

The Carlisle Mercury

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Mr. Bobby Curtatger (left) Nicholas County 4-H Council President, was recently awarded the L. P. Gas Award naming him the Outstanding Male 4-H Leader in the state at the state leaders council meeting in Durson Springs. Mrs. Ernie Kelsey (right) of the Wilderness Trail area was named the outstanding female leader. — Photo submitted

Outstanding
leaders

Angry group

A group of nearly 100 angry Nicholas County taxpayers met Friday night, July 14, at the courthouse to protest the recent rise in property valuations by the local PVA's office. The group called for repeal of what they termed an "unfair and discriminatory" 1978 assessment.

The meeting was a result of public disapproval with the recent 1978 hike in

Taxpayer recourse, see page two

property valuations for tax assessment purposes. The group seemed not so much concerned with the 23.76 per cent raise to the county's total assessment over the last three years as they were with the fact that the raises had not been administered uniformly. In the last two years, Nicholas County's residential property has been increased by 55%. Commercial property has

climbed nearly 77%, while farm property has raised only 54%.

The group, following the suggestion of representatives of The Fair Tax Committee of Nicholas County, decided to form a committee including local City and County officials and go to Frankfort to register their complaints with the State Department of Revenue. Jim Calhoun, Assistant Director of

the General Property Tax Division of the Department of Revenue said Monday that he feels that the recent raises are fair. He stated that the raises in 1977 and 1978 were needed because the residential property has been grossly under-assessed in the past. Mr. Calhoun feels that recent property sales in Nicholas County support his stand. "I really think that people should get out and see what some of the property is going for," Mr. Calhoun stated.

When asked if he felt that conditions were so bad in Nicholas County as to call for a 50% hike in the residential assessment, Mr. Calhoun replied that "all of our figures indicate that things were really that out of balance."

With Friday, July 14, the last day for filing appeals, 128 persons had registered with the County Clerk to appear before the Board of Equalization during the next two weeks.

With the fate of the 1977 assessment still hanging in the judicial balance it appears as if it could be joined by the 1978 assessment if local taxpayers don't receive satisfaction from the Board of Equalization. As Roger Womack of the Fair Tax Committee put it, "California, Here We Come!"

PROPOSITION 13?

The survey that was taken by the Fair Tax Committee of Nicholas County via the CARLISLE MERCURY handed a unanimous decision to a state law that would limit taxing units of the state to an amount or percentage that homes and other real estate could be assessed, as was done with Proposition 13 in California. The pseudo-proposition carried 124-4.

We realize that this type of quantitative survey is not the best representation of public opinion, but it certainly shows that those people who took the time and energy to respond to the straw vote, (the same people who take the time and energy to get out to the polls and vote), overwhelmingly feel that something must be done about the local tax situation.

Bus driver's seminar here

Several schools will be sending bus drivers to the Nicholas County Elementary School this week where a seminar sponsored by the Department of Education will be giving instructions on the social and mechanical skills of driving. The program will be given at 24 locations in Kentucky. Those attending in this area will be Harrison County, Mayville Independent, Augusta Independent, Robertson County, Bracken County and Mason County.

STORY BOOK HOUR TO BE HELD

There will be a Story Book Hour at the Nicholas County Public Library August 5 through 26, from 10 a.m. till 11 a.m.

The program is for preschoolers, ages four and five. To register, call 288-7425 or go to the Library.

Paralegal teacher

United States District Judge Eugene Siler Jr., has been serving as a member of the faculty at the second annual Institute for Paralegals at Midway College, Midway. Judge Siler has been teaching the lawyer assistants the operations of federal courts as compared to state courts. Midway College, in addition to summer institutes, also offers a two-year course leading to the Associate of Arts Degree in Legal Assistance to those desiring to become paralegals.

California here we come?



Capt. Hardin

Tank trainer

Captain Paul A. Hardin of 114 Mockingbird Lane, Carlisle, recently attended two weeks annual training at Ft. Knox. During this period, CPT. Hardin commanded B Troop, 2nd SFG(A), 2nd Cav. Para.

He was responsible for the teaching of basic tank driving skills, care and maintenance of equipment, and tactical problems.

"One of our situations involved a reconnaissance exercise," Hardin stated.

"We trained the tankers in the classroom then put their knowledge to

the test in the field." "They performed very well under difficult conditions," Hardin concluded.

Hardin, a lifelong resident of Carlisle, is manager of the paint store for Friley's Auto Parts in Lexington. He's a U.S. graduate and participated in the R.O.T.C. course while a student. He's a Deacon in the Carlisle Christian Church and he and his wife Charlotte have two children, Alan age 9 and Jennifer age 5.

Captain Hardin was promoted to his present rank in May of this year.

School Board meets, hires two new teachers

The Nicholas County School Board voted to employ two new teachers during their last regular session.

Robbie Barr will be the junior high assistant track and football coach as well as teach a junior high class during the next school year and Mrs. Pat Hamm will serve as the migrant program aide. The Board also accepted the resignations of Virginia Cleaver, EMH teacher; Brenda Wheeler, librarian; and Susan Dotson, biology teacher.

The Board has approved a 1978-79 vocal music budget for the county schools. Funds amounting to \$500 will be allotted for the program.

In other activities the Board:

- agreed to have Scholastic Insurers provide insurances for the school day plan and for support participants;
- advertised for bids for products used by the schools including gas, milk, tires, bakery goods, and bus insurance;
- revised board policies, regulations, and documents to substitute the term

Do you know these people?

The following people successfully completed July 15-16 the performance examinations in accordance with the standards of the American Heart Association for Basic Rescuer: Mrs. Dorothy Wootley, Miss May Ann Harpoff, Mrs. Carolyn Prevost, Rev. Mark Prevost, Tony Leadenberg, Mrs. Ann G. "Please turn to page 10"

SMART RESIGNS
Joe Smart, the Nicholas County Road Supervisor, has submitted his resignation to the Nicholas County fiscal court. The resignation was effective July 14.

Council, County sign pact on water lines

The Carlisle City Council has drawn up a contract which has been signed by Nicholas County Judge/Executive Reese Street stating that they will donate \$10,000 to the Henryville development project allowing new water lines to be constructed in Henryville.

The decision to give the \$10,000 came after a lengthy discussion with 25-30

Henryville area residents in a called city council meeting Thursday, July 13. After being unable to reach an agreement on the deletion of the sidewalks or the water lines, Steve Burns who is in charge of the project offered one other alternative that in cost would equal the \$5,000 that the city was asked to give.

Under the new plans which will include both new water lines and

sidewalks the city has taken responsibility for the demolition of the deteriorated Lodge hall plus \$10,000. The contract also states that the city will have no further obligation for funding of the project with the exception of the construction of light poles at a future date.

As a result of the decision made by the Council engineers are expected to begin working immediately.

Beetle watchers

County monitors spraying program

Once again Japanese beetles are becoming a problem in several north central Kentucky counties. Mike Phillips, the Nicholas County Farm Extension Agent, reports that Nicholas County is being used as the monitor county for calculating the direction in which the bugs are spreading. The dark green, hard-shelled insects are doing their worst damage in Madison County but they have been reported in Nicho-

las, Harrison, and Bourbon Counties. Spraying began July 11 in Madison County where the beetles have been spotted in several hundred acres there and in the surrounding counties. Sixteen hundred pounds of the chemical sevin is being used for controlling the pests in the Madison County area and all planes leaving the Greater Cincinnati Airport, where conditions are termed hazardous due to the infestation

of the beetles, are being sprayed to halt spreading.

The beetles reportedly do the worst damage to corn which is stripped of silk during an important stage of growth. Last year 1,500 acres of corn in Eastern Kentucky was damaged by the beetles and losses up to 80 per cent were reported in some areas.



Paralegal student

Mrs. Joan Conley is shown attending class at the Midway College Institute for Legal Assistants. The two-week institute was designed to provide information on many areas of the law to persons interested in working in a law-related career. Midway also offers a two-year degree program. — Photo submitted