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Weather Wednesday: high 53, low 37. Thursday was another nice day.

Chrysler Corp. Chairman Lee Iacocca said Wednesday the survival of his company is at stake and the United Auto Workers must agree to a wage freeze or loose thier jobs.

We were watching the Tryon fireman doing their job at the forest fire on the mountain Wednesday night and thought how fortunate all of us in this area are to have men dedicated to saving the lives and property of others. Not only the Tryon firemen, but those in Landrum, Columbus, Green Creek, Mill Spring, Sunny View and Saluda. None of them receive any money, but all of them receive satisfaction in helping their fellow man. They respond to fire alarms all hours, day or night. Many good clothes have been ruined and sleep lost when called out in the middle of the night. Valhalla Hand Weavers and the Lawrences have an ad in the paper today thanking the fire fighters. Often we don't think of them until they are needed. They do such a good job, they are just taken for granted.

Saturday at 10 a.m. is the

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NCNB Employees Service Awards

Service awards have been presented to the following employees of the North Carolina National Bank:

Joseph G. Claud, 25 years; Horace A. Smith 25 years; Evelyn B. Flynn, 15 years; Judith A. Williams 10 years; Kenneth L. Tucker 10 years; Frances B. Collins, 5 years.

Shoots Self

Michael Ruff, 21, of Hendersonville was found in his car Thursday morning about 6:15 in a private drive near the Tryon Church of God on Hwy. 108. Tryon Police Chief Jerry Ross said that Ruff had apparently shot himself with a .22 pistol in the chest.

Mr Ruff was rushed to St. Luke's Hospital where his condition was reported as fair Thursday morning.

Forest Fire

The Tryon Volunteer Fire Department was called to a forest fire late Wednesday afternoon on the mountain near Valhalla Handweavers.

The fire burned the dead kudzu and spread up the mountain. The Columbus Volunteer Fire Department was called to assist and the County Forest Ranger and his men also fought the fire.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Holste of Lake Forest, Ill. are spending the holidays in Tryon.

Playing Tonight

The Music Makers are playing tonight at the Sheraton in Spartanburg for Milliken Chemical Co. Christmas Party and Dance.

Candlelight Service At Midway Baptist

The Midway Baptist Church will present a Candlelight Christmas service Wednesday, Dec. 24th at 7 p.m.

Bob Ernst, Jr. of Chicago, Ill. will arrive Christmas Eve to visit his parents, Mr and Mrs. Bob Ernst of Red Fox and his sisters, Mrs. John Lankford and Mrs. Jeff Scoggins and their families.

Dame Elizabeth Hill of Cambridge, England is visiting her niece and nephew, Mr and Mrs. Shaw Pettigrew in Tryon.

Andy Bayard, student at N. C. State University is spending the Christmas holidays with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Walter Bayard of Tryon.

Tim Corbett, student at UNC at Chapel Hill is spending the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Corbett of Tryon.

Miss Jennifer Gaut, student at Appalachian State University, is spending the Christmas holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Gaut of Tryon.

The Cosmic Reporter

"Christmas"

by Tim Linder

This year, as for the past five years at Christmas, instead of writing about the stars I am going to tell you the story of why we celebrate Christmas. The best explanation of Christmas is found in the Bible in the book of Luke:

Luke 2:8-20: And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field keeping watch over their flock by night.

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shown round about them and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great job, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest and on Earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another. Let us now go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the babe lying in the manger. And

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