



Late winter skies carry threatening clouds which are typical throughout blustery March in Warren County. The dark billowy mass hovers over a solitary farmhouse and nearby bare-limbed trees which

are profiled against the lighter and friendlier horizon. The scene was captured off N.C. 158 near Vaughan.

(Staff Photo by Dianne T. Rodwell)

Trash And Garbage Guidelines Passed

By MARY C. HARRIS
Staff Writer

Norlina residents will receive in a few days new guidelines for trash and garbage collection as a result of action by the commissioners at their regular monthly meeting Monday night.

In an effort to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of collection, Street Commissioner Walter Newman made the following proposals which were adopted by the board:

—The use of 55-gallon drums will no longer be acceptable.

—Residents are requested to place garbage in standard galvanized or plastic containers with tight-fitting lids and with capacity from 20 to 32 gallons.

—Garbage collectors will not be responsible for cleaning up around private containers. Residents are thereby asked to purchase adequate storage facilities to contain garbage between collections.

Trash will be collected on the third Thursday of each month. Limbs should be in lengths not to exceed six feet. Weight limit is 50 pounds. Leaves should be bagged and placed near the street to pick-up.

Ladies Specialty Shop To Open Here

Warrenton's revitalization continues with the expected spring opening of a ladies' specialty shop on South Main Street.

Lingerie and gifts will be the features of the shop which has been named Trifles by owners Sarah Kearney Watkins and Sherry Carroll. The new store will occupy the front part of the building now taken by the Nearly New Shoppe. The Nearly New will move to the rear section of the building and will be managed also by Mrs. Watkins and Mrs. Carroll.

Trifles will offer brand name items as well as less expensive lines of lingerie, the owners say. Jewelry and accessories and assorted gifts as well are on the list of intended merchandise.

In the meantime the owners plan to remodel and refurbish the store building.

Business hours have been set for Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The shop will be closed on Mondays.

Town Clerk Mae Gums was requested to inform Norlina residents of the new guidelines and to set a 60-day time period for complying with the new regulations.

The commissioners also heard Monday night requests from the business community for increased police protection at night. Harold Robinson of John Dore Amoco reported the occurrence of four break-ins at his service station in a month's time, including two incidents during the past weekend. "One man cannot handle everything,"

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Lake Gaston Shoreline Scene Of Prime Building

Two Warren County townships bordering on Lake Gaston had the lion's share of new residential construction during 1986, according to a report from the Warren County Inspection Department presented to county commissioners on Monday.

The report, compiled by zoning administrator Chester A. Forrester, III, showed that Roanoke Township, with 23 new houses, and River Township, with 20 new housing starts, easily outpaced Warren's remaining nine townships.

In all, a total of 76 new houses were begun in the county last year. Forrester's report showed that Warrenton Township was a distant third place with nine starts. Others included Nutbush/3, Sandy Creek/5, Shocco/2, Fork/none, Fishing Creek/2, Judkins/2, Six Pound/6, and Hawtree/3.

Roanoke was the leader in garage and storage building starts last year with 16 of the county's 53, while Warrenton Township led in the number of additions and remodelings with 26 of the county's 132.

Method Of Installing Perdue Pipe Comes Under Fire At Board Meet

A veteran Warren County contractor who was an unsuccessful bidder for the job of installing water and sewer lines for Perdue's new hatchery near Manson charged Monday that the contractor doing the work was not following specifications and that payment should be withheld until adequate inspections are conducted.

John Thomas Harris presented Warren County commissioners, meeting in the county court house for their March meeting, with colored pictures which he said documented his charges that the work was subpar.

Following Harris' allegations of improper placement of lines, commissioner J. T. Fleming moved that payment be withheld "until all inaccuracies are corrected." Seconded by commissioner George E. Shearin, Sr., the motion was unanimously carried.

Commissioners did not express themselves until Harris, accompanied by his wife, who he said took the pictures purporting to show poor work on the part of Nelson Utilities of Sharpsburg, contractors for the project, had completed his list of grievances.

Harris charged that he had learned directly and indirectly from Bill Neal, Warrenton water superintendent who last week was named inspector for the project, that the work was not proceeding according to contractual guidelines, and that the board "should be made mindful of irregularities."

Harris' wife noted that "as a taxpayer and resident of Warren, I expect to get a first-class job if I am paying for it."

Among the irregularities noted by Harris was the fact that the contractor allegedly was not in compliance with affirmative action plans expected to pertain to the Perdue project.

Mrs. Eva M. Clayton, chairperson of the Warren County Board of Commissioners, said there is "no use having these (affirmative action) programs if they are not complied with."

Warren Democratic Party Planning Precinct Meets

Warren County Democrats have scheduled their first precinct meetings since Democratic victories in last November's election.

The precinct meeting, to be held at regular precinct polling places, are scheduled for March 5 at 8 p.m.

County Democratic Chairman T. T. Clayton encouraged all registered Democrats to attend. "Senator Terry Sanford's victory last November proved the Democrats are back," Clayton said. "People once again are proud to say they're Democrats. We want all Democrats to attend these meetings, whether they're party regulars or whether they just want to get involved with the party again," he added.

Mrs. Harris, together with Mrs. Floyd McKissick, a resident of the area where construction is proceeding, said there were no signs and no barricades to prevent persons or cars from falling into construction holes, and Mrs. Harris said she had observed no caution signs along the entire route of construction.

Mrs. Cathy Wilson, Warren industrial director, told the board that the engineer for the project, Talbert, Cox and Associates of Wilmington, was scheduled to

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Warren Jail Ruled 'Off Limits' For Female Prisoners

By HOWARD F. JONES
Editor

A state official—following a personal inspection of the Warren County Jail—has ordered restrictions in the use of the antiquated facility, including a provision that no more female prisoners be held there, and a recommendation that only Warren County residents be lodged in the jail.

Thomas A. Ritter, head of the Jail and Detention Branch of the Division of Facility Services of the North Carolina Department of Human Resources, issued the new restrictions in a letter to Warren Sheriff Theodore R. Williams. The letter was circulated among members of the Warren County Board of Commissioners meeting in regular session here Monday.

Ritter told Sheriff Williams that at the request of Mrs. Linda T. Jones, clerk to the Board of Commissioners, he inspected the Warren County Jail on Feb. 24 during a meeting attended by Commission Chairman Eva M. Clayton, Commissioners J. T. Fleming and Francis Alston, County Manager Charles Worth, Chief Deputy Bobby D. Bolton and Chief Jailer Mary Somerville. Williams was in Chicago when the latest inspection took place.

In addition to reminding the sheriff of a growing list of structural and administrative deficiencies at the jail, Ritter recounted meetings held between his agency and representatives of Warren County.

Among the corrective action called for immediately at the jail, Ritter listed the following:

—The leakage problems in the upstairs single cell commodes which are allowing human waste to drain into and accumulate in the downstairs laundry area must be corrected immediately. Until this problem can be adequately corrected, neither of these two cell areas shall be used to confine inmates.

—Based upon the general unsanitary, dirty conditions which I observed, an immediate local sanitation inspection of the jail shall be requested from the local or district health department.

—Due to the lack of there being any secure visiting area available at this two-level jail, two jailers must be on duty at all times visiting occurs. No visitor should be allowed in the jail unsupervised while visiting an inmate.

—Prior to the onset of hot weather, action should be taken to adequately cool this jail on all levels of confinement. It was suggested that small air conditioning units be installed securely and safely throughout the jail. I believe this could be done to sufficiently correct this deficiency.

In addition to putting the two upstairs single cells off limits until the problems with the plumbing units are satisfactorily corrected, Ritter informed the sheriff that:

—Due to the age, constant use and existing deficiencies within the jail, the capacity of this facility shall be reduced to a maximum of 20 inmates from its current capacity of 29. This cap on the population will reduce the burden on the jailers in meeting the needs of the inmates and reduce some of the abuse of this antiquated facility.

—Because of the above indicated restrictions, all females should be transferred to an appropriate adjoining county

where their confinement needs can be adequately met.

—Finally, I strongly recommend to you and the local judicial officials in Warren County, that only Warren County residents be confined in your jail. The practice of accepting out-of-county commitments should be discontinued immediately.

Ritter underscored his earlier recommendation that steps be taken which would lead to a major renovation and expansion or a new construction project, and that the Board of Commissioners begin immediately to address the funding requirements necessary for such a major project.

Sheriff Williams was asked to inform Ritter no later than March 13 of corrective action taken, or to be taken, in the areas cited in his letter.

E & R Sessions Planned Here

The Warren County Board of Commissioners will sit as a Board of Equalization and Review on April 21, and again on April 22 if necessary, board members voted Monday morning.

The decision to hear requests for tax relief during the two-day period was made after Tax Supervisor Janice W. Haynes appeared before commissioners to ask that the dates for the annual sessions be set.

The board also set times for two public hearings, both of which will be held prior to the commissioners' regular meeting on April 6.

The first public hearing, to be held at 9 a.m., will be conducted to determine if a recommendation that property earmarked for the new Buck Springs 4-H Camp, to be located on the Nathaniel Macon homeplace property adjacent to Lake Gaston, be rezoned from residential to lakeside group camp district.

A second hearing, called for 9:15 a.m., will be held to determine if commissioners agree to revise Warren County's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance—adopted in 1984—to incorporate federal rule changes and a new section on administrative procedures.

90-Year-Old First Recorded In Warren

Halifax Electric Membership Corporation has welcomed one new member who has lived in Warren County for close to a century without electricity, according to the February issue of "Hali-Facts," the company's news bulletin.

Mrs. Isabel Milam's home was not wired for electrical service when it was built 30 years ago because she was afraid of electricity, the bulletin noted. Because of her present state of health, her daughters recently convinced her of the need for electricity.

Now will begin the transition from ice chests, wood stove and flat irons to appliances which will make life easier for Mrs. Milam. She and her three daughters and grandson who share the home have enjoyed battery-powered television until now.

A refrigerator, iron and cook stove top the list of intended purchases, the bulletin said. The family hopes to add smaller appliances later.