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# The Tryon Daily Bulletin

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TRYON, N. C. 28782

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The weather Thursday: high 57, low 48, hum. 85 percent.

Nearly one-third of the workers in half of North Carolina's towns and cities have less than a high school education.

Consider that statistic while you contemplate the skills that are rapidly becoming necessary to be employable in the modern world and you'll have a sense of the problems our state faces.

The 66th Annual North Carolina Press Association Newspaper Institute focused on Literacy in North Carolina when it met at the Carolina Inn in Chapel Hill last Friday.

Six speakers took up the theme from different perspectives, but each made a distinction we hadn't heard before. The issue, they said, should not be defined simply as dealing with reading - the so-called "war on illiteracy." Rather, the issue faced in North Carolina is one of providing the basic skills needed to find meaningful work in today's workplace.

It's faulty thinking to blame today's schools for the the lack of basic skills in the North Carolina workforce, said George Autry, chairman of the Southern

(Continued On Back Page)

## Celebrates 100th

Mrs. Janie Pruitt Horton will celebrate her 100th birthday on Feb. 3rd. Mrs. Horton is the widow of Walter C. Horton, who passed away in 1965. They made their home on Red Fox Road in Polk County and had 13 children.

The surviving 12 children are Ruth Belue, Monie Jackson, Annie Lee Whitesides, Lucille Durham, Gladys Hutcherson, Glenn, Harley, James, Delmar, John, Dean and Joe. She also has 47 grandchildren, 100 great grandchildren and 41 great, great grandchildren.

To help her celebrate, a drop-in is planned. It will take place on Feb. 3, at her daughter's home, Mrs. Lucille Durham Peniel Road, Columbus, from 2 to 5 p.m. Friends and relatives are cordially invited to attend.

## Daffy Jills Garden Club

The Daffy Jills Garden Club will hold their monthly meeting February 7 in the Common Room at Holy Cross Episcopal Church.

The renowned Flower Show Chairman and judge Mrs. Mary Ann Kirby will present a program on "Dinner Table Arrangements".

Mrs. William Kuhn is hostess and co-hostesses will be Mrs. Wm. Harbison and Mrs. Paul Rooney. - Reporter

## Mayors Proclaim Feb. "Heart Month"



In separate proclamations last week the mayors of the towns of Tryon and Columbus proclaimed the month of February 1991 as "Heart Month". In the picture, Tryon Mayor Robert M. Neely signs and releases his proclamation as Polk County's AHA Chairman Bruce Palmer observes.

The Tryon proclamation noted that almost half of the 50,000 deaths in North Carolina are caused by heart and blood vessel diseases. It stated that 43 percent of all deaths in Polk County were attributed to heart disease. The mayors urged "all our citizens to join in the fight against heart disease."

The proclamations were timely since the Polk County chapter of the AHA begins its annual solicitation of donations to the Polk County Heart Fund

(Continued On Back Page)

## Doctor Says Child's Death Not Accidental

by Michael B. Smith

In his testimony Thursday morning at the trial of James Christopher Tucker, Dr. Robert L. Thompson said he did not believe Tucker's two-year-old son died accidentally.

After the lunch break Thursday, Tucker's lawyer was to begin presenting his defense against the second degree murder charge leveled against him in the death of his son.

Thompson, the associate chief medical examiner for the state, testified for the prosecution which attempted to refute Tucker's story that his son was hurt in a fall. Tucker said he only buried the child himself out of fear that the accidental death would be misunderstood.

A day after Nathan Adam Hill was removed from a shallow grave in his father's back yard Jan. 17, 1990, Thompson performed an autopsy on the child's body.

Circuit Court Judge Zorro Guice allowed two photos of the body to be entered into evidence, over the objection of defense attorney Lee Atkins.

Guice on Wednesday morning made a crucial ruling in the case, allowing Tucker's confessions to be admitted into evidence, along with a map he drew for police leading them to his son's grave.

One of the primary pieces of evidence admitted was the

(Continued On Page 16)