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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



Printed in the THERMAL BELT of Western North Carolina

Phone 859-9151

16 Pages Today

Vol. 65 - No. 93

TRYON, N.C. 28782

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1992

25c Per Copy



The weather Tuesday, high 74, low 69, hum. 70 percent, and 1.15 inches of rain. Precipitation at 7 a.m. Wednesday was 1.10 inches. The rain is not over, folks.

What's happening:

The Polk County High School Boosters Club will meet tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the Stearns Education Center. This will be an organizational meeting and everyone is urged to attend.

The Columbus Town Council meets tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall.

The Columbus Merchants Association will meet tonight at 7 p.m. at McDonalds.

All residents of Gillette Woods are invited to come out and meet their neighbors for the 14th annual meeting of the Gillette Woods Association Inc. this afternoon at 2:30 p.m. at the Congregational Church.

The box office is open for the upcoming performance of Sarah, Connie Clark's one-woman portrayal of Sarah Bernhardt. The show takes the stage tomorrow at 8 p.m. at the Tryon Fine Arts Center.

There will be a rummage sale Saturday, June 13, at Democrat (Continued On Back Page)

Landrum Council Files Countersuit

Landrum Town Council members Friday filed a countersuit against Landrum residents listed as plaintiffs in a suit against the council which attempts to force the election of two additional councilmen at large.

The countersuit denies all allegations, calls for a jury trial, and alleges that "this is a frivolous lawsuit which should thereby entitle the Defendants to both attorney fees and legal costs."

"We didn't feel like the city ought to take the tax payers money to finance such a feeble suit as that," Mayor Robert Cogdell said.

The original suit, filed May 8, charges specifically Mayor Cogdell and councilmen Hollis Constance and Ray Mayfield as "members of the City Council of Landrum opposed to the results of the referendum of Nov. 5, 1991." Town administrator Doug Landers and councilmen Doug Brannon and Fred Williams are listed only as necessary parties. The suit specifies that Brannon and Williams have supported the results of the Nov. 5 referendum to add two councilmen.

Prior to the countersuit, Landrum Council attorneys Roger Couch and Toney Lister filed a motion to dismiss the suit against the three council members. The motion for dismissal has not been heard, as of (Continued On Back Page)



Mrs. Verlee Payne

Hospice Elects Payne

Mrs. Verlee Payne, the newest Hospice director, was elected to the board of directors of Hospice of Polk County this spring, graduated from Spartanburg School of Practical Nursing in 1979, and has practiced nursing in Tryon and community since moving here. She has been on the nursing staff of St. Luke's Hospital and the staff of White Oak, and currently does some private duty nursing.

In 1983 Mrs. Payne attended one of the earliest series of volunteer training classes given by Hospice of Polk County. Mrs. Payne has worked with many Hospice patients in this area in her capacity as LPN and volunteer.

In addition to her nursing responsibilities, Mrs. Payne helps her husband James in his taxi business. The Paynes are active in the Garrison Chapel Baptist Church and they have a grown daughter, Valerie.

Anyone may call Hospice for its care-at-home program at 859-2270.

Single-Member District Referendum Set for November

Landrum voters may vote as early as November on a single-member district referendum following a 4-1 vote by Landrum Town Council Tuesday.

Landrum Council gave second and final reading to an amended single-member district ordinance presented by town attorney Roger Couch. The amendment to the original ordinance will allow voters to choose, or not, single-member districts through referendum on the November ballot.

An additional ordinance providing for the at-large election of two additional council members in November 1993, "unless single-member districts are voted on later" (Couch), was given first reading approval in a three to two vote. This ordinance states that even if the additional councilmen are elected at large, they must live in districts 5 and 6, respectively.

Fred Williams stopped the vote of both the amended and the new ordinance to call for each to be tabled on the grounds that the first he or Doug Brannon had seen either the ordinance for the election of two additional or the amendment to the single-member district ordinance was at that moment.

Brannon asked who authorized Couch to draw up the additional council members ordinance.

"We were instructed by the (Continued On Back Page)