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Federal Grant Of \$359,750 Made Available

Soul City has received a grant of \$359,750 from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for work on Warrenton's sewer system, Lewis Myers, Soul City vice president, announced Tuesday.

The funds will be used to upgrade the sewer within the town system and to stop the infiltration of water into the system. It is done in fulfillment of a promise made by Soul City to repair the system at the time of negotiation between Soul City and Warrenton over the building of a sewer line from Soul City to Warrenton, Myers said.

Hazen and Sawyer, engineers for Soul City, will be in charge of the work, Myers said.

Bill Neal, superintendent of Warrenton's Water Department, said yesterday that it is his understanding that work will begin immediately.

Neal said that engineers have almost completed their drawings and will soon be able to advertise for bids.

Town Board Balks Over Records Lack

Warrenton commissioners Monday night balked at paying town police salaries in the absence of adequate records and the chairman of the Finance Committee called for operating the department "on a business-like basis."

Criticism of record keeping within the Police Department surfaced when Finance Chairman Bill Leary said he was being asked to write checks without being given adequate documentation.

Leary in particular questioned a weekly check in the amount of \$120 to be paid to a police secretary hired to work a 40-hour week at a rate of \$2.50 an hour.

Police Commissioner Gordon Haithcock promised "to look into the matter," then report to the board. Haithcock also questioned why Police Chief Freddie Robinson was not paid on one occasion during the past month for the use of his personal truck which he uses on town business.

Town Manager Bill Davis said payment was withheld because Robinson had not filed complete travel vouchers. Robinson, who was present for the session, was instructed earlier this year to stop getting gas from the town tank and to put in mileage requests instead. Robinson said he preferred the old system of compensation.

Franklinton Native Joining Law Firm

Banzet and Banzet, a Warrenton law firm, announced this week that Lewis Alston Thompson, III, will begin practicing law at their office next Monday, September 19.

Thompson is a graduate of the University of North Carolina and was graduated from Wake Forest University School of Law in May.

He is a native of Franklinton, where he attended public school. He was a member of the Beta Club, president of the student body and class valedictorian and was chosen to attend Governor's School.

While in college, he was a member of the U.N.C. Rugby team, the Chi Psi Fraternity, treasurer of the Carolina Symposium and several honor programs.

He was also a research assistant to Professor Howard L. Oleck on Taxpayer's Actions Paper while at Wake Forest.

Commissioners also questioned why the police chief was drawing considerable overtime pay after Leary reported that Robinson was now receiving almost twice his normal salary. (Robinson is paid \$948.32 per month; his latest bi-monthly overtime pay was \$396.80).

Commissioner Haithcock said that the town had been without two dispatchers and that one policeman had been out sick in recent days, contributing to the high amount of overtime by the chief. He said he hoped to be able to hire additional personnel shortly.

Commissioner Leary said "we're about to work Freddie to death if his salary is any indication."

Commissioner Sam Massey said that the chief should either be paid a straight salary in accordance with his supervisory post, or by the hour. "He just can't have it both ways," Massey said.

Board attorney Charles Johnson questioned the wisdom of making salary payments in excess of budgeted amounts without proper documentation.

Davis said that all records for the police department are kept in the Police Station. "All I know is what Freddie tells me. We don't know when they (the police officers and dispatchers) check in or out."

He worked as a waiter at the Village Dinner Theater and the Winston-Salem Hyatt House.

Al is the great nephew of Kearney Thompson of Warren County. His father is pastmaster in Franklinton.



THOMPSON



A tire blew out Tuesday on this tractor-trailer, causing the driver, Gerald Michael Declene of Lexington, S. C., to lose control, cross the median and southbound lane of Interstate 85 and overturn. The truck, owned by Malone Trucking Company of Birmingham, Ala., was loaded with 100-pound bags of clay. Trooper N. A. Hardy

estimated \$25,000 in damages to the rig. Declene was taken to Maria Parham Hospital for treatment of injuries sustained in the accident. No charges were filed. The wreck occurred opposite the Welcome Center in northern Warren County.

Number Of White Pupils At South Warren Concerns Board

The Warren County Board of Education is dissatisfied with the small number of white pupils enrolled in South Warren Elementary School and with pupil misbehavior in the school. The members of the board asked that a study of the problem be made within the next ten days.

Admission that low white to black ratio in the school is a problem came after Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Creech appeared before the board to complain of mistreatment and harassment of their children by other pupils and to ask for their transfer from the South Warren School to Mariam Boyd. One of their children is in the second grade, one in the fourth grade, and one in the sixth grade.

Mrs. Creech, who moved here from Vance County, said her children had always made good grades and loved to go to school, but going to school at South Warren had become something dreaded due to harassment by other pupils, particularly one pupil who bullied her son with threats, physical abuse, including choking and pounding his head on a wall, as well as a form of blackmail. Mrs. Creech said that she knew her children were not perfect, and could be provocative, but this hardly justifies the physical abuse and the filthy language to which they are being subjected. She blamed the small number of white children in school for much of this trouble.

Mrs. Creech said that she had complained to the principal and that he had punished a culprit, but that had not ended her difficulties. She said that she had found both principal and teachers very cooperative, but seemingly unable to end the use of foul language and bullying tactics in the school.

When board member Dr. L. B. Henderson, Jr., asked her if she felt that more white teachers would help end the situation, Mrs. Creech said that it was not a matter of black teachers, but of white pupils. She said that there are good teachers at South Warren and that

her children loved their teachers. She said that love of schools a part of the learning process and she wanted to send her children to a school to which they would love to go.

Mrs. Creech was asked to keep her children in school for ten more days in order to give the school administration time to attempt to solve the problem.

Present at the meeting as observers when Mrs. Creech was speaking were Miss Roseland Gillum, president of the local chapter of N. C. A. E.; Miss Loree Strickland, vice president of Association of Classroom Teachers, and Miss Beth Puntree, Librarian at Mariam Boyd, who were asked by Chairman Ernest Turner for comments. Miss Strickland said what she was going to ask might appear

Three Hurt In Warren County Traffic Mishaps

Oliver Wayne Steverson, 19, was carried to Warren General Hospital for cuts and abrasions about the face after the vehicle he was driving ran off the roadway into a private yard and hit a tree about 1:30 a. m. Saturday.

According to Highway patrolman A. M. Bennett, Steverson was headed west of RPR 1333 at a high rate of speed and applied brakes to cross railroad tracks and stop, but he skidded through the intersection running into the yard of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Elam and struck a tree.

Steverson was charged with careless and reckless driving. Damages to his 1969 Ford were estimated at \$800.

Mildred Richardson Fields of Rt. 2, Warrenton, was injured slightly Sunday around 1:25 p. m. after the vehicle she was operating was struck in the rear. According to Trooper Bennett, the Fields vehicle was travelling north on Rural Unpaved Road 1613 and attempted to turn into a private driveway.

dumb, but she wanted to know how could South Warren be expected to increase the number of white pupils so long as the board permits patrons to transfer their pupils to other schools? There was no answer.

Other Transfers

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Dillard of Littleton were granted permission to transfer their daughter from the seventh grade at Vaughan to the seventh grade at Hawkins. Reason given for the request was that Hawkins offers courses needed by their daughters and not found at Vaughan.

Warren Harris told the board that his son, Melvin Antonio Harris, had always attended school with his sister at Vaughan and that his daughter had been trans-

ferred to Hawkins. Because he did not wish to separate his children and because he plans to build a home in Greenwich Village near Warrenton, he asks a transfer of his son to either Hawkins or Mariam Boyd, "so that the children may never have to change schools any more." The board denied the request, stating that when the parents moved to Warrenton, his son would automatically become a member of a Warrenton school.

Mrs. Minnie Perry, Mr. and Mrs. John Andrews, and Mrs. Hattie Rudd, who had asked to appear before the board to request transfer of their children from the present schools to other schools, failed to show up and no action was taken by the board.

to Warren General Hospital following an accident Tuesday about 12:15 a. m.

Trooper A. M. Bennett said Alston was travelling south on RP 1640 (from Inez to Bethlehem) when he crossed over the center line, ran off the left shoulder and struck a parked phone cable pole.

The trooper charged Alston with driving left of center. Damages to Alston's 1975 Ford pickup were set at \$850 with \$250 to the plow.

Warren Man Perishes As Fire Guts Trailer

A Warren County man was burned to death when the mobile home where he was sleeping was destroyed by fire on Friday night.

Chief A. A. Wood of the Warrenton Rural Fire Department said that Albeacher Jones, 22, of Route 1, was visiting the home belonging to Wilbur Jones when the fire broke out.

Wilbur Jones was able to escape the burning trailer. Wood said Jones told him

that he was able to get out of the trailer but that the younger Jones did not escape.

The trailer was completely engulfed in flames about 11:30 p. m. Friday and firemen could not rescue Jones.

The cause of the fire has not yet been determined, Wood said.

Funeral services for Jones were held Monday at

Plans Revealed For Building Of 100 New Units

Construction of 100 units of housing for the elderly is expected to be started at Soul City in the late fall by the American National Housing Company of Soul City, Arthur Padula, president, announced this week. He said construction should be completed next spring.

The housing project, sponsored by the Interfaith Committee of Soul City, is expected to be financed by a \$2,212,400 loan from Farmers Home Administration. The Interfaith Committee of Soul City is a non-profit corporation which was established to help solve the human and religious needs of the people of Soul City.

Admiral Padula said yesterday that on Aug. 31, the American National Housing Company presented an application with the Farmers Home Administration, of which James Elam is county supervisor, for 100 units of housing for the elderly to be sponsored by the Interfaith Committee to bring solely needed housing to Soul City at prices the elderly can afford to pay.

Pursuant to a conference held with the Farmers Home Administration Monday, Admiral Padula reported that the FHMA looks upon the application with favor.

It is proposed, Admiral Padula said, to produce 100 semi-detached rental units of six bedroom apartments for the handicapped containing 667 square feet of living area, and one-bedroom apartments containing 698 square feet. In addition to these facilities, which will provide summer and winter air conditioning and all the amenities necessary for elderly housing, HealthCo is adjacent and will provide medical and dental facilities and a new shopping center will be provided to meet the daily needs of the occupants, Admiral Padula pointed out.

Admiral Padula said that applications are now being taken by the Rev. Michael T. Williams, coordinator of the Interfaith Committee of Soul City, for persons desiring reservations in advance for these apartments.

Under the government finance, Admiral Padula said, provision is made for a 50-year mortgage with interest as low as 1 percent and a rent supplement so that the rent, including facilities, will not exceed 20 percent of the income of the applicant. He pointed out that if the applicant's income is \$200 a month, the rent could be as low as \$40 per month including utilities.

Admiral Padula is consultant for the project to be built by American National Housing Company; John D. Lattimer and Associates were named architect and engineer, and Clayton and Ballance were named attorneys.

In a statement to the press yesterday, Admiral Padula said: "We believe that this housing will help solve the already critical housing problem throughout Warren County in which 59 percent of all housing is substandard and 83 percent of the blacks occupy rental units that lack plumbing facilities and modern sanitation."

"The blacks compromise over 60 percent of the population of Warren County but 85 percent live in overcrowded units so the problem is not whether we need housing but how do we get it at prices people can afford to pay."

Further Study Is Said Needed

More study will be required before any decision to divest the Town of Warrenton of its railroad holdings is made, the chairman of the Railroad Committee told town commissioners here Monday night.

Commissioner Sam Massey said he and members of his committee met last week with a New Jersey businessman who offered the town \$10 per share for enough stock to gain controlling interest of the railroad property, which includes rolling stock, buildings and a span of track from Warrenton to Warren

(Continued on page 16)

New Artist Is Hired By Arts Commission

Ms. Victoria Lehman has recently been employed by the Warrenton Arts Commission as the artist-in-residence. She will begin her duties on September 19.

Ms. Lehman is a graduate of the University of Northern Colorado receiving a degree in fine arts, and she was on the dean's list. She has studied at Ohio State University and in Florence, Italy.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, she has taught art in schools in Berthoud, Colo., and been an instructor for art at Ohio State University. She has also instructed arts and crafts at summer camps.

Ms. Lehman has experience in pottery, photography, weaving, quilting, sculpture, arts and all medias of painting and many other areas of arts and crafts.

She will be working at the

Art Commission studio on Front Street in Warrenton, replacing Ms. Susan Simmons who left August 1.

Ms. Delores Davis, a native of Norlina, will be teaching part-time at the studio. The Elizabeth City State University graduate will teach screen printing and oil painting.



MS. LEHMAN