

# The Warren Record

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## Warren Man Gunned Down In Shoot-Out

By DIANE DAVIS  
Staff Writer

A Warren County man—described by police as an innocent bystander—was killed early Tuesday morning in a drug-related shoot-out in a residential area of Oxford.

Willie Lee Burnette, Sr., 57, of Rt. 1, Manson, was found lying behind an apartment building located at 126 Crescent Drive, Oxford after the Oxford Police Department responded to a call that had been received concerning gunshots in that area.

According to Sgt. William Royster of the Oxford Police Department, events leading up to the shoot-out began Sunday, June 19. Reports indicate that James Perry of Crescent Drive, Oxford, and Derrick Bullock of 209 Person Street, Oxford, were involved in a dispute concerning drugs and domestic related problems.

A press release from the Oxford Police Department states that Perry shot Bullock in the left leg. After clearing the matter with Perry, Bullock decided not to press charges.

Sgt. Royster reported that a call was received on June 20 at 6:22 p.m. concerning gunshots in the Crescent Drive area of Oxford. At 11:20 p.m. on the same evening, James Perry was arrested and placed in the Granville County Jail without bond on charges of carrying a concealed weapon.

On June 21 at 2:20 a.m., the Oxford Police Department received another call concerning a man who had been shot in the Crescent Drive area. Upon investigation, law officers found behind an apartment building at 126 Crescent Drive the body of Willie Lee Burnette, Sr. Burnette had received a gunshot wound to the head. They also found David Thomas, of 126 Crescent Drive, with a gunshot wound to his upper left chest area.

Thomas is being treated at Granville County Medical Center and is listed in serious condition.

Sgt. Royster indicated that Burnette and Thomas were not involved in the shoot-out and were leaving the apartment by the back door. They were shot in their attempts to escape the scene.

At 4:20 a.m., the Oxford Police Department received information that Derrick Bullock and Mark Williams, of 124 Granville Street, Oxford, were hiding in a house on Goshen Street. Officers surrounded the house and tried for approximately 15 minutes to get someone to answer the door.

The owner of the house came to the door and was asked by law enforcement officials if Williams and Bullock were inside the house and if they had weapons.

The owner went back into the house and brought back two handguns. After several attempts to get Williams and Bullock out of the house, they were arrested 10 minutes later at 8:30 a.m.

They were both placed in the Granville County Jail without bond pending a 96 hour hearing. Bullock and Williams were charged with first degree murder and assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury.

At 2:30 p.m. another warrant was served on James Perry for charges of assault with a deadly weapon. At 4 p.m., Tony Evans of 126 Crescent Drive, was charged with assault with a deadly weapon and was placed in the Granville County Jail under a \$750 bond.

The Oxford Police Department's third and first shifts, along with assistance from the Granville County Sheriff's Department, investigated the incident. A total of eight weapons were confiscated.

## Bringing Up The Rear



A low-boy tows a caboose through Warrenton's business section late Friday afternoon. Workmen atop the caboose lifted low lying power lines out of the way of the train car as it

moved along Main Street. The caboose was hauled from Norlina to northern Franklin County. (Staff Photo by Howard Jones)

## Caboose Rolls Through Town

By HOWARD F. JONES  
Editor

Warrenton residents could be excused for doing a double-take late Friday afternoon when they glimpsed a 52,000-pound Norfolk and Southern caboose rolling along Main Street.

It was what one local citizen called "part of the last train to come through Warrenton."

In truth, the behemoth of the rails was passing through Warrenton on its way from Norlina to Franklin County. While it was unquestionably the "last train car to pass through here," nobody seems to know whether it was the first.

The caboose, purchased by Skip Butler, a resident of the Franklin County community of Scloss, was transported from Norlina to Butler's home Friday afternoon by employees of the John T. Harris Construction Company.

To just what use Butler will put the caboose is unclear, but John Thomas Harris of Inez, owner of the construction company, said the new caboose owner has placed a section of track

near his home on which to put his new acquisition.

The bright red caboose was brought from Winston-Salem to Raleigh by Southern Railroad, and pulled into Norlina on Thursday night by a CSX engine.

Six Harris construction workers spent four and one-half hours Friday loading the caboose aboard a low-boy. Workers used a large loader to pick up one end of the caboose at a time, and backed the low-boy, a trailer which barely clears the ground, beneath it.

As the low-boy was driven the 20 miles from Norlina to the new home of the caboose, a flat-bed tractor-trailer followed closely, carrying the heavy train wheels. The trip took two and one-half hours. Harris construction personnel returned Saturday to unload the caboose.

The feat must have seemed like child's play for Harris, whose company almost two decades ago worked with Carolina Crane of Raleigh and Moss Trucking Company of Charlotte to move a number of train cars and a locomotive to Camp Willow Run on the edge of Lake Gaston.

## Citizen Comment On New Budget Is Expected To Be Heard Tonight

Two public hearings—one of them scheduled to receive comments from citizens on the proposed \$7,714,203 budget for Warren County for 1988-89—will be held tonight (Wednesday) in the Warren County Courthouse.

Prior to the public hearing on the county's budget for the next fiscal year, Warren County Commissioners will gather at 6:45 p.m. to receive citizens' comments on a request to amend the official county zoning map. The request has been made by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Leveillee, owners since last year of Nocarva Marina on Lake Gaston, who wish to have the zoning designation changed from "lakeside residential" to "lakeside business."

Nocarva Marina was established in July, 1975 on property designated originally as "private." When the Warren County Zoning Ordinance was rewritten in 1985, the marina was not in operation and was not included in the changes made affecting several sites in the area.

Beginning at 7 p.m., area citizens will voice their concerns relating to the proposed county budget for 1988-89. They will comment on the budget proposed recently by County Manager Charles Worth, following analysis by the manager that pared away \$341,060 from the initial budget as requested originally by county department heads.

The proposed \$7,714,203 budget for 1988-89 is based on an ad valorem tax rate of 83 cents per \$100 valuation. The increased tax

rate has been based on a projected county property valuation of \$432,737,803 and a projected tax collection rate of 94 percent.

If the proposed budget is approved, Warren County's tax rate would increase by seven cents, going from the current rate of 76 cents to an anticipated 83 cents.

## Two Troopers Are Injured In Patrol Cruiser Wreck

Two N.C. Highway Patrol troopers were involved in a wreck early last Friday in Warren County that resulted in one trooper being hospitalized and one sustaining minor injuries.

Trooper William P. Blanks of Warrenton was driving a 1987 Ford patrol car south on U. S. 401, nine miles south of Warrenton in the Heck's Grove community, at 6:45 a.m. Trooper N. D. Satterfield, also of Warrenton, was a passenger in the car.

According to a report filed by Line Sgt. D. A. Hawkins of the state Highway Patrol, Walter Fields of Rt. 1, Warrenton was driving a 1975 Ford pickup northbound on U. S. 401 and turned left into the path of the patrol car. Skid marks on the road indicate that Trooper Blanks made an attempt to avoid a collision with the pickup by braking. His car skidded 50 feet prior to colliding with the right side of the pickup.

Trooper Blanks was taken to Maria Parham Hospital in Hen-

Warren County commissioners have scheduled a work session to be held at 7 p.m. on June 27. During that meeting, they will assimilate the concerns expressed tonight by area citizens.

In a special meeting to be held on June 29 at 7 p.m., the 1988-89 budget for Warren County will be approved.

person after being admitted for observation for possible internal injuries and treatment of knee and head injuries. He was released Sunday morning.

Trooper Satterfield sustained cuts to his face and was treated at the hospital and released.

Fields was also treated for cuts to his face and released from Maria Parham Hospital. He was charged with driving while impaired, having no operator's license and a safe movement violation.

The owner of the pickup was listed as Ervin Green Fields of Rt. 2, Warrenton. He was charged with allowing a person to drive while impaired. No court date for any of the charges was provided.

The patrol car, valued at \$8,700, was determined a total loss. The Ford pickup was also considered a total loss, with the value placed at \$1,000.

## During 1988-89 School Year

# Warren Academy Will Not Operate

By DIANE DAVIS  
Staff Writer

The Board of Directors of Warren Academy has announced plans to close its doors for the 1988-89 school year due to a low student enrollment.

Warren Academy, a local privately funded school facility located on Hwy. 58 just east of Warrenton, will not open for the 1988-89 school year, as the Warren Academy Board of Directors has finalized plans for closing. Roy P. Robertson, vice chairman of the Board of Directors, said, "It is not feasible for us to continue operating with the low number of students we have enrolled for next year. It takes a certain number of students to meet overhead expenses and we presently are not able to do so."

He reported that the board voted recently to close Warren Academy for the 1988-89 school year, but has made no plans as to what to do with the buildings on the Warren Academy campus. These buildings include a 260-foot long by 60-foot wide brick structure, a gymnasium, and a 26 X 30 foot trailer. The Warren Academy site is situated on a tract of land that measures 29.9 acres. Along with the buildings on the site is an athletic field. No indication was given as to what the board is planning to do with the field.

"We have not made a decision on what to do as yet," said Robertson. He reported that the board has discussed a few options for the site, but that he is unable to disclose any information as no vote has been made. A board meeting may be called to discuss the options, said Robertson.

Warren Academy was chartered in November of 1968. A headmaster was employed the following August, and the school opened its doors to students in early September, 1969.

The academy met for the first time in Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church and the Warrenton Baptist Church apartment

building. Within a few weeks' time, the former Afton community school building was leased by Warren Academy, Inc. and all operations were moved there.

The academy remained at the Afton site during the remainder of the 1969-70 school year, and also throughout the 1970-71 academic year while the local facility was being constructed.

The present Warren Academy location began school operations in September, 1971. The school just completed its 19th year of operation.

According to Robertson, the board has made no plans as to whether Warren Academy will close permanently. He indicated that the decision to close was only made for the 1988-89 academic year and a decision on a permanent shut-down of all operations will be made at a later date.

## Two Tentative Awards Made

A Warrenton developer who hopes to build 10 duplex apartments alongside the Warren Plains Road north of Warrenton will receive \$30,000 in financial assistance if surplus state funds are available.

That was the decision of Warren County commissioners meeting last Wednesday night in mid-monthly session.

The county board voted to earmark \$30,000 in surplus state funds for water and sewer line extension to a four-acre tract adjacent to the Quick City Community Development Target Area where local contractor James C. Harris, Jr. hopes to build the duplex apartments in the near future for low and moderate income families.

Harris had requested that the county provide \$37,000 to link his property with an 8-inch sewer line and a 6-inch water line con-

(Continued on page 2)



Mrs. Jennie Lawrence of Lake Gaston Estates presents an afghan to Shayna Richardson, who left here Tuesday morning en route to the Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children in Greenville, S.C. for treatment of rickets. Young Shayna, shown with her 21-month-old twin brother, Travis, and her mother, Charlene, a resident of Baltimore Road, was taken to the hospital by Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Fleming. Shayna will be treated at no cost to her family as she is being sponsored by the Warren County Shrine Club. Looking on at the presentation by Mrs. Lawrence, wife of a Shriner, are three officers of the Warren County Shrine Club: Eddie Clayton, president; Ellis Fleming, secretary; and Allen Tucker, treasurer.

(Staff Photo by Howard Jones)