

## Former Local Resident Dies In Car Wreck

Mrs. Mildred Peeler Mustian, 38, of Wilson, formerly of Warrenton, was killed Monday afternoon in a single-car accident when the car she was driving struck a concrete pillar on US 264 West at the Sims exit near Wilson.

Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday at 11 a. m. by the Rev. W. R. Bussey of First Baptist Church, Wilson. Graveside services will be held at 2:30 p. m. at Fairview Cemetery, Warrenton.

Mrs. Mustian is survived by her husband, Monroe B. Mustian, a daughter, Amy, and a son, Roger, both of the home; and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Peeler of Warrenton.

## More Cheese On The Way For Needy

The Warren County Department of Social Services has received another shipment of 8,000 pounds of United States Department of Agriculture surplus cheese for distribution to low-income families.

All current food-stamp recipient households and other households certified for the cheese distribution last February will be eligible for more cheese with no new certification. These recipients may begin picking up their cheese immediately at the Food Stamp Office or the Social Services Office at 538 W. Ridgeway Street.

Households not previously served can make application at the distribution sites. Certification is made on income up to 130 percent of the poverty level, and liquid reserve not in excess of \$1,500, according to Julian W. Farrar, director of Social Services for the county.

In February, 4,100 persons were served by the distribution of 9,000 pounds of cheese.

## Norlina Board Awards Contracts

Norlina commissioners Monday night formally approved, by unanimous vote, low bids for wastewater improvements.

John T. Harris Construction Co. of Warrenton was awarded the contract for general construction after submitting a low bid of \$174,325.

Watson Electrical Construction Co. of Wilson was given the electrical contract after submitting a low bid of \$7,193.

Work on the improvements, which will tie Norlina's wastewater system into the regional plant near Warrenton, is expected to begin in 90 days. The bids were received last month but were not officially accepted until Monday night.

Alternate bids for asphalt paving at the pumping station at the lagoon and the southside pumping station were also approved by the board. Harris Construction had offered to do the paving for a total of \$3300.

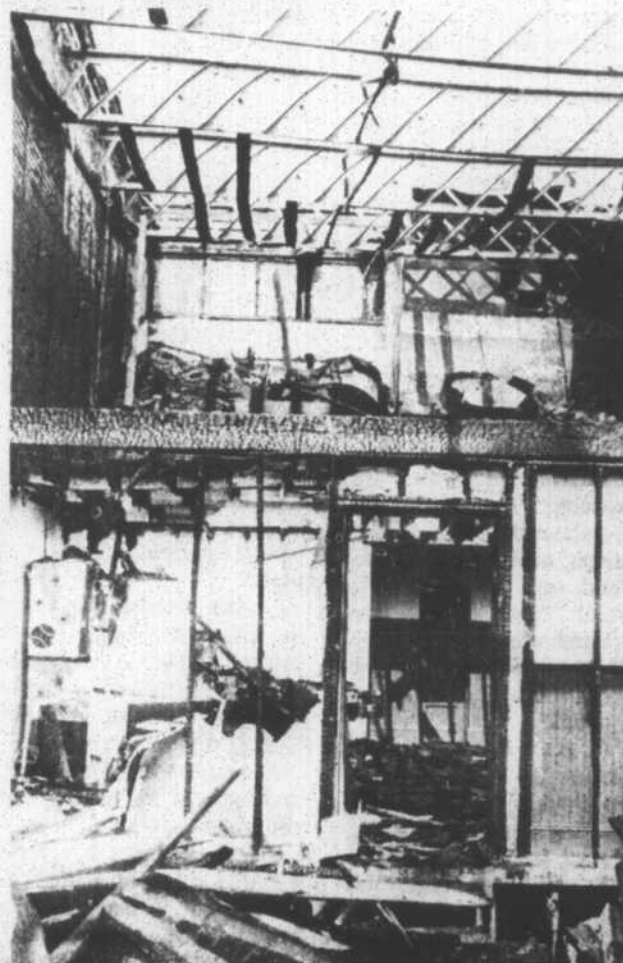
In other action taken during Monday night's 45-minute session, the board:

- Ordered a refundable deposit for transient water customers to be increased to \$25. The fee has been \$10 for customers inside town and \$15 for those outside.
- Left unchanged a decision by town administration

(Continued on page 9)



Firemen stand atop the Taylor Building and bring their hoses to bear on flames leaping from the old Warren Theatre Building during Wednesday afternoon's disastrous fire. In photo at left, firemen work with their equipment in an alley behind the burning building. At right, the



charred remains of the theatre's interior is shown. In bottom photo, volunteers haul office furniture and equipment from the Taylor Building which was threatened by the fire. (Staff Photos)



## Firemen Prevent Spread Of Damage As Fire Guts Warrenton Landmark

A Warrenton landmark for more than four decades was gutted by fire on Wednesday afternoon of last week.

Flames believed caused by faulty wiring swept the old Warren Theatre Building on Main Street. The lagoon and the southside pumping station were also approved by the board. Harris Construction had offered to do the paving for a total of \$3300.

Fleming, a Warrenton real estate and construction executive, estimated the loss at \$105,000 - \$80,000 to the building and \$25,000 to the contents.

Housed in the brick building were the offices of Fleming Realty and Construction Co. and the Warren Video Games Center. Both were victims of the intense fire, which for some time on Wednesday threatened nearby

buildings. Only the Taylor Building, which shares a common wall with the theatre building, suffered damages.

Fleming said he did not know the extent of the damage to the Taylor Building, but said that heat from the blaze bowed the north wall of the two-story building which contains offices. Much of the contents of the Taylor Building were removed by volunteers as the fire reached its peak.

Fleming said he and Chet Forrester, a volunteer fireman and county electrical inspector, were returning to Warrenton following a meeting in Raleigh when they saw smoke as they approached town. At first, as they neared the business district, they thought it might

have been caused by workmen tarring a roof.

Upon arrival at the theatre building, Fleming opened a door leading to the balcony and smoke billowed out. While Forrester began putting in calls for help, Fleming herded the 15-20 youngsters playing electronic games out of the building.

The town fire company responded, as did rural firemen from Warrenton, Norlina, Wise, Inez, Arcola, Macon, Drewry and Cokesbury.

Only three of 14 video games were removed from the building before smoke forced its complete evacuation. Two desks and a filing cabinet were also saved.

"The machines cost \$19,000 and we had just spent \$8,000 remodeling

the building," Fleming said. The building, believed built in 1938, once seated 500 persons. The seats were being removed in anticipation of an auction sale planned by Fleming.

Fleming said he did not have nearly enough insurance to cover his loss. He estimated that it would require \$200,000 to build a similar building today. He said he did not know if the front wall of the building can be re-used until demolition work gets under way.

While Fleming is considering his options on replacement of the building, he has moved his real estate and construction business to a temporary location in a house on West Macon Street owned by the J. B. Davis Estate.

## Commissioners Decide

# Tax Lien Sale Planned In June

Tax liens on unpaid 1981 real estate taxes, which are being advertised in The Warren Record this week, will be sold on Monday, June 7, beginning at 12 noon, the Board of Warren County Commissioners ordered at their meeting here on Monday morning.

Henry Pitchford, president of the Warren County Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, appeared before the commissioners with a request that in choosing a member of the Extension Service to succeed L. C. Cooper, retired, as an Agricultural Agent, that the commissioners insist upon the hiring of a Black.

Chairman Harris told Pitchford that the commissioners always relied heavily upon the recommendation of the N. C. Extension Service, but that there might be several weeks delay as the Extension Service at the request of a number of cattlemen had promised that the job would not be filled until a competent cattle agent could be found.

The commissioners announced a budget schedule for three budget hearings and okayed a budget amendment for the Health Department.

W. P. "Pete" Jones, a former chairman of the Warren County Board of Commissioners, was appointed by the commissioners to fill the unexpired term of Howard Oakley as a member of the Emergency Medical Service Board. Oakley's position has been vacant since November.

Jim Whitley, serving as county manager during the illness of Glen Newsome, read a long list of suggestive appointees to a Citizens Involvement Committee on Waste Management. Action was tabled until the June meeting in order that the commissioners may study a copy of the list to be supplied by Whitley.

Whitley reported sales tax collections in Warren County during March in the amount of \$20,851.68.

Alan Hawks, Director for Coordinating Council for Senior Citizens presented his budget to the commissioners. He pointed out that since the federal budget running to Sept. 30, had been changed to the state fiscal year ending July 1, that the budget figures should all be reduced one-fourth. And the \$3700 requested as the county's part, had been reduced to \$2775.00.

However, Hawks said that he had requested the Board of Education to allow his agency to use the Exum Building on the Hawkins campus as a Citizens Center. If this permission is granted he said, the cost of renovating and furnishing is estimated at \$12,000, of which a \$6,000 matching fund would be required of the county, in addition to the \$2775 of the regular operating budget.

Bennie Lynch appeared before the commissioners in regard to handling waste products in Warren County and if any additions were to be expected for the new year. He was told that the only complaint was

that the bins were often over-filled, and suggested that during the summer vacation in schools, some of the bins could possibly be shifted to lake develop-

ments when the need is greatest. The commissioners, since they missed by only a few points receiving a federal grant for this

(Continued on page 9)

## Terrell Resigns

Benjamin Terrell, principal of the Warren County High School, on Tuesday morning submitted his resignation to School Superintendent Mike Williams, in order that he may accept a job as principal of a high school in Davidson County.

Supt. Williams said this morning that Principal Terrell has done a magnificent job as principal of the new county high school, and that his resignation was accepted with deep regret.

## New Date Selected For N. C. Primary

In a rare Sunday meeting, the state Board of Elections named June 29 as election day, and scheduled primary runoffs for July 27.

According to Ruby Jones, Warren County supervisor of elections, the first primary will be Tuesday, June 29 and the second primary will be Tuesday, July 27.

The filing deadline for seats in Congress, the N. C. Senate and the N. C. House of Representatives is Friday, May 7.

State officials, according to published reports, felt that "severe hardship and confusion" would result if the 1982 primary elections were delayed further. They settled on the June 29 date to avoid further clash with federal officials.

The June 29 date is a compromise between the state's previously expressed preference for a June 10 primary and federal officials' desire for an election in July or August.

The General Assembly originally set the June 10 date, but the U. S. Justice

Department opposed that date saying that it might not provide minority candidates with enough time to wage effective campaigns.

The decision made at the Sunday meeting was the latest of many actions directed at winning federal acceptance of the state's redistricting plans. The Justice Department has rejected two redistricting plans saying they diluted minority voting strength and thus violated the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Alex Brock, director of the state Board of Elections, said in published reports that he didn't like the newly-established dates, but that the board had to choose between them and an indefinite primary date.

The deadline for registration to vote in the June primary is Monday, May 17.

Filing deadline for independent legislative and congressional candidates, who avoid paying a filing fee by submitting petition, is May 17.

## Durham Rampage Begins In Warren

A white man reported to be sitting on a bush on Highway I-85 in Warren County was picked up by Deputy Harold Seaman around 4 p. m. on Wednesday of last week and after some delay delivered to Warren General Hospital, from which he has been released.

His traveling companion, James Morris McRay, 26, white male, was later that day arrested in

Durham where he was charged with careless and reckless driving, possession of a stolen vehicle, possession of a stolen firearm, carrying a concealed weapon and with drunk and disorderly conduct and jailed under \$17,000 bond.

While the larceny part of the escapade was committed in Warren County, it is considered unlikely that he will be returned to Warren County for trial.

## Pam Currie Named To Class Office

Pam Currie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Currie of Division Street, Norlina, was elected to the office of junior class secretary-treasurer at Atlantic Christian College during the recent campus elections.

Miss Currie is majoring in music education.

According to a report gathered in the sheriff's office here on Monday, Carl D. Ayscue, 2911 Jefferson Davis Highway in Richmond, Va., picked up a hitchhiker, James Morris McRay in Richmond on 2016 Stems Avenue, Richmond, Va., and headed South on Highway I-85. When they reached a point near Manson in Warren County, according to Ayscue, he stopped his

(Continued on page 8)