

The Warren Record

Volume 90 25¢ Per Copy Warrenton, County Of Warren, North Carolina Wednesday, May 27, 1987 Number 21

Space Needs For Warren Agencies Under Scrutiny

By THURLETTA M. BROWN
Staff Writer

The allocation of existing or planned space for county operations is under review by an architect who has been contracted by the county.

Richard L. Andrews, architect with Rocky Mount based Ron Webb and Associates, reported Wednesday night to Warren County commissioners that the county needed to double its existing space. He recommended expanding the county's currently allocated 29,329 square feet to roughly 53,500 square feet.

The report to commissioners followed Andrews' preliminary

evaluation which included interviews with a number of county departments and analysis of those findings. Department heads had been asked by Andrews to detail their space needs and requirements.

A comparison of the county's existing and recommended space allocations in square feet follows. Clerk of Court: now has 1,800, needs 3,100; Register of Deeds: now has 1,000, needs 2,000; Finance: now has 700, needs 1,400; Tax Supervisor: now has 910, needs 1,640; Agricultural Extension: now has 2,720, needs 7,422; Sheriff: now has 2,720, needs 3,840; County Manager:

now has 600, needs 1,000; Industrial Director/Planner: now has 560, needs 1,000; Building Inspector: now has 550, needs 1,100; Emergency Management: now has 350, needs 480; Social Services: now has 3,800, needs 7,500; Food Stamps: now has 2,000, needs 3,700; Health Department: now has 4,350, needs 6,900; Mental Health: now has 2,500, no additional space needed.

To clarify his preliminary recommendations, Andrews indicated his rationale for expansion. Additional vault and storage space is needed for the clerk of court and recommended expansion for the register of deeds was

based on future growth in the county. Additional space recommended for Agricultural Extension was based on the office's needs for educational space to accommodate groups which often exceed 100. Additional space is needed by the Sheriff for deputy day rooms, a conference room, an evidence room and storage. Recommended expansion for the county manager and industrial development director/planner would accommodate a needed conference room. Andrews was complimentary of the space analysis done already by the Health Department and supported their assessment.

The architect's next task was an analysis of clusters by function. Recommended groupings would result in close proximity of six operations with similar function: (1) court facilities and clerk of court; (2) register of deeds, tax supervisor, finance officer, tax collector; (3) county manager, building inspector, industrial director; (4) health department, social services, food stamps; (5) sheriff, jail, emergency management; and (6) agricultural extension, soil conservation.

Andrews' next task, the inventory of available space including currently used space, disclosed

that the county had almost twice as much space as was needed.

Available square footage in the courthouse, library, courthouse annex (current Sheriff's department), the county office building, the health department including trailers and the food stamp office is 35,126. The John Graham campus yields about 50-55,000 square feet and the Hawkins campus yields an additional 27,262.

Andrews indicated that the final step of the preliminary analysis was the proposal of one alternative for productive use of the county's existing space. He proposed new construction to

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Henderson Detective Named Chief

By MARY C. HARRIS
Staff Writer

Detective Charles Glantis of the Henderson Police Department has been named police chief for the town of Norlina and is expected to assume duties there June 9, according to Mayor Bill Perry.

Selection of the new chief was made by the town board from a field of 12 applicants, Perry said, indicating his strong approval for the incoming head of law enforcement for Norlina.

Glantis, 47, a native of Chester, Pa., has 24 years of experience in law enforcement, including 15 years as a training officer with the Henderson Police Department.

Perry said the new chief comes with a long list of qualifications, including every certification "short of a degree in law enforcement." He holds all current instructors' certificates in law enforcement, Perry added.

Commenting on concern which has been voiced regarding the officer's visual impairment, Perry stated that Glantis is expected to undergo treatment for cataracts before he assumes the Norlina position and the prognosis is that his vision will be significantly improved. Prospects are good that he will then qualify for a night operator's license which he does not hold at the present time, Perry said.

The new chief intends to upgrade the quality of police protection in Norlina and will enhance the training of his two fellow officers, James Champion and Gary Hawkins, the mayor commented.

Glantis plans to move to Norlina in the near future. He is married to the former Brenda Perkinson of Franklin County and is the father of two children, Stephanie, 17, and Charles, III, 15.

\$100,000 Bond Is Ordered Here

A man facing charges in four states is confined to the Warren County Jail under a \$100,000 bond.

James Vanzetti, known in Warren County as James A. Potter, has been brought back to face charges of bigamy and worthless checks here. Vanzetti fled the county several months ago shortly after the opening of the Norlina Coffee Shop. He returned on Friday from Las Vegas, Nev. in the custody of Sgt. Lawrence Harrison and Chief Deputy Bobby D. Bolton.

According to Chief Deputy Bolton, the department has detainers on Vanzetti from three states. He is wanted in St. Louis, Mo. on grand larceny charges and in Pulaski, Tenn. for parole violations. Vanzetti also faces larceny charges in Houston, Tex.

Vanzetti's court date is Wednesday, June 3.



Farmers throughout the county are benefitting from recent warm, dry days as they "make hay while the sun shines." Hay raking is under way in

the picture above captured last week in a field on the Warrenton-Ridgeway Road.

(Staff Photo by Dianne T. Rodwell)

Two Seriously Hurt In Monday Accident

A two-car accident on U.S. 158 Monday afternoon caused serious injuries to two persons and minor injuries to a third, according to a state Highway Patrol report.

William B. Branch, 38, and Willie Branch, 38, both of Rt. 1, Norlina, were injured when the car in which they were riding was hit by an automobile driven by Mrs. Mary D. Williams, 71, of Rt. 3, Warrenton, Trooper R. J. Hedgepeth, investigating officer, reported.

The trooper said Mrs. Williams was also injured but refused emergency treatment at the scene of the accident. She was later treated at Maria Parham Hospital and released.

According to the report, the Williams vehicle was travelling south on U.S. 158 business when, near the intersection with SR 1323 (Connell Road), the car went off the right side of the road. Mrs. Williams lost control of the car and came back onto the pavement, crossed the centerline and collided with the Branch vehicle travelling north.

Mrs. Williams was unable to explain what happened but assumed she had fallen asleep at the wheel, Trooper Hedgepeth reported.

William and Willie Branch were taken to Maria Parham Hospital in Henderson where William Branch was released later in the day. Willie Branch was transferred to Duke Medical Center where he was listed in satisfactory condition Tuesday.

Damages were estimated at \$3,000 to Branch's 1980 car and \$1,000 to the Williams 1977 vehicle.

No injuries were reported in a single-car accident Sunday evening in which a Macon man was charged with driving while impaired.

According to Trooper D. G. Hinson, Ulysses Bullock, Jr., 20,

of Rt. 2, Macon was travelling south on SR 1507 (Embrow-Vaughan Road) near Vaughan when he ran off the right side of the road, then crossed the highway and hit a ditch off the left shoulder, finally overturning and coming to rest on its top.

Neither Bullock nor an unidentified passenger was hurt in the accident which caused damages estimated at \$3,000 to the 1986 car which was registered to a Norfolk, Va. leasing agency.

A tire blow-out was listed as the cause of a Sunday afternoon accident on SR 1118 (No Bottom Road) in which the driver of the truck received minor injuries.

Charles Talley, 26, of Rt. 3, Warrenton, was heading east on the state road when the left tire on the vehicle exploded, causing him to lose control. The truck went off the left side of the road and hit a tree, Trooper Hedgepeth reported.

A contract submitted by Waste Industries, Inc., an Oxford-based specialist in solid waste management, has been approved, four to one, by Warren County commissioners in their regular mid-monthly meeting held Wednesday night at the courthouse.

For a fee ranging from about \$133,000 to \$135,000, Waste Industries will continue the level of service that has been provided in past years.

Billy Hall, a local resident, had submitted a similar proposal stating that his firm could have collection capabilities if the contract were awarded. Although commissioners opted to remain with the contractor who had provided service to the county for a

Extensive Damage Caused To Kitchen Of John Kerr Home

Extensive damages to the kitchen and smoke damage throughout the residence of Mrs. John Kerr on Church Street resulted from a fire last Thursday afternoon.

According to Capt. Walter Gardner of the Warrenton Rural Fire Department, when firemen arrived shortly after 2 p.m., they found flames in the kitchen and thick smoke on both levels of the house. "Five minutes more could have meant disaster," Gardner said.

Mrs. Kerr was taken to Maria Parham Hospital in Henderson where she was treated for minor burns and released. Firemen expected to learn more about the origin of the fire after talking with Mrs. Kerr, Gardner said.

Firemen extinguished the blaze, which was confined to an exterior wall of the kitchen, and removed smoke from the house.

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New Industry On Way Here

A New York industry has finalized plans to locate a plant in the county, Warren County Economic Development Commission Executive Director Cathy J. Wilson announced this week.

Gilbert Manufacturing Company, a Long Island City based operation, has leased for a five-year term with the option to buy the High Dollar Warehouse on North Main Street in Warrenton. The lease becomes effective on June 1.

The company is the largest manufacturer in the world of large Christmas lights and sells to a number of large companies, among them General Electric.

The Warrenton plant will be an electrical assembly operation. Sixty percent of its business is expected to be Christmas lights; 40 percent will be other electrical components.

According to Mrs. Wilson, Company President Peter Gilbert is very optimistic about the opportunity to expand the organization's market here in Warren County. Employment will begin in July. Company officials will initially hire 30 persons by Jan. 1, 1988.

Gilbert Manufacturing Company was established in the 1930's by Gilbert's father, who started business by developing the quick attachment electrical plug.

Darkness Covers Town After Mishap

The town of Warrenton was plunged into darkness for over 30 minutes last Wednesday night following an accident involving a youthful driver.

Daniel Lee Hargrove, 16, of W. Franklin St., is reported to have lost control of the 1972 Chevrolet that he was driving on the unpaved portion of Haley St. here. The accident occurred just after 11 p.m.

According to Warrenton Police Officer George Alston, Hargrove stated that the vehicle's accelerator had become stuck, causing the car to hit the pole which held the main power box.

According to Gary Robenolt, Warren County emergency management coordinator, the vehicle sheared the pole and caused the transformer to fall striking the car before it fell to the ground and split open. "The

unit contained 10 to 15 gallons of transformer oil," Robenolt said.

County officials were especially worried because oil in older transformers was often laced with PCB. "After the car was hauled away, DOT officials were on the scene to sand the area," Robenolt said. "Barriers and plastic were added in the morning as a further safeguard," he added.

Samples of the transformer oil were taken for testing to Raleigh based Harris Energy Environmental Center. The agency confirmed that there was no danger of PCB contamination.

About 1500 customers were without power for about 30 minutes, according to James Parnell, manager of Carolina Power and Light. The power outage affected the entire city.

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Commissioners Approve Waste Disposal Bid

A contract submitted by Waste Industries, Inc., an Oxford-based specialist in solid waste management, has been approved, four to one, by Warren County commissioners in their regular mid-monthly meeting held Wednesday night at the courthouse.

For a fee ranging from about \$133,000 to \$135,000, Waste Industries will continue the level of service that has been provided in past years.

Billy Hall, a local resident, had submitted a similar proposal stating that his firm could have collection capabilities if the contract were awarded. Although commissioners opted to remain with the contractor who had provided service to the county for a

number of years, Commissioner J. T. Fleming voiced opposition. He urged that strong consideration be given to local individuals whenever possible.

Jim Perry, Waste Industries president, expressed satisfaction with the decision.

The board also approved a request for \$2,082.75, the county's 25 percent match, for a grant to be used to expand the activities of the Friends of Black Children program. Social Services Director Charles Haywood reported on the successes of the organization, but stressed that additional funds would multiply the impact of the group. Felton Davis, Friends of Black Children president, agreed, stating that the group

wished to offer additional support to organize cultural events, offer career guidance, tutorial and counseling programs.

A grant of \$6,248.25 is expected from the N. C. Department of Human Resources Division of Social Services. Total funds in the amount of \$8,331 will be used to employ for six months a Social Worker II to facilitate expansion, Haywood noted.

In other business, the board: —Approved use of existing funds not exceeding \$700 to hire a manager for the open air vegetable market. The market, sponsored by the county's agricultural extension service, will be open on Saturdays from 7 a.m. until 1 p.m. June through October.

—Renewed the contract with auditors Garrett, Sullivan, Davenport, Bowie and Grant Durham for an amount not to exceed \$10,500.

—Approved the Dept. of Transportation's proposed secondary road improvement program for 1987-88 and requested that a portion of contingency funds be used to improve S.R. 1100 near Soul City.

—Authorized the execution of the Nat White easement across the PCB landfill property.

—Postponed the request to amend language in the county subdivision regulation's certification of dedication of water supply and sewage disposal.