

# The Carlisle Mercury

Our 113th year, No. 24

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## City votes okay to radio system

The Carlisle City Council voted Monday night to approve a joint city-county communications system that will allow four separate channels for emergency and police calls.

The proposal now goes back to the Nicholas Fiscal Court, which is expected to meet next Monday to consider the proposal.

Bob Burman of the Kentucky Disaster and Emergency Services outlined the proposal to the council. It includes a lease-purchase option for the equipment, which will be paid for in 12 quarterly payments of \$1,125 each. The city and county will split the quarterly costs and Burman said he feels sure the state DES will okay a matching fund application that will lower the cost to the city and county by half.

The system will include a four-channel base station and a 100-foot tower with antenna.

The base station will replace the city's existing equipment and will be manned 24 hours a day. The four channels proposed are DCS, fire, police and hospital.

Employees get raise

In other business the city council approved a 10 percent across-the-board raise for all city employees.

The council went into closed session to discuss the raise. Some council members felt certain city employees

deserved more of a raise but the 10 percent figure was approved after returning to open session.

The council's finance committee first suggested a 10 percent raise but Mayor William Power said he felt eight percent might be a better figure.

That started discussion of higher raises than eight percent for certain employees and the council then decided to close the meeting while ironing out the matter.

Trash rates raised

The council also approved an ordinance that would raise city trash pick-up rates.

The raise was dictated by a raise in the amount the city must pay the county to dump at the landfill. The county recently voted to raise the city's fee from \$1,000 to \$1,200.

The current raise for city trash customers amounts to only a few cents more in each category than was established by the most recent raise in February of this year.

If the trash rate raise had not passed, the city would have found itself with a deficit between the revenue produced and the costs of the service.

The raise started council members discussing the possibility of establishing their own landfill. A suggestion to advertise for land for such a facility was discussed but not followed through.

In other business the council decided to meet with the Mayville law firm of Fox, Wood and Wood to discuss with them the possibility of a firm member acting as city attorney.

Council member Bob Faul said the firm quoted him a fee of \$200 per month to act as Carlisle City Attorney. That would include attendance at council meetings and the drafting of ordinance.

Carlisle has been without a city attorney for some years now. The scarcity of local attorneys (there are only four) was blamed for the lack of a city attorney.

Faul also asked about the latest city audit. It was begun early this year at the request of the new council members, but has not been completed yet. No date was given as to when the audit would be available for the council's inspection.

In other business Mayor Power announced that he had been approached by someone who held Carlisle municipal bonds and who wanted to sell them.

The bonds total \$60,000 and the owner announced that he had been offered \$1.10 on the dollar. They draw five and one-quarter percent interest and the proceeds are used for the city's general fund.

Mayor Power said the owner inherited the bonds and wanted to sell them.



Kay Conley of Carlisle, a 1980 graduate of Nicholas County High School, won third place in the editorial category in the High School writing contest sponsored by the Kentucky Press Women and the Kentucky Department of Public Information. Her editorial "ERA and the draft" was printed in a recent issue of the Mercury. Awards were presented last Saturday at Spindletop in Lexington by Dr. Ronald Farrar, left, director of the University of Kentucky School of Journalism and JoD Nance, KPW High School Writing Contest Director. Awards were presented to only nine high school students in three categories. Kay is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe H. (Jock) Conley of Carlisle. — State photo.

Press winner



Mrs. Charles Fay, past president of Blue Grass Industries' Thorobred Club, signs a check on behalf of the Harry Wolf Foundation. The check was donated to the Carlisle Christian Church and was received by Rev. Eugene White, pastor. The money will be used for the church's scholarship fund. — Mercury photo.

## Mercury wins freedom award

The Carlisle Mercury won its first first place award since 1976 at the annual summer meeting of the Kentucky Press Association last weekend at Kentucky Dam Lake State Park.

The award, a walnut plaque with the KPA seal and a picture of the Kentucky Cardinal on it, was presented in the category of Freedom of Information in the Class I weekly division.

It was based on the Mercury's efforts to obtain and finally publish, at no cost to the City of Carlisle, audit statements for the years 1977, 1978 and part of 1979. Under Kentucky law cities in the same class as Carlisle must publish an annual financial statement. This has not been done here since 1977.

The award was based on a series of articles published after the tax audit of 1977. The articles culminated with an offer by Mercury publisher Warren Fisher to print the audit free if the city would release. This was agreed to and in November of 1979, for the first time in

more than two years, the citizens and taxpayers of Carlisle were able to get some idea of how their tax dollars were spent.

The audit revealed that funds had been illegally transferred from municipal bond accounts to cover shortages in operating funds. It was further revealed during the course of the investigation that persons who held city municipal bonds had at one point threatened to place the city in receivership because of the actions surrounding the bond fund transfers.

Other questionable activities brought to light during the investigation were:

- The purchase of several thousand dollars worth of supplies without authority in amounts that exceeded the existing demand.
- The presentation of false or misleading financial statements to the council on meeting nights.
- Improperly signed checks on city funds.
- The acceptance of gifts by at least two city employees or officials from suppliers of items used by the individual departments.

Since the audits were undertaken the city has changed several bookkeeping procedures and the audits have been. The officers keep better track of city funds.

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## Carlisle Rotary Club plans community sale

The Carlisle Rotary Club is sponsoring a different kind of sale next Saturday, June 21 on the Blue Grass Industries parking lot.

The proceeds from the sale will be used for the club's many charitable functions and works throughout the year. Rotarians and their wives have been calling door to door in Carlisle for donations to the sale and some residents are responding in unusual ways.

For example, one man has offered his services as an attorney to write a last will and testament.

And another is offering a free repair of defective wiring for the lucky purchaser.

The sale, which will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 21, will also offer food and many other items too numerous to mention.

Anyone who wishes to donate an ordinary or unusual item is urged to respond when a Carlisle Rotary Club member calls on them. Anyone who wishes to donate an item or service can call Charles M. Cox at 289-2977 or 285-2341.

## Hospital dinner Friday

The annual Hospital Benefit Dinner sponsored by the Nicholas County Health Care Auxiliary will be held on Friday evening, June 20 from 6 to 8 p.m. on the beautiful garden lawn of Forest Retreat Farm. The full buffet dinner will have three meats (including steaks), stews, soups, salads, vegetables and homemade bread, plus homemade puddings from the kitchens of the Nicholas County Homemakers.

Tickets may be purchased from Auxiliary members or at the Nicholas County Library. They are \$6.50 for adults and \$3 for children.

Coffee, tea and homemade bread will be served by the Carlisle Community Women's Club.

There will be an auction of arts and flowers, with many fine items donated by local merchants and artists by various studios and individuals. A large

color television donated by the two local banks will be given away. The proceeds will benefit dinner music. Proceeds from the dinner and auction will go toward air conditioning for the nursing home. In case of rain, the dinner will be held in the Blue Grass Industries dining room.

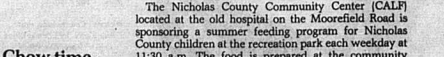
## Library sponsors reading program

The Nicholas County Public Library is sponsoring a Kentucky Reading Marathon program this summer for children three to 10 years old.

Registration will be held June 14 and 16 at the library and the program will begin June 17 and run through August 8, each Tuesday morning from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

A recently published research article by John T. Guthrie stated that children who read six or more books during the summer vacation gain the average of 2 grade equivalent.

The Kentucky Reading Marathon will consist of stories, films and games as well as reading. For more information call Jert Anderson, Librarian, at 286-4066.



The Nicholas County Community Center (CALF) located at the old hospital on the Moorefield Road is sponsoring a summer feeding program for Nicholas County children at the recreation park each weekday at 11:30 a.m. The food is prepared at the community center and taken to the park where about 50 children enjoy a free lunch each day. Recreation activities are also a part of the program. — Mercury photo.

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