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This twosome represents an August 8th event of note at the horse stable of James G. Elam of Route 1, Warrenton. Elam's 24-year-old registered Tennessee Walking Horse mare, Shadows Miss Mystery, was seen Monday with her four-day-old black filly, JG's Miss Ebony. For the Elams, horses have for many years been an integral part of family activities.

Elam stated that it is unusual for a 24-year-old mare to foal. He added that the Tennessee Walking Horse is a relatively young breed of horse, having been federally recognized for only 35 years. The "world's greatest pleasure horse" has evolved from the selection of easy-gaited horses of many breeds and has served man well, according to Elam. (Staff Photo)

'Barney The Buffalo' Creates Stir During Warren And Franklin Stay

An ordinary buffalo, however uncommon in these parts, came to Warren County on Tuesday, August 6, following his capture by Warren County auctioneer and cattleman E. B. Harris.

A week later, he was hauled from his temporary residence at the Harris farm in the Inez community to a ranch near Concord, bearing his new name, "Barney," and a 1,000-dollar price tag and leaving a legacy of visits by some 200 persons and almost daily coverage by the media.

The buffalo had stalked the pastures of the Lee Debnam farm in Franklin County until apparent competition with others during the mating season prompted him to flee to the wide open spaces outside the fence.

Following his escape from the Debnam acres, he made the news with his attempt to hitch a ride aboard a 1984 Buick carrying three women. It was then that Debnam sought the help of Harris, a cow-catching hobbyist of many years.

Harris cornered the animal last week and successfully guided it into his stock trailer for transport to his farm. At the same time, he purchased the animal for \$1 and other business considerations which were not disclosed.

Since that time, Barney has paced the floor of a stock trailer at the farm. "We've moved him every other day to a fresh trailer and kept him supplied with food and water," Harris said.

Contacted at his home on Monday evening, Harris noted that from the outset, his chief concern has been that the buffalo not become a threat to people again. "No amount of money would entice me to knowingly allow the animal to jeopardize human lives again," he said.

Efforts last week to locate a zoo which would welcome the addition of a buffalo were unsuccessful and it seemed for a time that there may be no choice but to slaughter the animal, Harris said.

The dilemma attracted the attention of a Hickory radio announcer for station WSPS, Gary McMahan, who named the buffalo and started a drive through his program to solicit pledges and funds to buy the buffalo. McMahan raised more than \$1,500 and made the deal with Harris.

Still in search of adequate accommodation for the animal, Harris on Sunday contacted A. B. Cook, owner of the buffalo ranch near Concord. Cook has a buffalo herd numbering about 75 head as well as

a sprinkling of zebras, lions and tigers, he said. Harris learned of the privately-owned operation a number of years ago when he shopped at the Western store at the ranch.

Barney will probably suffer intimidation by the other buffaloes when he arrives, Harris said, but he added that after about three days the newcomer should blend in with the other stock.

Harris stated that he will be paid \$1,000 for the animal and will be reimbursed for expenses of taking Barney to the Concord farm.

Of the money pledged beyond the animal's price tag and travel expenses, the radio station will donate 50 percent to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Harris will receive the remaining half, which he will distribute among a number of charities including the Crippled Children's Fund, N. C. Jaycees Burn Center, help for cancer victims and fire departments.

Harris planned to leave at 6 a. m. Tuesday with the animal and en route to the Concord "home where the buffalo roam" he said stops were scheduled at the Marriott Hotel in Raleigh for a news conference and at Hickory.

"When I get to the Concord farm," he said, "the first thing I am going to do is to accept a check and then I am going to open the trailer."

"I am looking forward to getting my life back to normal," Harris said, looking back on the unexpected attention the ordinary buffalo received while in his keeping.

Higher Prices Set For School Lunches

Many Warren County students returning to public school this fall will be greeted by higher lunch prices.

The Warren County Board of Education Monday night agreed to the price increase after being told that in-

creased costs in salaries, health insurance, utilities, food purchase and equipment replacement left school officials with little option.

The student meal price increase — the first in four years — will not affect prices of breakfast meals, and there will be no change (Continued on page 6)

Warrenton Grocery Declares Bankruptcy

Warrenton's IGA Supermarket, owned by Mrs. Charles J. Renn, has closed and filed for bankruptcy.

The announcement was made last Thursday morning by Bradley Carroll, vice president of Warrenton's First Citizens Bank, who was at the store to cancel a noon auction of inventory and equipment planned due to default on loans by the owner.

Warren Health Plan Sets Eye On Permanent Status

3 Doctors Available

The Vance-Warren Comprehensive Health Plan, Inc. will terminate its operation of the interim Warren Immediate Care Center on Saturday, Aug. 17, to begin start up of its permanent Warren Health Plan Monday, Aug. 19, according to Executive Director Phillip L. Williams.

When Warren General Hospital closed its doors in February for renovations, Williams offered the services of the Vance-Warren Comprehensive Health Plan, which also operates HealthCo, Inc. of Soul City, in establishing an interim health care center until mid-August when county commissioners hoped to have determined the future of the financially-crippled county hospital.

The Plan has now received federal grant funding to establish a permanent branch in Warrenton.

The Warren Health Plan will continue to operate out of the current location of the Immediate Care Center at the hospital until early next month when county commissioners hope to enter into a lease arrangement with a non-profit corporation and Community Memorial Hospital of South Hill, Va. for operation of the hospital.

Williams said this week that he has met with Community Memorial officials and members of the non-profit organization, and that they had expressed the desire for the Warren Health Plan to remain in the hospital quarters, if their proposal is accepted by county commissioners.

"I made a commitment to them that we would be willing to keep three doctors in the hospital facility if space were found," Williams said.

The Vance-Warren Comprehensive Health Plan has recently recruited four additional doctors through the National Health Corps, a federal program that funds education for medical students in exchange for their service in medically underserved areas.

At the request of the (Continued on page 6)



Congressman Tim Valentine, left, of Nashville shares his observations on some local tobacco with H. L. Pike of Halifax County on the opening day of the 1985 season of the Warrenton Tobacco Market August 7. Local growers sold a total of 200,416 pounds for \$244,298.33, averaging \$141.85 per hundred pounds. Fourteen percent of the opening day's tobacco went into Stabilization stocks. (Photo by Brad Carroll)

Board Not To Fill Vacancy Haithcock Death Created

By MARY C. HARRIS Staff Writer

Warrenton's commissioners decided on Monday evening not to fill the vacancy on the board left by the death last week of Commissioner Gordon Haithcock, who had served continuously for the past 20 years.

Mayor B. G. White noted that the town's charter grants the commissioners the authority to name a replacement, but the consensus was that with the election only months away the appointment was not necessary.

The mayor noted the contributions that Haithcock had made to the board during his tenure and commissioners reiterated his sentiments.

New appointments were made to the Warrenton Planning Board to fill the expired terms of Roy Pat Robertson, Mrs. Virginia Andersen, Lawrence Boyd and Mrs. Anne Harris, all of whom had declined to

serve again. Newcomers named to the Planning Board were Bernard Thompson, Mrs. Nancy Blalock, Col. John Jenkins and Mrs. Grace Miles. They will join remaining members, Jeff Palmer, Lee Cheek and McCarroll Alston. White noted that it would be necessary to appoint an

alternate to the board to replace Bernard Thompson who had served in that slot before his appointment to the board. Mrs. Nell Whitley also serves as an alternate.

Reappointed to the Zoning Board were Tom Watson, Kenneth Mustian and Mrs. Mary Hunter. Jack Groves (Continued on page 6)

Break-In Attributed To Murder Suspect

A Henderson man charged with the July 26 murder and armed robbery at the Norlina Road Rosemart in Henderson has also been charged with breaking, entering and larceny at A. B. Hair Carpets, Inc. of Norlina on July 25, according to Norlina Police Chief Roney Williams.

Cornelius "Omar" Earl Williams, 18, has also been charged with six other break-ins and burglaries of local stores and churches, according to a spokesman for the Henderson Police Department.

Williams was arrested at his home in Henderson early last Wednesday morning and charged in the shooting death of Jearold Ray Wolfe, 32.

A string of other charges followed and Williams was charged in connection with the Norlina incident after documents belonging to A. B. Hair were found in his home, Chief Williams said.

Reported stolen from A. B. Hair, Inc. were a portable television, microwave oven, gas heater and \$120 in cash.

McCowan Joins Sheriff's Force

Warrenton native James A. McCowan, formerly an officer with the Town of Warrenton Police Department, has joined the Warren County Sheriff's Department, according to Sheriff Theo Williams.

McCowan, 41, was sworn in Monday and began his duties yesterday.

A graduate of John Graham High School, McCowan served a total of nine years with the Warrenton Police Department in two stints, the last beginning in 1980.

A certified police officer, McCowan is also a certified emergency medical technician and has done volunteer work with the Warren County Ambulance Service.

Change In Location Planned By Newspaper

After more than 40 years at its current location at the corner of South Main and Franklin streets in Warrenton, The Warren Record Office is relocating.

Record Printing Company, publisher of The Warren Record, has purchased from William G. Davis, III the building at 123 South Main that until recently housed Davis' Uptown Fashions.

Renovation of the building is currently under way, according to Business Manager Howard Jones, and relocation is expected to be completed within the next few weeks.

The building, which will house the company's newspaper operation and office supply store, is the oldest brick building in Warrenton and one of the few downtown stores not destroyed by the fire of 1878.

It was built in the late 1830's and for many years was known as Hyman's Store, operated by Robert Hyman, a merchant from Edgecombe County.

The Warren Record, now owned by Editor F. Jones and his family, was purchased by father in 1900 and has been published by members of the Jones family since that time.

The paper is now printed in Henderson other operations will be housed in the new location.



With advertisement for their annual fish fry on August 21 are Warren County Shrine members, Noble President Joe Edgerton, left, and Noble Secretary William L. (Bill) Harrell. Proceeds from the project will benefit crippled children's hospitals and burn institutes. Tickets are available at a cost of \$3.50 and plates will be served for take-out or eat-in from 11 a. m. until 8 p. m. at the Warrenton Fairgrounds. (Staff Photo)