



Pictured above with the generator recently installed at the Warren County Sheriff's Department are, left to right, Allen Norwood, county forester; Roy Pat Robertson, president of the Warrenton Lions Club which donated the generator; Gary Robenolt, emergency management director; Monroe Gardner, local Lion who was instrumen-

tal in the Lions's decision to purchase the generator; and Warren County Sheriff Theodore Williams. The generator will provide emergency power backup in the event of electrical outages and will benefit the entire county, according to Robenolt, who initiated the efforts to purchase the generator. (Staff Photo by Howard Jones)

Sales Exceed \$1 Million

ABC Report Is Given By County Supervisor

For the first time in the county's history, sales of alcoholic beverages have exceeded the seven-figure mark.

According to Macon Wemyss, supervisor of the Alcoholic Beverage Control System, sales for 1986 totalled \$1,005,000 as compared to \$970,077 in 1985.

Proceeds from the sale of liquor are earmarked for a number of recipients. Seven percent of all net profit is sent to Region K for use in rehabilitation through research or preventive training. For FY '86, this amount was \$3,670 as compared to \$2,359.22 for FY '85.

An additional five percent goes to the county for law enforcement. Warren County has no ABC officer and must rely on the Sheriff's Office to enforce the prevention of crime due to alcohol abuse. For FY '86, \$2,622 was earmarked for law enforcement as compared to \$1,685.16 in FY '85.

Fifteen percent of net profit goes to the Town of Warrenton and the Town of Norlina. For FY '86, Warrenton received \$3,420 and Norlina received 12,445. Corresponding amounts for FY '85 were \$2,425.45 and \$1,228.43 respectively.

An additional five-cent tax on each bottle of liquor sold goes to the county. An apparent reduction in the number of bottles sold resulted in a decrease from \$8,724.28 in FY '85 to \$8,372.54 in FY '86. The loss of income was negated in the increase in the three-and-one-half percent of profit special allocation received by the county. In FY '85, \$25,885.63 was received, but for FY '86, \$26,904.04 was received.

A sum of \$15,000 was withheld in both years by the A.B.C. Board for capital improvements. An additional \$10,000 was withheld in December. This \$40,000 will be used at some point either to finance renovation of existing stores or construction of a new store in Norlina.

Profit is still below 10 percent, but there is a definite increase according to reports received from Supervisor Wemyss. "In June, 1984, we saw a 5.30 percent profit. In June, 1985, the amount grew to a 6.63 percent net profit," he said. "We are especially proud of the 8.11 percent profit shown in June, 1986, and all indications are that the upward trend will continue."

Readings Are Acceptable

Gas Poses No Threat Locally, Director Says

Radon gas does not appear to be a significant threat to the health of Warren County citizens, according to Dennis Retzlaff, Warren County health director.

Preliminary data from a University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Public Health study conducted in cooperation with the North Carolina Department of Human Resources and local public health suggests that most of North Carolina has radon levels far below those which recently raised concern in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Dwayne H. Brown, chief of DHR's Radiation Protection Section in announcing the release of the preliminary data stated, "This partial data strongly suggests that our problem is not nearly as significant as some people had feared."

According to Brown, the preliminary data indicates that homes in the eastern counties have the lowest levels of radon and are almost all below any level of concern. The levels in the piedmont counties appear to be higher, but still generally below the concern level. The highest levels appear to occur in the western counties where most

homes were still below any level of concern.

Marion Bitler, environmental health scientist with the local health department and coordinator of the radon study in Warren County, agreed that the study revealed no cause for concern here. "Of the 440 homes studied statewide, five were in Warren County," she said. "Although the specific information is confidential, we can state that none of the five Warren County homes tested revealed radon levels which warrant any special concern."

Retzlaff assured the public that Ms. Bitler would continue to monitor any information related to radon. "Although we do not foresee any significant health threat brought about by radon, we understand public concern and will work to calm fears of our citizens and follow up on any significant development."

"Any concern about radon should be balanced by the realization that dangers to our health from lifestyle factors such as smoking, poor nutrition and excessive alcohol consumption far outweigh the health risks of even the nation's highest levels of radon exposure," Retzlaff concluded.

Area Restaurant Undergoes Change

An area restaurant has begun a period of new management with promise of expanded offerings and continued fine food.

According to John Nelson of Nelson and Harris, the Dockside Restaurant located on Lake Gaston has been leased to Nick Rossicci, owner of Est Est Est, a popular Raleigh restaurant with Northern Italian food as its specialty.

"We are extremely happy that we were able to negotiate this management deal with these professionals and we feel proud that we were able to lure them from the Raleigh market," Nelson said. "The change should be a real benefit to the Lake Gaston area," he said.

Nelson reported that the new personnel bring with them a great deal of experience in the preparation and use of marinades and sauces. They plan to expand the steak line and feature more pasta and chicken in addition to the seafood for which the Dockside is known.

According to Nelson, plans are under way to expand the restaurant to include an informal "raw bar" housed in the lower level of the establishment. "People will be able to just come up in their boats for an informal, but extremely good meal." The upper level of the restaurant is expected to retain the current relatively formal atmosphere.

Health Of Program Is Reported Good

By THURLETTA M. BROWN
Staff Writer

Warren County Health Department Director Dennis Retzlaff declared a diagnosis of good health in his evaluation of the county's Home Health Program.

In his report to county commissioners during their mid-monthly meeting last Wednesday night, Retzlaff commended the program staff for their dedication and perseverance during a period of increased activity. "I have brought with me Mrs. Doris Dryden, nursing supervisor, and Mrs. Elizabeth Martin, nursing visitor, so that they can take a public bow for the tremendous progress made in the program," he said. Program nurse Mrs. Debbie Parnell was absent due to other professional commitments.

According to Mrs. Dryden, the Home Health Program was once based at HealthCo. "We were asked by the county to serve instead because of an interest in serving indigent patients in the county," she said. It was felt that the shift of the function to Med Visit, a private vendor, might not ensure attention to the needs of the indigent. Use of the Health Department-based program has shown a dramatic increase since in the years that have followed.

Statistics compiled by Retzlaff comparing activity in calendar year '85 to that in calendar year '86 show a 243 percent increase in the number of visits by skilled nurses. Visits have increased from 182 in 1985 to 624 in 1986. The Home Health Aid component of the program has shown an increase in visits from 278 in 1985 to 612 in 1986, a 120 percent increase. Physical Therapy visits have increased by only five percent, but the real number of visits, 567 in 1985 and 598 in 1986, show the consistently high level of activity.

The increased activity has resulted in tangible financial rewards for the program. Retzlaff reported total revenue of \$115,069 for the first six months of activity, a large portion of the \$123,944 projected as revenue for the entire year. "The report also shows revenue of \$13,931.78 over expenses charged directly to the Home Health Program."

Retzlaff proposed that the increased revenue be used to fund in part three new positions: a full-time public health nurse, a fourth-time clerk and a variable part-time community health aide. "The staff simply needs some relief," he said.

Although budget reports prepared by the county finance office differ from those reported by the health department, the board voted 3-2 to permit the additions in staff. Differences in fiscal reporting will be resolved.

Chairman Clayton commended

the Home Health Program on its successes. "I agree with the intent (of a budget review), but we are doing a disservice to county personnel and are not being fiscally responsible," she said.

Because of the shift in demographic trends in which a larger percentage of society is now older

and changes in the policies of medical insurance carriers and hospitals, the increase noted in Warren County are not limited to this area. "There is nationwide growth," Chairman Clayton noted. "We must be mindful that the trend will not reverse itself," she concluded.

Unpaved Local Roads Source Of Frustration

The 197 miles of unpaved Warren County roads are a source of frustration to many residents.

"I receive a number of calls from people in the county who say that state officials have told them that it is the county's responsibility to get the roads paved," Commissioner George Shearin said in the mid-monthly meeting held last Wednesday night. "Something has got to be done to let people know how this thing really works," he concluded.

According to County Manager Charles Worth, petitions received by the board of commissioners are routinely endorsed and submitted to the Department of Transportation. Once received at DOT, the request either goes to the bottom of the list or it retains the priority ranking already assigned. He agreed that something should be done to inform the public of where their request stands on the state's priority list and with whom the responsibility for action rests.

Commissioners agreed and directed the county manager to inform petitioners in writing of DOT's system of prioritization and to inform them of the position of their request.

Clarification of the policy accompanied discussion of a request to pave S.R. 1228. This request was approved for submission to DOT.

In other business, the board: —Approved a purchase service agreement for provision of a child support officer.

—Supported a resolution supporting continued state funding for Regional Councils of Governments in North Carolina.

—Adopted a travel policy for county commissioners.

—Appointed Karl F. Hehl to the Warren County Planning Board to fill the unexpired term vacated by Jack Brunton.

—Appointed Dr. Elton Brown and Greg Walker to the Lake Gaston Weed Control Council with terms expiring Oct. 1988 and 1989 respectively.

—Authorized the release of \$2,000 to the Drewry Fire Department and \$5,000 to the Arcola Fire Department.

—Scheduled a public hearing for 9:25 a.m. on April 6 on the request to rezone property on S.R. 1203 near Kerr Lake.

—Rescheduled the April mid-monthly meeting from April 15 to April 16.

—Received a progress report from the Saint Augustine's College Office of Community Development regarding an open space recreation plan and housing plan survey.

—Waived its rights with regard to property scheduled for use by Vance-Granville Community College for the satellite facility.

Funeral Held On Saturday For State Patrol Officer

Graveside services for Maj. Robert Allen Clark, 61, were held Saturday at the Hundley Family Cemetery in Norlina.

The former Norlina resident was a native of Grimesland in Pitt County. He joined the North Carolina Highway Patrol in 1950. The 37-year veteran served his first tour of duty in Norlina. In 1967, he was promoted to corporal and was assigned to Ahoskie. In 1970, following promotion to first sergeant, he was transferred to work in Graham.

In 1973, he was promoted to the rank of second lieutenant and was assigned to Asheville. He remained there briefly before being transferred to Hickory in early 1974. Within six months of the transfer, he was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant and was assigned to the patrol's headquarters in Raleigh.

Clark was promoted to the rank of captain in 1977. He was assigned to the position of commander of Troop C at the troop's headquarters. Two years ago, he was promoted to major and was made director of Zone 1, which covers Eastern North Carolina and consists of Troops A, B, C and D.

The patrolman had been on extended sick leave from the patrol since October. He died Thursday at Rex Hospital in Raleigh.

Survivors include his wife,

Mrs. Becky Hundley Clark, formerly of Norlina and now of Cary; one daughter, Mrs. Lynne C. Miller of Charlotte, one son, Allen Wayne Clark of Cary; his mother, Mrs. Fannie G. Clark of Greenville; two brothers, Edwin L. Clark and Joseph O. Clark, both of Greenville, and one grandchild.

Pallbearers were members of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol.

Arrangements were by Wynne Funeral Home of Cary and Blaylock Funeral Home of Warrenton.



MAJ. ROBERT ALLEN CLARK