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The weather Monday: high 57, low 39, hum. 62 percent.

The Polk County Planning Commission meets tomorrow night at the courthouse at 7:30 p.m.

The Tryon Hounds will hold a Hunter Pace event Sunday, Feb. 17 at 10 a.m. at the Iron Bridge Hunt meet site.

Because there will be no mail Monday, Feb. 18, there will be no *Tryon Daily Bulletin* and the newspaper office will be closed.

The Hendersonville Times-News reported Tuesday that *Mother Earth News* may be dying. News American Magazine Co., the magazine's owner, suspended publication and the majority of its staff has been let go.

But the magazine started by 14 former *Mother Earth News* staffers, *BackHome* is going strong. Begun in August, 1990 with \$2,800 seed capital, the magazine is now on newsstands nationwide, including one at *The Tryon Daily Bulletin*.

The 14 were let go when News American moved *Mother's* offices to New York last March.

Allan Pruette of Century 21

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911 Service Cutover Delayed

The new Emergency-911 telephone dialing service for Polk County will not be ready by Feb. 14.

Polk County Manager John Lewis said Monday that the "punch list" of technical items given to the county by its consultant is still not completed.

"There are still some things that need to be out of the way as far as the equipment and what it's doing," he said.

Lewis said all the county's roads names may not be completely settled upon before 911 service begins, but that should not be the cause of further delays.

The Tryon Town Council on Monday night approved "in concept" an agreement with the county for the handling of 911 information and 911 calls.

The county's 911 computer contains confidential information about county residents, some with unlisted telephone numbers, and the town must agree to maintain that confidentiality.

The town and county also have to agree on a standard operating procedure for handling 911 calls from Tryon police and fire service districts that come in to the county dispatchers. These calls will immediately be switched over to the 911 computer in the Tryon dispatcher's office.

Budget Receives 'Yellow Light'

Tryon has received a letter of concern from the N.C. Local Government Commission regarding the shrinking size of its fund balance, town commissioners were told Monday night.

"As of June 30, 1990, the amount of fund balance available for appropriation in the General Fund was 26.31 percent of total expenditures in this fund," wrote Lee Carter, director of the fiscal management section.

"While this percentage appears to be adequate to support current operations, your government could experience cash flow problems if unanticipated expenditures arise or if a significant reduction in the tax base occurs."

Carter pointed out that Tryon had a fund balance of 56.45 percent in 1988, and 56.06 percent in 1989. He said comparably sized municipalities average fund balance is 66.11 percent.

"Your government should analyze its financial position and determine if future budget ordinances should provide for additional fund balance amounts," Carter wrote.

"We need to look toward reversing this trend," Town Manager Matthew Dolge told the council. "This (letter) is not a red light, but it is a strong yellow light."

Dolge said the reduction in the fund balance came from a year of unusual deficit spend-

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Balkam Reopens Admissions Issue

Polk County Board of Education newcomer Dr. Geoffrey E. Balkam re-opened discussion of Polk County Schools' 10-month-old admission policy for out-of-state students.

At the School Board meeting Monday night, Balkam said his concerns focus on the budget and the faculty load.

Superintendent Dr. James Causby told Balkam that to lose the 52 to 53 South Carolina students now spread over grades K-12 at Tryon Elementary and Tryon High Schools would relate to a loss of over \$200,000 in state funds that would have to be made up with local funds.

Nonetheless, Balkam said that he did not feel the policy was "fair."

"What about ethically? I think the board made the decision not based on a county-wide basis," Balkam charged.

Saluda School Board representative Wayne Bradley explained that the board spent almost a year developing the policy and seeking public opinion.

"We did that before. Why didn't you come give your opinion then?" Bradley asked.

"Times change," Balkam said. "I appreciate your time, but this needs review and I don't think \$900 is too much to ask (for out-of-state tuition)."

"I hope we're not making

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