

# The Carlisle Mercury

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Walk the plank

Burl R. Hunt would have to make his mark to get from his Main Street home to the sidewalk but Clay Myers, right, and Wilbert Winkle thoughtfully provided him with a plank to walk. Myers and Winkle, along with Allen Wikstrom, were busy repairing the sidewalk in front of Hopkins Drugs this week. —Photo by Jeff Kerr.

## Kentucky tax revenues exceed first estimates

Inflation and full employment have caused state government revenues to slightly exceed estimates for the 1978-79 fiscal year, according to Maurice Carpenter, commissioner of revenue.

General fund receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30 were \$1,698,527,230. The receipt figure is \$6 million over the revised January estimate.

Contributing to revenue excess was the individual income taxes collection totaling \$456.2 million, which was 1.4 percent over projections. Carpenter said he expects the income tax receipts to continue growing as a result of inflation.

Carpenter said the revenue receipts indicate Kentucky still has a healthy economy, although recent trends in the sales and motor fuel taxes could cause problems.

The sales tax and the motor fuel taxes have suffered from a slower growth rate than expected during the last two months, Carpenter said.

Carpenter blamed the decrease in fuel tax collections on gas allocation policies.

High gasoline prices have also hurt the sales tax, which was \$299.2 million — 1.8 percent below the \$303 million estimate.

"When people don't drive, they don't shop and spend money," according to Carpenter. More of the family budget is spent on gasoline, so fewer purchases of other products lessens sales tax collection, he said.

Corporation income tax receipts of \$163.3 million indicate a strong showing but corporation taxes are difficult to predict accurately, Carpenter said.

The brightest spot in the Kentucky

economy is the increased revenue from the coal severance tax, according to Carpenter. Coal taxes of \$129 million were 4.6 percent above projections.

National economic and energy policies are very important to tax revenues, Carpenter said. "A federal policy encouraging more coal production would be a shot in the arm to Kentucky," he emphasized.

Recent trends in sales and fuel taxes will be considered in the revised estimate for the 1979-80 fiscal year. Carpenter said the projections will be ready for the legislature and the governor within the next month.

## Mathers fund requests due

Mrs. Lowell Hollar will be in the Courthouse on the following dates to receive Mathers Educational Fund applications.

The dates are: July 24, 28, 31, August 4, 7, 11 from 9 to 4:30 p.m. All sources of income must be shown.

## Skylab misses Nicholas County

But Hurricane Bob made his historic presence known

Skylab missed Nicholas County when it crashed through space to the earth last Thursday — but not by much.

Fragments of the space craft were "found" in Kentucky in several locations after the main portion of the station fell into the Australian desert.

Several "fragments" were found in McCreary County, on the Kentucky-Tennessee border, including one panel that fell conveniently into the county judge-executive's front yard.

NASA had denied the possibility of any of the supposed fragments found in Kentucky being the real thing. They

were reported in Bell County also. In the weeks before it fell, Skylab became an object of international attention by people who wondered if the United States's orbiting space station would fall on them.

Skylab helmets, insurance policies and songs became a part of the American folklore and one enterprising group put a target on their Seattle building, declaring that if the government aimed for it, behind the target was the best place to be.

A Congressman's brother got into the act, offering a large sum of money for

the land where Skylab fell, providing it was suitable for an amusement park. A San Francisco newspaper offered \$10,000 to the first person who could bring it a piece of the space station.

When it fell, many Australians were upset at the knowledge that the NASA engineers had caused the craft to tumble, thereby hastening its descent, which was then thought to put it somewhere in America. Instead it fell in the Australian desert and prompted a mad race to the scene by onlookers and entrepreneurs.

## Low re-elected co-op director

James C. Lowe was re-elected a director of the Harrison RECC at the co-op's annual meeting Monday night.

Lowe, of Carlisle, will serve a three year term. Also elected to the co-op board were Wallace Wright of Millersburg and Kirtley McDaniel of Harrison County.

The meeting attracted a large crowd at the co-op's farm near Cynthiana. Entertainment included Mizz and her dog, the McLean Family Band bluegrass band from Berro and the annual beauty pageant, won this year by Julie Ann Martin of Cynthiana. She was crowned by last year's queen, Ronda Goodson of Carlisle.

Speaking to the crowd were Ronald

Hainson, manager of East Kentucky Power, the co-op owned electric company in Winchester that supplies the Harrison RECC and several other electric co-ops and Louis Strong, president of the Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives (KAECC).

The speakers told the members of the co-op that their directors and officers had been aware of the rising cost of energy for at least six years and had tried to take steps to combat it.

(East Kentucky Power is planning to build a new power plant in either Clark or Estill County.)

The crowd was also told that energy costs would be taking more and more of their income in the years to come.

The co-op serves about 900 members in Nicholas County out of the 7,000 total customers it has. About the same number are members of the Fleming-Mason RECC, which held its annual meeting Wednesday.

Others from Carlisle participating in the event were Bessie Dampier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Dampier, who was a contestant in the beauty pageant and Paul Sopp of Carlisle, who won one of the deer prizes given away.

In addition, each member registering was given a booklet of light bulbs.

The Harrison RECC serves the area south of the Kentucky Utilities line that serves Carlisle and Morefield. The Fleming-Mason RECC serves customers north of that line.



Re-elected

James C. Lowe, left, shown here with Harrison RECC manager Ernest Skinner, was re-elected a director of the co-op at Monday's annual meeting. Lowe will serve a three-year term. Other directors named were Walton Wright of Millersburg and Kirtley McDaniel of Harrison County. —Mercury photo.

## Baled burley program renewed

Acting Secretary of Agriculture Jim Williams today proposed to continue the untied, baled burley tobacco marketing experiment another year by extending price support and official grading for limited quantities of the tobacco through the 1979-80 season. The experiment, including the support prices and grades, was originally slated to be in effect only through last year's season.

Under the proposed extension, any producer interested in marketing baled 1979 crop burley tobacco would apply this September at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's local county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) office.

In the signing and marketing process, there are only three proposed changes from last year.

Each producer would be guaranteed price support on the larger of 1,500 pounds or 25 percent of the farm marketing quota (instead of 5 percent last year.)

Any unwanted quota would be apportioned to producers desiring to sell more than 25 percent of the farm marketing quota from a state pool instead of a county pool.

Sales opportunity would be available on each sales day instead of on only five specified days.

As part of today's proposal, tobacco graders with the Department's Agricultural Marketing Service would continue to apply official grades to the limited quantities of

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Bob vista

If Skylab did miss Nicholas County, and there have been no reports to the contrary, Hurricane Bob, the first tropical storm named for a man, didn't

break by Bob drenched Nicholas County on Friday the 19th a storm system with cold, rainy weather that was a radical departure from the normal mid-July climate. The system hung around the better part of the week before departing over the weekend, leaving Monday to dawn bright and clear after the skies spent Sunday clearing.

If all that excitement wasn't enough, Bastille Day slipped before anyone noticed.

July 14 marks the anniversary of the day the French Revolution began with a stormy assault on the prison called the Bastille. The French celebrate it in

much the same manner as the Americans on Fourth of July, even to the extent of sending each other Bastille Day cards.

The French whose revolution began in 1789, six years after ours ended, supposedly patterned their uprising and were inspired by the American Revolution, which attracted many

French officers, part of the ruling class that was swept away in the revolution.

Other notable events this week include the 100th anniversary Friday, July 26, of the day man landed on the moon.

Incidentally, the first man on the moon now lives a little more than an hour from Nicholas County. Neil Armstrong returned to his home state of Ohio after walking on the moon and became a professor at the University of Cincinnati.

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