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TRYON, N. C. 28782

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The weather Tuesday: high 72, low 37, hum. 70 percent.

The FENCE "Home for the Holidays" celebration and concert is Friday and Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale at FENCE, Carole's Shoes, NCNB, My Favorite Shoppe, and HealthCall Pharmacy.

The Tryon Town Council last Wednesday voted to spend \$8,000 from the town's fund balance to purchase Emergency-911 phone equipment for the town police department.

Clark Moffitt of the Tryon Post Office is trying his hand as postmaster on a temporary basis. He is running the Cedar Mountain Post Office in Transylvania County. Whew! It's a good thing he picked such a quiet time of year to get his first test running the show.

The murderer of Sarles W. "Buddy" Hall, a former Landrum man, was sentenced to life in prison recently for the crime. Hall, 38, was born in Polk County, attended Tryon Elementary School in the late 1950s and graduated from Landrum High School. He fought and was wounded twice in Vietnam, and was decorated with

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Construction Base Bids \$1.5 Mil. Under Estimate

Based upon the bid openings held Dec. 13, the Polk County Board of Education will be able to award the entire new high school project, including all alternates, within budget, said Superintendent James Causby.

Though final approval and bid awards will be decided by the school board, Dr. Causby said he will recommend to do the entire package which right now will be able to be done for \$10.3 million. The original budget estimate was \$10.8 million.

"We're ecstatic; we're very, very pleased," Dr. Causby said of himself and the school board members.

The outcome of the separate bids for the heating system, one an HVAC hydronic (gas fueled) and the other HVAC Electric will allow the architecturally preferred hydronic system to be installed, Dr. Causby said. Originally GMK estimated the electrical system to come in at a lower initial price, but the bids proved the opposite. The advantage is that the hydronic, gas-fueled, system will save money in the long run and will last longer, he said.

Dr. Causby sees three reasons for the favorably low bids. First is the present depressed market which has all companies looking for work. Second is the attractive project in terms of cost and location. Third is that the GMK Construction Management Firm was able to solicit a great deal of competitive interest in the project.

Thursday's bid openings for

construction of the new high school brought low bids for the base project in a \$8,956,687 compared to the \$10,500,000 estimate of the architect, Wood and Cort, P.A. given in August.

The bid openings, conducted by GMK Associates Construction Management Firm, included all aspects of the base construction bids except the site improvement category which was not bid because only two bids were received. North Carolina law states that bids from three companies must be received to open bids, explained GMK Associate Don Altman. Site Improvement bids will be readvertised in 10-12 days, Altman said.

Estimates of the site improvement costs is included in the \$10.3 million final cost of the project, Dr. Causby said. The second bidding process will not require three bids for an opening, he explained.

The final \$8,956,687 low bid price includes the \$662,687 bid earlier for the Site Preparation which is nearly completed. Final bids will not be awarded until Dec. 10 after all bids have been reviewed, all advisements considered and recommendations are made by the Polk County Board of Education, explained GMK engineer director Keith Webb. Also under consideration are the alternate project bids in many of the categories.

Separate bids were made on

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Thrums And Threads

Areas weavers are invited to meet with Thrums and Threads at the home of Barbara Haythorn Tuesday, December 18 at 10 a.m.

There is an ongoing study of Malin Selander weaving and discussion will include the current guild's next project.

For information and rides, please contact Agnes Sternberg at 859-6732 or Pat Crumrine at 859-5930. — Reporter

Tryon Resident Earns Doctor's Degree

Sherman College on Dec. 15th conferred the degree, Doctor of Chiropractic, on Charles F. Pados.

After serving 4 years in the Navy, Charles graduated from the New York State University College at Buffalo, where he was elected to Kappa Delta Pi scholastic Honor society.

Subsequently, he has been residing with his parents, Karoly and Virginia Pados at Hidden Hill Rd. in Tryon, while attending Sherman College in Spartanburg, SC, where he has been on the Dean's List. — Reporter

County Sports

Men's and women's junior varsity and varsity basketball teams will host matches with Woodruff teams tomorrow starting at 4 p.m.

The varsity wrestling squad will host a match with R-S Central at 7 p.m. tomorrow.