

The Foothills View

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 1983

BOILING SPRINGS NC

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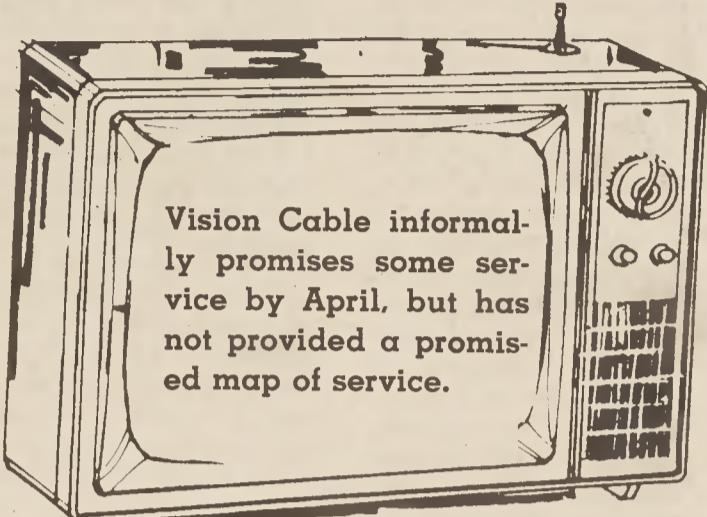
Town Left Hanging On Cable Television Service

Cable television is informally promised to some Boiling Springs residents by the end of April, although the company franchised by the town, Vision Cable of Shelby, has failed to provide a map showing its cable installation progress as required by the franchise.

Boiling Springs mayor Jimmie Greene confirmed Wednesday that in an informal conversation earlier in March the manager of Shelby's Vision Cable, Ed Palumbo, had promised that his company would offer service to some town residents by the last week of April.

Under the terms of the franchise granted last June to Vision Cable, the company has up to 12 months before providing the first cable hook-up within Boiling Springs. The franchise specifies that cable television must be available within the entire city limits within 24 months of its June, 1982, approval by Boiling Springs' town council.

The June franchise also requires Vision Cable to "file a map with the Town on or before January 31 of each year, showing the areas of the Town being served by the CATV (Community Antenna TV or cable televi-



sion)." The map is also required to show "any areas around the perimeter of the Town."

Town employees confirmed Thursday that no such map has been filed by Vision Cable.

Both Mayor Greene and councilman Max Harmick noted that "a lot" of town residents had asked them when cable would be available and which areas of the county near Boiling Springs' town limits were being wired for cable.

The manager of Vision Cable of Shelby, Ed Palumbo, declined to discuss the Boiling Springs franchise when telephoned at his house Wednesday evening. He had not returned a reporter's

telephone call to his office Wednesday afternoon.

The promised service presumably would be first to town residents on Highway 150 West, along which Vision Cable said in June it would run cable from where its service then ended in Shelby at Highways 18 and 150.

Boiling Springs' town government will collect money as soon as the cable hook-ups begin. The terms of the franchise specify that the town will receive 3 percent of revenues collected by Vision Cable for subscriptions and other pay services such as Home Box Office. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

set the percent at a maximum of 3 percent in 1973.

In 1977 the FCC ruled that towns such as Boiling Springs may collect 3 percent on "any and all" revenue generated by a franchised cable television company, including fees such as for installation and for advertising on a cable channel. The franchise originally adopted by Boiling Springs in April, 1982, had called for the 3 percent of "any and all" revenue. The percent collection was reduced to subscription and pay fees in June after objections by Vision Cable.

Non-performance of franchise agreements by cable companies "has become a common concern," according to Grainger Barrett, a cable television specialist formerly with the Institute of Government at the University of North Carolina and now town clerk at Chapel Hill.

In addition to the "big stick" of awarding a franchise to another company in the event of non-performance, Barrett says, he advises municipalities such as Boiling Springs to write into their franchises such "little sticks" as "per diem fines for non-performance."

Lottery: Most Want A Vote

Cleveland Countians may not want a state lottery, but they certainly want the chance to vote on one.

That's the finding of an informal telephone survey taken this week by the **Foothills View** asking the question whether the state should establish a lottery as a revenue-raiser.

A bare majority, 32 people, said "yes" to a lottery, while 29 of those asked said they would not favor a state-run lottery. Among the 29 nay-sayers, nine gave as their reason for opposing a lottery their opinion that the state did not need the money; 14 opposed a lottery on moral grounds; and six were against the idea for fear that it would fall under control of organized crime.

But a large majority of those called, 41 to 15, said they wanted a referendum to decide by popular vote whether to establish a state lottery.

Passage of a lottery bill is considered likely to be the current session of the legislature. The Rules Committee of the state senate is expected to report two lottery bills to the floor by the end of the week.

One bill would call for a study of the feasibility of a lottery to be

reported to the legislature in 1984. The other bill would either establish a lottery or put the question on a May, 1984, referendum. Lotteries are currently run in 17 states and the District of Columbia. A North Carolina lottery is estimated to return about \$110 million in profits to the state and hence a lottery is seen by some legislators as an alternative to raising taxes.

Senators from the 25th district, which includes Cleveland County, told the **View** they feel that the committee will recommend that a referendum be held on the issue.

"I would personally be against a bill for the lottery, but would be for a referendum," said Sen. Ollie Harris of Kings Mountain.

"I feel there is a pretty good chance that it will pass," said Sen. Helen Rhyne Marvin of Gastonia. "People play bingo and are actively involved in the stock market and the feeling is that the lottery really is no different," she said.

Sen. Marvin has discussed the issue with legislators from Maryland, a state that is currently using a lottery. "From what I know now, I would support it," she said.

The Goddess Iris Isn't "Fussy"

Iris was, in Greek myth, the goddess of the rainbow and special messenger of the gods who flew about with gold and multicolored wings. She must have traveled far and wide because iris, the rainbow-colored flowers that grew from feathers she dropped, are found on every continent of the world.

Records of interest in these plants go back to antiquity. The Egyptian Pharaohs overran large areas of the Mideast in the 15th century B.C., and staff botanists, designated to collect plants in the conquered regions, returned from Syria with iris roots for the royal gardens.

The iris design in celebration of the victory can still be seen today on the walls of the Temple of Karnak. It also was used on the brow of the Sphinx and on

the scepters of the Egyptian rulers.

In other ancient kingdoms, Babylonia and Assyria, the iris also was a symbol of royalty. The Byzantine Empress Theodora wore a crown bearing a stylized iris.

The fleur-de-lis, though etymologically "flower of the lily," usually referred specifically to the iris in medieval heraldry. It appeared in the French coat of arms as early as 1179, and the white-flowered Florentine iris was chosen in 1364 by Charles V (the Wise) as the royal emblem. The Florentine iris was known as Orris, and its root was widely used in medicine and perfumery. The fleur-de-lis was long used in the English coat of arms as well, between 1340 and 1801.

The Japanese are devoted to

the use of iris in their gardens, and it frequently can be found in their art and design. During the Iris festival in June, public vehicles once were decorated with the flowers.

Iris were, at one time, planted on roofs of houses, a practice stemming from a time of famine when use of the ground was forbidden for all but edible plants.

The first Virginia colonists brought bearded iris from England but found native species along creeks and marshes. They called these "blue flag" because they resembled the English "yellow flag" varieties.

As the settlers migrated westward, they encountered the native dwarf iris of Apalachia. There were two species still occasionally found in the Piedmont and the Sandhills: the eraly Iris

verna with 3-to-4 inch-long stems, slender leaves, and in mid-March, pale lavender flowers with orange bands; the later crested iris with wider leaves and the white crest near the base of the flower appears in moist soil and semishade in April and May.

Iris are not fussy plants, being generally tolerant to varied climates and cultural conditions, so it is not surprising to find diverse varieties from all over the world-bearded, Siberian, Japanese and Louisiana types-in perennial gardens.

There are more than 200 species of the flower known, and breeders and botanists have created thousands of new cultivars so that gardeners and viewers may enjoy all the colors of the rainbow.

Lions Hope To Make A Clean Sales Sweep

The Boiling Springs Lions' Club annual broom sale is underway. In addition to a variety of brooms, other sale items produced by the visually handicapped include sponges, trash bags, and ironing board covers.

Lions' club members will be selling these items door-to-door

in the community. Any person desiring information or products may also call the broom sale chairman at 434-7698 (after 4 p.m.).

Proceeds from the sale will enable the club to give full support to local programs sponsored by the Lions.

State Biologists Hope To Tell Some Whopper Tales

A "whale of a survey" is underway at the North Carolina State Museum of Natural History in Raleigh. Actually, the survey is taking place in the Atlantic, but David S. Lee, a biologist at the Museum, is participating in spotting and tracking Right Whales off the North Carolina Coast.

As few as 100 Right Whales are thought to remain in the North Atlantic, ranking this species of whales highest on the endangered species list. Biologists are tracking the few remaining Right Whales to gain information on the distribution and movements of the mammals.

Biologist Lee and Dr. Frank Schwartz with the Institute of Marine Sciences, University of North Carolina, are the two contact persons in North Carolina responsible for data collection. The search, supported by the

Marine Mammal Commission, is being coordinated by the University of Rhode Island.

The western North Atlantic Right Whale spends its summers in the area from Cape Cod to Nova Scotia, but scientists are unsure where the whales spend winters. Sightings of individual whales in the past few years, however, make it appear that the Right Whales may overwinter in waters off the North Carolina coast.

The Right Whales can be identified by light-colored growths, called callosities, on the top and sides of their heads. The pattern of growths is unique to each animal, though, and can be used as an identification tool. Observers of Right Whales are asked to photograph the whales to aid in the tracking process.

It is thought that these whales

winter away from shore on the Continental Shelf, but calves and mothers may venture into shallower waters closer to shore. Spotters of the Right Whales are often treated to a long view of the whales, since they move slowly and play close to the surface. The Name "Right Whale" was attached to the mammal in the 1800's due to its slow speed and ease of hunting, which led to its near extinction.

Identification of the whale is easy, due to its large size, dark or black color with the contrasting light patches around the head, the absence of dorsal fins and a blow that erupts in the shape of a "V".

Anyone who spots a Right Whale this spring should contact David Lee at the N.C. Museum of Natural History in Raleigh at (919)733-7450 as soon as possible so tracking efforts can begin.

Rabies Clinic Scheduled

The Cleveland County Health Department and area veterinarians are co-sponsoring clinics at various locations throughout the county in an effort to have dogs and cats vaccinated against rabies. The N.C. General Assembly enacted a rabies law which states that clinics must be held once yearly and that it is an owner's responsibility to have his dog vaccinated. Area veterinarians and the Cleveland County Animal Shelter advise dogs and cats be vaccinated if 4 months old or older.

Clinics Scheduled are:

Saturday, April 9

Flay Willis' Store - Belwood 1:00-1:30, Glenn Meade's Store - Mountain View 1:45-2:15, Buff's Supermarket - Highway 10 2:30-3:00, Casar Vol. Fire Dept. 3:15-3:45, Jerry's Mini Mart - Polkville 4:00-4:30.



TONYA BRADLEY

Tonya Bradley won the title "1983 Winter Princess" at the Brookford Community Center, Hickory, North Carolina.

Tonya was judged on her modeling ability, evening gown,

and a personal interview with the judges.

She is the 15 year old daughter of Roger and Louise Bradley and a student from Vicky Arrowood School of Modeling and Baton.