

The Warren Record

Volume 91

25¢ Per Copy

Warrenton, County Of Warren, North Carolina

Wednesday, July 13, 1988

Number 28



Four persons were hospitalized Tuesday following the head-on collision of a Toyota and a Chrysler New Yorker that occurred on RPR 1112 in Warren County, N.C. Highway Patrol Trooper N. D. Satterfield is shown surveying the accident site and assessing the damage sustained by the two vehicles, which were both declared a total loss. (Photo by Brenda Clarke)

Four Persons Are Hospitalized Following Head-On Warren Crash

By THURLETTA M. BROWN
News Editor

The wheels of Warren County's emergency response team were set in motion Tuesday and remained that way well into the night, following a 4:12 p.m. report of a two-car collision that resulted in life-threatening injuries for three of the six persons involved and declarations of total loss for both vehicles.

According to N.C. Highway Patrol Trooper N. D. Satterfield, the late-70's-model Toyota being

driven by Mrs. Felicia Thames, 19, of Norlina had been traveling toward US 1 on RPR 1112, when it crossed left of center and collided head-on with the 1985 Chrysler New Yorker being driven by Mrs. Debra Carter Davis, 32, of Rt. 2, Manson.

Both vehicles remained in the roadway and there were no skid marks, the trooper said.

Following impact, smoke was seen coming from the hood of the Toyota and the Ridgeway Fire Department was summoned to

the scene, but were sent back to their station after spraying water at the site as a precautionary measure, an EMS spokesperson said.

Both available ambulances of the Warren County Emergency Medical Service (EMS) were summoned for transport of the six persons involved in the accident.

Mrs. Debra Davis, interim director for the Vance-Warren Comprehensive Health Plan since April of this year, refused EMS transport after sustaining minor leg injuries, the trooper said, but was advised to seek medical evaluation on her own. According to an EMS spokesperson, she was more concerned about ensuring that treatment was received by the passengers of the Toyota than with her own condition.

Including Mrs. Thames, there were five passengers in the Toyota: Shantia R. Howard of Norlina, a four-month-old infant; Ernest L. Howard, Jr. of Warrenton, a 19-month-old youth; Lovelace P. Edwards of Warrenton, age 11; and Alfreda L. Edwards of Norlina, age 14.

Mrs. Thames and her four passengers were transported to Maria Parham Hospital in Henderson for treatment and evaluation.

Alfreda L. Edwards was admitted to Maria Parham for fractures to the lower leg and ankle, an emergency room spokesperson there said. Ernest L. Howard, Jr. was released after treatment for soft-tissue injuries to the foot.

Mrs. Thames and the infant Shantia at 7:15 p.m. Tuesday were transported by the Warren County Emergency Medical Service to Duke University Medical Center in Durham.

Both Mrs. Thames and the infant sustained skull fractures in the crash, a Maria Parham emergency room spokesperson said. Mrs. Thames repeatedly lapsed in and out of consciousness. The infant Shantia was described as alert, but weak.

At press time, Mrs. Thames was said to be in serious, but stable condition after having been admitted to Duke University Medical Center. The infant Shantia was still being held for evaluation in the Duke emergency room, a spokesperson there said.

Lovelace P. Edwards also sustained a skull fracture, a spokesperson at the Maria Parham emergency room said. After treatment and stabilization there, he was transported at 9:15 p.m. to Duke University Medical Center by Warren County EMS Director Dennis Paschall and was admitted. At press time, he was said to be in serious condition by

(Continued on page 4)

Warren Board Is Informed

Middle School Occupancy Seen By Spring Of 1990

By THURLETTA M. BROWN
News Editor

A shortfall of funds may delay work on all components of the proposed building plan for Warren County Schools, but the construction of a new middle school and additions to Warren County High School and Northside Elementary School is expected to proceed, with occupancy of the middle and high school buildings anticipated by the spring of 1990 and the Northside addition by the spring of 1992.

Superintendent Michael Williams Monday night presented to the Warren County Board of Education a tentative building schedule make use of the \$10.5 million available for construction. The decisions to be made now, he said, were to (1) schedule the middle school, high school addition and Northside projects; (2) delay other elementary school projects indefinitely; and (3) request that the board of county commissioners sell \$7 million in bonds in August of this year, with another \$1.5 million to be scheduled for sale in March, 1991.

Last year, the board of education had outlined an \$11,351,735 building plan: a new middle school (\$6,955,000), an addition to Northside (\$1,388,475), an addition to Warren County High School (\$1,958,010) and projects at certain elementary schools (\$1,050,250).

Because funds available from Warren County's recent bond issue, even when coupled with the \$2 million allocation received from the Commission on Critical School Facility needs, leave a \$1 million gap, the board agreed to postpone the additions that had been planned at certain elementary schools.

According to the superintendent, \$2 million in critical need monies and the sale of \$5 million in bonds next month will yield the \$7 million needed for a new middle school. Completion of that project will permit the closing of Hawkins, John Graham and Norlina, and allow reorganization of the Mariah Boyd, South Warren and Vaughan school districts.

The sale of \$5 million in bonds will also permit funding for the \$2 million addition proposed at the

WCHS campus, he explained, giving second priority to that project since an athletic field and three vocational classes are currently located at middle school campuses destined for abandonment as school sites.

With a second sale of \$1.5 million in bonds, an addition at Northside may begin, permitting the closing of North Warren, the elementary school reorganization and the transfer of grade-six students to the middle school level.

Although no action was taken on the adoption of the tentative schedule, the board supported the postponement of the projects that had been proposed for the elementary schools, with the exception of Northside, and vowed to move aggressively in its determination of architects, a building site and the advisability of employing a construction management firm.

A series of tours will be scheduled for board members, who wish to see first-hand several recently-constructed middle schools.

"And we want to be sure that the architect hired can design a positive-drain roof," Board Member Yarborough Williams said. "We've spent enough money on roofs in Warren County to build a new school!" he concluded.

Following the site visits to middle schools in the state, a special meeting will be scheduled to hammer out the specifications for the three building projects.

Negotiations Approved For Pipe Replacement

Negotiations for the replacement of 1,000 feet of asbestos-lined transit pipe have been given the green light by the Norlina Board of Town Commissioners.

By action taken Monday night, the board has authorized Mayor Bill Delbridge to negotiate specifications for the project with the John Thomas Harris Construction Company.

The initial approved phase of the replacement project has been

estimated at \$12,500 to \$15,000. Eventually, more of the estimated 10,000 feet of pipe will be replaced, the board agreed.

In other business, the board:

—Heard a report on a \$5,000 surplus that has been identified in pre-audit evaluations;

—Appointed Julian Farrar to fill the unexpired term of Kenneth Severance on the five-member Norlina Zoning Board;

—Heard a report that liability insurance for the town now costs \$18,300, if a \$1,000 deductible is used, and agreed to forego a \$1,500 savings available with a \$10,000 deductible; and

—Approved the placement of four new street lights on Washington Street and Jerman Lane. The lights will be installed by Carolina Power & Light Company immediately, the mayor said.

Norlina Native Killed In Wreck

A Norlina native who was living in Raleigh died Thursday from injuries she suffered when her car ran off a Raleigh street and hit a utility pole and a house late Wednesday night.

Miss Mary Lou King, 27, died at Wake Medical Center in Raleigh where she had been taken following the accident at 11 p.m. Wednesday.

According to Raleigh police reports, Miss King was traveling alone in a 1983 Subaru when she ran off Lynne Road near Shelburne Drive and struck a pole and a house.

Miss King was a certified public accountant with Touche Ross and Company in Raleigh. She was the daughter of Clarence C. King, Sr. and Dorothy Gray King of Norlina.

Funeral services for Miss King were held on Saturday, July 9 at 2 p.m. at Jerusalem United Methodist Church by the Rev. Tim Russell. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Survivors in addition to her parents include two sisters, Becky King Rooker and Cliffie King Burrows, both of Norlina; and one brother, Clarence C. "Red" King, Jr. of Norlina.

Arrangements were by Blaylock Funeral Home of Warrenton.

Voting Hours

Residents of the Churchill-Five Forks community will voice their opinions on the establishment of a taxed fire district there from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 23, instead of from 6:30-7:30 p.m. as was printed in last week's issue of The Warren Record.

One Automobile Stoned, Two Vehicles Recovered

Alleged theft of vehicles and damage to another have been the bane of three Warren County residents this week.

The damage report was filed by Calvin Alston, 25, of Rt. 1, Warrenton, after his 1988 Honda Accord had been pelted by rocks in the lot of the Starlight night club on SR 1001.

An estimated \$1,000 in damage had been done by an unidentified person or persons, who had thrown a rock through the window on the driver's side of the vehicle and had caused additional injury to the hood of the car.

There are no suspects in the case under investigation by Chief Deputy Bobby D. Bolton.

Early Sunday morning the 1971 Pontiac belonging to Cynthia Louise Turner of Rt. 1, Manson was reported missing from the parking lot at the Roseland night club. Also reported missing were a checkbook and purse that had been left in the vehicle.

Later on Sunday, the Pontiac was recovered undamaged by the

Vance County Sheriff's Department, a Warren County sheriff's spokesperson said.

Deputy W. S. Bissette was the Warren County investigating officer.

A second vehicle was also reported missing early Sunday morning, when the 1977 Chevrolet Monte Carlo belonging to Joe Nathan Fields of Rt. 2, Henderson, in the Hecks Grove community, was found to be missing from its parking place at a neighbor's residence. The car had no license tags or insurance coverage.

Prior to receipt of the report, the vehicle had been found abandoned in Warren County by N.C. Highway Patrol Trooper R. A. Ennis, who requested that the Monte Carlo be towed and stored.

License tags registered to another individual had been placed on the car, but to the department's knowledge, insurance coverage had not been purchased by the borrower of the vehicle.

Roanoke Rapids Woman Hurt In Wreck West Of Littleton

A Roanoke Rapids woman was injured and went into insulin shock when her car ran off U. S. 158 west of Littleton at 7:54 a.m. last Thursday.

According to Trooper Al Bennett of the State Highway Patrol, Sonya Desett Jenkins, 21, of 120 Carmichael Street in Roanoke Rapids, was traveling west on U. S. 158 just 4.2 miles from Littleton when she lost control of the 1983 Oldsmobile Omega she was driving. Reports indicate that Ms. Jenkins entered a curve too fast, causing her car to go across the center line. She pulled the car back into the right lane and onto the shoulder. The automobile then rolled into the ditch area

where it skidded 1,452 feet before striking a concrete culvert.

After the left front of the vehicle struck the concrete drain, the automobile became airborne and spun around until it became wedged eight feet off the ground between two trees.

The Warren County Ambulance Service transported Ms. Jenkins to Halifax Memorial Hospital where she was treated for a mild concussion and minor cuts. She was kept overnight for observation and released Friday.

Trooper Bennett charged Ms. Jenkins for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. The vehicle was declared a total loss with damages estimated at \$8,000.