

Curb Reporter

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Anything would do better than we're doing now."

South Africa's white government and its rival, the African National Congress, met for the first time on Wednesday to arrange negotiations that could ultimately bring an end to white minority rule.

Linda Davis of Landrum, known to many as one of the waitresses at the Village Restaurant in Tryon, is known by even more folks as one of South Carolina's best cooks.

Davis is off today at Anderson Mall competing in the South Carolina Beef Cook-Off, a contest her mother won in 1988.

This is a busy weekend in Polk County. The Tryon Little Theater show, "When We Are Married," began last night and continues at the Fine Arts Center tonight, Saturday night and Sunday afternoon.

"The Wizard of Oz" is being performed at Mill Spring Accelerated School tonight, Saturday and Sunday.

The Little League season opens Saturday at Harmon Field. The Tryon Hounds Puppy Show is taking place Sunday at 1 p.m. at the Tryon Hounds clubhouse.

"Water Week" begins Sunday and the Tryon Water Department is hosting an open house at the water treatment plant from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

The "Rise and Shine" program for children entering kindergarten next fall begins at 9 a.m. Monday. The program begins this week at Saluda, Green Creek and Mill Spring elementary schools.

Faulkner

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things everyone would like to see, even things we need. We have to look very closely at the costs and the ability to pay. The federal government is in debt. North Carolina is in debt. Polk County can't afford to be in debt — 75 percent of the population is over 65 and many are on a fixed income, which I am also. It is a time for belt tightening."

• On his record: "I vote my conscience."

• On the school bond: "I voted against the school bond. I felt it should go to referendum. The timing was bad and it was too much. But I resent being called

anti-education. I have seven grandchildren and I am certainly not anti-education."

• On the tax increase: "I voted for a 7 cents tax increase last year," Faulkner said. He explained that he felt the increase was necessary if Polk was to maintain a competent staff.

"We had lost our economic development director. He was getting \$20,000 here and he went to another county and got \$31,000. We lost three deputy sheriffs, the chief jailer, the mental health director and the social services director — all for salary. All those jobs are filled now."

• On the current Polk County staff: "This administration (board of commissioners) has done what no other has done. We have hired on ability. Our employees are well-trained and when they need additional training, they get it. The level of employees' ability is higher than it has ever been in the history of the county. We haven't hired and fired on good old boy politics or anything else. They have enthusiasm and experience."

• On any new tax increases: "There won't be any increases if I can help it. I want to see us preserve what we have and hold the line."

• On the county taking over the emergency medical services from St. Luke's Hospital: "The new EMS is going to cost money, but we have no choice in that. We have one of the best EMS's in the state now."

• On the environment: "The future of Polk County is extremely bright, but we must be cautious regarding the quality of the environment. These issues are being addressed. I have been in public service all my life, and I have seen areas ruined by over-ambition and a lack of preservation of the landscape and beauty."

• On zoning: "I am in favor of spot zoning. I am not in favor of overall zoning the whole county at this time."

• On the landfill: "The landfill is not out of compliance now. I have seen the state investigators' reports. There are three test wells there. You could drink the water that comes out of that ground."

Lettuce was enjoyed by peoples of the Mediterranean and Near East 2,500 years ago. Lettuce was among some of the first crops sowed in colonial gardens.

Crowell

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Piedmont side, a countywide sign ordinance put into effect, and an "old tree act" put in place.

What follows is a sampling of Crowell's views on ways to protect the environment of Polk County, and on his candidacy in general:

• An "old tree act": "The Triangle Stop cut down three old oaks that were well over 100 years old. A lady gave that land to the city to protect that prime corner from development, but the city gave it back to the estate. I'd like to see us put in a countywide ordinance protecting trees of a certain age and diameter."

• Buffering mountainside streetlights: Crowell said by screening the bulbs to shine only onto the mountainside, people in the valleys below cannot see them at all. "They've just opened another 200 lots on White Oak Mountain. If they put in all those streetlights (without buffers), it will ruin the mountain view."

• A sign ordinance for the county: An attractive looking county can mean jobs, Crowell said. He does a lot of volunteer work with the Tryon Thermal Belt Chamber of Commerce, and said industry location scouts consider communities that "are pleasant to the eye."

"I think we ought to let the Polk County Beautification Committee (on which Crowell serves) look at other towns' codes and work on an ordinance all of us could agree on."

• A stream watch program: Crowell would like to encourage volunteerism to clean up the county's streams of plastics and litter.

• A clean-up of Lake Adger: Crowell recently showed a reporter around the coves of Lake Adger, many of which are piled high with litter and styrofoam from deteriorated houseboat floats. In some coves, abandoned houseboats themselves litter the lake.

"If Duke Power would lease the lake to the county as a park, then the county could issue permits for the campsites and the sheriff's department could patrol the lake. And I'd like to see a 'no-styrofoam' ordinance in the county. Those houseboat floats should be encased. Most states have a law about encasing floats on docks. Otherwise the sun oxidizes exposed polystyrene and breaks

it down."

• A state park in the Green River Cove: a local Realtor, Chris Langdon, is circulating petitions asking state legislators to consider the Green River Cove. "I'd like to see it," Crowell said. "The majority of forest in Polk County is owned by the timber industry. I'd like to see a large area turn into old growth. Joyce Kilmer National Forest is one of the last virgin forests in North Carolina."

• On zoning: Crowell said he is not philosophically opposed to zoning. He said if the majority of landowners in an area want their area to be zoned, and if the zoning they request is consistent with the existing character of the area, then he would favor that zoning.

• Why vote for Bill Crowell?: "There is no representation at this time for this side (west) of the interstate. I am almost local. I was born in Spartanburg County. Everything I own, I have invested in Polk County. I went out on a limb for the movie theater, and I am about to crawl out again to provide a service that's needed (ACE Hardware). I'd like to see more young people who are looking after Polk's future."

Extension Homemakers Luncheon

The annual Extension Homemakers Extension Homemakers Week is Thursday, May 10, at 12 noon, at the 4-H and Youth Center. Please call the Extension Office by May 7 if you plan to attend.

In addition to your covered dish, you are asked to bring your own plate, cup and silverware. The purpose of this is to reduce waste products that cannot be recycled. This is a tradition the County Council voted to establish to do our part to create less pollution and ease the landfill crisis.

Columbus Club will decorate and set up the tables. Suburban Club will clean up.

Sweet potatoes can be charcoal broiled. Rub a little fat over the skins, wrap foil loosely around the potatoes and cook them in the coats for about 45 minutes.