

# The Warren Record

Published Every Wednesday By  
Record Printing Company

P. O. Box 70, Warrenton, N. C. 27589

HOWARD F. JONES  
Editor

GRACE W. JONES  
President

THURLETTA M. BROWN  
News Editor

ENTERED AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER AT THE POST OFFICE  
IN WARRENTON, NORTH CAROLINA, UNDER THE LAWS OF CONGRESS  
Second Class Postage Paid At Warrenton, N. C.

**SUBSCRIPTION**  
In Warren and adjoining counties Elsewhere  
**RATES:** \$12.00 Per Year \$15.00 Per Year  
\$7.00 Six Months \$8.00 Six Months

## Delay Is Worth It

Motorists who find themselves inconvenienced by construction activity on the Warrenton-Warren Plains Road realize that this is a small price to pay for improvements to a stretch of highway which has long needed upgrading.

The Department of Transportation is to be commended for beginning work this month to widen the road which is a vital link between the county seat and the U. S. 158 Bypass.

It has been pointed out for years, particularly since the construction of Warren County High School at the start of this decade, that steps to improve the road from Warrenton to Warren Plains should be taken.

Tragic motor vehicle accidents occurring on this stretch of highway have only underscored the need for widening the road. Now, with the start of construction of a new middle school adjacent to Warren County High School only months away, and with it the heavier use of the highway by school buses, the need to upgrade the Warrenton-Warren Plains Road takes on new importance.

Department of Transportation officials were wise to act now to get the job of widening the highway begun. The road's track record indicates that the DOT has not begun a moment too soon, and those who find themselves momentarily slowed by earthmoving equipment should find the delay quite justified.

## A Guest Editorial

### Week Of Stewardship

By W. B. JENKINS

N.C. Farm Bureau Federation  
By applying conservation practices on the land they own and operate, farmers take seriously their soil and water stewardship roles. They preserve the soil, timber, rivers, streams and harbors for generations to come.

In recognition of American farmers who are protecting the nation's soil and water resources, Soil and Water Stewardship Week is being observed April 30 through May 7, 1989. The theme of this year's observance, which is sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts, is "Renewing The Living Earth."

The farmer learned long ago that he had to conserve his soil and water resources. He knows that without proper management of the soil, rain skims off the best of it...or wind whips it into the kind of dust storms that once plagued the country.

Those pretty pictures of crops curving to the contours of the land are more than just pretty. Such planting is one very practical way to reduce the ravages of erosion. Saving water—and keeping it pure—is another economic necessity for everyone engaged in agriculture.

Prudent conservation of soil and water stands right alongside mechanization, insect and weed control, and genetic research as the major building blocks of America's agricultural bounty. The end result: One U.S. farmer feeds around 116 people and Americans spend only around 15 cents of each dollar of disposable income on food.

A farmer's life is closer than anyone's to the land and the air and water around him. Preserving the environment is instinctive; deliberately despoiling it is unthinkable.

### Editor's Quote Book

Many individuals have, like uncut diamonds, shining qualities beneath a rough exterior.

Juvenal

## Looking Back Into The Record

April 29, 1949

Only six persons have filed notice of their candidacy for a seat on the seven-man Warrenton board of town commissioners—the first time such a situation has ever occurred here—and it is rather odd, given the announcement that, effective May 1, the pay for commissioners will increase from \$5 to \$10 for attending regular meetings and from \$4 to \$5 for attending special meetings.

Warrenton and Norlina riders—Mrs. Thomas Connell, Miss Helen Delbridge and Miss Edith Gary Ellis—took top honors in the third annual Vance County Horse Show held recently at the Golden Belt fairgrounds in Henderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. West, of Littleton, announced the birth of a son, Robert Edward, Jr., on April 23 in the Hunter Clinic.

April 24, 1964

About 10,500 persons received their second dose of oral polio vaccine in clinics held Sunday afternoon, Dr. Robert S. Cline local physician, said Monday.

For the first time in more than 60 years, four blacks—John R. Ellis, Ernest R. Turner, George E. Shearin and Mrs. R. E. Ransom, all of Warrenton—are seeking positions on county boards of education and commissioners.

At the A&P: center-cut loin pork chops—59 cents per pound; yellow squash—two pounds for 25 cents; and strawberries—39 cents per pint.

April 26, 1979

N.C. Highway Patrol Trooper Vernon R. "Pete" Vaughan has been named the Warrenton Junior Woman's Club's highway patrolman of the week.

James L. Forte, son of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Forte, has been promoted to banking officer for Wachovia Bank and Trust Company in Wilmington.

Anne Elaine Franklin, a senior at John Graham High School and daughter of Mrs. Jennie A. Franklin of Warrenton, has been awarded the George Foster Hankins Scholarship at Wake Forest University.

## The Warren County Scene



This duck chose the dam of a small pond between Warrenton and Macon as the site of her nest for the 1989 duck-raising season. She is seen patiently sitting on the eggs she laid in this nest, which offers no cover from predators or prying humans. (Staff Photo by Dianne T. Rodwell)

## Here and There

Howard Jones

### Some Local Connections

Richard Hunter, Warren County's genial clerk of court and a history buff of long standing, found two Warren County connections when he took a trip to Fredericksburg, Va. earlier this month.

Richard's tour was sponsored by the Stagville Center and the Historic Preservation Society of Durham. Tour participants visited Kenmore, the home of Betty Washington Lewis, sister of George Washington, and Stratford Hall, the birthplace of Robert E. Lee.

Richard said that Mr. and Mrs. William Dabney Duke, parents of Mrs. John H. Kerr, Jr. of Warrenton, were very active in the early preservation efforts at Kenmore. He said Mrs. Kerr recalls that some of the boxwood used in the garden restoration there came from Warren County, and Mrs. Kerr says that the late Janice Watson Seaman (Mrs. Peter G. Seaman of Warrenton) told her that she rode in the truck to Fredericksburg to deliver the bushes. Richard speculated that the boxwood may have come from Bloomsbury, the Watson family home near Axtell.

At Stratford Hall, Richard found a brass plaque which denotes the Great Hall—often called one of the most beautiful rooms in America—was furnished in honor of Mrs. V. L. Pendleton by her daughter, Mrs. Katherine P. Arrington of Warrenton.

If you removed one house, Graham V. Boyd and I would be next-door neighbors in our Brehon Street neighborhood. Actually, Graham and I grew up as next-door neighbors (again, one house removed). He was known then as Venable, eldest son of the late Graham and Cile Boyd.

He moved to New York City a number of years ago, and it was a happy occasion for the neighborhood when he returned to Warrenton bringing with him his charming wife, Fern. And while he left as Venable, he returned as Graham, and I have only recently adjusted to the name change.

At any rate, among Graham's prized possessions are five lemon trees, the largest of which stands two feet tall. That tree produced a lot of lemons this year. While not calling it a bumper crop, Graham acknowledges that it was "a big crop for such a little tree."

He says he made quite a few lemon chess pies, and adds: "I ate them as fast as I made them."

Graham's trees were purchased from a New York flower shop and have been nursed by the Boyds indoors for the past six to eight years. A couple of years ago the trees started producing.

Graham is modest about his tree-keeping ability, saying: "If I can take care of them, anyone can."

But he is understandably proud of his lemons, admitting: "Just like everybody's grandchild, my lemons are the best."

Speaking of crops, last week's issue of "The Smithfield Herald" points out that a Rt. 2, Kenly farmer is growing a small field of garlic in an experiment in farm diversification. Warren County farmers might follow suit, although I hope they live downwind from our neighborhood.

Last month, I wrote a column about Col. Benjamin Hawkins, a Warren County native who served as an interpreter on Gen. George Washington's staff and who was later named Indian agent to the Creek Nation by President Washington.

That column was picked up by Bill Boyd of the "Macon (Ga.) Telegraph and News" who used it as the basis for an article on Colonel Hawkins.

Mrs. J. H. Vann of Warner Robins, Ga. read his piece and wrote me to say that Benjamin Hawkins' body lies in a cow pasture on a hill above the Flint River in Georgia.

"One must go through a farm fence in order to visit his grave," Mrs. Vann wrote. "I think our state should be ashamed of itself, don't you?"

I think it should, especially in light of the fact that when Georgia was given the chance, as were other states, to have carved busts of two of its state leaders placed in the U.S. Capitol, Colonel Hawkins was chosen as one.



The pointed upper lip of the black rhinoceros grasps and picks up small objects almost as deftly as a hand.



Thurlétta Brown

## The Doggonedest Thing

Not just any dog "may have its day," but the Plott Hound may be a "howlin' success," if some legislators in Raleigh get their way.

Last Tuesday, "Lucy," a 10-year-old Plott hound, visited The N.C. Senate Rules Committee. Lucy was brought in for "show and tell" by her owner, former-Representative Hugh Lee of Rockingham.

Plott hounds, you see, are the only breed of dog to originate in North Carolina. The breed is typically brown and black in color and weighs about 75 pounds. Said to be a favorite of bear hunters, Plott hounds are descended from a German breed of dog used for boar hunting.

Lucy's ancestors were developed by Jonathan Plott, who crossbred his dogs to "improve their fightin' spirit." According to Lee, Plott hounds are the "Kit Carsons, Davy Crocketts and Daniel Boones of the dog world."

What would be the appropriate breed of dog for the designation of North Carolina's official state dog? Who knows? Chihuahuas are too puny and "yippy." Shar-Peis, with all their baggy skin, look like escapees from the Duke Rice Diet, who left before the exercise portion of their treatment. Bassett hounds and dachshunds are cute, but their short legs probably make them more appropriate for the "Munchkins" of Oz. Afghan hounds, with their long, flowing coats are extremely elegant, but might appear to be too "snooty" for us good ol', down-home folks. Salukis, Whippets and Greyhounds are too gaunt around the middle and everyone knows that we love to enjoy our vittles (and worry later about our middles). Bulldogs look too gruff and angry. Basenjis can't bark, and you know how much we Tar Heels like to talk. The Mexican hairless is bald all over, and we've got definite morals here.

And, I'd sooner not have a "sooner" as my state dog. Lucy and her relatives received the unanimous endorsement of the Rules Committee. Now the question of designating the Plott hound as North Carolina's official dog will go before the Senate.

According to Senator Robert Swain, of Buncombe, the Plott hound has "all the qualities of a good North Carolinian. He is loyal, he is fearless (and) he has perseverance."

Stay tuned, y'all. Our legislators are really working hard on all sorts of truly, important (?) business.

## Letters To The Editor

### Serious Thought Is Deserved

To The Editor:

The week of April 24th has been proclaimed National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week.

I wanted to bring this to the attention of everyone who reads this paper so that they can give serious thought to a very important subject.

My daughter recently received a kidney transplant from a living relative.

The transplant seems to have been extremely successful, but we were among the fortunate.

Some families have loved ones who suffer from life-threatening diseases, but they cannot provide the much-needed organs or tissues. Perhaps there are other health problems which stand in the way. Or maybe there is an inability to match the patient's tissue type.

These patients' lives depend on others' misfortunes. Someone's life is usually lost in order to save another's. But, what a precious

gift of life can be given, and what a legacy is left by that donor!

It is a harsh reality to see a sick adult or child, who seems to have his or her life hanging on by a thread as they await a donor.

I, myself, was skeptical about marking the organ donor box on my driver's license several years ago. But that was before the wonderful world of transplants and miracles touched my family's lives.

We were fortunate to be able to plan our transplant and know that there was a donor. Please think how you would feel if a transplant donor was needed for your child or other loved one—and you waited, and waited, and waited.

You can only wait so long. Please think seriously about becoming an organ donor today. Discuss it with your family and carry an organ donor card.

I have a bumper sticker on my car which reads: "Don't take your organs and tissues to Heaven. Heaven knows we need them here on earth!!!"

KAREN HENRY  
Route 2, Macon

## Officials Finding

### Times Do Change

In the Watauga Democrat

Consider the changing nature of problems confronting public school officials. A recent issue of the Watauga County Agriculture Extension Service newsletter listed the top discipline problems in schools during the 1940s and in the 1980s. The sources for the information were the Fullerton (Calif.) Police Department and the California Department of Education.

The top problems of the '40s: talking, chewing gum, making noise, running in the halls, getting out of turn in line, wearing improper clothing, and not putting paper in wastebaskets.

Those were the days. The problems of the '80s are more serious, and more numerous: drug abuse, alcohol abuse, pregnancy, suicide, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, arson, bombings, murder, absenteeism, vandalism, extortion, gang warfare, abortion and venereal disease.

## Collections Listed

Local sales and use tax collections in Warren County last month totaled \$62,551.42, Helen A. Powers, secretary of the N.C. Department of Revenue announced recently.

Collections of the two-percent tax by Warren's neighbors were: Halifax—\$427,124.69; Franklin—\$147,102.15; Halifax—\$427,124.69; Northampton—\$59,095.76; and Vance—\$370,001.37.

## Money Will Help

To The Editor:

Warren County's youths were an important part in making the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital "Wheels For Life Bike-A-Thon" a success. And though the campaign has ended, all efforts made have not gone unnoticed.

We're proud of the 11 riders, as well as the many volunteers and citizens of Warren County. Participants were: Tracey Alston, Angela Bullock, Jamar Alston, Karen Wright, D. J. Wright, Patrick Wright, Thomas Hargrove, Preston Alston, Melissa McMillan, Sheneka Alston and Michael Black. Thanks to the combined efforts of area residents and these persons, we raised \$74.

Because of the universal objectives of research and treatment at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, be assured that your money will benefit children all over the world.

Knowing that the persons in our community are concerned enough to take quick action for children who need their assistance is heartwarming. You surely must take pride in helping to maintain that humanitarian spark.

On behalf of the children of St. Jude Hospital and the Parktonian Youth In Action 4-H Club, thank you.

MARY A. BULLOCK  
Parktown