

Letters To The Editor

Firemen Given Thanks

To The Editor:
 March 9 of this year was a cold day and nature had dealt Warren County a bitter blow. Frozen drizzle had fallen most of the day, with an accumulation in the form of ice. As bedtime approached in the little community of Inez, the mercury had risen just enough to turn the precipitation into rain, which changed to ice, above ground-level. The trees and power lines were heavily covered with ice, and the county quickly became paralyzed with a blanket of ice.
 Suddenly, the members of the Inez Volunteer Rural Fire Department were awakened by the shrill cry of their fire siren. Beepers started blaring out a terrible message! The store of Burwell Powell, along with the adjoining house in which his 90-year-old mother lived, was on fire. Duty was calling! Once outside, the firemen realized this would be a night never to be forgotten.
 Firefighting is a most difficult task, but on this particular night, the firemen also had to fight the physical elements of nature. Those brave firemen did not have time to defrost the windshields of their vehicles. One fireman said later that he had driven to the fire station with his truck door open in order to see how and where to drive.
 The fire trucks slipped and skidded on the bed of ice to their destination. Upon their arrival, the firemen observed that the angry fire had engulfed the old, historic building which had stood for more than 200 years. Inside, the elderly mother of five was trapped. Her son, Burwell, had frantically tried to rescue his mother, but the heat was too intense.

The firemen realized assistance was needed and a plea for help went out over the radio. Warrenton Rural firefighters and firefighters from Afton tried to respond, but once out of their station, their trucks slid out of control and into a ditch. The Warren County Emergency Medical Service was summoned, but its ambulance, too, skidded into a ditch. All the while, the Inez firefighters continued their lone struggle, until their water supply was exhausted.

By this time, the electricity was off. The community was in the dark—except for the raging fire.

As time passed, the Centerville fire truck was able to arrive on the scene, aided by a truck loaded with sand, which was spread on the icy roads in front of their fire truck.

Darkness turned to day. The fire cooled and the body of a beloved mother, Susie D. Powell, was found—but, too late.

Around 8:30 a.m. the following morning, the cold, wet, exhausted firemen returned to their homes and their concerned families. They had fought a hard battle and had lost.

These firemen deserve a lot of praise for their work in handling a bad situation with much courage and determination, all under the most adverse conditions.

On behalf of the citizens of the Inez community, I would like to say "thank you" to each of the firemen who so diligently have given—and will continue to give—their time and effort to protect our homes and property.

May God bless you!

MARY DAVIS
 Inez

Modern Kidney Dialysis Center Opens In Vance

A new, modern kidney dialysis center opened last week in the Vance Medical Arts Building located on Ruin Creek Road in Henderson.

Owned by REN Corporation-USA, the new center will provide area patients with high-efficiency dialysis, a procedure which requires about three hours per session and uses an "artificial kidney" to remove certain toxic substances and excess fluids from the blood. The high-efficiency hemodialysis machines reduce dialysis time up to 50 percent and treatment is more comfortable than older methods which can require up to five hours per session.

"Our first and foremost concern in developing a dialysis facility in Henderson was to provide area patients with a convenient facility," Vincent W. Dennis, chief of the Division of Nephrology at Duke University Medical Center, said recently. Prior to the opening of the new center, dialysis patients had to travel an hour or more to Durham to Duke Medical Center three times each week for their treatments.



Mary J. Bullock (right), a dialysis patient from Henderson, receives treatment at the new REN Dialysis Center located in the Vance Medical Arts Building on Ruin Creek Road in Henderson. Becky Proctor, head nurse, is shown supervising the process. The facility, which is affiliated with Duke University Medical Center and the Vance Medical

Arts Association, opened the week of March 22 and is expected to save area patients up to a day each month in travel time. The new REN Dialysis Center has 10 patient stations, each offering high-efficiency dialysis, a three-hour treatment, as compared to the five hours usually required in more traditional dialysis methods.

In addition to offering out-patient dialysis treatment, the center will serve as a geographic hub in providing training for home and peritoneal dialysis and equipment maintenance. It will also support in-patient dialysis services at Duke.

"This cooperative effort between the REN Corporation, the Henderson medical community and Duke will provide our patients with the most modern and comfortable dialysis clinic available," Dr. Steven J. Schwab, Duke director of dialysis, said

last week. REN Corporation-USA was founded in 1986 in Nashville, Tenn. and currently operates dialysis centers in North Carolina, Florida and Tennessee.

Renew your paper!

Writer Loves Warren County

To The Editor:
 I know what I am about to say may well shock many of my peers, but I love Warren County. This, however, is not to say I love every single thing about Warren County. I love the general air, the atmosphere of this place.
 I have known great things to happen in Warren County, especially in education. I realize that our educational system may not be as "developed" as those of larger North Carolina cities, but every year I see local students take prizes in district/region or state competitions. After all, my fellow Quiz Bowlers and I recently ran the snobby little Ravenscroft "rich" kids into the ground. I have enjoyed nearly 13 years of excellent teachers and educational administrators and have come to respect the things native to Warren County that mean education.
 The great strife I see forthcoming is the non-returning of your people. In general, my friends say they will be so glad to get out

of Warren County. That's sad. As for me, I plan to return. I want to give back to this county, as a teacher, what I have received as a student—the simple pleasures of simple life in a simple town.

On change in Warren County, I am ambivalent. I would love for our county to progress, to expand to the point that we could see renovation and improvement. However, I think I might cry if Warrenton ever lost its small-town facade, for it would surely be a day of sorrow in the history of rurality.

After having lived my life here in Warrenton, I think I could never enjoy city life. It would depress, dishearten and discourage me to the utmost. I would be uncomfortable, out of place. If my friends do not return, I hope they will find happiness, but I also hope they someday realize what they will have lost by not coming home to Warren County.

PAUL DICKERSON
 WCHS student



Mid-Lakes Dining Guide

Good food lies only a stone's throw from either Kerr Lake or Lake Gaston. Check this dining guide monthly for the many fine places where you can get delicious meals at reasonable prices.

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 Notice is hereby given that the Warren County Board of Equalization and Review will meet Wednesday, April 19, 1989, convening at 9:00 a.m., in the office of the Tax Assessor, 114 W. Market Street, Warrenton, N. C. 27589. In order to schedule an appointment, write Tax Assessor, at the above address or call (919) 257-4158.
 In the event of an earlier or later adjournment, notice to that effect will be published in this paper.
 By order of the Board of Commissioners of Warren County, this 27th day of March, 1989.
MILDRED W. HARDY
 Clerk to the Board of Equalization and Review
 Mar. 29, Apr. 5, 12-c

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