

# The Carlisle Mercury

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## City tax rate set by council

A special meeting of the Carlisle City Council Friday night resulted in a new tax rate for the City of Carlisle. The Council unanimously passed the new rate, setting it at 24.5 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. Last year's rate was 24.1 cents. The new rate makes for a 2 cent (two-tenths of one cent) reduction in the rate. Under the provisions of House Bill 44, the city could have increased its rate to 25.7 cents, which would have yielded a four percent increase in revenues, excluding new growth. However, Council decided not to increase the rate

citig a desire to lend some help to residents with their winter utility expenses. Pinner said that last year's rate would have generated \$97,000 if all taxes had been collected. In actuality the city collected around \$65,000. This year's rate should generate nearly \$70,000 in tax revenue. Following the setting of the tax rate the City Council heard the first reading of the tax ordinance. Council provided that anyone paying their taxes before Jan. 1, 1982 receive a 5% discount. See City Council, Page 18

## Deaf student transferred

A 15-year-old Nicholas County boy who is deaf will be transported to Harrison County for his schooling, the Nicholas County Board of Education decided at Monday night's regular session board meeting. The student, Duggy Pinner, recently moved into the county from Bourbon County. Superintendent Elder told the Board that the local system is required by law to provide an education to every child in the county, but that the system is not equipped to

handle the education of a deaf child. Elder said that Harrison County does have the facilities to handle the handicap, and that Pinner's parents had agreed to transport the child to and from the Cynthiana school every day in exchange for mileage reimbursement from the local Board. The Board will pay Pinner's parents 18 cents per mile for the trip. Harrison County has agreed to the transfer and will cover the student for. See School Board, page 8



Mail-woman

Debbie Hillcock was busily sorting mail on her route last week, as she prepared to make her daily deliveries on Dorsey Avenue. Mrs. Hillcock has been working for the local post office since May. She is the first female mail carrier in the city. — Mercury photo.

## County sets taxing rates

It was taxing time for county governing agencies last week as the Fiscal Court and the Board of Education both set their property tax rates for this year's assessment. Following a public hearing Thursday morning, the Court upped its General Fund rate to 15.9 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. That is an increase of 2 cent (two-tenths of one cent) over last year's rate of 13.7 cents. Under House Bill 44, that increase is the maximum rate allowable. It gives the county a four percent increase in tax revenue over last year (excluding new growth). The increase should bring the county's income from the tax to \$130,745 (before Sheriff's fees and uncollected taxes). Last year's rate of 13.7 cents produced \$125,960 before the deductions.

\$49,284 in taxes still remain uncollected from last year. With the current budget already committed at \$120,000, if the same amount goes uncollected this year the county will be \$29,280 short (before deductions) even with the increase. The Nicholas County Board of Education reduced one rate and increased another following a public hearing Friday evening. The Board took the compensating rate on the General Fund rate, which lowered it from last year's 14.2 cents to 13.9 cents. Last year's rate produced revenue of \$130,562.22 (before deductions). The rate for this year is expected to gross \$130,745.

The Board increased the rate for the Special Voted Building Tax for the elementary school. The rate last year was 16.9 cents and produced \$155,392.33. The new rate, which takes the four percent allowed under HB 44, is set at 17.1 cents. It will produce an expected \$162,075.29. The compensating rate for the Voted Tax would have pushed the rate on the 20-cent bonded obligation back to 16.5 cents. At last Thursday's meeting the Court also approved the rates for the Fire, Library, and Board of Health districts. Those taxing entities all took the compensating rate. The rate for the Fire District will be 2.8 cents, and will produce an expected \$15,302. The Library tax will be 2.1 cents, and will produce an expected \$19,964. The Board of Health rate will be 2.6 cents, and will yield an expected \$24,641. The Court had previously set the Hospital tax rate at 21.5 cents. That rate is a half cent less than last year's rate of 22 cents. The 21.5 cent tax is expected to generate \$203,779 in revenue. The maximum rate allowable for the Hospital rate under HB 44 would have been 23 cents. All of the tax figures have been sent to the computer company that handles the county's tax billing. For See County Taxes, Page 18

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## Nursing home policy changes

## Budget cuts force staff into some tough decisions

If administrative personnel at Johnson-Mathers Health Care were characters in a western movie, they would have just been handed a black hat and a six shooter and instructed to shoot Roy Rogers in the back. Or at least that's the impression many local persons may receive because of a recent move that will force the local nursing home to make decisions as to whether a patient is situated in a proper level of care, or whether he will have to pay up or move out. Johnson-Mathers administrator Robert Hester said Monday that he received a telegram last week informing him that due to recent budget cuts, the Kentucky Peer Review Organization (KPRO) had lost a significant portion of its funding. That organization is responsible for determining the level of care and eligibility for Medicare reimbursement for nursing home patients around the state. Hester said that the telegram stated

that KPRO was "no longer funded for long term Medicare review." Hester said that upon further checking with state and Medicare officials, he learned that the new idea is for each individual nursing home to do its own reviews. However, those reviews must be carried out under the old KPRO guidelines, according to Hester. "This all means that when a determination is made that a patient is no longer eligible to receive Medicare funding for his present bed rating, and when no bed in the new care level is available at the local nursing home, the letter to the patient's family stating that after Medicare's three-day grace period the patient will either have to pay for the nursing home's bill or move to another home with a suitably rated bed will come not from KPRO, but from the local nursing home. Under the new program, the local home is responsible for setting up and conducting its own reviews. However, at the first of the year Hester said that

each review plan will be matched against Medicare guidelines. Those institutions found in conflict with Medicare will lose funding for those cases. Medicare officials determine to be out of line. Hester said he fears that the new plan may cause many institutions to opt for patients that review leniently, and that they may then "get burned at the first of the year." "We just can't be one of them," he added. Hester said that the local nursing home simply cannot afford to lose a month's reimbursement from Medicare. Lois Gates, supervisor of the medical records and bookkeeping departments at the local health care facility, has been working closely with Hester in implementing the new program. Lois Johnson, a supervisor at the local nursing home, will be responsible for making the reviews. Those reviews will be conducted every seven days. Although regretting the situation, Hester said that the



Young QB

Bluejacket freshman Rocky Young (11) streaks around left end in last week's action, against Woodford County. Young made a surprise appearance at quarterback Friday night, and could figure to be a key performer in tomorrow night's game against Raccoon. A win in that contest would give the Jackets a district championship. (see story page 8) — Mercury photo.

## With Dr. Adron Doran Revisiting Bald Hill Church

(Editor's note: The following is the second of two articles written by Dr. Adron Doran following a recent trip to the old Bald Hill Church where he preached his first gospel meeting. Last week's article recalled that 1893 meeting. This week he will look at the decline and fall of that church in the county. A former Speaker of the Kentucky House of Representatives, Dr. Doran holds five doctorate degrees and served as president of Morehead State University for 23 years. He retired from that position in 1974, and is currently the evangelist at the Nicholasville Church of Christ. The articles are reprinted with the permission of the author and The World Evangelist. It should also be noted that effects are currently underway to revive the Church of Christ in Nicholas County.) Records in the Nicholas county clerk's office show that a deed was written on June 15, 1811 covering a lot 100 feet by 75 feet, facing the Buffalo Trace Pike, in consid-

eration of one dollar by Isaac M. Dabson and wife Sally to W. H. Elder, by A. F. Ogden and I. M. Dotson, trustees of the Bald Hill Christian Church. The deed provided that when the lot and building "ceased

to be used for a church use it was to go back to I. M. Dotson or his heirs." The congregation organized and operated as a Christian Church. Later the church interest was sold to the county. See Bald Hill, page 10



Bald Hill Church

## Court removes dumpsters from Walnut Grove area

A group of citizens who live near the intersection of Walnut Grove Road and U.S. 58 were in attendance at last Thursday's Fiscal Court meeting to protest the unsightly situation that exists around two dumpsters the county has installed at that sight. Jim Leer, speaking for the citizens, urged the Court to either "clean 'em up or take 'em out." Leer said that there has always been a dumping problem in that area, but that since the dumpsters have been installed, it "has increased 1000 percent." Leer said that the problem is becoming particularly acute with the dumping of furniture and heavy appliances at the sight. He said it is causing damage to the lands farm, which adjoins the site. Mrs. Leer also asked the Court if they could not block off the area where the dumpsters are now sitting to prevent further dumping. Last week the Court had set up the apprehension and prosecution of those littering the area. Noting that the dumpsters were financed with tax dollars, Leer asked the Court to "quit burning the taxpayers for something people won't take care of."

Several members of the Court told the group that regardless of the results, the dumpsters were placed around the county to help keep it cleaner. Magistrate Harold Mitchell pointed to the fact that the Court had recently opened the landfill for one day's free dumping each week. After some discussion, the Court decided to remove the dumpsters from the Walnut Grove U.S. 58 intersection, and to have a crew clean up the site. The dumpster will be moved to the county maintenance barn, to provide persons in that section of the county with a dumping facility, and to allow for closer supervision of the dumpster. Judge Stines said he was uncertain as to whether or not the site would be blocked off, because he thought it was a state right of way. He said he will contact the state highway department to determine the county's options. In turning attention to the ambulance situation, the Court heard from County Attorney Joseph H. Conley that the results of a meeting with officials from the Bluegrass Area Development District indicated that the county could be burning the taxpayers for something people won't take care of.

the establishment and operation of an ambulance service. However, Conley cautioned the Court that there was only \$13 million of these funds to cover the entire state, and that the application for the grant must be completed and submitted by Oct. 25. The Court then set a meeting of the special Task Force for 7:00 Tuesday night. Some definite plans are expected to result from that meeting. A detailed account of the meeting will be featured in next week's Mercury. In other action, the Court: Agreed to sell rock from the local quarry to Robertson County under a recent Attorney General's ruling that allows such interlocal government agreements. A law passed by the last legislature allowing the practice has been upheld by the Attorney General, the court was informed by Bill Kennedy from Buffalo Trace ADD. The agreement was approved subject to the local County Attorney's affirming its legality. — Agreed to furnish a backfiller, one manhole in G. W. Section for a new sewer line he is installing, according to state grants to provide for. See Fiscal Court, page 8