

Opinion

Blue Licks' future

A meeting Monday night concerning the development of Blue Licks State Park brought a lot of questions, a few answers and an opportunity for Nicholas Constantine to have considerable input into a developmental plan currently proposed for the park.

The Mercury has always stood behind any development at the park because we feel that it has too long been neglected. In our eyes the most pressing need at the park is a lodge, not because we think it would be nice to have it (it would) but because it makes sense, economic sense. As has been said before there is virtually no overnight lodging on U.S. 60 between Mayville and Paris. Area residents told representative of the Department of Commerce that filling a lodge of any size at the park would be no problem. There are other areas where Blue Licks could be developed into a prime tourist attraction. Certainly no area in the state has more history, and history that covers not hundreds of years, but thousands.

For example, U.S. 60, as is widely known in this area, was an important highway for Indiana and settlers in Revolutionary days. It was a highway because it was a buffalo trace and the buffalo has been long regarded as a natural engineer, always seeking the easiest path on his travels. Why not have an exhibition of live buffalo? There certainly has been no animal that contributed more to the settling of Kentucky. It provided food, clothing and transportation. It is also a national breed, and we feel there are a lot of Kentucky visitors who would like to see a real buffalo.

U.S. 60 was also part of the National Road and the first highway in America. Why not an exhibit showing the importance of the National Road as well as the peculiar culture of the stage coach routes, including the many inns that dotted the trail? In the near future

American are going to have to look closely at their modes of transportation. An exhibit showing an early method of motion would be interesting to all.

There are just a few of the areas where Blue Licks could be developed. There are surely more and it would be a suggestion, and it to the Mercury and we will make sure it reaches the right people.

One source notes one of the speakers at Monday's meeting took the opportunity to turn some of his remarks into a political forum and mentioned that a certain candidate for governor had promised a lodge at Blue Licks. The spokesperson message that supporting this candidate would mean a lodge would be built.

We have nothing for or against this candidate but we also have a whole drawer full of politicians' promises.

*Please turn to page 14

Down Memory Lane

Lynda Snelling wins contest; picture day held at CHS

Thursday, May 7, 1959
Miss Lynda Snelling, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Snelling, was selected Miss Nicholas County at the 41st Style Revue held Friday night, May 1, at the Lyman Oliver, Dean of the College of Education, University of Kentucky at her home in Tipler, Mich. — George Hunter Hasky, 77, Tuesday at his home in the Hill Top community. — Mrs. Corde Gillipie Broadman, 84, Thursday at her home in Paris.

The Carlisle post office, which added \$26,285.25 in Savings Bonds last year, ranked sixth in the per capita class.

At a meeting of the Nicholas fiscal court Wednesday an appropriation of \$1,100 was unanimously voted to continue the operation of the Nicholas County Health Department for the next fiscal year, beginning July 1.

High school classes of the Carlisle High School enjoyed their annual picture day Wednesday. The junior class

entertained the seniors with a picnic at High Bridge and the sophomore class went to Boonville.

Clyde Hughes, who has been in charge of the most department at Krogers for the past two years, has resigned and Rudolph Pittman of Crutkins, has been transferred to Carlisle.

Fayth Ruth Allison, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Allison, suffered a double fracture of her right arm on Saturday afternoon when she fell in her yard while playing with her dog.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Holler, a son on April 26. — To Mr. and Mrs. Noble Gaunce of the county, twins on March 20, a boy and girl. — To Mr. and Mrs. John Welch of the county, a son on March 20. — To Mr. and Mrs. Robert Howard Bell, a daughter on April 18. — To Mr. and Mrs. L. Buckler of the county, a son on April 14. — To Mr. and Mrs. Starling Saunders of Owenon, a son on April 27.



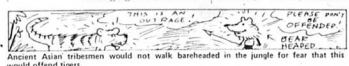
Judges, all



It takes a heap of reading

Mrs. Russell (Margaret) Metz and Mrs. Warren (Kay) Fisher study entries in the Arkansas newspaper contest. The judging was done in Nashville, Tenn. by a panel of judges selected from the Kentucky Press Association membership. Mrs. Metz is associate publisher of the Bush County News Outlook. Mrs. Fisher is managing editor of the Carlisle Mercury. —Photo by Russ Metz

Warren Fisher, chairman of the Kentucky Newspaper contest committee, reads entries from the Arkansas Newspaper contest while George Wilson, acting Secretary-Manager of the Kentucky Press Association studies the contest rules. Mr. Fisher, publisher of the Carlisle Mercury, is also a director on the board of the Kentucky Press Association — Russ Metz photo



Agree or Not

'Timely' raise granted

By S. C. Van Cron
FRANKFORT — The state Personnel Board has unofficially served notice on career state employees that the primary election is only four weeks away.

The notice came in the form of an announcement that additional longevity steps have been added in all job classifications under the merit system.

Administration critics have labeled the plan as an effort by the Carroll administration to give the votes of career employees, who have gone several years without a pay increase, for Terry McBrayer, Carroll's choice to succeed him.

For example, a person in a job with 10 steps in the longevity with 12 or more years of service hasn't been eligible for a pay increase, not even one to keep up with inflation.

The longevity plan provides for a five per cent wage increase every year for the first seven years in a 10-step job position. After he gets his eighth year increase, he had to wait two years to go to step nine and another two years to go to step ten, then there were no more pay increases in his future unless he got reclassified to a higher paying position.

Under the new plan about 8,000 employees in steps 8, 9, 10 and 11 will get an annual increment May 1. State employees are paid twice monthly, near the first of each month and about the middle of the month. This means they'll receive two paychecks with the five per cent increase before the May 29 election. The 1976 legislature approved \$26 million to improve pay for state employees. This was in addition to the regular annual increments.

Personnel Commissioner Addie Stokley said this money was appropriated "for positions where the state had recruitment and retention problems."

This didn't include the "paper pushers" who handle the daily routine of state business. All they got was the five per cent automatic increment, that is, if they were not in the final step of their longevity in their positions.

Ignition has been increasing every year by about seven per cent for the past three years and

many state employees haven't gotten a raise in that period.

The Personnel Board added three more steps to the longevity plan, now known as A, B and C. However, this change does not mean that all employees with sufficient years of service will automatically qualify for a five per cent pay increase. The catch is that the employee must be recommended by his supervisor for the pay increase, and the money must come out of the agency budget. No additional money is being funneled from the general fund to the agencies for these increases.

Mrs. Stokley said there are about 2,000 career state employees that are eligible for the last three steps.

After the 1976 appropriation, commissioners received as much as \$5,000 annual increase in pay and some of the cabinet secretaries received a \$7,500 annual pay increase. This is more than the beginning state employee in the lowest paid starting position receives. The lowest beginning pay is \$4,800 a year and could make as much as \$7,116 when he reached the end of his longevity. With the announced changes this same job category can reach a limit of \$8,940.

The 1978 legislature appropriated an additional \$35.6 million for pay increases, but it also was in the field where there were problems of recruitment and retention.

The "paper pushers" are the ones who have been feeling the pinch of inflation. The annual five per cent increment, for those who were eligible, hasn't kept up with 7 per cent or better inflation.

They are the ones who really needed the pay increases and not those in the \$20,000 and above annual pay range. Most of these jobs are not under the merit system and it is up to the discretion of the administration in power who gets these jobs. They also get the pay increases, and handsome ones at that.

A brochure went out in the month-end pay envelope, along with the check, explaining the increases to the employees.

Is it coincidental that it happened just before about seven per cent for the past three years and

Carter's oil plan flawed

by Anthony Harrison
President Carter's plan to lift price controls on domestic crude oil is seriously flawed.

While price decontrol is long overdue, Mr. Carter conceals the benefits of decontrol by proposing a "windfall profits" tax that would in effect deny oil producers the revenues they need to expand production. The tax scheme entitles an expansion of the welfare system with "aid" proposed for low income families. This proposed cutback of one segment of the population means that a heavier load will fall on the productive, taxpaying middle class.

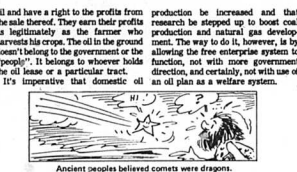
The Carter plan also calls for development of new energy sources with the federal government using the new tax revenues for that purpose. Again, the administration scheme is counter-productive. New energy sources could be developed by the energy companies, using the higher profits. This is the American way, but Mr. Carter prefers the bureaucratic approach.

To date, the government energy "drive" has simply produced an unnecessary Dept. of Energy with an army of bureaucrats and gotten in the way of the real energy developers in private industry.

Mr. Carter hasn't learned anything since he submitted his energy plan two years ago and termed it "the moral equivalent of war."

At that time, the centerpiece of the President's plan was a wholesale ban on petroleum. Again, he proposes to solve the nation's energy problems by more inflation of business. He simply doesn't understand the constructive role of profits in achieving modernization and expansion of industry. Congress shouldn't buy the Carter oil scheme. It's as mistaken as the one he tried to sell in 1977.

In his televised speech, Mr. Carter came across as a crusader against the oil companies. He may conclude that that is a shrewd political ploy. Repeatedly, he referred to "unearned" profits of companies. The companies that get out of the ground own that



Mercury vapors

by Warren R. Fisher
On embracing "bugs" —

I left this column go by last time around as I was too busy hustling a cold or whatever you bug. I don't understand why a spring cold tears me up so much.

This week I'm hosing the nasal twang which led me Monday to seek relief with Ornade sprays — then Cupid had the nerve to mock me by giving a tongue to the roof of his mouth rendition of how I sounded. He was also having difficulty mit nasal bugs.

As did most of you I sprang forward Sunday, that is we got all the timepieces moved up to daylight saving time.

The only part that hasn't gotten the message is my bioclock, the spring is gone. I'm still awakening at 6:30 a.m. or 7:30 E.D.S.T. and I suppose if I wish to ease earlier I'll have to resort to mechanical or electronic means.

My friend Mark was in Monday afternoon telling us how rough he felt. He was another bug hoster. Additionally he was discouraged, seems the powers-that-be had mandated that the new hospital chapel must have fire-proof or retardant carpeting. I believe the term he used was, we're having a cost overrun!

It's nothing that \$2,000 won't solve — is the only help if one could call it such that I managed was, I'll save my copies of The Christian Science Monitor with articles by Mary Baker Eddy — I don't think that any of us really have that kind of faith. I know we'd be better off if we could honestly say we did.

Letters

To The Carlisle Mercury: The coverage you have given to the Carlisle Cemetery Co. has just been great. You have done a great job of letting people know the full story of the history, need and response of the people to this issue.

As always, in a time of real need the people of Nicholas County and people from everywhere, especially those who read the Mercury, have responded. You have given every member of your staff, each of you have had some part in making this all true.

I thank the Mercury each week as soon as it comes on the stand and am pleased to see the great job you have done with the information I have been able to bring you while I have been serving as publicity chairman for the committees set up for the Carlisle Cemetery Co.

A special thank you, to the staff of the Mercury.

To the Carlisle Mercury: Please send me the Carlisle Mercury for another year. I enjoy reading the news of those I love. Enclosed is a check for \$7.35 for the Carlisle Mercury.

Mrs. Oscar (Bea) Hughes
411 Schobert Ave.
Mayville, KY 40566

ON smells, both good and bad —

The Mercury editor recently returned to the scene of his most successful piscatorial activities to try his fishing luck for the first time this year.

Accompanied by a friend, who bested him the last time around, he set the lantern down baited his hook and a few minutes later landed — a dead fish.

The deceased had two hooks through its mouth at the normal location: our editor's and another. After returning his catch to the waters, where it sank out of sight to await another angler, our editor turned to his friend and said, "I bet you thought you knew every fishing hole around but you didn't know there was one so deep that a fish caught in it would starve to death and begin to rot before you could ever land him."

The reply was not recorded.

—MV—

While on the subject of smells —

The US male is expected to smell 70 better.

And if the local males noticed last weeks Mercury, page three Carter's can supply the fragrance.

New York — American men are expected to spend \$445 million this year to make themselves smell nice, according to fashion designer John Weitz. That's about \$70 for each adult male.

Sales of "men's fragrances" soared from \$67 million in 1963 to \$395 million in 1978 and another \$50 million increase is projected for 1979, according to Mr. Weitz, a Hall of Fame member of the International Best Dressed List.

Aromis to the rescue! ###

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