

# The Carlisle Mercury

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## East End sewers may have to wait

By Jeff Kerr

After the smoke cleared and the last statistic was filed at the city council's special meeting Monday night two things were evident.

1. Surface and sub-surface water is getting into the city's sewer system and causing some overflows at the sewage plant, with the resulting run-off going into Brushy Fork and;

2. Solving that problem is going to take priority over raising money to build a new water and sewer line along the Moorefield Road to the old hospital. That project would hinge on annexation of the area.

The East End Sewer Project has been popping up for 18 years now, according to Bill Moore of Howard K. Bell Engineers who, along with Don Hassell of the Blue Grass Area Development District met with the council on the latest incarnation.

Message was clear

The gentlemen from the private sector and the bureaucracy heard from the elected officials and the message they received was that the council would rather fix the existing system before adding on new hook-ups.

After battling statistics back and forth

with council member Bob Paul and Hassell Bell, citizens Moore and Hassell told the council:

1. The overflows at the sewage plant are caused by underground water getting into the pipes through cracks and also surface water run-off during rainy weather.

2. The existing sewage system meets EPA standards under a temporary okay given because the city has an active application for a grant to upgrade the system with the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency).

All gravity-flow. The engineers explained that Carlisle is one of the few cities that does not have a sewage pump station. All the sewage flows by gravity to the treatment plant. So does the water in the ground and on top of the ground. They agreed a logical step would be to repair the present systems, then decide on new projects.

The men also mentioned that the city's financial condition was such that it cannot issue bonds at present. (The present city bonded indebtedness is \$1,000,000 maturing according to a 1979 state report.)

They had met with some of the city's bonding companies and learned that a 10 percent utility rate hike may be necessary. City bond fund reserves had been depleted by transfers to cover general expenses over the past few years.

Sewer project draws drain. Whatever it appears that the East End Sewer Project is on a back burner again. But the city may not be able to forestall a decision much longer.

The bureaucrats' machinery is churning and soon it will be time for the city to have to put some funds up for surveys in order to prime the pump for the ensuing construction grant.

The project is budgeted at \$600,000 with the city's share 25 percent or \$150,000. When it comes time to start the surveys the city is going to have to come up with some funds or lose their place at the federal table on this program.

When will that be? At the start of the meeting the two visitors brought news from Atlanta that the grant was moving along the list. But just exactly where they declined to say. Or when.



New librarian

Mrs. John Anderson, left, is the new Nicholas County Librarian, effective Jan. 1. Mrs. Taylor (Elsie) Snelling, right, the retiring librarian, is finishing her career with the library by assisting Mrs. Anderson through a transition period. — Mercury photo.

## Co-op getting more leaf

By Bennett Reese

With the 1979-80 marketing season winding down and prices falling off, the January sales have marked a sharp pickup in leaf commitments to the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association.

Daily increases have been registered in percentage of pooled burley. Before the year end holidays less than one-half of one percent of marketings were going under loan, but with sales now nearing the end on some markets the rate has jumped to two percent.

Alvin R. Beckley, executive secretary-treasurer of the Burley Co-op, reported that for the week ending January 11 a total of 440,134 pounds was taken under loan, raising the season's total to 1,189,882 pounds.

Last season the association took 54,778,215 pounds, or 11.3 percent of the 1978 crop sales in the five-state area of Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia and Missouri.

The co-op now holds 55,991,779 pounds including 1977, 78 and 79 tobacco, the lowest amount in many years.

With an early end in sight for the 1979-80 sales season, farmers and the burley industry in general are watching for tobacco news out of Washington where the USDA is working on a national quota for the 1980 crop.

Federal officials who conducted the quota hearing Jan. 11 at Lexington indicated that the result might not be known before the end of January. The law requires that the quota be announced by Feb. 1.

Following that announcement the county and state ASCS offices will work out individual farm quotas, and growers will vote in the three-year referendum. The USDA man at Lexington indicated that the referendum date will probably be during the last week in February. Balloting will be by mail.

The quota meeting was marked by practically unanimous support for a continuation of last year's figure of 415 million pounds, in spite of the fact that 1979 was a short crop year. All farm groups represented at the meeting, plus manufacturers, dealers and warehousemen asked for no change in quotas from last year.

Joe McDaniel, president of the Burley Association, said: "Even though the 1979 crop of burley tobacco is estimated to be 26 to 25 percent below normal production as a result of adverse weather conditions, the total supply of tobacco remains ample."

Despite a small drop in stocks from last year, the supply remains about 24 times indicated disappearance. This is

the desired level, based on legislative formula.

"With the potential of a 700 million pound crop in 1980, the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association recommends the quota for 1980 remain the same as last year."

Other tobacco leaders also took the position that the trade could absorb a 700 million pound crop or more, in view of the shortfall of 1979. Continuation of present quotas would afford an opportunity to make up for last year's losses, they said.

Government tobacco division representatives gave no indication of what decision might be reached, but noted that when 1979 statistics are completed the result is expected to show that tobacco use substantially exceeded

crop marketings. Even with the December estimate of 679 million pounds the 1979 crop was down 23 percent.

Another supply factor to be taken into account is the over-quota tobacco from the 1978 season which was sold in 1979, estimated to weigh as high as 80 million pounds. Such excess-quota tobacco will no longer be permitted to be stored and sold later, as was the practice before it was outlawed, beginning with the 1979 crop.

Total carryover in loan stocks, and in burley held by manufacturers and dealers is six million pounds below the carryover of a year earlier, say USDA economists.

With the 1979 short crop there would be no threat of adding to this carryover, which figures largely in determining the following year's quota.

### Carlisle woman's formula patented

—see page 8

### Jackets win another thriller

—see page 9

## News briefly

### Ecton promoted

Doris (Mrs. Phillip) Ecton has been named assistant administrator of Johnson-Mathers Health Care, Inc., effective Jan. 1, Robert Hester, administrator of the health care complex, announced this week.

Mrs. Ecton, who has been serving as controller of the corporation, will also continue her duties in that capacity.

### Fish and Game to meet

The Nicholas County Fish and Game Club will have a pot-luck dinner this Friday, Jan. 25 at the clubhouse at 7:30 p.m.

Officers for the coming year will be elected at this meeting. All members are urged to attend.

### Slip slated for repair

A fall slip 2.2 miles north of Dixie Highway Road on the Milltown-Point Road in Nicholas County will be corrected by county road workers, Kentucky Transportation Secretary Frank Metts announced this week.

Money for the project will come from a special county road aid fund for emergency roadwork, Metts said. County workers will be responsible for all phases of the project.

## Carlisle native busy as Midway's recruiter

By Paula Alexander

As a recruiter for Midway College, Pranny Bretz most certainly speaks from experience when telling high school students about Kentucky's only women's college.

For Mr. Bretz obtained an associate degree in business there in 1971. Moreover, she also received a diploma from Midway's now-defunct Pleasant High School, having been a Midway student since 13 years of age.

The Carlisle native continued her collegiate experience at Eastern Kentucky University, receiving a bachelor's degree in business after three years of balancing a fulltime job with night classes. As might be expected, Ms. Bretz remembers that period in her life as a difficult one. But she is accustomed to the hard work, having put herself through school since she first entered Midway.

"I feel that I've become more independent by going to school away from home. I've had so many more experiences than my friends, most of whom are married and settled by now," she explained.

Many of Ms. Bretz's recollections of high school days at Midway are spoken of with a wry smile. She recalled that students were allowed one single date a month—all other dates had to be double.

And then there was the school policy about how close a Midway girl could dance with her male partner. Any

student who infringed upon that rule at a school dance ran the risk of a faculty member tapping her on the shoulder as an embarrassing reminder.

As her recruiting includes the Louisville, Northern Kentucky and Ashland areas, Ms. Bretz is often away from the admissions office visiting Kentucky's major population centers or carrying out regional recruiting drives in other states.

"I love to travel and all this job does keep me on the go. I might have to reevaluate it if I were married," she said.

Fall signals the most hectic season for college recruiters, a time when they visit high schools throughout their area. Ms. Bretz said. She added that these initial contacts are followed up in the spring with talks to students expressing a special interest in Midway.

And what question is she most asked by prospective Midway applicants? "They all want to know where the boys are," she laughed. "They may at first seem concerned about attending a women's college but I tell them that I had more dates when I was a Midway student than when I was at Eastern," she added.

Once the question of the availability of dates is settled, the students then are usually further enticed by Midway's small faculty-student ratio (15:1), Ms. Bretz noted.

When discussing Midway with high school students, Ms. Bretz said she tries to discover any specific areas of interest they might have because "so many kids enter college and change majors two or three times." If they seem unsure of possible majors, she advises them to begin with a liberal arts curriculum, sprinkled with courses that spark individual interests.

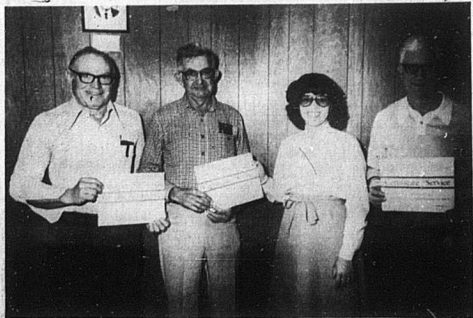
Too, Ms. Bretz believes the recent decision by Midway board of trustees to expand the college to a four-year drive will help recruiting efforts. "Students don't want to just get adjusted here and then have to transfer somewhere else," she observed.

She shares recruiting responsibilities with administration office director Joanne Sawyer, financial aid director Danny Lyons and fellow fulltime recruiters Peg Grogan and Terri Parrie.

### Historical society seeking news, dues

The Nicholas County Historical Society is now accepting articles, family histories and other historical items to be considered for publication in its newsletter this year.

Harry Galbraith, president of the society, said that more than 300 charter members of the group are listed in the newsletter. "Please turn to page 12



80 years of service — plus

These three Nicholas County farmers and ASCS County Executive Director Anna Conner represent more than 80 years of service to the Nicholas County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. The men have served on the county committee, the community committee and as reporters. They are, from left, James Neal Wood, 25 years; Eugene Letcher, 30 years; Mrs. Conner, Nicholas County CED for three years; and Matthew Kennedy, 25 years. — Photo by Janie Duncan.