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City, county okay joint radio pact



Mrs. Mark Prevo, left, president of the Johnson-Mathers Health Care Auxiliary, and Mrs. W.R. Kingsolver, director of volunteer services for the health care corporation, look over some of the items that have been donated for the auxiliary's annual fundraising auction, scheduled this Friday, June 20, from 6-8 p.m. at Forest Retreat Farm. A buffet dinner will be served and music will be furnished by the Traditions. — Mercury photo.

Hospital items

He 'digs' his hobby

It took Forrest (Buddy) Curtis says, two days and he was accepted as a regular on the courthouse lawn.

Which says a lot for the regular clientele of children, courthouse officials, dogs and golden ages. Because Buddy Curtis is usually holding what looks like a dismembered Weebster and wearing a pair of stereo headphones. And every so often he drops to

his knees, carefully sections a chunk of soil, lays it to the side and then begins digging.



Gold digger

Forrest (Buddy) Curtis, a native of Carlisle, has been spending several days on the courthouse lawn with a metal detector searching for old coins or other pieces of metal. Curtis, who now lives in Lexington, is planning to join the World's Greatest Treasure Hunt in Texas soon and will compete for a first prize of \$100,000. — Mercury photo.

The Nicholas County Fiscal Court has okayed a joint effort with the City of Carlisle to purchase and maintain new radio equipment that will double the capacity of the present system.

The decision was made at a special court meeting Monday night. The Carlisle city council approved the pact last Monday, subject to acceptance by the county.

Under the terms of the lease-purchase agreement the city and county will each pay \$2.50 per month for the equipment. The Kentucky Disaster and Emergency Services is picking up half the tab or \$127 per month for the system.

Included in the package is a four channel base station that will allow the present capacity of the communications system to be doubled as well as a 16-foot antenna tower to be constructed behind the city building.

The equipment will replace communications gear now in use that is 20

years old or older. The transmitter and receiver now in use at the courthouse will be retained, giving the system backup equipment.

The four channels in the new base station will include:

- the present law enforcement channel. At present this channel is used by all emergency vehicles in the county.
- an inter-city dialup. This is an existing channel used to contact police departments in surrounding towns as well as Dry Ridge State Police Post.
- DES frequency. This is a new frequency assigned to the Carlisle-Nicholas County Disaster and Emergency Services. DES director Russ Bell said this channel could be used by firemen, ambulances, wreckers and other emergency vehicles, freeing the law enforcement channel for strictly law enforcement communications. This channel would be used in case of emergencies or natural disasters.
- Hospital backup. The Nicholas

County Hospital presently has an inter-hospital dialup similar to the inter-city dialup system. This fourth channel would provide the hospital with a backup channel in case of failure.

According to Bell, who worked closely with DES representative Bob Buntin on the system, the advantages of the new equipment will be three:

- 1. More power.
 - 2. Backup transmitter.
 - 3. Different antenna for better coverage throughout low-lying portions of the county, for example, along creek beds, rivers, valleys, etc.
- The new equipment will be compatible with the equipment now in use throughout the county, Bell said. A further feature of the system is a scanning transmitter. This transmitter will signal, through lights, an incoming call on any of the four channels when another channel is in service. The equipment will be purchased from the RCA Corporation.



A new addition to the North Central 4-H Camp at Lake Carnico this year is the installation of a computer system which campers can use to learn computer science. Nicholas County 4-Hers working the keyboard are, from left, Brian Watkins, Marty Seithers and Greg Smart. Watching is camp counselor Tony Smith of Nicholas County. Tony is the first Nicholas County staffer at the camp in several years. — Mercury photo.

New game

Food stamp rules change

New food stamp legislation signed on May 28 by President Carter authorizes increased food stamp funding to respond to unemployment and inflation, while at the same time removing 800,000 people from the program and reducing costs by three-quarters of a billion dollars.

Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Carol Tucker Foreman said program-tightening measures approved by Congress and signed into law by the President will cause 800,000 people with incomes near the poverty line to lose their eligibility for food stamps in fiscal year 1981. Some 120,000 students also will be removed from the program.

"The law will allow USDA to make needed management improvements in this vital program," Foreman said. "It includes all of the proposals made by the President in March to help balance the federal budget. These include authorization of substantially increased appropriations over the next year to help meet needs caused by increased unemployment and inflation."

Measures that will curb potential spending for food stamps by \$148 million this year and \$200 million in fiscal 1981 are also included, Foreman said.

Under the new law's funding authority, Congress can legally appropriate up to \$1.49 billion for 1980 and \$1.729 billion for 1981, she said. Previously, the ceilings were set at \$1.188 for fiscal 1980 and \$1.290 for fiscal 1981.

The revised authorizations and additional money provided in separate legislation came in time to prevent a threatened delay or suspension of June benefits because of insufficient funds.

Cost-of-living cut

"Even with the additional spending, the 21 million people who use food

stamps will not receive the same level of benefits as under the previous law," Foreman said. The new law cancels the cost-of-living adjustments that had been scheduled for July 1 and eliminates one of two cost-of-living increases originally planned for next year. That means only one increase will be allowed in the next 15 months, and that will come in January.

The legislation also makes it harder for people to qualify to receive food stamps, she said. It requires that

participants have net incomes below a new, lower poverty line limit, and that they have fewer resources. Effective in July, the maximum net income limit for a family of four will be set at \$7,450, and it will not be updated to \$8,200 as had originally been scheduled.

Under the present food stamp law, most food stamp households must have assets worth less than \$1,200. The new law will lower this limit to \$1,500.

— Please turn to page 4

Dairy meeting next Thursday

The annual Nicholas County Dairy Association meeting will be held June 25 at 7 p.m. at Nicholas County Elementary School.

The meeting will include a buffet supper, state and local Dairy Princesses, 10 Dairy Dolls, short talks, cake contest (entries are eaten), door prizes and games.

A new contest this year is open to persons over the age of 12. Prizes will be given for the most uniquely dressed person, suitable for the milk parlor. First prize will be \$10 and second place will receive \$5.

Also the identity of Little Granddaughter May-Ann will be revealed and first and second place winners will be announced.

Rev. Bert Eyster, president of the Nicholas County Ministerial Association, will be on hand to receive a check for an ice cream treat for each child

who attends Vacation Bible School this summer. The local Dairy Association is sponsoring the ice cream treat again this year.

Special door prizes will include an FM/AM radio with clock and alarm schedule for the entire week and two yards chairs.

A highlight of the evening will be 30 minutes of gospel and patriotic songs by the Noblemen's Quartet: F. O. M. Vanoverberg. (You may remember them as the song evangelists at the spring revival of the Carlisle Christian Church.)

The annual Dairy meeting is designed to promote dairy products and local dairymen, whose income is beneficial to all types of business in Carlisle. Co-chairmen for this year's celebration are Mrs. Edgar Scott and Mrs. Harold McClain.