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Looking much like a child's discarded playthings, these objects of summer's fun on a Warren County pond lay in wait for the return of warm weather. (Staff Photo by Phyllis H. King)

Opposition Expressed Over Meal Price Hike

By DIANE DAVIS
Staff Writer

Rocky Mount-based ServiceAmerica, the vendor that provides meals for the weekday nutrition program housed at the Warren County Senior Citizens Center, has asked the Kerr-Tar Regional Council on Governments for additional monies to operate the program for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Mrs. Bertha Forte, director of the Warren County Coordinating Council of Senior Citizens, expressed strong opposition to this request. "They should fulfill their contract," she said Tuesday afternoon. "They bid the lowest price for the contract, they got it, now they should fulfill it." ServiceAmerica began serving meals on July 1 after it won the contract by submitting the lowest bid.

Mrs. Forte also expressed concern over the quality of the food that has been offered by ServiceAmerica. "Sometimes the food just seems crummy," she said. "If ServiceAmerica does get additional money, I hope the quality of the food improves."

On November 9, the Kerr-Tar Regional COG Aging Advisory Council which met in Henderson also expressed its disapproval of the request. The regional advisory council rejected a budget amendment that would have given ServiceAmerica \$13,329 in federal and state funds and would have reduced the total number of meals served by 476.

Steve Norwood, Region K program administrator for the aging division, said that the first request by ServiceAmerica was made in September. The vendor claimed to need approximately \$26,000 in additional funds because of additional costs for utilities, travel reimbursement for volunteers and higher salaries for the staff.

Norwood indicated that ServiceAmerica's bid did not include funds to cover the payment of mileage reimbursements to volunteers who deliver meals to the elderly homebound in the pro-

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Development Center Goes To New Site

The Warren County Child Development Center, formerly located on Franklin Street in Warrenton, recently joined forces with the Vance County Child Development Center to become the Vance-Warren Child Development Center, according to Director Ms. Shirley Powell.

"We realized that we did not have enough children to keep the Warren County operation going," said Ms. Powell, "so we decided to combine the two together." The Vance-Warren Child Development Center offers children 18 months to nine years of age that have developmental disabilities speech services, physical therapy and occupational therapy for each child.

"We specialize in five areas," Ms. Powell said. "They are language skills, cognitive skills, finding growth motivation patterns, a self-help program and

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Macon Centennial To Be Discussed

Agenda items expected to come before the Warren County Board of County Commissioners when they meet at 7 tonight (Wednesday) will include a presentation from Macon Mayor M. C. Clary for the upcoming Town of Macon Centennial Celebration, change orders for the Quick City CDBG rehabilitation project and appointments to various boards.

All meetings of the board of county commissioners, as are all meetings of local and county governing boards, are open to the public.

Board To Take Option On Middle School Site

Hawks Land Considered

By THURLETTA M. BROWN
News Editor

Monday night's approval by the Warren County Board of Education of taking an option on a parcel of property to serve as a site for the new middle school and a contract with a Chapel Hill architect firm for services connected with both the new facility and additions to Warren County High School have brought the county's students one step closer to having improved facilities.

With a vote of 4-1 taken in executive session, the board agreed to take an option to purchase a 30-acre tract of land adjacent to Warren County High School. The land is the property of the Hawkes family, the original owners of the site on which Warren County High School was built. A \$7,500 option fee will be taken for a six-month period, pending approval for construction and soil testing.

Upon motion of board member Yarborough Williams, seconded by Mrs. Cora Watson, the Warren County Board of Education voted unanimously to enter into a contract with the firm of Cogswell-Hausler Associates. Representatives of the firm were present and provided for the board a report on the high school addition.

A number of schematic drawings for the high school addition were shared with the board with a request for feedback to permit the firm to submit the drawings to the State Board of Education for review.

"Several options have been considered and several modifications have been made to the original program specifications," architect David Clinton said. According to Clinton, specifications include 12 regular classrooms, eight resource rooms, three vocational spaces, one band area and an in-school suspension

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Veteran Tax Assessor Leaves Warren Position

The Warren County Board of County Commissioners has accepted with regret the resignation of Mrs. Janice Haynes. Mrs. Haynes resigned earlier this month giving personal reasons as the cause. She had been tax assessor for Warren County since November of 1969.

Mrs. Mildred Hardy, veteran tax office employee, has been named acting assessor.



MISS BEAMAN

Pageant Winner To Appear Here In Parade Lead

Miss Lee Beaman, the reigning Miss North Carolina for 1988 who will serve as grand marshal for this year's Warren County Jaycees Christmas Parade, may give Santa Claus some "serious competition," parade committee co-chairman Aubrey Hines, said Tuesday.

"We're excited about having Miss Beaman as a part of our parade, which promises to be bigger and better than those of years past," Hines said.

The parade will be held on Sunday, Dec. 4. The route will begin at 4 p.m. at Mariam Boyd Elementary School and end at the Lion's Den.

According to Hines, response to the request for walking units and floats has been strong. To date, 20 units have registered, some of which will sport multiple vehicles. Two local bands, one from Warren County High School and the other from John Graham and Norlina middle schools, will also be included.

"We would still like to have more floats," Hines said, as he encouraged interested persons to register prior to Dec. 1.

The 1988 Christmas Parade, in addition to Santa Claus and Miss North Carolina, will offer another highlight: a float contest. Three prizes will be awarded in each of two categories: religious and commercial, Hines said.

Entrants in both categories are expected to have Christmas motifs, but the commercial floats will be non-religious in nature, Hines explained. First-prize winners in both categories will receive \$60, with \$40 and \$25 going to the second- and third-place winners, respectively. Judges for the contest will be selected.

Persons with interest in entering a float or walking unit into the 1988 Warren County Jaycees Christmas Parade are asked to register as soon as possible, but no later than Dec. 1, by calling Hines (257-3181), Mike Garrett (257-1051) or Walter Gardner (257-3104).

Strategic Plan Aired

More than 40 Warren County business and civic leaders got a look at how to develop a blueprint for growth Monday night during a briefing by a strategic planning consultant expected to work with Warren citizens seeking to target avenues for future growth.

The 45-minute briefing by consultant Donna L. Sorkin, owner of a northern Virginia consulting firm called Strategies for Communities, came following a buffet dinner held at the Norlina Landmark.

Mrs. Sorkin, who is now working with strategic planning groups in Craven County and in Hagerstown, Md., will be assisting Warren County as it goes about an 18-month task of evaluating its strengths and weaknesses and drafting and implementing an action plan.

The Warren County project, funded in part by the N. C. Rural Economic Development Center, is one of the first in the state to attempt to apply the use of strategic planning in a rural community.

Mrs. Sorkin, a graduate of Mt. Holyoke College and Harvard University, said that "by looking at Warren County's weaknesses we can help set long-term objectives that will help us to figure out short-term strategies."

The speaker, who has recently completed a similar project for Greensboro, said one major difficulty of undertaking the development of a strategic plan is having to "look at you weaknesses in public." Unlike a plan of action devised by a corporation, one devised for community use depends on openness with the citizens at every turn.

Monday night's meeting was presided over by Mrs. Eva M. Clayton, chairman of the

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MRS. SORKIN

Ticket Sale Begins Here

Tickets went on sale this week for a barbecued pork dinner which will be held here on Wednesday, Nov. 30 by members of the Warrenton Lions Club.

Plates of barbecue will be sold at the Warrenton Lions Den from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. and persons may get takeout orders or eat in the Lions Den dining room. Plates will sell for \$3.50 each.

Lion Dorsey Capps will be in charge of cooking the pigs, and funds raised will benefit community projects aided by the club. Among the main ones are to assist with a kidney transplant for the young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Henry of Macon, the awarding of a Lions Scholarship to be given next spring to a graduating Warren County senior and the sponsorship of a Lions Youth Exchange in the summer.

David Gardner, who is in charge of publicity for the event, said 1,500 tickets have been printed and may be obtained from any Lion. Tickets will also be available at the door for the complete dinner plates, he said.

Station Owner Takes Off In Pursuit

Motorist Tracked Down After Gasoline Heist

By THURLETTA M. BROWN
News Editor

A Warren County man, disgusted after the departure of a customer prior to the payment of a \$5 gasoline tab at Boyd's Interstate Shell Service, took matters into his own hands last week and joined area law enforcement officers in a chase that netted not only the initially sought suspect, but another fugitive as well.

Following a report on Nov. 9 at 9:33 a.m. of failure to pay for gasoline by a customer, Deputy R. A. Coleman, along with other officers all armed with the license number of the customer's vehicle, began a search in the vicinity of the Rt. 1, Manson business, which is located at the Manson exit of I-85.

Meanwhile, Carl Boyd, whose family owns and operates the station, gave chase himself. Boyd located the 1988 Buick Regal on SR 1200 at the Virginia state line, near Va. Highway 4. The driver bounded by foot into the woods and Boyd called for assistance on his citizen's band radio.

Trained tracking dogs were requested from the N.C. Department of Corrections site in Bunn and the chase continued.

A male suspect was found in a wooded area, but following Boyd's identification of the man, officers determined that James Patrick Robinson, 43, formerly of Rt. 1, Manson and now of Palmer Springs, Va., was not the offending motorist.

Following a review of Warren County's outstanding warrants,

however, Robinson was found to be wanted here on charges of non-support and violation of probation. He has been confined in the Warren County Jail under bonds totaling \$3,000—\$2,000 for the non-support charge and \$1,000 for the probation violation charge—to await his court appearances. Robinson's probation violation case will be tried on Nov. 23. His non-support case will be heard on Nov. 28.

The search involving dogs from Franklin County and officers from Warren and Vance counties, as well as Mecklenburg County, Va., ended later with the capture of Michael Wayne Crutchfield, 31, of Durham. Crutchfield has been confined to the Warren County jail under a \$5,000 bond to await his Nov. 23 court appearance to face charges of having no oper-

ator's license, having a revoked operator's license, possession of a stolen vehicle and larceny of gasoline. The 1988 Buick Regal Crutchfield was driving is the property of National Car Rental in Greensboro, a sheriff's spokesperson said.

Since Crutchfield's confinement here, a search of the national crime information network has revealed that he has also been charged with larceny of a vehicle in Greensboro, as well as four alleged crimes under investigation by the Raleigh Police Department: two counts of attempting to obtain property under false pretenses and two counts of larceny.

According to the sheriff's spokesperson, Crutchfield is being held on detainer in Warren County for officers in the other two locales.

Warren Man's Response Saves Youngster's Life

Thanks to the quick response of a Warren County Rescue Squad worker, the life of a 10-year-old Oxford girl was saved.

Natatera Heggie, 10, daughter of Mrs. Antonia Cathy of Oxford, was at the Spring Street Baptist Church in Henderson on the afternoon of Nov. 6 with her grandfather, the Rev. Charles Cobb, who is the preacher there, when she choked on a pen cap that she had been chewing.

Eddie Richardson, a Warren County Rescue Squad worker, was also at the church and im-

mediately came to Natatera's aid, performing the Heimlich maneuver and releasing the object from her throat. While she was then able to breathe, the object had become lodged between her stomach and her throat. She had to be transported to Duke Hospital by the Vance County Rescue Squad to have the cap surgically removed.

"She is doing just fine now," said her grandfather. "We just want to make sure that he (Eddie Richardson) knows how much we appreciate his help."