

Fee offices changing how they are funded

BY **LISA HOBBS**
Reporter for the Southern Standard
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Warren County government's fee-based departments are being incorporated into its fiscal year budget.

The Warren County Clerk and Master, Warren County Circuit Court Clerk, Warren County Clerk, Warren County Trustee, and Warren County Register of Deeds will be turning all their fees over to the county's General Fund.

"Auditors have recommended that fee offices be taken off fees," said Finance Department director Linda Hillis.

In prior years, those departments paid salaries out of fees collected. Remaining revenue is submitted to the county on a regular basis throughout the year.

By a resolution considered by the full Warren

County Commission on Monday night, those departments will now submit all fees to the county every month. Salaries and expenses will be paid out of money given to the departments similar to Warren County Animal Control and Adoption Center which receives a set amount to cover salaries and other expenses throughout the fiscal year.

"It's not going to change the letters of agreement that they have to sign every year," said Hillis. "It will just change the way they are paid. Their pay will come through county budget and not through fees."

The change puts those departments in line with the other county departments which are not fee

based.

Commissioner Scott Rubley says at least one fee-based department is not self-funded and has to routinely ask for additional monies from the county to cover payroll.

"Register of Deeds was having to draw because they didn't have enough funding," Rubley.

Hillis stated, "For those offices that don't collect enough fees to even make their payroll, this would allow them to continue to operate their offices. It would be coming out of the budget as a budgeted item, instead of fees."

The measure was unanimously approved. It will go into effect at the end of the 2018-19 fiscal year.



HILLIS

West construction delayed

BY **LISA HOBBS**
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West Elementary's renovation and expansion project is already suffering a slight delay before it even begins.

According to Upland Design architect Allen Hill, it could likely be the end of October before work begins.

"We are working on the bid documents right now for West," said Hill. "We are a little bit backed up on that project. It will probably be closer to November than October as far as getting it bid and construction started."

The project was originally estimated to be bid in September and construction start toward the end of the month. However, a change is being made to the project and that has slowed generating bid documents.

"We are looking at changing out the current cafeteria and kitchen to a library and computer lab and building a new cafeteria and kitchen," said Hill. "Then, adding some bathrooms and redoing the old library into classroom space. That's where we are at right now."

Making financial room for the change was the

removal of gym renovation and expansion from the project after Upland Design estimated it would cost \$1.3 million, out of the \$3 million allocated for the entire project.

"With cost estimates, we won't be able to do anything with the gym right now," said Hill. "With the money that we had, we felt that was the best use of it right now."

Actual cost of the project is unknown. When bids are received in October, real numbers will be known.

The update was given to county Education Committee members.

Rivera worked under alias for years at farm

BROOKLYN, IOWA (AP) — A Mexican man charged with killing an Iowa college student worked on a dairy farm for years under a false name just a few miles from where the young woman was allegedly abducted while running last month, his employer said Wednesday.



RIVERA

Cristhian Bahena Rivera was a good employee who showed up on time to take care of the cows and got along well with his co-workers, said Dane Lang, manager of Yarrabee Farms in Brooklyn, Iowa.

The 24-year-old kept coming to work after Mollie Tibbetts disappeared July 18, and "nobody saw a difference" in his demeanor, Lang said. His colleagues were stunned Tuesday to learn he was not only the suspect in Tibbetts' death, but that he had a different real name than what he went by on the farm, he said.

"Our employee is not who he said he was," Lang said at a news conference at the farm. "This was shocking to us."

When Rivera was hired in 2014, he presented an out-of-state government-issued photo ID and a matching Social Security card, he said. That information was run through the Social Security Administration's employment-verification system and checked out, he said.

Rivera's defense attorney, Allan

Richards, acknowledged Wednesday his client received his paycheck under a different name and he was uncertain of his immigration status. He said he was prepared to argue his client was in the country legally, noting he came to the U.S. as a minor and had worked and paid taxes for years.

Rivera made his initial court appearance Wednesday on a charge of first-degree murder in the death of Tibbetts, a 20-year-old University of Iowa student.

Investigators say they believe Rivera was in the country illegally when he abducted Tibbetts as she went on an evening jog, killed her and dumped her body in a cornfield. A judge on Wednesday agreed to increase his bond to \$5 million from \$1 million after prosecutor Scott Brown noted he was a potential flight risk who was charged with a "heinous crime."

Yarrabee Farms is a small family farming operation that dates back to 1860 and has been owned for six generations by the Lang family, which is prominent in the community, farming circles and Republican politics. Dane Lang said the farm had received dozens of disturbing phone calls and messages since the employee's arrest, including threats to kill his dog and burn down his buildings.

Brock receives Venturing award

BY **LISA HOBBS**
Reporter for the Southern Standard
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Hunter Brock has been honored with a Venturing Summit Award.

"I was honored to receive this award," he said. "I very much enjoyed the experience. Going through this will help me in my adult life."

Venturing is a program through the Boy Scouts of America for males and females ages 14-21. Brock joined Venture Crew 309 in August, 2014.

Recipients of the award must go through the program and then complete a service project in the community. The service project must provide a valuable

service that meets a need, and it must represent a significant personal growth experience through some combination of its scope and complexity.

Brock's career pursuit is becoming an automotive technician. He offered free, 10-point vehicle inspections at different locations over a four-day period in May as his Venturing service project.

A ceremony was held. Melonie Turner, Venturing Crew 309 Committee chair, was among the presenters.

"To earn the highest Venturing award in Scouting, a Venturing Scout has to spend a great deal of time and effort," said Turner. "Therefore, the occasion that recognizes their accomplishments should be something special."



BROCK

Brock is currently enrolled in the University of Northwestern Ohio to pursue an associate's degree in automotive. He also has plans to take additional course work in diesel technology and high performance.

PUBLISHER'S Pics

Standard publisher Pat Zechman has been in the newspaper business for over 50 years. Zechman wants to give back to the community and the **Standard** alike and it has led her to creating the Publisher's Pics feature. This week's pictures are from Aug. 1974. Look for more Publisher's Pics on the **Southern Standard** Facebook page.



NEW COMFORT --- Among the several improvements being readied for the 1974 Warren County A&L Fair, Sept. 9-14, is this new comfort station between midway area and grandstand, the work being done by masonry students at State Area Vo-Tech School, Instructor Jim

Davenport, right, said students doing the work include Mike Corcoran, Wagoner Bare, Raymond Myers, Parker Hillis, Wendell Wheeler, Greg McGee and Steve Collins.



BARNSDALE --- Ricky Bryant receives the Barksdale Award from Mrs. R.L. Barksdale at the Warren County Youth and Babe Ruth Baseball Banquet last Thursday night at the VFW. The Barksdale Award is presented to the Babe Ruth player considered the most valuable in the league. At left is Steve Britton, second runnerup for the award, and at right, Stan Dunn, first runnerup and league batting champion.



TOP COACHES --- Coaches of championship teams who received awards at the Warren County Youth and Babe Ruth Baseball Banquet Thursday night were, front row, Lannie Wanamaker, G.H. Powell, John Terry, Hollis Stout and James Jones. Back row, Morris Dinwiddie, Glen Moore and Jim Mansfield.



THE KICKER --- David Britton, seen here attempting a field goal, will handle all of the punting and kicking chores except kickoffs for Warren County Senior High's football team this fall. Holding the ball is Mark Pryor, team manager. The kick from the 30-yard line was good.