

The Carlisle Mercury

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IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

'Wagon ladies' make like bees



Moving on up

Grant Mathes mows the wheel of this tractor as he moves these pollinators on up a row of tobacco. Those pictured

The "wagon ladies" were at it again last week; although some have been doing the work for a long time. Mrs. Mamie Brunner, Route 4, Cynthiana, for example, has been doing it for 31 years. Mrs. Nellie Smith, also of Route 4, has devoted her time to it for nine years.

Assuming the role of bees, the ladies, employed by Clay's Seed Co. of Carlisle, each year hand pollinate female tobacco plants on a Clay's Seed farm on the Walnut Grove Road. A cross-breeding operation that produces one of the most disease-resistant and sturdiest types of hybrid tobacco seed available — Ky. 721.

Seeing the process at work is reminding of the conception of a child. The work is slow and tedious and is one which demands extreme care and quite a few precautions.

Pollen, gathered days before from the anthers of blooming male tobacco plants, is stored on the wagon from which the ladies work in a cool, wooden cabinet. The "wagon ladies" (foremen) mentioned above, along with several others from Carlisle, including Louise Cohorn, Grant Mathes, Paula Snapp, Katherine Smith and Payne and Kathy Carstinger, use small cups filled with pollen which are tied around their necks. They dip wooden, felt-tipped sticks to transfer the pollen from the cups to the stigmas of the female plants. A young seedling is thusly conceived.

In several days the pollen will travel down the pistil of the female plant to unite with the female's reproductive equipment and, a short time later pods containing hybrid tobacco seeds will be visible just under the bloom of the female plant.

Other Clay's Seed employees will harvest the seeds of this year's crop; and next year farmers who wish to use Ky. 721 hybrid will find it readily available. Ky. 721 is desirable because of strong, healthy male plants that have good hereditary traits being crossed with female plants said to have the best root systems of any burley strain.

The "wagon ladies" and their crew, who have made the birth of thousands of little seeds possible again this year will not doubt be as anxious to continue their scientific experiments when the time rolls around next year. But then, again, as Mrs. Brunner says, "After a while you get used to it."



Busy as a bee

Grant Mathes, a student at Nicholas County High School stayed, as his job required, as busy as a bee Saturday cross-pollinating tobacco for the Clay Seed Company of Carlisle. (Kerr photo)

Economic emergency farm loans available thru FmHA

Cadet Booth enters USAFA freshman year

U. S. Air Force Academy, Colo. — Damon K. Booth, son of Mr. and Mrs. David K. Booth of 211 Chestnut St., Carlisle, has entered his freshman year at the U. S. Air Force Academy.

Cadet Booth is one of more than 1,000 freshmen who were officially accepted into the cadet wing after completing six weeks of intensive field training, physical conditioning and survival instruction.

Located eight miles north of Colorado Springs, Colo., and occupying 18,000 acres of mesa and valleys at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, the academy specializes in both military affairs and scientific technology.

The cadet begins four years of academic study and military training that will lead to a B. S. degree and a commission as a second lieutenant.

Cadet Booth is a 1977 graduate of Nicholas County High School.

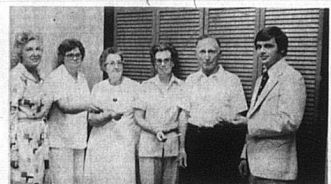


Damon K. Booth

Adult education

Interested in receiving your high school diploma? If so, come and register for Adult Basic Education on Sept. 18, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Nicholas County High School. Classes will begin on Wednesday,

Sept. 20, and will be held each Monday and Wednesday, from 6 to 9 p.m. Adult Education offers classes in mathematics, English, science and social studies.



Chapel donation made

At the Carlisle plant on Wednesday, Aug. 30, past presidents of the Blue Grass Industries Thorobred Club are shown presenting their contributions for the Nicholas County Hospital Chapel Fund to Rev. Mark Prevo representing the Nicholas County Ministerial Association. Looking on are these dona-

A new Economic Emergency loan service for farmers who have financial problems caused by credit shortage or cost-price squeeze is now in effect through the U. S. Farmers Home Administration (FmHA).

Mr. James A. Leitcher, the agency's county supervisor for Harrison and Nicholas counties, reports that FmHA is prepared to take applications at its county offices throughout the state and at the Harrison County office in the Elks Building, Cynthiana and at the Courthouse in Carlisle each Tuesday for applicants living in Nicholas County.

Economic Emergency loans are authorized under the Agricultural Credit Act of 1973 signed by President Carter Aug. 4. They offer special help to farmers who are hard-pressed by recent shortage of credit from their regular lenders, or by debts accumulated during the recent period of low farm prices.

Mr. Leitcher said the Economic Emergency loan program was enacted by Congress, with Administration support, in recognition of the fact that "economic conditions, as well as a weather, are often beyond farmers' control." FmHA emergency credit has previously been confined to loans for recovery from natural disaster, or the guarantee of private lenders' loans to livestock producers affected by economic conditions.

Duncan, KU head retires

William A. Duncan retired Sept. 1 as chairman of the Board and chief executive officer of Kentucky Utilities Company and its subsidiary, Old Dominion Power Company, but will continue as a member of the Board of Directors. He will be succeeded as chief executive officer by William B. Buchanan, who will also continue as president, a position he has held since April, 1978.

Mr. Buchanan joined KU's engineering department in 1949. The Hodgenville native served as vice president from 1971 until he was named president and was responsible for engineering, planning, and construction. He received his electrical engineering degree from the University of Kentucky.

OPTIMIST TO MEET

The Carlisle Optimist Club will hold its regular meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 13, at 6 p.m. at the Library. Following the regular meeting a Carolinapian Reassociation (CPA) course will be given for those club members who are interested.

Kidney patients need local help

Mrs. Martha Taylor has been selected chairman of the annual Kidney Foundation candy campaign in Nicholas County. Mrs. Taylor says local FmHA members will be selling 770 banks of lovable roll midgees for \$1 each. The reusable banks will clearly identify the Kidney Foundation and the six warning signs of kidney disease.

The sale will begin Sept. 8 and will support the Foundation's efforts to help dialysis and transplant patients, promote organ donor education and re-

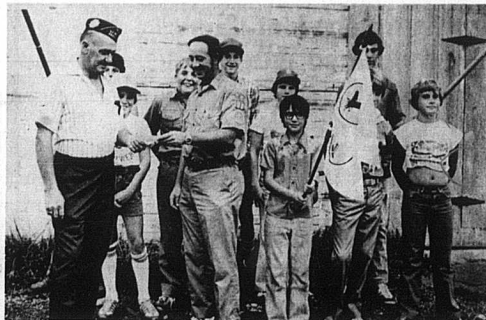
search. The top priority this year is to set up a drug bank for kidney patients. The local Kidney Foundation is an affiliate of the National Kidney Foundation. Their major goals are to improve the care and treatment of those afflicted with kidney disease through advances in research, prevention, detection and treatment.

Mrs. Taylor requests that people interested in assisting, contact Julie McDonald, or Vickie Bussell at phone 282-7111 or 282-2627.



3-Day Event—

TAD COFFIN, one of the participants in the 1978 World Three-Day Event, takes his horse cross-country in this photo from the 1978 Olympics. KEPT is signing a short course on evening Thursday, Sept. 14 at 8 p.m. [ET], 7 p.m. [CT], during "Kentucky Now" to acquaint viewers with the sport. The Three-Day Event is being held at the Kentucky Horse Park, Sept. 16-17. Wendell Berry and Earl Butts debate the merits of small farm vs. agribusiness in an Appalshop film on "Kentucky Now". The program can also be seen Sunday, Sept. 17 at 1:30 p.m. [ET], 11:30 p.m. [CT].



Scout donation

Bobby Roberts and his Boy Scout Troop No. 24 cheerfully accepted a \$50 donation from the VFW Post No. 886, presented by Post Commander, Leo

Gerry Jr. The money will go towards new equipment for the Scouts. (Photo by Jean Ann Kerr)