

# The Warren Record

## Warren County Employment Shows Gain Of 20.8 Percent

Private employment in Warren County increased from 1,727 jobs in 1980 to 2,087 jobs in 1986—an increase of 20.8 percent—while the county's population increased by only 2.9 percent, Department of Commerce statistics have shown.

According to the report, private employment in Warren County has increased much more rapidly than population growth since 1980. In the report, private employment refers only to those individuals working for salaries or wages in the private sector of the economy. It does not include self-employed persons or government em-

ployees. Because most American farmers are self-employed, the report includes relatively few farmers.

### Warren's Increased More

Private employment in Warren County, when compared to population, increased more rapidly than private employment nationally.

Local private employment also increased more rapidly than state private employment relative to population.

By contrast, private employment in the United States increased from 74.8 million jobs in 1980 to 83.4 million jobs in 1986, or by 11.5 percent. The national population increased by 6.4 percent dur-

ing the same period. Private employment in North Carolina increased from 1,972,725 jobs in 1980 to 2,297,135 jobs in 1986, a rate of 16.4 percent. During the same period, the state's population increased by 7.7 percent.

### Services vs. Goods

The Department of Commerce divides private employment into two general categories: goods-producing and service-producing. Jobs in agriculture, mining (which includes gas and oil extraction), construction and manufacturing are classified as goods-producing. Service-producing jobs include employment in transportation and utilities,

wholesale trade, retail trade, finance occupations (banking, insurance and real estate), service occupations (jobs involved in providing specific services, such as accounting, legal, health, hotels, laundries and other business and personal services), and otherwise unclassified occupations.

While the number of jobs provided by the private sector of the economy has increased, there have been definite changes in patterns of employment since 1980. Increasingly, more American jobs provide services, while fewer provide goods.

The most recent information provided by the Department of Commerce has indicated that this trend has continued to be the case from 1980 until 1986, but that has not been apparent in Warren County.

In Warren County, the number of goods-producing jobs increased from 862 in 1980 to 1,077 by 1986, a net gain of 24.9 percent. Goods-producing jobs accounted for 51.6 percent of private employment in Warren County in 1986. An analysis of these goods-producing jobs has shown that there were two agricultural jobs; five mining jobs, 160 (Continued on page 4)

## Arcola Fire Company Is Funded, Board Balks At Macon's Request

### Funding Of Both Is Urged Earlier

By THURLETTA M. BROWN  
News Editor

The fine line between an urgent expenditure and one which can be deferred was one of the deciding factors last Wednesday night, when the Warren County Board of County Commissioners okayed the request of one of the county's volunteer fire departments, but denied the request of another.

David Proctor, Warren County Fire Commission secretary, had appeared before the board to ask that two fire commission-approved requests for allocations from the group's contingency fund be approved by the board. Unanimous approval of a \$4,000 allocation to the Arcola department was granted by the board. Although the Arcola department had requested \$5,000, the allocation was whittled down by \$1,000 to come into line with the board-imposed ceiling of annual fire commission contingency allocations to departments.

According to Proctor, the Arcola department had been given the opportunity to "buy back" its \$63,000 FmHA loan, which had been used to purchase a pumper truck, at a "buy back" cost of \$44,000. With the department's "on-hand" funds of \$12,000 and a \$32,000 loan through a local bank, total savings to be realized would approach \$43,000, he said.

Fire Commission contingency funds in the amount of \$19,500 have been set aside by the county for use by departments in emergency situations. According to Commissioners' Chairman Mrs. Eva N. Clayton, the funds are to be used for urgent purposes, such as a situation in which a department's equipment is out of service because repairs are too expensive to be borne only by departmental funds. The Arcola situation—likened by the board to the county's recent op-

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Bringing home a first-place trophy in the Region III Quiz Bowl competition held on Saturday are Warren County High students, left to right, Paul

Dickerson, Anthony McDonald, Emmy Lou Coleman and Craig Sipe.

(Community Schools Photo by Mary Hunter)

## Steps To Close Vaughan Postal Facility Scuttled

Wheels set in motion recently to temporarily close the Vaughan Post Office have come to a screeching halt, as Uncle Sam has decreed that postal facilities enjoy a federal status and that those guidelines supersede county authority.

The Vaughan Post Office had been scheduled to close last Saturday and residents there had been given several options for continued delivery of their mail.

But Ross A. Garulski, Raleigh postmaster with responsibility for operations in 209 of the post offices located in the northeast por-

tion of the state, said last week that because the postal service's federal status outweighs county authority, the Vaughan facility would remain open.

Warren County Health Director Dennis Retzlaff has questioned the legal basis of Garulski's statement. "I applaud the action which will keep the office open until adequate consideration can be given to the options available, however, the implication that the Vaughan Post Office can remain open because the postal service is not subject to county regulations is inaccurate," he said.

According to Retzlaff, the health department's willingness to be patient with the postal service is due to the recognition that the public's health does not appear to be immediately threatened. "We will, however, continue to expect compliance with applicable state laws."

Retzlaff outlined the series of events which had led to his department's intervention. According to the health director, the Warren County Health Department had become involved as a result of a citizen's complaint that restroom facilities were not available in the Vaughan Post Office. "The Vaughan Post Office was found to be in violation of North Carolina General Statute 10 NCAC 10A.1936 (a), which requires that all places of business 'shall be provided with an approved sanitary system of sewage collection,'" Retzlaff said.

A letter was written to postal authorities advising them of that violation and requesting that steps be taken to bring the post office into compliance with the law.

Retzlaff said that postal officials responded to health department actions by sending a letter to Vaughan residents indicating an intention to close the post office because of the action of the

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## Warren Team Takes First Place Honor

In only its second year of competition, the Warren County High School Quiz Bowl team has captured the District Quiz Bowl Championship.

Sponsored by the Warren County Memorial Library, under the coordination of librarian Mary Louise Limer, the team battled Roanoke Rapids Senior High School in the first round and advanced to the second round of competition against Southern High School of Durham.

Team members Paul Dickerson, Emmy Lou Coleman, Anthony McDonald and Craig Sipe faced stiff competition from Ravenscroft School of Raleigh, after defeating Southern in the second round. Ravenscroft had previously won the Wake County local Quiz Bowl competition, after defeating all Wake County high schools. The Warren County team defeated Ravenscroft in the final competition 175 to 85.

The WCHS team will now compete against seven other district winners from across the state and the N. C. School for Science and Mathematics in the State Competition to be held April 29 at the N. C. State Library in Raleigh. The competition will be broadcast on PBS Channel 4.

The team was coached this academic year by Kevin Clary, Mrs. Junell Blaylock, Miss Robin Holt and Miss Priscilla Johnson. Other team members included: Pat Draffin, Sean Meares, Gerardo Salinas, Ebony Davis, Kathy Shearin, Tommy Lewis, Jermaine Seward, Tonya Smiley, Lisa Harris, Kerry Harris, Amie Ridout, David Deines and Terry Light.

Other teams competing in the district finals last Saturday were: J. B. Webb of Oxford, Bunn High School, Vance Senior High School and Rocky Mount High School.



Eva Clayton, chairwoman of the Warren County Board of Commissioners, and White G. Watkins, assistant secretary for Traditional Industries, turn the first spade of earth at last Friday afternoon's groundbreaking ceremony at Cochrane Furniture Company.

(Staff Photo by Howard Jones)

## Ground Broken On Friday For Ultra-Modern Plant

Last Friday's ground-breaking ceremony has officially set the wheels in motion for the construction of a \$4.5 million rough mill—expected to be one of the most modern, high-tech facilities of its kind—for Warrenton's Eastern Division plant of Cochrane Furniture Company.

When completed, the 35,000-square-foot rough mill will enable the Eastern Division to process on site hardwood which will be used in construction of tables, cabinets and other furniture. Because the current rough mill is sufficient to process only 20 percent of the wood used, most of Cochrane's oak, cherry and maple stock has been purchased from vendors in the northeast.

The expanded facility will allow Cochrane to purchase hardwood from North Carolina producers and prepare that stock in its Warrenton plant and about 50 new jobs are expected to be created here in the next five years.

"Every time Cochrane Furniture puts on a new employee, that rolls over and creates seven, eight or nine more jobs," White G. Watkins, N.C. Assistant Secretary of Commerce, said last Friday. "We get about 70 to 75 percent of the new jobs in North Carolina each year from firms like Cochrane (and) this is the locomotive that pulls the rest of the train."

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Jerry Cochrane, fourth from right, executive vice president of Cochrane Furniture, holds up the pewter North Carolina seal presented to him by Traditional Industries Assistant Secretary White G. Watkins, second from left, at Friday's groundbreaking ceremony at Cochrane Furniture plant in Warrenton. Also shown are, left to right, Howard Daniel, chairman of the Warren County Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authori-

ty, Cathy Wilson, director of the Warren County Economic Development Commission, Eva Clayton, chairwoman of the Warren County Board of Commissioners, Carolyn Green, a 15-year employee of the plant, T. E. Cochrane, president of Cochrane Furniture, Elnora Johnson, 15-year employee of the plant, and Lee Capps, manager of Region Five of the N. C. Department of Commerce.

(Staff Photo by Howard Jones)