

Opinion

A look ahead

Some time within the next two years a delegation from the Carlisle-Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce will set forward and accept a Hall of Fame Award for Carlisle at the All-Kentucky Cities award luncheon.

The award will recognize that three times in a five-year span Carlisle has been recognized as an All-Kentucky City and therefore eligible for inclusion in the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce's All-Kentucky City Hall of Fame.

This will be a great honor for Carlisle, not because of any lofty or sensational achievements but because it will denote a willingness on the part of community leaders to listen, watch and learn.

That's what the All-Kentucky City award is all about. It symbolizes progress. Not just measurable, physical achievements but also attempts to gain a better understanding of our community and how to use that understanding to better our lives and that of our children.

Three times since 1970 Carlisle has been named an All-Kentucky City. At least once in that decade Carlisle received Honorable Mention in the competition. This is an en-

able record for any community but perhaps more so for Carlisle and Nicholas County because all the planners tell us that our progress will stagnate with the lack of growth in population in the city and county. We have no new industries to attract more people and even if we did there would be no place to house the additional labor force that will be needed, they say.

So what? Evidently the All-Kentucky City judges don't agree that a community cannot progress without extensive growth. Just look at the Lexington sewer system to see what unbridled growth can do. In some areas of the city sewer hook-up assessments will be so expensive that the residents cannot even hope to pay for them. Many of them, it has been reported, will almost certainly have to sell their homes.

Doing the best with what you have is an admirable philosophy for a community or an individual. And a willingness to learn from past mistakes never hurt either. That's what Carlisle has recognized for a couple of weeks ago. And if we continue to do so, then we will continue to be recognized by our peers as a progressive community.

Agree or Not

Merit system's merit

By S. C. Van Curen
SPRINGFIELD - The campaign pledge of Gov. John Young Brown Jr. to separate state government from a business basis seems to be causing the biggest upset since the wholesale firing of state employees in Gov. Louie B. Nunn's administration, (1967-1971).

One of his first acts after taking office in December, Gov. Brown called for a five percent reduction in the number of state employees. Figures furnished to the news media last week by the personnel department show a net reduction of 1,471 state employees from December 1 through April 25. A total of 1,474 persons have left the state payroll while 1,003 have been reinstated or added to the work force. Most of the reduction has been accomplished (1,324) through resignation, with a total of 894 of those being covered by the merit system.

Many of those leaving have had their jobs abolished or there was a lack of funds appropriated to continue the position. The merit system has a long and twisted history, depending upon the person relating the story.

When Gov. A. B. Happy Chandler took office in December 1955, one of his first acts was a wholesale firing of people loyal to the Rife C. Clements and Lawrence Wetherly faction of the Democratic Party. Happy installed his own people as state jobs.

When Harry Lee Wierfield, Chandler's closest successor, was beaten by Bert T. Combs for governor, one of Happy's last acts was to install a merit system for state employees by executive order. Combs took office in December 1959. One of his first acts in the 1960 legislative session was to pass a law establishing his own merit system and doing away with the one set by Chandler.

The new law provided about 18 months to establish regulations of the new merit system. In the meantime, Combs got rid of the Chandler people in the administration. Combs' people came under the merit system after six months of probation on the work force.

Edward T. Breathitt followed Combs as governor. When Breathitt wanted to get rid of a merit employee, his administration simply reorganized a department or division and abolished the job of the undesirable employee. Name of the job was changed and a new person took over the duties of the same or approximately the same work.

There was talk of a class action suit under the merit system.

but it was hard to find an attorney to handle the suit against a Democratic administration. Hence there was no action.

But then Nunn came into office, the head of personnel in the Highway Department and his five county road employees, in disagreement and without proper documentation under the merit system. They didn't even bother to abolish the state jobs as a courtesy but rather had them.

A class action suit was filed and it cost the state more than a million dollars to reinstate some of the employees and to pay back pay. It was easy to find a Democratic lawyer to sue a Republican administration. As of May 15, 129 persons are losing their jobs in the Department of Transportation for a couple of weeks ago.

Transportation is being abolished, 28 employees, and the central department of building maintenance in Transportation is being abolished as of May 15, 38 employees.

Mark McWhorter, assistant to the secretary of Transportation, is abolishing the maintenance division in a decentralization move for economy.

A. E. Hedger, division director of Photography, called the action an economy move, saying it could be done privately more economically.

McWhorter said maintenance personnel will be established under the state as kind of a "handyman" unit. In other words, the people will be jack of all trades and be able to do most routine repairs and maintenance. Now there are specialists, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, etc. that must be dispatched from Frankfort to various state locations to do building maintenance for the highway department.

As an unorthodox explanation, McWhorter said, "It isn't economical to send a plumber from here to Paducah to light a pilot light on a furnace."

It is not the merit system to abolish jobs and to lay off merit employees if funds fall short. However, merit employees laid off under such circumstances get first crack at new job openings. It seems the Brown administration learned well from the Breathitt administration.

There is talk now of a class action suit by dismissed state employees. They are providing they can find an attorney to handle the case.

Would You Believe...

The average multi-millionaire inherited his money from his folks.

The unemployment rate is consistently higher in the U.S. than in Australia, France, West Germany, Italy, Japan, Sweden or Britain.

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Down Memory Lane

Sidney Crouch honored by JK; Beulah Hughes appointed clerk

Thursday, May 12, 1960

Miss Sidney Davis Crouch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Whitt of Carlisle, was one of the senior students to receive the 1960 Sullivan Medalion at the University of Kentucky.

Gayle B. Bowen and Minton E. Whitt of Carlisle have received medals for their work in the Merceus State College Summer Session Institute.

Dr. Adron Doan, president of Morehead State College, will deliver the commencement address at the Carlisle High School, Thursday, May 19 at 8:15 p.m.

May 11 marks the 25th anniversary of the Ruffin Electric Cooperatives in Kentucky.

The senior class of Nicholas County High left for Lexington on a week's trip to Washington and New York City.

The First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), which has been in the process of formation here for several weeks, held its first service Sunday in the Old Concord Church. The congregation plans to either purchase or erect a church building in Carlisle.

BORN - To Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Blount Jr. of Paris, a son, Phillip Allen, May 11 at Bourbon County Hospital.

Wendell R. Kingsolver, Shepherd Hills, a daughter, Ann Elizabeth, May 5 at Central Baptist Hospital.

To Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Brinstow of Bristol, Tenn., a daughter, Janet Carol, April 26.

To Mr. and Mrs. William Sims, Flemingsburg, a son, Robert Edwin, April 28.

Funeral services for the late Rev. Kenneth Bishop Criss, 84, Sunday at his home in Canal Winchester, Ohio.

Leslie M. Stoverwood, 84, Sunday at the St. Mary's Home, Winchester.

Funeral services for the late Mrs. Kolerus Nursing Home, Flemingsburg.

Mrs. Kittie Woodberry, Sunday at her home on Moorefield Road.

Leslie M. Wilson, 88, Covington, Thursday at the Veterans Administration Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mrs. Pearl Reid Smoot, 79, Sunday at the Nicholas County Hospital.

Mrs. Ella Griggs, May 4 in Covington, Ky.

Mrs. Enna Aikin Warner, 49, Thursday at her home in Moorefield.

Mrs. Martha Alice Humphrey Allison, 43, Thursday at Nicholas County Hospital.

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Historic

*Continued from page one

County and Carlisle as part of the field work of the survey. Expected to be featured among the slides are 76 buildings in Carlisle and 138 in Nicholas County.

One of the purposes of the meeting is for Miss Wells to gain additional information about the buildings that were surveyed. All interested persons are urged to attend one of the meetings.

The meetings will start the field portion of the survey. Plans to come are the historical research and the gathering of the information into book form.

The Nicholas County survey was announced by Miss Wells in the current Kentucky Historical Commission newsletter along with photographs of 10 Carlisle and Nicholas County buildings. The article and some of the photos will be reprinted in next week's Mercury.



Teachers honored

Mrs. Dorothy Sundys (left) and Mrs. J. S. Wilson were given courages at the Nicholas County Elementary PTO meeting Monday. The ladies are retiring this year after a combined total of 69 years as teachers. - Mercury photo.

Show us your "Mom" For Today She is a Queen!



Let's hurry and get Mom to the Dairy Queen before she sees the mess we made!

Buy Her A Sundae for 35¢ at your Dairy Queen (Offer good only for Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11.)



All Mothers Love Fine Jewelry! And we have the Selection to suit each one.

A 7 Diamond cluster for... \$89.99

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Dee Fraley Carpets

NCEA to honor two teachers

The Nicholas County Education Association will honor two retiring teachers (Thursday) with a dinner at 7 p.m. at the Carle Country Club.

The two are Mrs. Marjorie (J.S.) Wilson and Mrs. Dorothy Sundys.

Mrs. Wilson graduated from Carlisle High School in 1929, attended Georgetown College and completed the fifth year program at Morehead State University.

She began teaching at East Union, then continued her career at Headquarters and then Nicholas County Elementary.

Mrs. Wilson is a member of the Carlisle Presbyterian Church, the Missionary Society, the Johnson-Mathers Health Care Auxiliary and the Moorefield Homemakers.

Mrs. Sundys began her education at Santa Elementary, graduated from Carlisle High and then attended Eastern Kentucky University for four years. She is a member of the Carlisle Christian Church and ended her teaching career as a remedial math instructor after many years spent teaching the third grade.

The two ladies were also honored at the May 3 meeting of the Nicholas County Elementary PTO. They have a combined total of 69 years in the teaching profession.

A teacher needs

The education of a college president. The executive ability of a financier. The humility of a deacon. The adaptability of a chameleon. The hope of an optimist. The courage of a hero. The wisdom of a serpent. The gentleness of a dove. The patience of Job. The grace of God, and the persistence of the Devil.

- Author Unknown

The plans teacher addressed a particularly unruly pupil. "I'm warning you. If you don't behave, I'm going to tell your parents you have talent."

Teacher: "If you submit it to me, what is the difference?"

Pupil: "Uh, well, that's what I say, what's the difference?"

The teacher asked little Jimmy how he would go about dividing 8 potatoes among 18 people.

"I'd cook 'em and mash 'em!"

Legion to meet American Legion Post #17 will have a meeting concerning the Blackberry Festival on May 18 at 7:30 p.m. Dinner will be served. All members are urged to attend.

When you think of termites, think of me. I can kill the termites in your house. And keep the rest of the termites in your neighborhood from taking their place. After treatment, termites can guarantee most homes up to \$150,000 against further termite damage.

I'm Bob Davis, the Carlisle Termites man. Call me collect - LEXINGTON 252-8484.

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J. - Missy & Women Sizes

\$20. Reg. 22.99 & 24.99

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B Style 7003 Light Control - white Reg. 3.59 - S. M. L. XL: 3.79 2XL 3XL

A Style 7000 Easy on trimmer, white - beige Reg. 2.99 - 2.79 | 1.86

2.59 - S. M. L. XL: 2.79 - 2XL 3XL

C Style 7004 Extra Control - white Reg. 4.50 & 5.50 | 3.36

4.50 - S. M. L. XL: 5.50 - 2XL 3XL

Full bodied for comfort and control FULL FIGURE BRAS FULL FIGURE

B34-42, C34-46, D34-48 \$4 - B and C 4.50 - D Cup 3.49 Reg. \$4 and \$5

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