

The Warren Record

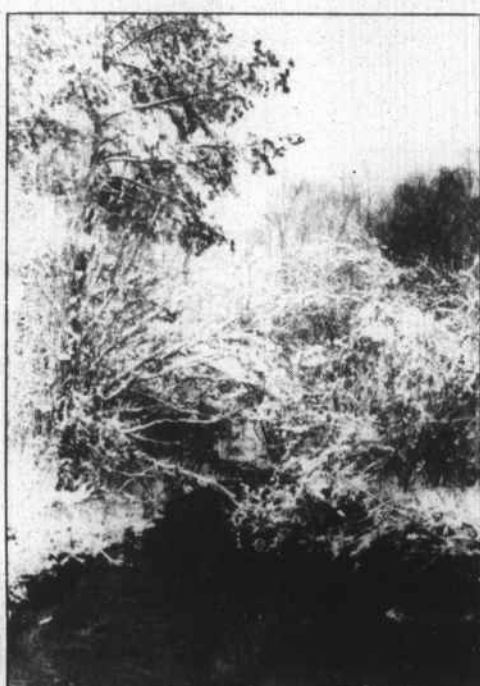
Volume 94

25¢ Per Copy

Warrenton, County Of Warren, North Carolina

Wednesday, March 1, 1989

Number 9



These were among the scenes produced locally by last week's snowstorm—the second to occur in February—which dumped five inches of frozen precipitation on Warren County. After an earlier 17-inch snowfall snarled business and traffic, last

Thursday and Friday's dusting proved more beautiful than inconvenient. (Staff Photos by Phyllis H. King and Dianne T. Rodwell)

Mother Nature Continues Roller Coaster Ride Here

By THURLETTA M. BROWN
News Editor

Mother Nature has continued her roller coaster ride throughout Warren County, most recently leaving an additional five inches of the "white stuff" to join the blackened piles of residue that have remained from the previous 17-inch accumulation.

"We've been so busy that it is hard to tell what day it is," Glenwood Rose, a Department of Transportation highway maintenance engineer for Warren and Vance counties, lamented Tuesday morning.

According to Rose, some of his personnel have worked as much as 36 hours straight to ensure that the county's roadways have been passable and safe.

Early last Thursday afternoon as snowflakes continued to fall, about 35 DOT employees began their all too familiar task of depositing salt and sand along Warren County's roads. Six salt trucks deposited about 100 tons of salt on US 158, US 158 bypass, US 1 and I-85. "This time, we also included US 401 and SR 1001 (Warrenton-Henderson Road)," he said. In addition, three sand trucks deposited about 120 tons of sand.

All totaled, the DOT equipment called into service included 18 dump trucks, six salt trucks, three sand trucks, nine snow plows, two tandem dump trucks and four motor graders. According to Rose, the clean-up activity continued until 4:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Warren County's schools remained in session for a full day on Thursday, but students were given a "snow day" on Friday.

"Although last week's snow was not as heavy to move as was the case with the previous 17 inches, this time we were faced with a number of icy spots on hills, curves and bridges," Rose said. "Our men really worked around the clock and we are appreciative of all of the support, cooperation and understanding we have received from the citizens here."

On Monday, snow fell again in Warren County and the DOT trucks were sent out to deposit sand on bridges. According to Rose, the ground was covered in

Norlina, but the accumulation "thinned out" as one approached Macon. "So far, we have had far fewer calls and our men have really pushed themselves beyond all expectations," he said.

Old timers say that when the groundhog sees his shadow on Feb. 2—as was the case this year—we are due for six more weeks of bad weather. The experience of Rose and other DOT personnel in recent days may lay credence to that claim. Warren County's local weather observer, Clinton Capps, was unavailable for comment.



Commissioners of the Town of Macon have been working to plan an afternoon and evening celebration of Macon's 100th anniversary on March 11. With the centennial close at hand, plans are under way for live entertainment, an all-day pork barbecue dinner sale, clowns, face painting, cake cutting, historical displays, raffles, fireworks and more. Shown above assisting the planning committee are Rachel Ricks and Betsy Medlin of Littleton. Pictured left to right are

Major Expenditure Slated By Telephone Company

\$988,000 Set For Local Use

Carolina Telephone's 1989 construction plan calls for spending \$988,000 in Warrenton to serve its customers through a new computer-controlled digital electronic switch, the state-of-the-art technology in telecommunications.

The new digital office, slated to open in September to serve 3,540 access lines in the Warrenton exchange, is part of Carolina Telephone's plans to spend more than \$119 million on construction this year throughout Eastern North Carolina.

"We have more than \$1.3 billion invested in equipment and facilities in eastern North Carolina," said Wayne Peterson, Carolina Telephone president. "To continue to meet the communications needs of our customers, we will undertake this year a construction program that is estimated to cost \$119,123,000."

About half of that will be used to provide for growth, Peterson said. The company expects to add about 26,500 telephone access lines this year, which would make its year-end total approximately 774,000.

The remainder of the construction budget is set for replacement and modernization of equipment and facilities.

Digital Central Offices
Peterson said Carolina Telephone has been replacing its "electromechanical" central offices with computerized "digital" offices at an accelerated pace since 1985. During 1989, the company will spend more than \$32 million for its central office replacement program.

Carolina Telephone will place into service 26 new digital central offices this year. When those are in service, 87% of Carolina Telephone's customers will be served by this state-of-the-art technology.

"Our 1982 long-range plans called for all switching offices to be changed out to the new digital technology by the year 2000," Peterson said. "We were able to get a few steps ahead of that schedule during the last three years and now hope to substantially improve on it."

The digital central offices require less maintenance and provide faster call processing, improved voice and data transmission and Custom Calling Features.

During the year, Carolina Telephone plans to spend ap-

(Continued on page 16)



Charles A. Hayes, former Warren County manager and industrial developer, addresses members of the Warren County Committee of 100 at the group's fourth annual kick-off dinner held Monday night at the Norlina Landmark. Hayes urged those present to place major emphasis on local educational opportunities, saying that in the 1990s some 90 percent of all new jobs will go to persons with education beyond the high school level. (Staff Photo by Howard Jones)



William A. Dunn, deputy secretary of commerce for North Carolina, tells members of the Warren Committee of 100 of the need to put up a speculative shell building to improve industrial recruiting. Dunn said 80 percent of the companies hoping to locate in North Carolina are looking for an existing building. Committee President Karl Hehl presided over the meeting. (Staff Photo by Howard Jones)

New Water Testing Fee To Be Debated March 6

The imposition of a new fee for water testing and a proposed change in the provision of services to patients with outstanding accounts will be among the agenda items discussed Monday night when the Warren County Board of Health convenes at 7:30 p.m. in

the lobby of the Warren County Health Department.

A proposal will be presented to the board which will require Warren County residents to begin paying for their currently free non-construction-related water analyses. The proposed fee for general water sample testing is \$10. A proposed fee of \$15 would be assessed for the specialized testing required for the identification of pesticide or petroleum contamination.

A proposed change in the policy governing provision of services to health department patients with outstanding accounts will also be discussed: "Patients receiving medical services shall be refused subsequent services if, after the total account for the category of service exceeds \$100, the patient refuses to pay at least \$20. Determination of the \$100 shall be made using only those charges assessed after April 1, 1989."

Also slated for discussion is the adoption of local public health rules and regulations governing the burial of dead bodies in Warren County. If approved, the proposed regulations will require that all burial vaults be placed beneath the ground, in lieu of the current practice of allowing the top of the vault to remain exposed above ground, and will become effective on April 1 of this year.

Commissioners Katherine Hilliard, Mayor M. C. Clary, Mrs. Ricks, Mrs. Medlin, Commissioners Carroll Harris, W. L. Edwards, Waddy Shaw and Glen Riggan. Not pictured is Susan Riggan. The Saturday extravaganza will begin with plate lunches at noon furnished by the Macon Rural Fire Department and ending with a fireworks display at 7:45 p.m. The public is invited.