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THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 1992

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The weather Tuesday, high 82, low 63, hum. 65 percent. Precipitation as of 7 a.m. Wednesday was .14 inches.

Get off the streets Tryon residents. Protect yourselves from the violence, public chaos and general mayhem.

Anyone watching WLOS's (Asheville Channel 13) Monday night after a Tryon Town Council meeting won't want to walk Trade Street in the daylight. According to the news report, a rising crime wave has taken over.

If broken car windows, slashed tires, beer bottle litter and other problems from bar crowds and a supposed gang of youths are a major crime wave, what do the TV reporters call the escalated murders, rapes and other violent crimes in the larger cities?

No doubt we have our problems. But let's keep Tryon's problems in perspective so that we can solve them without public hysteria.

It's amazing what some news media will do for excitement.

Speaking of Tryon's problems. . . No, the Tryon Town Council is not going to shut down the bars. No, the council

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Commissioners Finalize Budget

Polk County's Board of Commissioners finalized the 1992-93 county budget with no tax raises and several house-keeping changes, including an additional \$25,000 for the Polk County Schools.

The General Fund budget of \$7,644,431 includes a revision of \$12,000 for fire district revenues and \$19,000 designated for the School Bond Fund. The \$19,000 represents that much shortage of \$600,000 that was supposed to be set aside for the School Bond Fund.

Other funds approved in the county's budget are: Capital Reserve Fund, \$1,572,000 (\$1,515,203 of which is earmarked for the school capital reserve fund); Reevaluation Fund, \$62,208; Fire District Funds, \$278,976; Drug Fund, \$64,474; Communication Fund, \$329,368; Solid Waste Fund, \$270,291; and the Tourism Fund, \$27,000 (based on expected revenue from a 3% room occupancy tax).

Commissioner Tim McCormack clarified that reports of \$700,000 designated for the general fund balance made it sound as if the fund balance jumped from 8% to 20%. However, the increase was really only from 8% to 10 or 12% because the rest of the money in the fund balance will be used to pay back school bonds, he explained.

The Commissioners moved
(Continued On Back Page)



"A Face in Eternity"

Earthtones Holds Sculpture Reception

The public is invited to the opening of "A Face in Eternity", portrait sculpture by Geerdina Van Gaal at Earthtones Saturday, June 20, from 2-6 p.m.

Geerdina has been working in the Earthtones studio since January on her portrait sculpture which will be revealed Saturday.

Earthtones is a local art gallery located in the 200 block of N. Trade Street.

Community Reporter

Meeting Place Bridge

Winners of Tues., June 16 Meeting Place Bridge are:

1. Roy Schuerdtman, 2. Zandria Reilly, 3. Hortense Stone, 4. Dorothy McGill.

-Community Reporter

Turkey, Small Game Habitat in Polk Co.

Polk County will have a turkey and small game habitat, thanks to a grant from the Natural Heritage Trust Fund Program.

Polk County's portion of the Natural Heritage Trust Fund grants were awarded to the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission to help buy the Walcott tract, 585 acres in the northwestern section of the county. This tract has been purchased over the last four years by both the trust fund and from general funds of the N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission, said Don Hayes, management biologist with the commission.

The Walcott tract includes Big and Little Bradley Falls, a popular hiking spot in Polk County. However, the actual work for the habitat of turkey and small game will be done nearer to the Green River near farm land, Hayes explained.

Once the habitat is complete, hunting will be allowed, but managed as a viable population by the Wildlife Commission, he said. Though the habitat will not affect hiking to Big and Little Bradley Falls, Hayes urged people not to hike during deer or any other gun hunting season.

C. Wharton

The mind of man is capable of anything—because everything is in it, all the past as well as all the future. —Joseph Conrad