



7th grade cheerleaders

Members of the seventh grade cheerleading squad at Nicholas County Elementary School, standing, from left, Pam Sparks, Gayla Kelly and

Tracy Wootley. On the floor are, from left, Stephanie Ockerman, Lisa Shaw and Gay Ritchie. — Mercury photo.

## PVA asks council for building permits

Continued from page 1

killing system.

County tax bills are prepared by computer in London-Leary said the calculations involved in determining a partial payment would be so complex he wouldn't blame any Kentucky sheriff from refusing to accept them although he believes Kentucky statutes say this can be done.

The city has only one tax rate (for 1978 it is 1.25 per \$100 valuation) — as compared to the several used by the county in allocating tax funds to the library district, the health district and others. This combination of tax rates is what would make a partial payment so complex for the county officers to determine.

Some taxpayers are making partial payments of county taxes — but it is on 1978 taxes.

Those people who have appealed their 1978 assessments to the Kentucky Board of Tax Appeals may pay their tax on what they believe their assessments. Then, following the completion of their appeal and the decision by the state board, they will be billed for the remainder if there is any — plus six per cent interest.

This is where the city payments differ. If there is any difference in the city tax bills for 1977 for those people who have already paid their taxes

based on the 1976 assessments it will be billed without interest.

Nicholas County Property Valuation Administrator Rose Brady said in an earlier interview this week that some county taxpayers who have appeals pending before the state board are making the partial payments.

During that interview Mrs. Brady commented that she had heard the city was collecting 1977 taxes but said she couldn't see how this was done since the city uses her assessments in figuring their bills and those assessments, due to the lawsuit, have not been certified yet.

"Some people had the money and wanted to get (the taxes) out of their system," Power said Monday. "We've collected quite a few this way."

"The sooner this thing gets settled the better off everybody is going to be," the mayor continued. "We hear the special session might do something about taxes but no one knows what it will be. Meanwhile the city council, at Monday's meeting, received a request from Mrs. Brady that they supply her with a list of all city building permits from Jan. 1, 1978 to Jan. 1, 1979.

That request brought several comments from the mayor and council. The mayor asked if the city would bill Mrs. Brady for this service since her office bills the city for their use of her

assessments.

"It sounds like she wants us to do her job for her," one council member remarked.

(The Property Valuation Administrator's office bills the city for the use of city assessments at the rate of one-half of one cent for each \$100 in valuation, for a fee of not less than \$50 as prescribed by Kentucky statute.)

Mayor Leary finally said that the building permits were a matter of public record and that Mrs. Brady was welcome to come to the city office and review them if she wished. He then dictated a letter to that effect.

The building permits would be reviewed, to raise assessments on those property owners who have improved their holdings during the past year on to initiate assessments on newly-constructed buildings.

The PVA's office will begin in January to prepare the county assessments for 1979. The tax books open Jan. 1 and will remain open until March 1.

## scs news

by Wilmer Hancock, S.C.S.

Winter pasture and hayfields are being used to a good advantage at this time of the year. Some farmers will be able to graze their pastures until the first of the year. Other pasture fields are just about gone and feed will be needed to supplement the pasture that is left. The forage that is on the fields should be utilized but don't graze too short.

If pasture or hayland plants are grazed too short there is a good possibility of killing the plant. If the plant is not killed it will be weakened until it will be very slow to recover in the spring. There is a direct relationship between the top growth of a plant and the live root system of the plant. If too much of the top is removed by grazing, the root system will have a weakened condition and early spring grazing will be delayed. If too much top growth is removed from pastures this winter the ground is left open for freezing and spewing and is ready for washing and eroding when the rains come.

The top soil is the important part of our pasture fields. The top soil contains the organic matter, lime, fertilizer, and other valuables of our soil. So utilize the forage on your pasture and hayfields but don't overdo it. If the fields are overgrazed now pasture will be late in the spring and the top soil and elements will be gone. The Soil Conservation Service recommends a 6 to 8 three inches of growth. For better pastures and hayfields see The Soil Conservation Service.

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## Food stamp policy to change

Effective Jan. 1, Kentuckians using food stamps no longer will be required to buy the coupons each month. Peter Conn, secretary of the Department for Human Resources which administers the Food Stamp program, says a 1977 federal law will make food stamps free to low-income families who qualify.

Up to now, food stamp recipients were required to buy a certain amount of food stamps to qualify for "bonus" stamps at no cost. It is the "bonus" stamps that provide extra purchasing power for those on food stamps, Conn explains.

As of Jan. 1, food stamp recipients will be issued only bonus stamps each month, without charge.

"The impact of this change of food stamp recipients will vary according to the family situation," Conn said.

"Eliminating the purchase require-

ment will mean that more people with very low incomes may apply for food stamp coupons. But the stricter income limit may reduce benefits for some recipients with higher incomes, and disqualify other higher income families from receiving food stamps at all."

The new method is one of several significant revisions in the federal food stamp program resulting from the Food Stamp Act of 1977. Other changes will go into effect early next year, Conn said.

"Elimination of the purchase requirement should make food stamps more readily available to Kentuckians on fixed incomes, such as elderly and

disabled citizens," said Gail Huebner, commissioner of the state department's Bureau of Social Insurance.

She added that the revision should help eliminate fraud in the food stamp program, such as illegal resale of coupons.

In changes to be implemented next year, certification of food stamp applicants will be simplified, a lower income limit will be used to determine eligibility, and ceilings on household assets will be increased.

Dolphins sleep with one eye open at all times.

## Deaths

**LEONARD F. MORRIS**  
Leonard Franklin Morris, 44, died Monday, Dec. 11, 1978, at the Nicholas County Hospital.

He was a native of Nicholas County. Survived by his wife, Almeda Watkins Morris; his mother, Mrs. Mabel Morris; six sons, James, Leonard, Jr., Stanley, John, Ricky and Wendell Morris; two daughters, Lisa and Carolyn Morris; two brothers, Bob Morris, Paris; Nancy Morris, Mayaville; two sisters, Mrs. Lena Setton, Millersburg; Mrs. Effie Watkins, Carlisle; three grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted 2 p.m. Wednesday from Mathers-Shearer Chapel, by Rev. Vance with burial in the Carlisle Cemetery.

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## Your Opinion Counts

Legislation to be considered by the special session of the 1978 General Assembly.

1. Do you favor legislation removing the Kentucky Sales Tax from residential utilities especially on electricity and home heating fuels?
  - yes
  - no
2. Do you favor legislation placing a limit on increases in property taxes?
  - state level
  - local level
  - no
3. Do you favor legislation reducing or eliminating the \$15 minimum fine for traffic violations?
  - yes
  - no
4. Do you favor legislation for the purpose of making the income tax benefits for persons 65 or older available to persons 62 or older?
  - yes
  - no
5. Do you favor legislation changing welfare fraud from a misdemeanor to a felony?
  - yes
  - no
6. If a tax reduction is passed it will be necessary to reduce government services. What services and programs do you think should be cut?
  - yes
  - no

Clip and send to Representative Adrian Arnold, House of Representatives, Frankfort, KY 40601.