

## No Replacement Named

### Manager Resigns

By HELEN HOLT  
News Editor

The resignation of Bill Davis, town manager of Warrenton for two years, was accepted by the Warrenton Board of Commissioners during regular session Monday night.

Davis submitted his resignation to Warrenton Mayor W. A. Miles last Thursday morning after the decision was made following Tuesday's municipal elections. His resignation was effective Monday at 5:30 p.m.

In making a motion to accept the resignation during what appeared to be reluctant silence on the part of the board, commissioner B. G. White said Davis is to be commended for his fine service to Warrenton.

"The present board owes Bill appreciation and thanks for the fine job he has done during the past two years," White said. "He is to be commended for his fine service...I think, if this is his wish (to resign), then we have no choice but to accept his resignation."

No replacement—or possibility of replacement—has been named.

Davis, a native of Warrenton, was employed as town manager in December, 1975. During his tenure, he has been credited with renovating the town hall, devising a personnel policy for the town employees and working to designate much of Warrenton as a historic district.

In addition, Davis has been instrumental in developing the brick sidewalks throughout the city business district.

Davis has worked individually and in a coordinated effort with other county officials to obtain numerous state and federal grants for use by the town or on a regional municipal basis.

Among these are a \$3.8 million package now being sought for building a regional sewage treatment plant in Warrenton; \$350,000 already assured for upgrading existing sewer lines in Warrenton; \$900,000 for a

regional water system; \$937,000 for the consolidated high school in Warren County; and a possible \$500,000 for community development in Warrenton should the upcoming board decide to follow the ground-work already laid by the former town manager.

At Monday's meeting, no action was taken by the current town board to replace Davis. His vacancy will be deliberated by new board members whose two-year terms become effective Dec. 1.

Their first regular board meeting is scheduled for Dec. 12, although a call session is planned for Monday, Dec. 5, at 7:30 p.m.

Davis, in an interview Friday, expressed his opinion that the office of town manager is "not a part-time job. You have to wear too many hats," he said, citing those for building inspector, zoning enforcement officer, construction engineer, personnel supervisor, city clerk, grantsman and others.

"If you get a good man in...you can immediately get him to help you. A good manager earns his money and pays his own salary back to the town," Davis said.

He described the town manager's work as a "highly specialized field, not something you can learn overnight. Nor are your contacts gained easily."

Davis said he hoped "the citizens of the town of Warrenton will monitor the progress that's been made and keep things continuing for progress rather than allowing them to slip back into the way things have been."

He tagged industrial development as "the key to success" in Warren County and urged support of good water and sewer facilities.

"These programs are now at the town's fingertips and I sincerely hope the town will not let them fall through."

Davis said he has made no employment commitments at this time.



Wrecking crewmen prepare to load up the vehicle demolished Friday at a train crossing accident in Manson. The driver, Jerome Hickman of Soul City, was killed instantly. (Staff Photo)

## Train Hits Car At Manson; One Killed

MANSON—A 21-year-old Soul City man was killed instantly when the car which he was operating was struck by a freight train at the Seaboard Coast Line railway crossing here Friday morning.

The victim, identified as Jerome Hickman of Soul City Trailer Park, was reported dead immediately after the 8:20 a. m. collision. The body was taken to Warren General Hospital for a medical examiner's report. No other injuries were reported.

State highway patrol troopers investigating the accident said Hickman, on his way to work at American National Housing Corp. in Soul City, apparently did not see the train coming as he crossed the rail crossing.

Hickman, driving a Volkswagen, had turned off US 1 at Manson and was nearly across the crossing when the freight train, approaching from the south, struck the vehicle.

Estimated a total loss by bystanders and the wrecking crew the vehicle was hardest hit on its rear right side.

Impact from the collision threw the vehicle an estimated 30 feet from the crossing. Members of the wrecking crew, which arrived about an hour after the accident, retrieved pieces of the engine 100 feet or more from the automobile.

Highway patrol troopers said the train was traveling at about 55 miles per hour at the time of collision. Safety lights and bells at the crossing were all in working order and visibility was good to excellent in either direction they said.

The troopers said no charges would be filed. Although there appeared to be no eye-witnesses to the incident, a storekeeper from a nearby grocery said he heard a "loud noise, a crash" when the accident occurred.

Other bystanders, as well as law enforcement officers, on the scene, said they had no recollection of any other train-car accident at this particular crossing.

The fatality is Warren

County's 18th this year.

A memorial service was held for Hickman Sunday at Harris-Turner Funeral Home Chapel, Warrenton. Burial was Wednesday at Burr Oak Cemetery, Chicago, Ill.

Survivors include his mother, Mrs. Claudia Stephens of Chicago, Ill.; father, John Hickman of Soul City; and three sisters, Sandra, Sheri and Hillary Hickman of Chicago.

### Services

The annual Thanksgiving Eve services for the Warrenton churches will be held at North Warrenton Baptist Church on Wednesday, Nov. 23, at 7:30 p. m.

The North Warrenton choir will provide special music.

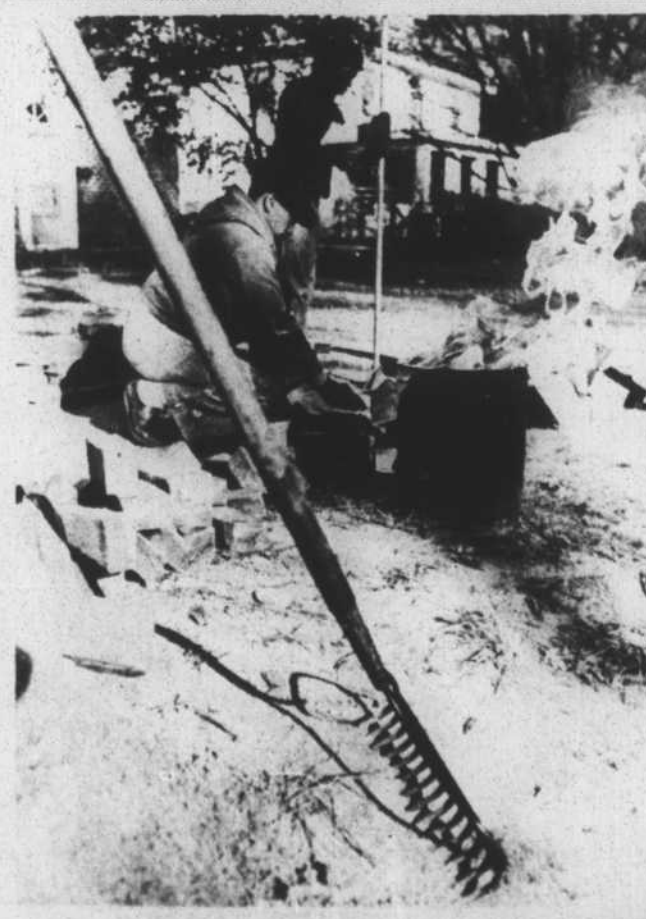
Combining for the service will be Emmanuel Episcopal, Wesley Memorial United Methodist, Warrenton Baptist, Warrenton Presbyterian and North Warrenton Baptist churches.

### Early Next Week

Next week's edition of The Warren Record will be published on Tuesday in order that the newspaper be in the hands of the subscribers before the Thanksgiving holiday.

All correspondents and others wishing to have news published are asked to bring the news to the office by 10 a. m. Monday.

Advertisers will be required to have ads in by noon on Saturday. Classified advertising will be closed at noon on Monday.



A crude oil stove gives welcome heat to Warrenton workers as they replace brick sidewalks on Main Street this week. Elijah Perry, Jr., left, and Louis Mayfield tamp down the sandy base. (Staff Photo)

## Sewer System Passes Final Inspection Test

Final inspections of Warren County's regional sewage force main lines and pump station were completed Tuesday to the satisfaction of municipal and county officials involved.

Engineers Tom Jones and Dan Pleasant of Hazen and

Sawyer engineering firm contracted for the job were on hand to give a brief, guided tour of the recently completed pump station at Soul City.

Work on the system, which now only needs construction of a regional

waste treatment plant in Warrenton, began March 1. Sewer lines from Soul City to Warrenton were then laid along US 1 and US 158 business to just behind Carolina Sportswear factory.

More recently completed was the pump station at Soul City which has a pumping capacity of 1.7 million gallons daily. The station was installed at a site where two treatment basins had already been constructed.

Total project cost, excluding that for the basins, was \$700,000.

At Tuesday's inspection, attended by various representatives of Warren County, Warrenton, Soul City and others, the engineers said the system had been satisfactorily tested at 100 pounds of pressure.

Water was used in the test.

In addition, the engineers described and explained various elements of the pumping station and force main, including the installation of vents, air release valves to expel gas build-up, cut-off valves to isolate leaks, meters to register usage and other pertinent features.

Each town along the system — Soul City, Warrenton and Norlina — has also been supplied with specially fitted clamps for making repairs on the 12 and 14-inch pipes.

Although the system is now operational, all towns will continue with their present systems until a new waste treatment facility is built in Warrenton.

Soul City trucks in weekly a minimal amount of sewage for treatment in Warrenton, now operating (Continued on page 3)

## Board Approves School Aide Raise

A monthly raise of \$10 will be granted to all aides in the Warren County school system following action by the Board of Education Monday night.

The \$10 per month raise will be retroactive for the months already concluded in the current school year.

Board members also agreed that the starting aide salary in next year's budget would be \$415 monthly. Funds for the salary increases are available from the state.

## Hospital Project Approved

Proposed expenditures of \$119,343 for new x-ray equipment and working space at Warren General Hospital were approved last week by the State Health Planning and Development Agency of the N. C. Department of Human Resources.

Notice of the agency approval was received Tuesday by Col. H. S. Andersen, hospital administrator, who said the new equipment should be ready for use sometime next month.

Application for the \$119,343 capital expenditure was made in July, he said. Initial approval of such an expense was first received from Capital Health Systems Agency, a regional health planning organization whose recommendations weigh heavily in the state planning office.

Final approval by the state will be forwarded to the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) under whose authority the project will be funded.

Andersen said the money will be used to purchase modern x-ray equipment and to convert the present emergency room into a second x-ray facility.

The hospital's present x-ray room will be used for back-up work.

"The present equipment is more than 20 years old," Andersen said. "It is really obsolete. We would be in a poor situation too if our present equipment broke down and could not be repaired for two or three weeks."

Andersen said the new equipment is designed to perform other x-ray services that Warren General is presently unable to offer.

Although Dec. 1 had been targeted as the date to get the new equipment installed and operational, Andersen said the x-ray room should be ready for use by the middle of next month or certainly by the first of next year.

The equipment contract, expected to incur \$90,000 of the total project cost, has been awarded to General Electric, Co. Anderson said (Continued on page 3)

The board of education also granted the request of Eugene Holt Neal that his children be sent to Mariam Boyd when he moves to Afton.

Neal justified his request on the fact that the present owner of the Afton house, Charles Collier, has five children, all of whom attend Mariam Boyd.

The board's decision could not be made on the basis of fixed and definite school district lines because they have not been clearly defined and interpersonally agreed upon by board members.

"I don't know where the line is," said Neal's brother, Roy. "I've heard so much controversy, I don't know if anybody knows."

Neal said that he would take the responsibility of getting his children to Mariam Boyd, if a school bus is not available.

In other business, the board decided that the 13-year-old roof of the school administration building will be replaced by Owen E. Gupton of Henderson, whose bid was \$5,348.

Supt. J. R. Peeler said it would be necessary to use current expense funds for the project.

## Arts Commission Gets \$1,000 Challenge Grant

The Warrenton Arts Commission was notified last week of its receipt of \$1,000 from the state Department of Cultural Resources.

Warrenton's grant is one of 20 totalling \$36,080 awarded to various counties for arts projects planned for the first half of 1978.

The \$1,000 is extended as a fund "challenge" grant, to be matched in equal amount by the arts commission, according to Brenda Clarke, president.

Clarke said the grant would be used primarily for membership purposes in a drive to gain more members for the Warrenton Arts Commission.

With the grant becoming effective in mid-January, Clarke said the membership drive would begin in February with organized lessons, a film festival, a juried art show and other events.

Members of the commission at that time will begin calling on businesses and individuals throughout the community. A number of different types of memberships such as active, inactive, sponsor and patron, will be available to interested persons.

Funds raised to match the state grant will eventually be used to purchase needed equipment, supplies and to sponsor cultural activities.

A planning committee is being established now to schedule performing events for 1978-79, Clarke said.

The Warrenton Arts Commission offices on Front Street are now open for unscheduled classes, following open house Sunday.

Starting this week in the recently refurbished headquarters, hours are set as follows:

Sunday and Monday, closed; Tuesday, 9-12 a. m., 3-5 p. m. and 7-10 p. m.; Wednesday, 7-10 p. m.; Thursday, 9-12 a. m., 3-5 p. m.; Friday, 7-10 p. m.; Saturday, 9-12 a. m.

The open classes will remain in effect until the fund-raising drive begins in January. The public is invited to attend.

## Police Report Smash-Up

The Warrenton Police Dept. reported a traffic mishap at the intersection of Macon and Bragg Streets Monday about 3:38 p. m.

C. E. Shearin of the department explained that Brenda Lee Stallings of Rt. 2, Macon, stopped at the intersection then pulled out on to Macon Street, hitting the side of a vehicle operated by Inetter Ray Williams of Rt. 2, Littleton.

The officer estimated damages at \$50 to the Stallings vehicle with \$800 to Williams' auto.

No injuries were reported in the smash-up. Ms. Stallings was charged with a safe movement violation.

## Lack Of Challenge In Schools Alleged By Student's Parent

By KEN FERRUCCIO  
Staff Writer

Mrs. Claude Shearin of Vaughan appeared before the Warren County Board of Education here Monday night to discuss what she alleges to be the failure of curriculum and methods to provide an educational challenge for students.

She based her contentions on what her daughter, a ninth grader at Hawkins, has told her, and on the nature of the work her daughter has brought home from school.

Mrs. Shearin said that the curriculum seems to bore the students. She mentioned that her daughter attends a vocational education class in which students are taught to paint by numbers. She was referring to the \$3 million Occupational Exploratory Program designed at the state level and directed and implemented by Walter Price.

On hand to explain the rationale and objectives of the course, Price said that the purpose of the course is to acquaint students with 100 professional and non-professional occupations by the time they leave Hawkins and to develop concentration, observation and listen-

ing skills.

Price said that Mrs. Shearin's daughter had attended his class for only 10 days. He said that the other students were well on their way by the time she did attend, and that her boredom was due probably to the fact that she had fallen behind.

Price said he chose to give the student an incomplete rather than to fail her and emphasized her ability. He invited Mrs. Shearin to visit his class that she might see for herself the enthusiasm and group cohesiveness of his students.

Regretting that her

daughter had missed almost a month of school when "we were getting in the tobacco," Mrs. Shearin held firmly to her contention that schools are not challenging the students.

"I've had two children quit school. A lot of it was due to this problem: most of the classes simply do not offer a challenge," she said.

Peeler said he had heard many times before that not enough was being done for the above-average student and that he wants to do something about it. He said a program to accommodate the needs of the above-

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## Tobacco Market Closes

The Warrenton Tobacco Market averaged more money per pound this year but poundage sold was down, according to George Willis Shearin, sales supervisor.

Shearin said this year's average was up about \$5 per hundred pounds. The yearly average was \$1.11 with the 1976 average being \$1.06.21.

Farmers sold 8,462,194 pounds this year receiving \$9,396,312 for their tobacco. Last year sales were up, with 11,991,110 pounds being sold for \$12,736,826.62.

Shearin said the Warrenton Tobacco Board of Trade was happy to have this much tobacco this year due to the dry conditions in July and the wet weather in August.

The tobacco sales peaked at \$2.16 this year. All warehouses in Warrenton sold the last tobacco on Monday.