Emergency Equipment in Wake Forest. The \$31,262 quoted was the most attractive bid received.

"We plan to use the ambulance mainly for emergencies," Paschall said. "The 1984 Type II that we have already has over 72,000 miles on it," he said.

The vehicle is similar to the one purchased recently by the Warren County Rescue Squad. That vehicle is stationed in Vaughan near the exit to Eaton's Ferry.

Arts Center Heist Leads To Loss Of More Than \$10,000

Thieves escaped last week with sound equipment valued at in excess of \$10,000 taken from the Lakeland Arts Center in Littleton. The crime was discovered early Thursday morning by Mark Taylor, director, as he reported for work. "They came in from the back of the building," he said.

Missing are a double-cassette tape deck, a double turntable, a sound board, an amplifier, speakers and a string synthesizer valued alone at \$4,700.

Lakeland Arts Center is situated on land in both Warren and Halifax counties. Because thieves entered a building located in Halifax County and stole equipment from a Warren County-situated building, both municipalities are involved in the investigation. Deputy Harold Seaman of the Warren County sheriff's department initiated the investigation. Sgt. Lawrence Harrison is the current investigating officer.

Taylor is distraught. "I fail to understand why anyone would do this to a non-profit organization," he said.