

# The Warren Record

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## Largest Tax Check Shared

By THURLETTA M. BROWN  
Staff Writer

Almost \$275,000 in distributable proceeds of the one cent local option sales tax and the two half-cent sales taxes has been received by Warren County and its three municipalities: Warrenton, Norlina and Macon.

According to County Finance Officer Susan Brown, this amount is significantly greater than that received in previous quarters. Of the \$161,800,854.72 distributed last week by the North Carolina Department of Revenue, \$274,833.08 was earmarked for receipt here as follows: \$244,029.88 for Warren County, \$15,059.34 for the Town of Warrenton, \$13,422.46 for the Town of Norlina and \$2,321.40 for the Town of Macon.

Vance County's disbursement was \$1,014,658.51. Of this amount, \$738,433.56 went to the county. The remainder was allocated as follows: \$275,586.02 to Henderson, \$296.79 to Kittrell and \$342.14 to Middleburg.

A total of \$86,278.38 came to Warren County as a result of the one percent county sales and use tax. Distribution of that amount is accomplished on a per capita basis using population figures certified to the Secretary of Revenue by the county finance officer. Populations used for the disbursement were: Warren County-16,399, Warrenton-1,012, Norlina-902 and Macon-156. Disbursements based on these counts were: \$76,608.33 to Warren County, \$4,727.58 to the Town of Warrenton, \$4,213.71 to the Town of Norlina and \$728.76 to the Town of Macon.

The portion of the total disbursement attributable to the first one-half cent sales tax, which is done on an ad valorem basis, is \$117,583.29. The lion's share of this amount, \$104,404.68, went to the county. The remainder was divided as follows among the three towns: Warrenton-\$6,442.92, Norlina-\$5,742.61 and Macon-\$993.18.

The second half-cent portion of the sales tax levy became effective in Warren County Oct. 1, 1986. The net impact of that additional levy was \$70,971.31 allocated as follows: Warren County-\$63,016.87, Warrenton-\$3,888.84, Norlina-\$3,466.14 and Macon-\$599.46.

County and local governments may spend the original one-cent portion of the tax for any purpose, but certain restrictions exist on the use of the two half-cent tax monies. County governments are required to reserve a portion of both one-half cent levies for the capital needs of the schools. Warren County Commissioners have

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## Lawmen Alerted

### After Breakout

The Warren County Sheriff's Department was alerted Tuesday morning after a prisoner escaped from the Mecklenburg County, Va. Department of Correction, according to a sheriff's spokesperson.

Office Deputy Betsy Frazier said Jeffery M. Langowski, 23-year-old white male, was last seen at 10:51 a.m. yesterday (Tuesday) at an intersection in Virginia some five miles from the North Carolina line.

A description of the escapee listed him as 6'4", weighing 187 pounds, of large build and medium complexion, with a small beard and mustache. When last seen he was wearing the standard prison issue, light blue shirt and dark blue pants.

The spokesperson said road blocks had been set up in Virginia to hinder the prisoner from entering North Carolina but authorities were alerted to the possibility.

Langowski is serving time on charges of burglary and parole violation.



Rising from the icy expanse which last week characterized Warren County is this lone chimney reflected with neighboring vegetation and animal

life in the still waters of a local farm pond between Warren Plains and Wise.

(Staff Photo by Dianne T. Rodwell)

## Students Finally Return To Class After Long, Unexpected Holiday

Warren County's public school students returned to classes Monday while those enrolled at Warren Academy awaited inspection of their school's roof which had sagged beneath the weight of ice

in last week's winter storm. Headmaster B. L. King of the academy said classes would resume today (Wednesday).

The students at the private school returned to classes last

Friday and were scheduled to attend Saturday classes as well, but the make-up day was cancelled when problems with the ceiling in parts of the building were noted. King said the metal roof had sagged a few inches, causing the supports for the suspended ceiling to drop likewise.

A representative of Pasco Buildings of Columbus, Ga. arrived Tuesday to inspect the roof and King said the safety sign was given for classes to resume.

The headmaster said the board of directors has not yet approved a schedule for making up the days of school missed due to inclement weather of the past 'wo months.

Warren County Schools Superintendent Mike Williams said Monday the return to classes posed some inconveniences but no major problems for students and officials. The schools had been closed since Monday of the week before when frozen precipitation began coating the county's roadways.

Williams said last week's break brought to 11 the number of days missed because of the weather during this school year. At the February meeting of the board of education, the board authorized the use of two previously scheduled teacher workdays on March 5 and 6 for regular school days. The board will determine at the March 9 meeting how to make up the additional days lost, Williams said.

The superintendent was generous with praise for the system's school bus drivers who he said handled some difficult situations in the return to school on Monday.

## They Got Zoo's Goose Unwanted Birds Moved To Warren

By THURLETTA M. BROWN  
Staff Writer

Ninety-five newcomers of the species branta canadensis have become residents of Warren and Northampton counties. Known commonly as Canada Geese, the birds were introduced to the area through the joint efforts of the Asheboro-based N. C. Zoological Park and the N. C. Wildlife Commission.

The relocation project was solution to a problem caused by the adoption of the Zoological Park as home base by a number of uninvited geese sufficient to swell the Park's population from its normal base of 17 to almost 135. According to Zoo spokespersons, the geese became bothersome to visitors: they sought food and got in the way, they stripped portions of the landscape with their voracious appetites for grass and they soiled concrete floors and covered walkways. They became bothersome to Park sanitarians as well.

A plan of attack was hatched. Zoo personnel baited an area with enticing food. Soon the geese became accustomed to eating in that particular area. Then, one day, approximately 95 were captured with a net fired through a cannon rocket. (Zoo officials report that half of the remaining geese left the next day bringing the population back to its normal 17.)

Half of the geese were transported to Warren County. They reside now in a pen near the entrance to Summerwood, a Lake Gaston-area development. The other half were transported to Northampton County where they live on property just north of Seaboard owned by John Glover.

Because geese tend to return by instinct to their home base, certain wing feathers were humanely clipped from the captured birds before transport to render them flightless for a period of one year. During that year, it is hoped by N. C. Zoological Park and Wildlife Commission officials that the geese will learn to accept their new surroundings as home and that they will forget the appeal of the Zoo.

## Normalcy Returns As Many Recover From Icy Troubles

By MARY C. HARRIS  
Staff Writer

Weather-related difficulties for Warren County residents last week went beyond problems of transportation and communication and became for some an exercise in basic survival.

Hardest hit were some of the outlying communities where electrical and/or telephone service were lost for several days.

From reports across the county, it appeared the Inez area was most inconvenienced by the sleet which fell Monday and Tuesday. Residents there and in other locations as well spent a good part of their time seeking ingenious solutions to the absence of everyday conveniences. Fireplaces and gas appliances were appreciated as never before, water was guarded and rationed and being a keeper of one's brother became more than an ideal.

In every community, reports were heard of awnings falling; sheds collapsing on vehicles, equipment and animals; trees downed and roofs sagging because of the weight of the ice. Numerous perishable foods were lost by homeowners and store operators who lost electrical service to refrigeration appliances.

Larry Cheek, district manager for Halifax Electric Membership Corporation in Warren County, said local power crews worked around the clock and were joined by workmen from other areas to restore electrical service to customers, most of whom lived south of N.C. 158, in the Arcola, Inez and Licksillet communities. Power was turned on for the last subscriber early Friday evening, Cheek said.

Mrs. Ann Gaskill of the local Carolina Power and Light Company office said the last outage was corrected on their lines about 7 p.m. Thursday.

Mrs. Betty Hamm, spokesperson for Carolina Telephone Company, said phone service is again in effect for all customers. "For two days our crews couldn't get on the road," she said, "and

many of our problems were connected with those of the power companies."

Mrs. Glenn Coleman, Jr. of Inez praised the telephone repair personnel who for several hours stood watch over the station in her community to keep telephone lines in service.

Delivery of mail was also altered by the weather, according to Mrs. Shirley Comer in the Warrenton Post Office. Mrs. Comer said there was no delivery on Tuesday. Beginning Wednesday, the carriers started serving all the accessible boxes. She encouraged mail patrons to clear ice and snow from around mailboxes to allow the carriers to get to them in situations such as last week. "The carriers can't

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## New Business Faces Appear

New faces continue to appear on the Warrenton business scene as announcement was made this week of one change in ownership and one newcomer.

Home Decorator Shoppe on S. Main Street was purchased recently by Annette G. Montgomery of Montgomery Enterprises in Research Triangle Park. Mrs. Montgomery, whose specialties are facilities design and contract interiors, bought the business from Wade and Bivian Taylor.

Details have not been announced but Mrs. Montgomery said she plans to be in Warrenton several days a week. Mrs. Taylor will continue as manager of the business, she said.

Plans have not been finalized for Carolina Chain Saw Company, Inc. to open in the former Randy Currin Chevrolet showroom on E. Macon Street.

Charlie Keeter, III of the Henderson company located on Garnett Street, said a definite date for opening and other details would be decided later this week.

## Warrenton Merchants Edge Closer To Union

An association of Warrenton merchants moved a step closer to reality Monday night when organizing members agreed to immediately begin a solicitation of new members.

The proposed Warrenton Merchants Association would be open to all businesses and professionals living within the town limits of Warrenton and the town's one-mile extraterritorial jurisdiction.

In the second planning session, held Monday night at the court room of the Warren County Court House, spokesman Monroe Gardner urged fellow merchants to begin the effort to attract as many members as possible for the new organization. Dues were set at \$50 each for the first year.

Economic Developer Cathy Wilson told members that a prospective constitution and bylaws calling for a board of 11 members had been received from the state confederation of merchants. Those in attendance agreed that the board will be selected at a charter dinner to be held on the fourth Monday night in March at a time and place to be announced later.

Meanwhile, several merchants have agreed to contact prospec-

tive members on an individual basis. Those named to solicit within a specified territory were Woody King, Bobby Rollins, Walter Gardner, Monroe Gardner, Jack Harris, David Gardner, Carroll Harris, B. G. White, Brad Carroll, Warren Deines, James Parnell and V. R. (Pete) Vaughan.

## Reminder Issued As Tag Sales Lag

Mayor B. G. White this week issued a reminder to Warrenton's residents to purchase town tags for display on vehicles.

White said a number of vehicle owners have failed to meet the Feb. 15 deadline, as sales of the \$3 plates are lagging behind those of previous years.

Town Administrator Vernon R. (Pete) Vaughan said yesterday the projected number of tags for Warrenton residents hangs in the range of 600. Slightly more than 400 had been sold as of Tuesday.

"We don't want to prosecute anybody," White said, "but we do want to encourage people to buy the tags." The metal plates are available at the town office on E. Market Street.