

The Warren Record

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HOWARD F. JONES Editor
GRACE W. JONES President
KAY HORNER Feature Editor

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Ordinance Needed

The towns of Warrenton and Spring Hope have a valuable community treasure in common. Trees in both towns are considered an asset by many, and there is now an attempt in Spring Hope to go a step further by protecting these trees through legislation.

In the belief that many of the factors involved in the Spring Hope effort are present in Warrenton, we are reprinting in its entirety an editorial from the most recent issue of The Spring Hope Enterprise:

"The Spring Hope Board of Commissioners will once again consider a proposed tree ordinance next Monday night. After months of working and reworking the ordinance, commissioners should go ahead and pass it instead of acting like they're going out on a limb.

"The tree ordinance, drafted by forester Reid Hildreth and based on model tree ordinances used by other towns, but it has a down-to-earth function—the protection and preservation of the town's public trees. The final form to be submitted Monday has taken into account all the revisions and questions raised by commissioners, the town attorney, and the interested public, and to delay its approval any more would be stalling without purpose.

"The ordinance establishes a committee of five town residents who act as advisors to the town board to prepare and administer an annual written plan for 'the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of trees and shrubs in parks, along position of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets, and in other public areas.' The ordinance does not affect any trees on private property except, reasonably, those that constitute a hazard to

life and property, harbor insects or disease which constitute a potential threat to other trees within the town.

"Trees are an important natural resource for Spring Hope, not only for their simple beauty which itself enhances the town but as an integral part of the town's downtown revitalization project. The architectural redesign of the downtown's physical appearance, drafted three years ago by Peter Lassen, depended heavily on trees for effect. That's what prompted the planting of street trees downtown and led to a specific recommendation by the Revitalization Commission, accepted by the town board at the time, that the town adopt the kind of tree ordinance now being proposed.

"The importance of the tree ordinance is that it ensures the town will take care of its trees—coordinating their planting and maintenance for best effect and protecting them from neglect, disease, improper topping, or ill-considered removal. It also gives the town a way to identify and remove those trees that need removing, and an active tree board will take a lot of supervisory burden off the town board and maintenance department without costing anything extra. Anyone who likes the grand old trees in Spring Hope, or wants to see the smaller trees along the downtown streets grow up healthy and properly maintained, should support the tree ordinance.

"In a way the tree ordinance is a simple service contract for keeping up the major investment Spring Hope has made in its trees over the years. After months of study, the town board has had enough time to do its homework and should pass the revised ordinance without further delay. Failure to adopt a tree ordinance now will be a failure of commitment to Spring Hope's beautification and revitalization."

Looking Back Into The Record

November 15, 1946

Bob Bright, manager of the Warrenton Supply Company and former county agent of Warren County, was elected president of the Warren County Farm Bureau at the last meeting of the organization for this year.

The following hard-surfaced roads have been completed in Warren County: from slightly east of the Warrenton golf course to Embro—a distance of three miles; from the city limits to the prison camp; from Oine to the Va. line and a road in the Vicksboro section.

Effective Sunday night, mail will be sent out of the Warrenton Post Office at 8 p.m. The new schedule was given approval by the Post Office Department after a large number of persons here signed a petition which was circulated for the benefit of the mail messenger.

November 17, 1961

Harold G. (Pete) Vaughan of Warrenton is stationed at Fort Gordon, Ga.

Roy Pat Robertson of Macon left last week for Chapel Hill where he is enrolled in the State Highway Patrol Clerk School.

A highly appreciative and enthusiastic audience listened in almost stunned silence on Tuesday night as Tasker Polk, winner of the International Bach Festival, presented a brilliant piano concert sponsored by the John Graham-Mariam Boyd P.T.A. to raise funds for the local schools.

November 11, 1976

Shareholders of Branch Banking and Trust Company at a special meeting in Wilson on Thursday voted to approve the proposed merger between B B and T and the Citizens Bank.

A high wind, a creeping fire, a trash bin and stored LP gas and fuel oil were the ingredients that might have destroyed much of the business section of Warrenton late Monday afternoon had it not been for the quick thinking of A. A. Wood and Jimmie Roberts.

To help celebrate Children's Book Week, the third grade children at Northside Elementary School will use their magic markers, crayons and water colors to decorate a skirt and blouse donated by the librarian. On Thursday, the librarian will wear the skirt and blouse all day.

The Warren County Scene



Warm November temperatures Sunday afternoon sent these cattle to the cool waters and tempting forage of a pasture on the Ridgeway Road.

(Staff Photo by Dianne T. Rodwell)

Carolina Commentary Jay Jenkins

A Used Book Sale

Have you ever been hit in the small of the back by John Steinbeck, had William Faulkner taken from your hand, or a knuckle bruised by John Dos Passos?

If the answer is no, you probably have never been to a big used book sale.

Mature males generally dislike shopping of any kind. If they need a certain item they like to go to the appropriate counter, without looking to the right or left, buy the item and make a quick getaway.

Their wives, on the other hand, like leisurely trips along the aisles as they test the fabric, compare prices and wander into every nook and cranny in search of bargains.

At a recent book sale, the women still outnumbered the men, but by a smaller margin than that found in department stores. And when it comes to aggressiveness, males are catching up.

Perhaps a hundred people, lined up two abreast, were patiently waiting for the doors to open so they could get at the books. Some had been there for an hour.

A guy with gray hair peeking out from his beret, looking purposeful, walked to the head of the line, mumbling something about being "a sponsor," and would have gotten away with it if a neighbor hadn't spotted him.

"No bucking the line, Mark," said the neighbor, a burly dude, and the beret sheepishly fell in at the rear.

Once inside, the first female wave headed for the table labeled "Children's Books," but the other tables soon were ringed by shoppers carrying plastic grocery bags and large cardboard boxes.

Some definite types always seem to appear at book sales. Herewith some examples:

THE HOG. He seemed intent on wiping out "History." He sat his big box atop the table, blocking the view, and scooped up books two at the time. Then he dragged the box across the table, leaving a mess. Thirty minutes later, he was dumping most of his cache from "History" on the "Classics" table.

THE RELENTLESS GRANDMOTHER. Skinny, and with a fixed smile, she edged along the table, wedging her bony frame between it and whoever was in her path. As she forced one male to retreat, he said, "Beg your pardon," and she said, "It's all right." She tore up the "Far East" table.

THE BREATHLESS COMMANDO. This bird plowed straight ahead, his breathing labored, bouncing off other shoppers. His hands were a blur, picking up and then replacing volumes. At the end of a table, blowing hard, he'd take inventory of his knapsack, crouching as if in prayer.

THE LOVERS. This couple used a pincher movement. They stood back to back at "Poetry," then moved around the table in opposite directions, until they met again. After the first circuit, they had one book between them. Goodby, again, Rudyard Kipling.

THE SCHOLAR. Pipe and tweed. He'd move an inch at "Classics," pick up a book and begin flipping through it, oblivious to the traffic jam he caused. Someone trying to get to a book jostled him. He peered over his bifocal rims with obvious irritation. That time he moved two inches.

THE HIT-AND-RUN ARTIST. This fellow got his jollies from paperbacks, which were there by the thousands in big boxes. He'd begin scanning one box, then nervously move to the next box, and the next. Then he'd retrace his steps. The path of indecision...

One shopper's tab came to \$20.80.

Letters To Editor

Best Wishes

TO THE EDITOR:

Please renew my subscription to the best weekly newspaper in North Carolina. My check is enclosed.

Best wishes for another successful year at the Record.

DAVID A. SMITH
Charlotte

Good Story Idea

To The Editor:

I am a handicapped person who likes very much to read your paper.

Would it be possible for you to get the name of the lady who preaches for the sick and shut-in every Sunday morning on the Warrenton radio station? Hers would be a good story for the feature section that often spotlights people of interest. I think that the Warren Record is doing a good job on covering the work done by the Sheriff's department on liquor stills in the county. We need some more happy stories, too, and reading about this lady would mean a lot to us.

BERTHAL RICHARDSON
Hollister



Mary Catherine Harris

A 50th Anniversary

There's a half-inch-thick volume at center stage of the newsstands this season. The muted gold photographic cover frames other snapshots in living color and gives a random overview of what has claimed America's attention for the past half century.

The publication is the special anniversary issue of "Life" magazine. Life is 50 years old this month.

Many Americans, myself included, cannot remember a time when Life did not beckon from the news racks and coffee tables. Five decades have made it almost a household staple and if not that, at least one of the old reliables.

The 50-year span which the anniversary issue describes as a "tumultuous era" has seen Life cover in unprecedented fashion the big events from the Spanish Civil War to the Challenger explosion; winner personalities from Charlie Chaplin to Corazon Aquino; firsts from a surrealist show at New York's Museum of Modern Art to Senate sessions on television; couples from Edward, Prince of Wales and Mrs. Simpson to Sarah Ferguson and Prince Andrew; bad news from 1936 drought and dust storms to the Chernobyl nuclear plant explosion; heroes from Jesse Owens to Christa McAuliffe; and trends from permanent waves to a refurbished 100-year-old Statue of Liberty.

These news waves and those of 48 years besides have been presented by Life in a style which itself may be described safely as history-making.

Volume one, dated Nov. 23, 1936 and offered by news dealers for a thin dime, barely got settled on the stands before all 466,000 copies were snapped up. In those first 96 pages were photographs unlike the posed and static shots which characterized earlier publications and subject matter ranging from no less than the wide miles of the world to no more than the confines of the American backyard.

Offering then what may have compared to live television coverage today and continuing to inform and entertain all ages on every topic imaginable, Life has made a solid mark on American journalism.

The 1,980th issue now on the stands is different from the first volume. More than four times the number of pages and close to 40 times the cost, it holds the more memorable photographs and stories from earlier issues. It is 416 pages chock full of history.

Some things have not changed—among them the bold red and white block-style logo, the general format and the attractive and open style.

There is just one thing about the latest issue which makes me a tad uncomfortable. I remember much more of what it records than I care to admit.



Kay Horner

Country Shoppe Open

Folks in these parts who have followed the career of local craftswoman Phyllis Hicks King will be pleased to know that she has, at long last, reclaimed her kitchen.

Five years ago, Phyllis set up "The Country Shoppe" in her home in a kitchen corner. It was to be a place to display her wares and fill orders as they trickled in.

The trickle, however, soon turned into a steady flow and customers visiting her "shoppe" found themselves following the diminutive Phyllis as she traipsed from room to room where her craft items were tucked in every nook and cranny.

Thanks to the energetic efforts of family and friends, The Country Shoppe is now housed adjacent to the King home in a 1917-vintage tobacco barn rescued from an Embro farm and transformed last year into a log cabin to display Phyllis' crafts.

The cabin tells a story all its own with its heart pine floors salvaged from the demolition of an old home on Lake Gaston, underpinning of rocks gathered from the Hicks farm, tin roof lifted from a nearby tobacco barn, door from a grist mill in Wise and the personal notations made in the mortar chinking between the logs by Phyllis' aunts, who helped with the project.

The cabin stands strong and sturdy, despite having been dismantled log by log and rebuilt in two different locations (a topic for another column).

Inside a Felt country ham bag curtains the cabin window and sales transactions are completed at a wooden counter taken from the Shell Service Station operated for more than 35 years on the Warrenton-Norlina Road by Phyllis' Dad, the late Levy Hicks.

On display in the cabin are wreaths, handwoven baskets, hand-painted pottery and ceramic items, wooden duck decoys, carousel horses and folk art crafted by Phyllis and duly dated and signed. Many items are one-of-a-kind, including a basket woven in a herringbone pattern. "That's one-of-a-kind because I don't ever intend to tackle another one," Phyllis laughed.

A small selection of framed prints and watercolors as well as fabric dolls, coverlet accent pillows and tole-painted items are also available.

In the primitive department are gifts guaranteed to catch the fancy of the collector—a black willow high chair from South Carolina, a West Virginia school desk, quilts, farm implements, and the letter "O" that helped complete the "ROSES" sign that hung over the Warrenton variety store before its closing several years ago.

Phyllis hopes to have handpainted wooden and glass Christmas tree ornaments ready for sale the first week in December.

"Be sure to say 'hopes to have ready,'" Phyllis cautioned. The availability of the ornaments seems assured to those who know Phyllis and her motto: "Things may come to those who wait, but only those things left by those who hustle."

The Country Shoppe is located 1.5 miles west of Warrenton on S.R. 1118. It is open most days, according to Phyllis, from noon to 9 p.m. That includes weekends and holidays. However, those traveling some distance are urged to call ahead, 257-3962, just to be sure the artist is "in residence."

from HISTORY'S SCRAPBOOK DATES AND EVENTS FROM YESTERYEARS

- November 13, 1942—Sullivan brothers killed on U.S.S. Juneau.
- November 14, 1976—Plains, Georgia, Baptist Church dropped ban on blacks.
- November 15, 1806—Pike's Peak discovered.
- November 16, 1955—First dugong exhibited in America, San Francisco.
- November 17, 1940—Italians driven from Greece.
- November 18, 1941—British began offensive in Libya.
- November 19, 1930—First telephone installed in Vatican.