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Little Jennifer Lynn Henry, the six-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Henry who will soon undergo a kidney transplant to correct a condition diagnosed as renal dysplasia, recently received a check for \$500 from the Warrenton Lion's Club. Shown making the presentation is Lion's President David Proctor (right) while Mrs. Karen Henry, the child's mother, and Lion Broaddus Vernon look on. (Photo by Brenda Clarke)

Latest Figures Are Examined

Poverty Decline Among Elderly Is Reported For Warren County

Information made available by the Department of Commerce, the Census Bureau and the Social Security Administration indicates that poverty among elderly Americans both nationally and in Warren County has continued to decline. The federal government classifies individuals aged 65 years or more as elderly.

Poverty among the elderly should be more difficult to deal with than poverty among other groups. Many of the programs utilizied by government in its efforts to reduce poverty, particularly job training programs, are irrelevant for most elderly persons. It is often difficult for a person past the age of 65 to obtain a new job regardless of training or qualifications. In spite of all this, poverty among the eiderly both nationally and in Warren County has consistently declined more than poverty among any other demographic group.

The 1970 Census figures showed that 837 or 41.9 percent of the 2,000 eligible persons living in Warren County were classified as poor in 1969 compared to an overall national poverty rate of 12.1 percent.

Poverty among the elderly in Warren County declined by 10.9 percent from 1969 to 1979. The 1980 Census indicated that the number of poor elderly persons in Warren County had fallen to 746 over that period. The proportion of the poor among the elderly in Warren County had also declined to 31.1 percent by 1979 while the overall local poverty rate had fallen to 30.5 percent.

The poverty rate among elderly Americans declined markedly from 1969 through 1979 although the overall national poverty rate declined only slightly during this period. By 1979, 4.1 million Americans aged 65 years and over, or 15.2 percent of the nation's elderly population, were classified as poor, compared to 11.7 percent of all Americans.

Changes in the poverty rate among the elderly have not entirely followed changes in overall poverty rates since 1979 The increase that took place in the national poverty level from 1979 through 1983 was not shared by elderly Americans. By 1983, some 3.7 million Americans 65 years or more or 14.2 percent of all elderly Americans were classified as poor while the national poverty rate was 15.2 percent at that time. The poverty rate among the elderly had become less than the overall poverty rate.

Unclaimed Monies Are Owed Residents Of Warren County

Holders of unclaimed monies or items belonging to residents of the state are required to file an escheat report of the property. Funds in accounts that have been inactive for five or more years, or have been abandoned for a comparable period, are sent to the State Treasurer. Individuals listed below who wish to reclaim their funds or property may secure from the Warren County Clerk of Superior Court forms to be mailed to the Unclaimed and Abandoned Property Office:

Earnestine Alexander\$57.30
A. S. Bugg, Rt. 3, Warrenton\$234.84
Mary H. Chute, Rt. 1, Norlina\$305.08
E. E. Crews, Rt. 2, WarrentonProperty
John I. Hickman, Warrenton\$62.60
Sarah Hicks, Warrenton\$139.18
William H. Howell, Rt. 1, Norlina\$79.52
Dr. Frank P. Hunter, Warrenton\$498.68
Betty F. Miller, Norlina\$150.72
Alice Rodwell, Warrenton\$156.00
John R. Taylor\$213.00

From 1983 to 1987, the overall national poverty rate has declined to 13.5 percent. During this same period, the poverty rate among the elderly declined to 12.2 percent.

Comparable information regarding income levels among the elderly on a local basis is not currently available. However, other data strongly indicates that the level of poverty among the elderly in Warren County has also continued to decline since 1979.

In 1981, 474 persons or 19.8 percent of the elderly population in Warren County were classified as indigent and received Supplemental Security Income Benefits. Nationally, 6.7 percent of all elderly persons were in this category at that time. By December of 1986, 422 persons or an estimated 15.6 percent of the elderly population in Warren County were classified as indigent and received these benefits. The national proportion of this group had declined to five percent.

had declined to five percent. While there are undoubtedly poor persons among the elderly population both in Warren County and nationally who do not receive SSI benefits, it appears probably that the decline in the proportion of the indigent elderly from 1981 to 1986 also reflects a statistical decline in the proportion of elderly poverty. It further appears that the incidence of poverty among the elderly in Warren County has fallen more rapidly than the national incidence of elderly poverty since 1969.

Skull Found

Investigations are continuing on the human skull found Saturday, Nov. 26, in the Vaughan community here, Chief Deputy Bobby D. Bolton said Tuesday.

According to Bolton, the skull was found in a wooded area in Vaughan by an individual who reported his findings to local authorities.

The skull will be sent for evaluation to the State Medical Examiner's Office in Chapel Hill, Bolton said.

Deputy R. A. Coleman is the investigating officer.

Miss N. C., Santa To Appear

Christmas Parade Scheduled Sunday

By THURLETTA M. BROWN News Editor

A virtual army of floats, walking units, bands and vehicles—all put through their paces under the watchful eyes of Santa Claus and the reigning Miss North Carolina for 1988—will converge on the Town of Warrenton this Sunday, Dec. 4, at 4 p.m. when the Warren County Jaycees Christmas Parade comes to town.

According to Aubrey Hines, Jaycees parade co-chairman, the 1988 parade will feature in excess of 50 display units.

Although the parade will not begin until 4 p.m., Hines asked all registered floats, walking units, vehicles and other displays to line up at Mariam Boyd Elementary School no later than 3 p.m. The parade route will begin from the school and continue along Main Street, before turning left on Ridgeway Street for its ending point—the Warrenton Lions Den.

As has been the custom in years past, Santa Claus will arrive in Warrenton in a horse-drawn carriage loaned to him for the parade by Karl Hehl. This year's grand marshal for the parade will be Miss North Carolina for 1988, Miss Lee Beamanaresident of Henderson.

Miss Beaman will be available on the courthouse square for autographs, Hines said.

"And who knows?" the cochairman added, "If Warren County's children have really been good—and I mean really good—Santa Claus may be able to stay for a while to visit with them before returning to the North Pole."

"But, if they've been 'naughty and not nice' he'll probably go right back home to finish working on all those toys," Mike Garrett, parade co-chairman added.

Two bands will be featured this year. The Warren County High School's Eagles Band and the John Graham Middle School Band will spread glad tidings along Main Street. Music will also be provided by the Warren County Steppers, a walking unit, Hines said.

Float or walking unit registration has been good this year, onday. A partial listing of floats and walking units includes: 14 antique cars entered by George Mason, the North Warren Elementary School Safety Patrol, Warren Hills Nursing Center, the Warren County Jaycees, the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe, Essence Beauty Salon, Masonic Stone Square Lodge No. 10, Johnson's Body Shop, Boy Scout Troop 111, a van entered by Robert Newell, three three-wheelers entered by the Just Beginning Club, the Vance-Granville Community College Computer Club, the Padlock Social Club, Boy Scout Troop No. 677, eight units entered by the Unity Van Club, three cars entered by Jimmy Spain, the Norlina VFW Post 4096 Flag Corps, the Three-Point 4-H Club, two cars entered by Candies Variety Shop, the Shriners' O'Neal Clowns, Club 43, the Jerusalem/Zion Charge, the Ridge-way 4-H Club, WHNC Radio Station, a float and horse entered by Terrance's Alterations, a 1929 Mercedes Gazelle entered by Nina Robinson and an entry from the Coon Hunters' Club.

According to co-chairman Garrett, Santa and Miss North Carolina will not be the only dignitaries to participate in the 1988 Jaycees Christmas Parade. "We've been fortunate enough to be included in the busy schedule of "Spuds McKenzie," who will be here on Sunday, courtesy of

Harris, Inc., the beer distributors," Garrett said. Other displays will carry Warrenton Mayor B. G. White, Macon Mayor M. C. Clary, the Warren County Board of County Commissioners and Miss Warren County High School for 1988—Ann Manning.

Both Hines and Garrett reminded area residents that the deadline for registering floats or walking units is Thursday, Dec. 1. Individuals, groups or businesses who wish to register should contact Hines at 257-3181, Garrett at 257-1052, or Walter Gardner at 257-3141.

"And we want to remind everyone about the contest for the best religious or commercial floats," the co-chairmen said. Entrants in both categories will be expected to have Christmas motifs, but the commercial floats will be non-religious in nature, Garrett explained. First-prize winners in both categories will receive \$60, with \$40 and \$25 going to the second-prize and third-prize winners, respectively.

"A number of Warrenton merchants will remain open for business during the hours of the parade this year," the co-chairmen said. "That way, Warren County residents can get a head start on their shopping, enjoy the parade, meet Miss North Carolina, see 'Spuds McKenzie' and Santa Claus—and have a really good time!"

Fire District Hearing Is Scheduled Tonight

By THURLETTA M. BROWN News Editor

Citizens with opinions concerning the establishment of a fire service district in the Churchill-Five Forks community are expected to turn out in droves tonight at 7:00 when the Warren County Board of County Commissioners convenes a public hearing in the county court house.

The Churchill-Five Forks public hearing—the first of a series of 14 sessions to be held for residents of each of the county's fire districts—is the first step of required action necessitated by a resolution submitted to the board of commissioners on Sept. 21 by the Warren County Fire Commission.

The resolution submitted by the fire commission—after the sound defeat of a referendum held in Churchill-Five Forks for the establishment of a taxed fire district—calls for the establishment by the board of county commissioners of 14 fire service districts to be financed by an annual levy of additional property taxes.

On Nov. 7, the Warren County Board of County Commissioners adopted a resolution calling for the establishment of a 0-15-cent ceiling per \$100 valuation on the additional taxes to be levied on residents of fire service districts —in the event that such taxed fire districts are established.

Following the establishment of fire service districts, the new tax—which could vary among the 14 districts but not exceed 15

Trailer Destroyed

A mobile home located on U.S. 1 North of Wise was completely destroyed by fire around 5 a.m. Saturday.

When Hawtree firefighters arrived on the scene they found the residence of Rose Talley completely engulfed in flames.

"Although we arrived on the scene rather quickly, the fire had too much headway and we were unable to save anything" said Bruce Perkinson, chief of Hawtree Fire Department.

Norlina Fire Department was summoned to lend assistance with extra water and manpower.

Later on Saturday, around 4 p.m. Hawtree firemen received another call to the residence of Mary Ball, where the circuit box had shorted out. No major damage was caused and loss was confined to the circuit box.

cents per \$100 in any district—would become effective in the

1989-90 fiscal year.

State law provided for at least two types of taxed fire districts: one that is established by majority vote of the affected registered voting residents; and the other that is established by a county's board of commissioners—following an evaluation of the need for fire service and an assessment of public sentiment.

Action taken by a county's board of commissioners to establish a fire service district takes into account the opinions of all tax-paying residents of a community. Action taken as a result of a community referendum is based solely on the wishes of registered voters and does not registered voters and does not always take into account the opinions of non-resident property owners, who are ineligible to cast their votes.

Public hearings on the etablishment of taxed fire service districts for the following 13 fire districts in Warren County are expected to be scheduled at a later date: Smith Creek, Central Warren, Arcola, Drewry, Inez, Afton-Elberon, Hawtree, Macon Rural, Ridgeway, Roanoke-Wildwood, Soul City, Littleton OPA and Cokesbury.

Warrant Is Drawn In Probe Of Theft

A warrant has been drawn on a Roanoke Rapids man who, along with a possible accomplice, is believed to be a suspect in an August break-in on Lake Gaston that resulted in the disappearance of \$2,000 in personal property, a sheriff's spokesperson said Tuesday.

According to the report, a warrant charging breaking and entering and larceny was drawn on Nov. 22 on John Robert Ezell, who is incarcerated now in Halifax County. The suspect awaits transport to the Warren County Jail, the sheriff's spokesperson said.

Pending the outcome of investigations by local authorities, a second warrant may be issued on

second warrant may be issued on another suspect.

Ezell is a suspect in the Aug. 30 break-in at the Spinaker Point residence of Durwood A. Herring. Reported missing were a Commodore computer, an Emerson 19-inch color television, a General Electric VCR, a Kenmore microwave, a Polaroid camera and an army field jacket.