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THE WORLD'S SMALLEST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Founded Jan. 31, 1928 by Seth M. Vining
(Consolidated with the Polk County News 1955)
Jeffrey A. Byrd, Editor and Publisher

The Tryon Daily Bulletin (USPS 643-360) is published daily except Sat. and Sun. for \$35 per year by the Tryon Daily Bulletin, Inc. 106 N. Trade St., P.O. Box 790, Tryon, N.C. 28782

The Tryon Daily Bulletin

Phone 859-9151



Printed in the THERMAL BELT of Western North Carolina

16 Pages Today

Vol. 65 - No. 139

TRYON, N. C. 28782

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1991

20¢ Per Copy



The weather Tuesday, high 84, low 66, hum. 58 percent.

Pearlene Bell of Tryon planted cucumber seeds and grew instead an odd fruit that not even County Extension Director John Vining could identify.

We gingerly held the stuff here at The Bulletin office, and Charles Barnett declared it a cantaloupe. He said gardeners warn people not to plant cucumbers and cantaloupes too near each other. They'll cross-pollinate, he said, and produce seeds for a whole new fruit.

Just a theory, you understand.

We came across a clipping from a June issue of the Bulletin recently announcing the winners of the Tryon Rotary Club scholarships. Devlin Scott Pierce of Campobello won a four-year scholarship and announced plans to attend Furman University to major in pre-law. At Landrum High he was president of the Interact Club, a member of the Beta Club and a member of the newspaper staff.

Unfortunately for him, Devlin was also one of the suspects arrested last week for vandalizing the Mount Pleasant Baptist

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Marketing In The Mountains

Many merchants in Polk County are concerned because of a decline in the number of visitors this year. They are not alone in this. The Board of Directors of Blue Ridge Mountain Hosts, of which this chamber is a member, has been working on "Marketing in the Mountains."

Carolyn Ketchum, director from Asheville Chamber of Commerce, expressed concern over the slowdown in the growth of tourism and even decline in certain areas. She said the convention business for January to March in the region appeared to be down about 12%; it was up by a 12.9% in April; and was down again 3% in May. She said the occupancy rate of motels is high based on data she had collected. Room tax revenues were down indicating strong rate competition and a reduced economic impact on the area. She reported briefly on a survey of other areas, Boone, Charlotte, Pinchurst and Cherokee. She then asked members to report on travel and tourism trends in their area. All of this confirmed a general sluggishness except for a few areas and attractions which have registered increases.

In a comparison of inquiries received by phone and mail through the Tryon Thermal Belt Chamber office in June and July of 1990 versus 1991, records

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Happy Campers

These happy campers were among the 61 enrolled in Tryon First Baptist Church's Camp Can Do Vacation Bible School.

Pictured are Meredith McCallister, Stephen Pack, Carl Pleasants and Carole Morton, who were taught by Jerry Attwood.

—Community Reporter

Parade! Parade!

Want to be in a parade? Landrum will have a Labor Day Parade Sept. 2 at 10 a.m. The theme will be "Anything on Wheels You Can Ride, Push or Pull." Anyone wishing to enter a float, car, etc. may contact Rosie Barnett at 457-4539. There is no entry fee.

—Community Reporter

Tryon Elementary School Pictures

Tryon Elementary and Middle School children will have their school pictures taken Tuesday, August 27.

21 Pigs Stolen

Polk County Sheriff's deputies put out a call to law enforcement officers for 50 miles after 21 pigs were stolen from a Green Creek farm Tuesday morning.

Officers were told to be on the lookout for a truck carrying pigs weighing between 70 and 180 pounds each.

The pigs, taken from the farm of Luther Stott on Landrum Road, were found missing after he returned home from working a third shift.

He discovered all but nine of his pigs missing.

The N.C. Department of Agriculture's most recent market bulletin quoted the price of feeder pigs at \$47.50 per 100 pounds.

At that price, Stott's loss would be between \$1,200 and \$1,500.

Civil War Film To Be Shown

In 1862, during the Civil War, a Union gunboat was sunk in the Yazoo River near Vicksburg, Miss. A film about the attempted raising of the vessel will be shown at the Polk Campus of Isothermal Community College on Monday, August 26, at 10 a.m. This documentary was prepared by Ed Bearss, chief historian of the National Park Service and specialist in Civil War history. You are invited to see "The Raising of the Cairo" free of charge.

—Community Reporter