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What To Do About Topless Bars

The Tryon Town Council debated what to do about topless bars located in town Monday night at the Town Hall. Mayor Bob Neely opened the discussion by stating that the town was opposed to the operation of topless bars, but didn't know how to keep them out since the State ABC Board controlled establishments that served alcoholic beverages. It was brought out that the bar in question was located near two churches and Tryon Elementary School. Some felt that this could lead to prostitution, drug use and other criminal activities.

Those present were assured that the police would periodically inspect the facilities to see that no laws were being violated. Ways to alleviate the problem were discussed. Possibilities included: closing it down if laws were violated; having a referendum to do away with alcohol; having a special act by the Legislature passed prohibiting topless bars, etc.

The Council instructed Town Manager Barry Richards to investigate the options and report back to the Council at their meeting on June 21st at 7:30 p.m.

Later in the meeting the Council voted to ask the N.C. Legislature to introduce local legislation to prohibit topless performers in the Town of Tryon. — Seth Vining

More than 80 percent of Americans now pump their own gas and clean their own windshields.



Shari-Pei dogs at White Oak Terrace. Pictured above Mr. John Haney, resident at White Oak Terrace enjoys a visit from one of the wrinkled puppies.

Mrs. Linda Schatzberg, breeder of the Shari-Pei dogs brought the 9 wk. old puppies to White Oak for a visit during National Nursing Home Week.

Landfill Fees Already Buried

The proposed landfill disposal fee schedule which Polk County business people objected to strongly Monday night is now yesterday's trash.

"It's dead," said Polk County Manager Steven D. Wyatt Tuesday morning. "I have talked with three commissioners this morning and essentially they want to come up with another plan."

Wyatt said he sees two ways to handle the issue: Either charge "tipping fees" at the landfill, whereby haulers pay based on the tonnage they dump; or revise the existing flat fee schedule to
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School Budget Dominates Hearing

Parents, teachers, teacher aids and school administrators pleaded with the Polk County Commissioners to reconsider proposed funding for the county's schools in a standing-room-only budget hearing Monday night at the Polk County Courthouse.

Speakers in favor of supporting the Polk County Schools budget, which requests over \$450,000 above the county's proposed funding for the schools, outnumbered supporters of the proposed county budget three to one.

Those speaking against the school's budget request were concerned that taxes would be raised more than the 12 cents required for the bond issue.

"You commissioners have a fiscal responsibility to the entire county, every segment of the county, not just to children in school," said Terri Merriman of Columbus.

Merriman expressed concern for retired persons on a fixed social security income and with no earning power. She pointed to the possibility of a 26% tax increase. Social Security will not give a 26% increase, she said.

However, working people are paying for retirement benefits for retirees, pointed out Phyllis Crain, a Landrum teacher, Green Creek resident and mother of two Polk County school children. The people in the community are willing to pay for

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The weather Monday: high 85, low 61, hum. 54 percent.

The news summary: The N.C. Senate Appropriations Committee Monday said a threat to the state's bond rating may force a reexamination of their new-taxes stand.

Standard & Poors put the state on its "credit watch" list. If North Carolina's Triple A rating was lowered, state taxpayers could pay millions more in interest on state bonds.

Sen. Marc Basnight (D-Dare) said: "I think what they (Standard & Poor's) was saying was not that they are opposed to the cuts we are making. Government needs to do that once in a while, to go back in and see where the money is being spent. What I think they want to see is that our infrastructure needs are being taken care of — that roads are being built, that education improvements are being made... to be sure we're keeping up with our commitments."

In that vein, three former governors joined Gov. Jim Martin Monday to announce the formation of an organization to bolster the state's community colleges.

Flag-burning is O.K. again, at
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