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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

12 Pages Today

Phone 859-9151

MONDAY, JULY 27, 1992

25¢ Per Copy

Vol. 65 - No. 124

TRYON, N.C. 28782



The weather Thursday: high 85, low 69, hum. 62 percent, and by Friday at 7 a.m. 1.22 inches of rain had fallen.

Remember the story we told Friday of Samantha, David Carmichael's black labrador who found her way nine miles home from Columbus to Tryon? Well we were curious how Samantha could navigate her way home, so we talked with an animal behaviorist in Durham Friday.

Dr. Donna Brown is the one to call if your pet seems to be acting strangely. Dr. Angel Mitchell of Bonnie Brae Veterinary Clinic once had one of her dogs in to see Dr. Brown for a psychological evaluation.

Brown evaluated the two Rottweilers who pursued and killed a jogger some years ago in the Research Triangle area. Her conclusion was that the dogs, although normally friendly house pets, instinctually pursued the jogger, who unfortunately was wearing headphones and never heard them coming. Had he stopped, turned and spoke sternly to them, they might have licked his hand.

It was the instinctual phe-

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## Burgess O.K. After Being Pinned Under **Tractor Two Hours**

John Burgess' arm had been deprived of blood for about two hours when his farm manager Todd Goodwin found him pinned underneath a tractor last Thursday in a Green Creek horse pasture.

When he was finally freed, Burgess' right arm hung limp, like spaghetti. One finger was nearly torn from the hand.

He was worried he would lose the use of his hand forever.

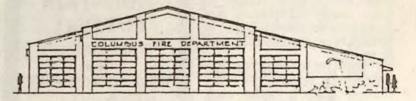
But Friday morning, speaking from his room at St. Luke's Hospital, Burgess said he was alright. Dr. John Davis had successfully sewn the torn finger, and although he still could not move his other fingers, they were warm again. His wrist was broken. He had just started some therapy sessions.

"I feel much better," he said. "I feel very fortunate to be here talking to you."

Burgess, who says he is "as old as Jack Benny", was driving his tractor trying to move a large, round bale of hay Thursday morning in a pasture below the barn at his 75-acre Fox Chase Farm in Green Creek.

When he drove forward to push the forks into the bale, he said his foot slipped off the clutch and the tractor lurched forward onto the hay. The tractor overturned, its steering wheel pinning Burgess' shoulder and arm underneath the full

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## Communication: On A Breezy Firehouse

Concrete blocks, steel beams, and hard work are coming together in Columbus for the new fire station.

The 6,875 sq. ft. building is being constructed by the T.P. Smith Construction Co. for the recently restructured Town Of Columbus Fire Department Inc. It will allow the housing of all of the department's current equipment plus the projected needs for quite a few years to

Some people in the community have questioned the need for the construction. Well, if people weren't concerned enough to question expenditures then we would all be in trouble.

The truth is that continued growth in our area, coupled with ever tighter State and Federal regulations, is forcing not just the Fire Departments, but all Emergency Services to become more aggressive in their plans. In our case it was a physical impossibility to remodel the old building to accommodate the new equipment needed to keep up.

Upon completion, the building will consist of five bays, each of which will hold two trucks. Also included will be a meeting room with kitchen, and

restrooms with showers.

As the building goes up some might say that the contractors have forgotten a couple of roll up doors. Well, rest assured that they haven't. The middle two bays will be "drive through". This allows the most frequently used equipment to be driven into the station from the rear. This system is much safer, considering that the highway will not be blocked by backing equipment. This also means that there will be no need to have someone directing the driver from behind while backing in the bay.

Construction of the building has been slowed some due to the weather and a few scheduling conflicts with subcontractors, but it appears that the completion will be within the promised time frame. The contractors have stated that the building should be completed by the last week in August.

After the completion and the department gets moved in and settled there will be an open house scheduled for the community to come and "check us

We as a Department would like to thank each person who (Continued On Back Page)