

# The Carlisle Mercury

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## Opposition to annexation causes water, sewer project abandonment

The plan to extend sewer service to the east end of Carlisle has run into a snag, apparently because the area in question would have to be annexed into the Carlisle city limits.

City, county and Blue Grass Area Development District officials decided to let the March 30 deadline for filing for grants for the project pass without any action due to the public response at a meeting last Thursday.

Less than 20 per cent of the affected residents were present at Thursday's meeting and several of them voiced opposition to any annexation.

The project would have included about 80 homes in the Arnold Heights-East Union Road area of Carlisle, which is presently outside the city limits.

The area is now served by a four-inch water line owned by the county, which was installed at the time the old Nicholas County Hospital was built on the Moorefield Road.

However, there is no sewer service in the affected area, which presently disposes of waste through septic tank systems.

BGADD officials have been meeting with the city council, fiscal court and citizens from that area for the past few weeks. The meetings were to iron out the details and get opinions from the residents in the area.

Clear up Brassy Fork  
One of the advantages of the proposed project would have been a reduction of discharge into Brassy Fork Creek, which BGADD officials have said is reaching levels where pollution of the stream is considered a problem.

The project would have made possible the installation of a sewer system in

the area as well as doubling the capacity of the existing four-inch water line. The line would be owned by the city which would assume responsibility for service.

After a series of meetings with both the council and fiscal court, the following three-point agreement was reached and presented to the residents last Thursday.

### What next for east end?

The decision by the city council and fiscal court last week to abandon efforts to obtain financing for a proposed sewer line to the east end of Carlisle was the latest disappointment in a 15-year campaign to bring sewer service and upgraded water service to the area.

For the past month city and county officials have been meeting several times a week to iron out the details regarding the financing, rates and other facets of the project. Although most residents in the area want sewer service and the two boards felt the question of annexation into the city was opposed so strongly they were left with no alternative but to give up the project.

That decision leaves the area in the same shape it is in now. A four-inch water line serves the area and sewage is disposed of through septic tank systems. In many cases, Blue Grass Area Development District officials say, these septic tanks are overloaded and some of the effluent reaches the ground, causing foul odors and unsanitary conditions.

Another problem that is intensifying is the pollution of Brassy Fork Creek by septic tank discharges that eventually reach the stream. The problem is not serious enough to be a health hazard yet but BGADD officials predict it will be in the near future if some steps aren't taken to reduce that discharge.

If Health and Environmental Protection Agency officials get tough enough to force the county to clean up Brassy Fork and install a sewer system it could mean the creation of a sanitary district, reconstruction of the lines (probably through revenue bonds) and some arrangement with the city to hook on to its sewer system, since the construction of a treatment plant for just that area would not be economically feasible.

What does this mean? With all the parties involved it would undoubtedly mean higher water and sewer rates for the people in that area. One of the concessions made during the talks on the project was that the residents in that area would have the same rate schedule as other city customers. In previous talks it was brought out that the rate schedule might have to be higher to justify the project, but a compromise was reached on that issue.

Some of the residents were probably leery of the \$750 hook-on fee they would

1. The city council unanimously agreed to move ahead with project planning, engineering and actual construction of the line, pending the completion of financial arrangements.

2. The water and sewer rates to be charged to the residents in the area would be the same as all city water and sewer service customers currently pay.

Earlier discussions had had the residents paying a higher rate schedule than other city customers.

3. The above two points were conditional on the area being annexed into the city.

\$400,000 cost  
The entire project was budgeted at \$400,000 — \$100,000 for the construction of the sewer line and \$100,000 for the water line expansion and installation of fire hydrants.

Financing was expected to come from several sources: Don Hassall, BGADD civil engineer, broke the financing down as follows:

— Customer assessments, 80 at \$750 each for a total of \$60,000.

— BGADD grant, \$50,000.

— Nicholas Fiscal Court, \$15,000.

— Farmers Home Administration loan and/or grant, \$275,000.

The deadline for applying for the BGADD grant was March 30. Meetings have been held for the past few weeks in an effort to get the project approved by the residents before the grant deadline passed. However, due to the public response at Thursday's meeting that deadline passed without the application being made.

Hassall outlined the benefits of the project to the residents present. They included the elimination of what he called "a persistent public health problem of many abjectly malfunctioning septic tank sewage systems."

Other benefits that would accrue from the project were:

— Lowered fire insurance rates.

— Solution to the nuisance problem of the area and the yard due to septic tank overflows.

— An end to the continuing expense of many homeowners who must have their

septic tank discharges that eventually reach the stream. The problem is not serious enough to be a health hazard yet but BGADD officials predict it will be in the near future if some steps aren't taken to reduce that discharge.

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McBrayer visits

Democratic candidate for governor Terry McBrayer (right center) on steps stops to chat with some Nicholas County supporters last week. McBrayer's bus pulled into Carlisle about 4 p.m. Thursday en route to a reception in Paris and some of his supporters canvassed the town in minutes, spreading bumper stickers, buttons and campaign literature in their wake — Mercury photo.

### Comment

## State returns 'borrowed' artifacts

by Jeff Kerr

The link between Blue Licks and Booneborough is one of the oldest in Kentucky. Well before Kentucky became a state the trail between the two areas was well-worn by early settlers and Indians alike making the trek from the Kentucky to the Licking River.

Last week another trip was made from Booneborough to Blue Licks, this time to return about 100 objects described as Indian artifacts that were taken from the Blue Licks museum and transferred to the reconstructed Fort Booneborough to be added to the museum located there.

The transfer was made by the Kentucky Department of Parks sometime during the month of March. Shortly after it was discovered area residents began a vigorous protest, campaign that culminated in the return

of the artifacts last week.

The Mercury learned of the move last week from Mrs. Joan Conley, who is a member of a board studying the park.

The news came too late to include in last week's edition and a check with Blue Licks park manager Gene Hughes this week disclosed that the objects had been returned.

Hughes declined to comment on the incident, other than saying that it was over and that was the end of it but during the time the objects were removed to Booneborough and the date they were returned it is known that several Nicholas Countians and persons interested in the Blue Licks park kept the phone ringing with calls for protest.

Mrs. Conley said last week that many of the persons who had donated the artifacts to Blue Licks did so with the unwritten understanding that they would remain in the park's museum permanently. When they discovered their gifts had been spirited away to Booneborough many of them became upset.

Fort Booneborough State Park has taken on a new look since the fort was reconstructed several years ago. Where previously the park had boasted only a beach, picnic area and bathhouse it now has a multi-million dollar replica of the original fort, peopled each day during the tourist season with a score or more of artists and craftsmen. The fort also has a theater where visitors may

watch a slide presentation on Kentucky's early history and a museum filled with original oil paintings, paintings, maps, scale models of the early fort and several other artifacts.

Blue Licks, on the other hand, has only a swimming pool, picnic area and museum to attract some of the millions of tourists that pass through Kentucky each year. For several years now park supporters have tried to get a lodge built at Blue Licks, citing among other facts that there are no lodging accommodations on U.S. 60 for a 50-mile stretch between Paris and Mayville except for a small motel in Millersburg. So far these entreaties have fallen on deaf

ears.

\*Please turn to page 12

### Honored

Mrs. Nancy Shaw was recognized with a special pin and a standing ovation for donating more than 1,000 volunteer hours to the hospital and nursing home. Presenting the award at the Johnson-Slaters Health Care, Inc. Auxiliary annual dinner last week was Mrs. W. R. Kingsolver, director of volunteer services for the complex. Mrs. Shaw donated 1,116 hours last year. Other award winners are pictured on page 4 of this week's Mercury — Mercury photo.

## Michelle Knapke is state FHA secretary

Future Homemakers of America members from Nicholas County were among the 1,200 junior and senior high home economics students attending their 26th annual state meeting held at the Ramada Inn/Convention Center, Louisville, March 30-31.

Attending from Nicholas County High School were Vicki Buswell, Julie McDonald, Sharon Turpin, Letha Hardin, Michelle Knapke, Donna Gall Hughes, Kay Conley, Dana Howard and Shari Ramsey. Advisers attending were Martha Taylor, Bonnie Metcalfe and Kathy Green.

During the two day meeting, delegates explored career opportunities. Forty adults, representing a variety of careers, served as special consultants and informed delegates of job opportunities and job benefits and job requirements and advancement.

Mrs. Jana Olinstead Head, a former State President and owner of a charm and modeling school, told delegates that "Tomorrow — It's Up to You."

Mrs. Head said values change through

the years and so may a career choice change.

Mrs. Audrey Carr, state director of Home Economics Education, Frankfurt, conducted "Mind-Stretchers," in which members had an opportunity to reflect on their own values, short- and long-range goals.

National president of more than one-half million members of Future Homemakers of America organization, Laura Jo Riggs, addressed the group at the banquet session Friday evening.

Miss Riggs, a senior high school student from Danville, Ind., told the Future Homemakers "your attitude, not your aptitude determines your altitude."

Two adults were recognized for outstanding contributions made to the state organization by receiving honorary membership. Advisers from nine chapters received a Decade of Service Award for serving as local advisers for 10 years.

Twelve scholarships were presented to outstanding members who plan to be home economics in a Kentuck-

by college or university. The scholarship project was begun in 1969 and is supported by fund raising activities of the 262 chapters and 14,210 members in the state.

The State Homemaker Degree was conferred upon Julie McDonald, Sharon Turpin, Vicki Buswell, Letha Hardin, Michelle Knapke, Dana Hughes, Kay Conley and Dana Howard at a special recognition breakfast Saturday morning.

That is the highest honor a member may receive in the organization.

State officers for 1979-80 were elected at the closing session. Elected from this area was Michelle Knapke, State Secretary. Michelle is a junior at Nicholas County High School and has served as Region 11 Secretary and Second Vice President. She has also served as chapter secretary and will serve the local chapter as president during the 1979-80 school year. Michelle is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Knapke of Carlisle.

Michelle Knapke, second from left, was elected Kentucky FHA secretary at the state FHA convention in Louisville recently. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Knapke of Carlisle and a junior at Nicholas County High School. Her advisers in FHA are, from left, Bonnie Metcalfe, Kathy Green and Martha Taylor — Mercury photo.



State officer

Michelle Knapke, second from left, was elected Kentucky FHA secretary at the state FHA convention in Louisville recently. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Knapke of Carlisle and a junior at Nicholas County High School. Her advisers in FHA are, from left, Bonnie Metcalfe, Kathy Green and Martha Taylor — Mercury photo.

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