



Firefighters are shown at the residence of Mrs. Lanie Hanes, located on the Oine Road, which caught fire last week due to a faulty wood stove that was located in the front room. The inside of the

house was gutted by the flames, and the house is considered a total loss.

(Photo by Brenda Clarke)

Missing Gun Among Items Taken Locally

Four reports of missing items—one of them concerning a handgun—are among the cases under investigation this week by Warren County Sheriff's personnel.

The residence of Mrs. Jacqueline B. Woods, of Rt. 2, Macon, was reported entered on April 14 by a person or persons who removed items valued at \$649. The rear door of the residence was found opened and the premises entered when Mrs. Woods returned from her place of employment that afternoon. Reported missing were a 19-inch Quasar color television valued at \$349 and a VCR valued at \$300. Deputy R. A. Coleman is the investigating officer.

Two days later on April 16, Jerry Mayes of Warren County Acres at Lake Gaston reported that a front window had been broken at his residence and that items valued at \$300 had been removed: a General Electric microwave, an Emerson black-and-white television and an AM/FM radio/cassette player. Sgt. Lawrence Harrison is the investigating officer.

Sol Fleming of Warrenton on April 17 reported damage to his pickup truck that had been parked along R.P.R. 1305 in Wise. According to the sheriff's spokesperson, Fleming had been fishing. After returning to his truck to investigate a loud noise, he found glass broken and damages to the vehicle that have been estimated at \$200. Deputy William Winston is the investigating officer.

Dr. Holt Leaving Town This Summer

Dr. James D. Holt, family medicine physician at the Warren Health Plan, has announced his intention to join the staff at Barnett Family Practice in Lancaster, S.C. The physician and his family will relocate between Aug. 1 and Sept. 1.

"Although I have enjoyed my stay here in Warrenton, joining the Barnett Family Practice will allow me more freedom in my practice of medicine, but the decision was made for another more personal reason as well," Holt said. The physician explained that the Lancaster-based office had been named in honor of Dr. Louis Barnett, a previous faculty member at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, where Holt served his internship and residency.

Holt, active and dedicated to his faith, wished to find a practice (Continued on page 12)

Ms. Magnolia Terry of Manson on April 18 reported the disappearance of a handgun from her residence on R.P.R. 1237 in Manson. According to the the sheriff's spokesperson, there was no evidence of forced entry. The handgun, a Harrington-Richardson nine-shot .22 calibre model valued at \$168, had been removed from a dresser drawer. The storage box had been left in its original place. Sgt. Lawrence Harrison is the investigating officer.

The Warren County Sheriff's Department expresses appreciation to area residents who have provided information on crimes in the county and asks that persons with knowledge of these or other unsolved crimes share that information by calling 257-3456. All information, as well as the identities of the callers, will be kept in confidence, the spokesperson said.

Shooting Death Is Probed By Officers Answering Call

What began as a report of domestic disturbance has ended in the death by shooting of a Warren County man.

Eugene Randolph Watson, 45, was found dead Monday morning by arriving law enforcement personnel, who responded to a 1:03 a.m. call for assistance at the residence of Ms. Gloria Egerton in the Snow Hill community.

According to the report, Ms. Egerton had been awakened by the continuous ringing of the doorbell at her Rt. 3, Warrenton, residence. After determining that Watson was responsible for the noise, he was asked to leave the property, Chief Deputy Bobby Dean Bolton said.

Watson is reported to have used a 12-gauge shotgun to gain entry into the residence on R.P.R. 1110 as Ms. Egerton was telephoning for assistance from the Warren County Sheriff's Department. When Deputy J. M. McCowan arrived, Watson was found dead on the floor and is believed to have shot himself.

Ms. Egerton and her son had escaped through a window, Chief Deputy Bolton said, when more shots were heard.

Three shots can be accounted for, Bolton said.

According to Dennis Paschall of the Warren County Ambulance Service, a call requesting assistance at the site was received at 1:25 a.m.

Arriving ambulance personnel were not allowed to enter the

Oine Residence Gutted By Fire

The Norlina Volunteer Fire Department battled a blaze late last week which destroyed a Norlina home.

On Thursday morning, the Norlina Volunteer Fire Department, assisted by the Ridgeway Volunteer Fire Department, responded to a call concerning a house fire on the Oine Road. The house belonged to Mrs. Lanie Hayes, former clerk of Warren County Superior Court, now of Warren Hills Nursing Center.

As firefighters arrived on the scene, the fire, which had been spotted by a passer-by, had engulfed the inside of the home. Together, the departments responded with two pumpers and approximately 15 men. Six extra loads of water were hauled to the scene to help extinguish the flames.

The inside of the home was gutted, and the cause is reported to have been a wood stove which was located in the front room of the residence.

The house is considered a total loss by a Norlina Volunteer Fire Department spokesman.

residence until law enforcement personnel had completed their preliminary investigation.

Watson's remains were transported at 4 a.m. to Maria Parham Hospital for examination by the

(Continued on page 12)



This 1970 Pontiac belonging to Mrs. Pearl Reavis Jones of Rt. 3, Warrenton was declared a total loss after skidding 290 feet, overturning and striking a tree on U.S. 158 Business near Macon. Mrs. Jones and two young children had been traveling west on U.S. 158 Business, Trooper N.D. Satter-

field said. All three persons were transported by the Warren County Ambulance Service to Maria Parham Hospital, where they were treated and released. Mrs. Jones has been charged with driving left of center, Trooper Satterfield said.

(Photo by Brenda Clarke)

In Local School Funding

Board May Request Over \$1.7 Million

By THURLETTA M. BROWN
News Editor

In preparation for the first phase of the county's budgeting cycle for 1988-89, the Warren County Board of Education Monday night reviewed a proposed request for \$1,725,846 in local funds and set Thursday, May 5, at 8 p.m. as the time for a working session to add the finishing touches prior to submission to the Warren County Board of County Commissioners.

As in years past, the request will be presented as three distinct components:

—a continuation budget of \$1,308,894 to sustain the current operations of Warren County Schools at this year's level;

—an expansion items budget of \$199,392 to "expand" the current level of service being provided by the school system with local funds; and

—a capital outlay budget of \$217,560, exclusive of projects to be addressed by the approaching \$11.35 million bond referendum.

Continuation Budget

Built into the continuation budget are items which total \$1,502,394. Only \$1,308,894 of this amount is sought through county funds, but "it represents a very real increase," Superintendent Michael Williams said.

The superintendent explained that part of the increase was due to an anticipated salary adjustment for school employees of five percent. "This appears to be the direction being recommended to the legislature," he noted.

For 1987-88, \$1,248,032 was budgeted: \$1,168,032 in property tax revenues and \$80,000 in the county's appropriation of the one-half-cent sales taxes. For 1988-89, nothing is shown for the one-half-cent sales taxes appropriation because that amount will be earmarked for the school construction projects—and the retirement of associated debt—expected to be supported by the proposed bond referendum.

If the \$1,308,894 allocation, which comes from county property tax revenues, is received by Warren County Schools, the deficit is expected to be met through a fund balance (\$75,000), federal

and food service indirect costs (\$63,000), fines and forfeitures (\$55,000) and tuition/fees (\$500).

The line items for regular school and support services total \$1,288,080, an increase from the \$1,227,634 level budgeted this year. To this \$1,288,080 have been added the following: dropout prevention supplements (\$593), support personnel (\$31,598), driver training supplements (\$474), staff

development (\$4,500), director's travel and exceptional children supplements (\$5,739), community schools (\$12,593), remediation supplements (\$356), child nutrition supplement/travel (\$1,392), summer band camp (\$1,500) and JTPA supplement (\$238).

In addition, two separate line items for vocational education contribute to the \$1,502,394 pro-

(Continued on page 12)



This 1977 Chevrolet was declared a total loss after the driver, Gregory Jones, of Rt. 2, Macon, drove the vehicle into the back of a 1969 Chevrolet pickup truck driven by L. C. Cooper of Warrenton last Wednesday. Cooper was taken to Maria Parham Hospital for the treatment of back injuries sustained in the accident. Jones will face an assortment of charges, among them driving while impaired.

(Photo by Brenda Clarke)

In-Town Collision Injures Former Extension Chairman

The Warrenton Police Department responded to a call last Wednesday concerning a wreck that occurred inside the Warrenton city limits.

Leonard C. Cooper was backing his 1969 Chevrolet truck out of his driveway onto S. R. 1107 when the tail end of the vehicle was struck by a 1977 Chevrolet driven by Gregory Jones of Rt. 2, Macon.

Sgt. George Alston was called to the scene. He charged Jones with driving while impaired, no operator's license, driving left of center, no insurance and speeding.

Cooper was taken to Maria Parham Hospital for back in-

juries sustained from the accident.

Damages to Cooper's car were estimated at \$600, while the Chevrolet that was driven by Jones was considered a total loss.

Thieves Apparently Were Scared Away

Thieves were apparently scared away from a Warrenton residence last week, as evidence inside the home indicated during investigation.

Last Thursday afternoon, Mrs. Gid Tharrington returned to her Battle Avenue home to find the glass broken out of her back door. She also discovered that a small television set and a toaster had been placed beside her back door, apparently ready to be taken by thieves.

Mrs. Tharrington immediately called the Warrenton Police Department. Sgt. George Alston responded to the call. It was determined that a piece of wood had been used in breaking the glass out of the back door, allowing thieves to gain entry into the house.

Several other items within the house were found to have been moved, as if to be taken, but no items were reported missing.

The case is still under investigation, as no suspects have been named.

Damage Is High

A total of \$8,000 in damages have been estimated for a vehicle belonging to a Warren County man, following an accident near Sulphur Springs Baptist Church in Afton last Sunday morning.

According to N.C. Highway Patrolman R. A. Ennis, Alonso Richardson, 30, of Rt. 2, Warrenton

(Continued on page 12)