

Opinion

Guest editorial

Golden years?

By Anthony Harrigan

The Western world's most neglected resource may be its oldest citizens. Old people fare badly in our society. They are looked down on, neglected, regarded as something of a nuisance.

In other societies and other times, old people have been treated as valuable citizens. Their experience of life has been regarded as wisdom. They have enjoyed a privileged position.

In his new book "The View In Winter," Ronald Blythe explores the current, unhappy fate of many old people.

"The old," he says, "unless they happen to be a spiritual life, aren't allowed a respectable language for what is happening to them. They are given a medical language, a sociological language."

The tragedy, Mr. Blythe says, "is that we don't want anything of anybody over 60. We don't want work from them, we don't even want their friendship. Cowper Pomsy speaks of the reunion in the faces of young people which the old sometimes glimpse. There is a tendency to keep slightly away from old bodies."

Mr. Blythe is very discerning in his appraisal of this psychological reaction. Content for the old, mixed with an element of disgust, is very real. This is why old people are taken out of their jobs before their time, regarded as something of an embarrassment, and stuffed away in nursing homes — out of sight and out of mind.

This wasn't always so. In earlier times in our own civilization, old people were admired and accorded respect. The onset of the technological age produced a change in outlook and the condition of old people. It

was assumed, unfairly, that old people couldn't adjust to new conditions and couldn't keep up with the knowledge revolution. Many institutions have sought to retire workers at an early age.

These attitudes and policies result in appalling waste of human capabilities. Even in the computer age, there is no substitute for experience and the judgment that is derived from it. The computer isn't a replacement for insights about life acquired over many decades.

During the Vietnam War, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara thought that his computer-trained whizz kids knew more about warfare than the generals who had served 20 or 30 years. We know now that he was completely wrong. The whizz kids had no sense of history, no understanding of the psychology of the enemy.

So it is in many areas of life.

While older workers may not be able to move with the speed of younger employees, they often are more reliable and conscientious. The older skilled worker may have a greater degree of pride in his craft. The company that holds on to its loyal, skilled older workers is bound to benefit.

In our social relations in this country, we need to change and repair attitudes toward the old. We need to learn respect for the aged. We need to improve our understanding of those whose eyesight may have dimmed somewhat and whose hearing may be poor, but who still have important human gifts to apply to tasks and to share with neighbors.

Every stage of life is important and meaningful. Every person has something to contribute to society. The young and the strong aren't the only contributors.

Agree or Not

State spending more

By S. C. Van Curen

FRANKFORT — The Commonwealth of Kentucky will spend \$600 million more than it did in 1979, according to the 1979-80 fiscal year ending June 30. Budget Director Robert Warren said last week.

"We're receiving a \$20 million surplus at the end of the year. We began the year with an \$80 million surplus," Warren said. The surplus is possible for the expenditure level to be above the receipt level. Inflation has taken its toll, Warren said.

Some time ago the Revenue Department reduced its income forecast for the last part of this fiscal year. Warren said he wouldn't be surprised if the Revenue Department didn't reduce the income forecast on the first year of the 1980-82 budget before many months pass. "There's no doubt that the recession is

greater than most of the experts anticipated," Warren said.

The 1980-82 budget is \$5.5 billion as compared to \$7.5 billion for the current two-year ending June 30. "This looks like a large increase," Warren said, "but it's a result of highway funds and agency funds, such as college loans, postal taxes, etc."

The total budget estimates for the years are \$4,200,000,000 for the current budget year ending June 30, \$4,500,000,000 for 1980-81 and \$4,900,000,000 for 1981-82.

Warren says federal bidding has a great impact on the state. "Social services are in development. This is a major impact upon the budget of \$1.5 billion."

The federal government contributes about \$2.0 for every one dollar the state spends in some periods for state collections were \$1,810,000,000 for 1979-80. This estimate was reduced to \$1,785,000,000 for 1980-81 and \$2,035,000,000 for 1981-82. It is \$2,305,000,000.

The remaining part of the budget includes highway funds and agency funds, such as college loans, postal taxes, etc.

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U.S. IMMIGRATION

THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



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Down Memory Lane

Garrett's has grand opening; stock yards burns to ground

Thursday, June 23, 1960

Garrett's Furniture Company is having a grand opening at its new location on West Main Street.

Carlisle Independent and Nicholas County Schools will receive as much as \$78,000 from the state's new revenue program, effective July 1. This money more free textbooks, teacher pay raises, better transportation for pupils, more classroom space, better equipment and a broader course of studies.

Nicholas County's more than 1,020 tobacco farms will begin receiving reports who are now beginning the summer job of checking crop acreages on allotment farms. State reporters have been trained for this work.

The Carlisle Mercury announces the immediate resignation of Joseph Nicholas County Hospital — Joseph Preston Ritchie, 86, Saturday in a Lexington hospital — Reese Ingels, 60, Monday at his home in Millersburg. — Mrs. Margaret Hickey, O'Connell, 87, Monday in a Middletown, Ohio hospital.

Thursday, June 20, 1940

Fire of unknown origin about 9 o'clock Sunday night completely destroyed the Farmers Stock Yards on Market Street and caused considerable damage to the brick building adjoining.

The city street department is rebuilding the north end of Eastern Avenue and extending it.

One of the hardest rains in several months fell here Tuesday night and for a time overflowing of Kentucky Falls was feared. However, no damage was reported.

Heleen Keene Veach, student in the Carlisle High School, was awarded a blue ribbon on a dress made as part of the 4-H club sewing project at Junior Week at Dayton, Ohio.

MARRIED — Miss Elizabeth Jane Robinson to Robert Kenneth Duncan, June 18 at Millersburg Methodist Church. — Miss Diana Lottelton Perry to David Patton Odham, Jr., Saturday at Lexington. — John Allison Barlow, Sr., Bourbon County farmer, effective July 1. This money more free textbooks, teacher pay raises, better transportation for pupils, more classroom space, better equipment and a broader course of studies.

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University of Kentucky last week. Practically all of the tobacco crop in Nicholas County has been set for farmers say.

Mrs. Russell Barr suffered painful burns on her arms when she attempted to remove articles from her home which was destroyed by fire Wednesday last week.

Roger Womack, secretary of the Central Kentucky Foxhunters Association, announces the annual meeting of that organization will be held at Farmington October 14-17.

MARRIED — To Mr. and Mrs. William Sparrow of Cincinnati, a daughter on June 15. — To Mr. and Mrs. Hampton Faulconer of Lexington, a son on June 16.

MARRIED — Miss Mildred Dewell and Floyd Clark, Saturday afternoon at the home of the bride's mother, Rev. Estal Taylor, pastor of the Christian Church, — Miss Ida Ruth Collier, of Saratoga, Pa., and Dr. Willis W. Harris, June 16 in the Presbyterian Church at Saratoga. — Mrs. Laura Ann Gramer and M. Crawford Smith, both of Cincinnati, at the Christian Church Sunday afternoon.

DIED — H. Shields, 68, Tuesday at his home on the East Union Road. — Allie Davis Selby, 56, Sunday at his home in the Sugar Creek section. — Charles "Chuck" McCray, 60, of a daughter, Tuesday afternoon at his home on the Lower Lockstown, Pa. — Eddie Vaughn, Dayton, Ohio.

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Mercury vapors

by Warren R. Fisher

The comparator won't compare! I don't think a possible bad connection between the Bell and MCI long distance has anything to do with this local difficulty, but there seems to be a similarity between the telephone number at 211 Chestnut Street and several other Carlisle numbers.

The better half is always reporting that the phone rings and a voice asks if it is so or is there? She of course assures them that they have the wrong number, some are apologetic and others belligerent. They may have let their fingers do the walking but they stayed at they tracing the number around here.

Some days they're trying for Jerry's IGA or the American Legion, then Clark's Used Cars and Hunt's Ashland Service bring their share of wrong numbers.

The last four digits of the Chestnut Street number (2119) and that of the American Legion (9121) have this in common, they are the same four numbers only their arrangement is different. Clark's is next with only one digit different (2190). Jerry's (2291) and jumbo only phone rings for the Ashland number (2119) is beyond me. Maybe its comparator, if it has one, gets mixed up, it couldn't possibly be that the wrong number was dialed. Again maybe something gets grounded out, since these attacks usually occur after a rainy spell.

— MV —

Editor, take note

The advertising of sea food on the visual media has nearly caught up with hamburger. And in case you are interested, Bob Poline informs us that SCROD can be had at the Lexington Cape Corder which is a lot closer than Boston or Princeton, W.Va.

Water in gas line

A month or more ago we were all to go out on the K-frame on the gas grill of course, only to find that water in the gas line and the regulator had become filled with water.

On Wednesday afternoon of that week Jeff helped me load an air compressor into the station wagon and we set off to blow the line out — this we did not incident, but the regulator literally blew out, with some 80 pounds pressure, a lot of rusty water as well as its ability to regulate the gas flow.

Heleen Keene Veach restored the grill to like new proficiency, and reminded me that bad luck can sometimes become good luck.

Letters

To the Carlisle Mercury:

I started one not to renew the Mercury. The item that changed my mind was the one you wrote in regard to "Ground Rules". This is one of the most responsible and intelligent moves that I have seen in the area.

It would be most wise for a paper or business to take sides on the issue of union or non-union for Blue Grass Industries.

There is another item or two that I would like to comment on. Carlisle is a small town and we need more growth in this town and county, but I fear that we have people that would turn down a multi-million dollar corporation. I don't know what the problem is here but all you have to do is look in other areas to see how far behind we are in development.

I can remember in the past that we had some people who worked long hard hours to get this county Lake Country and a modern library. We owe them a debt of gratitude that we often have forgot. If we plan to have a good future we need to work for the development of this community.

If we continue at our present rate of growth all we can expect to become a welfare haven for the area.

I don't work in this county, I am a union member. I live here, pay taxes here, this gives me the right to be concerned about the area. My personal check is enclosed and best wishes for his fine efforts to insure responsible journalism.

Sincerely yours,
Allen Clay Stone

To the Carlisle Mercury:

A special note of gratitude to Joe Crouch, the Eastern Seal Society, and to those of you who have made donations to the Eastern Seal Society.

Recently, Mr. Crouch was asked to assist in the Eastern Seal Society. Upon request, an electric typewriter was delivered to a local high school student. The typewriter will help this student immeasurably, and bring his teacher, I am most grateful.

Often when we are asked to make a donation, the thought of, "How does

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Blue Grass Reps



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State fair reps



These Nicholas County 4-Hers will represent the county in sewing competition at the state fair this summer. They are, from left, Melissa Jones, Susanne Jones, Lisa Hinton, Ronda Smart and Mary Ann Hollar. They are also chosen Junior Champion in county competition. — Mercury photo.

Fair entries

Jane Ellen Dampier, left, and Sandy Caswell, right, will represent Nicholas County 4-H at the state fair this summer in sewing competition, along with Lynn Judd, center, who was recently named Miss Nicholas County at the 4-H Fashion Show. — Mercury photo.

Jobless benefits to rise



Unemployment insurance benefits to jobless Kentuckians will be increased effective July 1, the Department for Human Resources has announced.

The increase will bring the maximum claim to \$12 a week, said C. Leslie Dawson, deputy secretary of the department. The new rate represents an \$1 increase over the present maximum rate.

The insurance claim increase is in accordance with 1973 Kentucky General Assembly legislation that enabled the department to change the amount of the benefits each year to help the unemployed cope with inflation, said Dawson.

"While the increase will not affect persons filing unemployment claims after April 15, persons filing after that date may realize as much as \$12 in additional benefits over the 39-week maximum benefit period," Dawson said.

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