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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

20 Pages Today

Vol. 65 - No. 162

TRYON, N. C. 28782

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 25, 1991

20¢ Per Copy



The weather Monday, high 82, low 47, hum. 72 percent.

Peter Hahn stopped Tuesday morning with a "communication" and a comment. The \$160 billion dollar figure reported in a conversation between Congressmen Charles Taylor and Newt Gingrich couldn't be right, he said.

Malpractice insurance and related costs couldn't be costing America \$160 billion dollars a year, he said. That's half the national defense budget.

Well, I wasn't sure if it was or wasn't. So I went to the copy drawer to pull out the original to see if *The Bulletin* made a typographical error (which rarely occurs anymore!).

No, in fact that's what the Congressman's press release said - \$160 billion.

Well, Congressmen have been known to make typographical errors. So, I called Doug Bassett, the LA (legislative assistant) who issued the press release for Taylor's office.

He looked up the Employee Benefit Research Institute Special Report just issued this month and found that America spent an estimated \$676 billion on health care in 1990 - 12.4%  
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## No School On September 30

There will be no school on Monday, September 30, scheduled as a teacher workday.

From 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. on September 30, Polk County teachers will meet with Dr. Willard Daggett in the library at Tryon High School to begin the curriculum process for grades 6-8.

## Accident Reported

Kathryn Potter of Tryon was charged with unsafe movement after an accident on Pacolet Street in Tryon Monday.

Tryon Officer Frankie Greene said Potter backed her 1969 Volkswagon out of her parking space in front of the McCall, McCall & McCall dentist office into the path of a 1988 Ford pick up truck driven by Bradford Price of Columbus.

Greene said no one was hurt, but \$750 damage was done to the pick up truck, and \$250 damage to the VW.

## Correction

Bobby Foy of Tryon says he was injured in a collision while riding his moped in Columbus last week.

While he had no broken bones, Foy said he is out of work with a knee injury and a neck injury.

A story Tuesday reported no injuries in that accident.



Eloise Johnson

## Johnson Honored

Eloise T. Johnson, Home Economist with the Polk County Cooperative Extension Service, has received the Early Career Award of Excellence by the North Carolina Association of Extension Home Economists.

She was recognized for her work with Habitat for Humanity Home Owners Association, working with the Social Services Department to help food commodity recipients become more knowledgeable of ways to use the food they receive, programs on the awareness of the abuse problem in Polk County, networking with agencies and organizations to provide educational information to county citizens and strengthening the home economics program.

Eloise has been working for the Polk County Extension Service a total of nine years.

A DOCTOR  
IN THE  
HOUSE



## Can St. Luke's Help Doctors Prepare For Future Stability?

Today we present the fourth and final installment in a series of stories by Claire Wharton on the challenges facing the Thermal Belt medical community.

"Medicare is here; it's with us," said St. Luke's Hospital Board Chairman Joe Claud.

In fact, Medicare is going to become a major factor in health care everywhere as America's "baby boomers" enter retirement by the year 2010.

And by the time the baby boomers are over 60, there will be a smaller work force footing the bill, said Dr. Richard Trifiro, a family practitioner in Columbus.

However, industries and corporations in the future will likely balk if the difference between Medicare reimbursements and high medical charges continue to be passed on to private insurance and self-paying patients, Claud said.

In the face of these challenges, the trustees and administrators of St. Luke's Hospital have not been idle.

In the past five years the hospital has implemented a geriatric program, Care Givers, and  
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