

What kind of car?

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imprisoned their own criminal intelligence by openly discussing the extent to which organized crime may be linked to auto theft and the stolen parts business in Kentucky. They do indicate that the problem is of serious and growing concern.

During the past four to five months alone, at least five chop shop operations have been broken up by state police in Kentucky.

One operator, arrested for the third time — "and he's back out on bail, doing it again," McQueen said — admitted having chopped up and parted out some 3,000 vehicles in his own basement at a profit of several thousand dollars each.

State Police also are uncovering evidence to indicate that some Kentucky-based salvage yard dealers, finding it increasingly hard to compete with the chop shops which market parts at bargain prices, have begun trading in stolen parts themselves.

They just don't ask where the parts are coming from, said McQueen who quoted one of the larger dealers as telling him: "If you are going to live in this business, you can't afford to be litigious."

Although McQueen is clearly concerned about the amount of professional car theft he sees in Kentucky, state police arrest and vehicle recoveries are increasing.

"Screaming Eagle" helps And those losses, he says, are largely the result of a highly successful effort, called the "Screaming Eagle" program, begun in 1976 with the support of the Independent Insurance Agents of Kentucky to recognize those state police officers reporting the highest number of arrests and recoveries annually.

Each year, the top three officers recognized under that program receive expense-paid vacations from the insurance agents.

Since 1974, the last full year before the "Screaming Eagle" Program was adopted, state police arrests and vehicle recoveries have increased by 100 per cent and 111 per cent, respectively.

During 1977, the latest year for which statewide uniform crime statistical comparisons are available, 79.5 per cent of all arrests reported by all law enforcement agencies in Kentucky were attributed to the state police.

McQueen said that what is needed most now to turn the auto theft problem around is enactment of an auto title law for Kentucky (the only state still without one) and adoption of federal legislation requiring that all auto parts be marked by the manufacturer with a traceable number.

Stiffer federal penalties also are needed, he said: "There's a \$5,000 fine just for turning your odometer back, (but) they don't give you that much for stealing the whole car."

More than 24 young Kentuckians interested in earning money while conserving the natural resources and improving the environment of their state will have that opportunity this summer.

Applications are being taken through March 15 from young people, 15 through 18 years old who want a summer job in the Youth Conservation Corps, a federally supported work-study program.

YCC is funded through the state, the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Interior, and through project sponsors — city or county governments or other organizations. The YCC program is administered through the Department for Human Resources Bureau for Manpower Services.

The 24-plus jobs will be divided among 23 city/county projects across the state. This will be Kentucky's sixth year of participation in the YCC. The grant applications this year come from 11 different Area Development Districts.

Applicants for YCC jobs must be in good health and have a work permit and Social Security number. Because of the nature of the work and the fact that some positions will be in a residential camp, applicants must have their parents' permission in order to be eligible for the jobs. The selection of jobs will be made on a random basis from eligible applicants.

YCC workers receive federal minimum wages for their work activities. Six hours daily are spent in "orientation or conservation work," and two hours a day are devoted to conservation education.

Youth, both female and male, 15 years of age and not 19, interested in applying for jobs in the YCC program, should contact the Bureau for Manpower Services office in the county where they live or see the principal of the school they attend before March 15.

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Auction funds

Andy Dudley, president of the Carlisle-Nicholas County Optimist Club, presents a check for \$625 to Nancy Pyles, recreation director, for use at the Carlisle-Nicholas County Recreation Center held at the old Armory. The check represents the proceeds of the Optimist Club Charity Auction held at the center recently. —Photo by Janie Duncan.

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These cattle found a corner away from the wind and lazied around savoring Sunday's sun, which pushed area temperatures near the 70's. They were spied on the Headquarters Road. —Photo by Jean Ann Kerr.

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Bloodmobile here March 12

The Central Kentucky Blood Center has launched its blood program goals for 1979. "We have re-evaluated our goal establishment procedure and have found that, in some instances, we do not have to increase the donation goals. This is true for the Nicholas County blood program," stated Ms. Carolyn Felish, Central Kentucky Blood Center representative for Nicholas County. The goal for 1978, 364 pints, will remain the same for 1979.

"It's not that we're using less blood. As a matter of fact, we anticipate another increase in transfusions this year. However, we have taken into account past blood usage in terms of the total population which Central Kentucky Blood Center supplies blood," Ms. Felish stated. Nicholas County's population represents approximately one per cent of that total, and the new goal reflects that percentage. "With these figures, we were able to distribute the responsibility for blood availability more evenly. We wanted each area to give its 'fair share,'" she said. The total amount must come as close to 42,000 pints as possible. This is the amount of blood CRBC expects to be transfused during 1979.

"Our capacity to maintain an adequate supply of blood will be directly related to how closely these new goals are met. Therefore, we must urge for continued donations," she stressed. The next blood drive will be held on Monday, March 12, at the First United Methodist Church from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. inclusive. Anyone wishing to make an appointment or needing further information may contact Rev. Herman Kammage at 289-8002 or a Methodist Association member.

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