

The Warren Record

Officials In Warren Hopeful Of Landing Block Grant

By HOWARD JONES

Warren County officials are putting the final touches on an application for a state grant of between \$500,000 and \$600,000 to upgrade services and provide better housing in a predominantly black neighborhood on the eastern outskirts of Warrenton.

County Manager Glen Newsome said yesterday that a survey of the Red Hill neighborhood is being completed and that public input will be sought during a public hearing to be held Monday at 7:30 p. m. in the Warren County Court House.

The community development block grant which Warren officials are hopeful of receiving would

provide better water and sewer facilities in Red Hill, upgrade property and provide for a senior citizens center. All are contingent upon approval by the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development (NRCD).

Last year the state turned down an application for a block grant for Warren County improvements, but this year Newsome hopes the chances are better.

"A point system is used, and we will be competing with counties from throughout North Carolina," he noted. Last year no grant application from any agency within the five-county Region K was approved.

A key feature of the block grant program being sought this year is the extension of sewer services to a neighborhood not now being served by municipal sewer.

"We want to construct a new eight-inch line to the area," Newsome said. The anticipated cost of the water and sewer improvements would be \$260,000, he noted.

Another proposal contained in the grant application is the upgrading of water mains. Newsome said it is hoped that the existing two-inch lines can be replaced with six-inch lines, bringing about increased fire protection as well as better service.

Contained in the proposal is a recommendation that two dilapidated houses in the neighborhood be torn down, and another eight to ten rehabilitated.

"They will require substantial work," Newsome said, "and we will be placing emphasis on indoor plumbing throughout the area."

Plans for a senior citizen center have been talked for months, and Monday night the Warren County Board of Education joined in the effort to help bring the facility about when it approved a letter of intent containing its willingness to let a building on the Hawkins School property, located across town from Red Hill, be used for this purpose.



Workmen at the new \$5 million sewage treatment plant south of Warrenton are shown working on an agitator which was flooded when the water level rose at the plant. The agitator, used to collect grit passing through sewer lines, is one of numerous items which are submerged periodically at the

plant. Inspecting the agitator are, left to right, Harry Rawls, construction superintendent with Dickerson Construction Company, general contractor for the plant; Macon Robertson, sewer plant operator; and Bill Neal, superintendent of the Warrenton Water Department. (Staff Photo)

Warren Sewage Plant Problems Are Caused

Friday's electrical storm played havoc with the county's regional sewer system, still under construction near Warrenton and three months after beginning operation.

This was called to the attention of the Warrenton Town Commissioners on Monday night by W. A. Miles, Jr., chairman of the Sewer Committee, and elaborated upon at some length by Bill Neal, Superintendent of the Warrenton Water Company, with several commissioners making indignant comments.

Remarks of Neal and the commissioners were taped by a local reporter, and used in part in reporting the story. Early Tuesday afternoon Neal explained to the reporter what is the true cause at the sewer plant which has delayed its acceptance by several months.

Actually the trouble, Neal said, is failure of an automatic system to come back on after being knocked off by an electric storm, as was the case last Friday. It is of not too much consequence in the daytime when switches may be pulled manually, but a different story at night when no one is present at the plant, which is designed to work automatically.

Some time during Friday night, Neal told the commissioners, a second storm knocked out three motors designed to pump water from a pit into a secondary treatment department. Water

and sewage quickly backed into an adjoining basin covering electric motors, and junctions. Neal said that early Saturday morning he brought Jack Harris, chairman of the Warren County Board of Commissioners, to the scene and that Harris was both surprised and dismayed at what he saw, and promised to give it his attention as soon as he returned from a meeting in Baltimore where he and Commissioner George Shearin were to represent the Warren County Commissioners. He said that he would be back in his office on the following Thursday morning.

Mayor White told the commissioners that he would contact Chairman Harris in order to set up a called meeting attended by Harris, Glen Newsome, County Manager, Town Engineers and members of the Town Commissioners within the next few days to see what further action should be taken.

refuse to give the county a warranty on the motor. He points out if the county should deem the plant to be the town as contemplated, before the trouble is corrected, that it would be the town's responsibility to replace the (Continued on page 7B)

Missed Flight

A delay in wedding plans was responsible for a Warren County native not being aboard a Pan American jetliner that crashed Friday shortly after takeoff from New Orleans International Airport, killing all 145 passengers and several people on the ground.

James C. Stegall of Miami, Fla., son of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Stegall of Rt. 2, Warrenton, had been scheduled to board the ill-fated 727 jet which left Miami en route to the West Coast.

Stegall was to attend the wedding of a friend in San Diego, Calif. and had made plans to take the Pan Am jet which went down in the second worst air crash in the nation's history. However, Stegall cancelled his plans to take the jet when he received word that the wedding had been postponed until August.

Pair Is Charged After Still Raid

Two Warren County men have been charged with the operation of a whiskey still raided by sheriff's deputies and Alcohol Beverage Control officials earlier this month in neighboring Mecklenburg County, Va.

The two--Richard Lewis Barnes, 49, of Wise and Allen Baskerville, 52, of Norlina--were charged with the manufacture of illicit liquor at a copper-tubed still raided July 1. The still was located in a wooded area off Virginia State Route 771 near

Palmer Springs, Va. Also arrested in the raid was William Henry Howell, 55, of Palmer Springs.

The three were released from the Mecklenburg County Jail on \$1,000 bond. A preliminary hearing date was set for August 13.

Law enforcement officers reported that Baskerville sustained a slight injury to his ankle when he tripped over a root running from police officers.

Marijuana Haul Is Made, Deputies Arrest Suspect

A Warren County native now living in Raleigh turned himself in to the Warren County Sheriff's Department Thursday at 3:30 p.m. in connection with an estimated \$100,000 marijuana find in Liberia on Wednesday.

Kearny Williams Davis, 26, arrived at the courthouse with Al Thompson, an attorney for the firm of Banzet, Banzet & Thompson of Warrenton.

Davis was charged with manufacturing a

controlled substance, maintaining a vehicle for the purpose of transporting marijuana and intent to sell or deliver marijuana.

Davis, who posted bail of \$1,000, is scheduled to appear in court on July 28.

The marijuana was discovered Wednesday by Warren County deputies Theodore Williams and B. D. Bolton after a tip from an unnamed source.

According to reports, Bolton and Williams had been at the site, a

secluded, wooded area five miles southeast of Warrenton on N. C. 58 near Liberia, only a few minutes when a man carrying bags of fertilizer appeared.

Williams said they recognized the man as a Warren County native and identified him as Davis.

The deputies yelled for him to halt, but he fled into the woods, and they were unable to catch him.

The deputies seized Davis's car, which was left near the site and

contained another bag of fertilizer.

Warren County law officers spent over four hours clearing the seven patches of the marijuana crop late Wednesday. Officers said the stalks, which were ready for harvest, reached as high as 11 feet.

Sheriff Clarence Davis said the crop was enough to fill a half-ton truck and was burned and buried eight feet down in the county landfill.

A small pond near the site had apparently been used to irrigate the crop. Several hoses ran from the pond's dam to the crop area. Buckets, shovels, chopping knives, and bags of fertilizer were also found by officers.

Deadline Given For 2nd Primary

Thursday, July 22, is the deadline for applying for an absentee ballot and for one-stop voting, according to Mrs. Ruby Jones, supervisor of elections for Warren County.

Mrs. Jones said that she has on hand now ballots for one-stop voting, and expects the (Continued on page 7B)



Warren Deputies Bobby Dean Bolton (left) and Theo Williams are shown in a marijuana field raided by law enforcement officers near Liberia last week. A 26-year-old Warrenton native was arrested in connection with the illegal crop.

Loss In Federal Funds Means Job Loss For 12

A cutback in federal funding will mean immediate job losses for 12 tutors and teacher's aides in the Warren County school system, members of the Warren County Board of Education were advised during their July meeting held here Monday night.

Assistant Supt. James Jordan told board members that a 15 percent reduction in funding for the 1982-83 school year will bring about the job losses.

Jordan said school officials had expected \$629,655 in federal funds to carry on a program known as ECIA, Chapter I. Instead, he said, local officials have just learned that they may not expect but \$526,593 to carry out the program.

Unaffected, because of a restructuring of the ECIA program, will be 21 teachers expected to report to work under the ECIA program this August.

Jordan said that dismantling the tutorial and aide

portion of the program will mean a savings of \$81,350 in salaries and \$22,425 in benefits.

The reduced level of federal funding was brought about when a federal judge ordered education officials to use 1980 census figures showing the number of poverty stricken families, rather than 1970 figures which had previously been used. The new figures show a decrease in the number of such families in North Carolina and other southeastern states, Jordan said, and a commensurate rise in the numbers of poverty level families in several northeastern states.

Tutors and aides whose jobs are now over are Irene Moss and Nannie Spruill at Hawkins School, Edith Brown at John Graham School, Omelia Spruill at Mariam Boyd School, Lettie Palmer at Norlina School, Elizabeth Baskerville and Joyce Burton at Northside School, Julia Alexander and Carolyn Lockley at North Warren School, Juanita Green and Louise Gupton at Vaughan School and Cora Boyd at Warren County High School.