

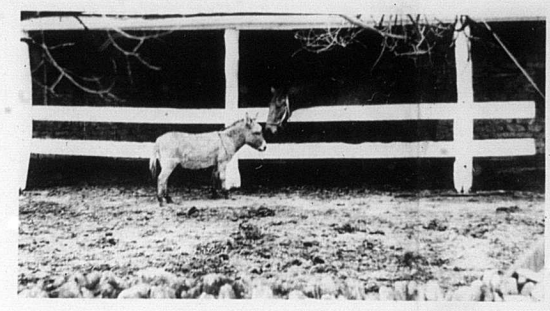
The Carlisle Mercury

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Spring meeting With Spring just a couple of days away, this unlikely couple slogged through the chilly rain Monday afternoon on Forest Retreat Farm near Carlisle. — Mercury photo.

Development meeting set for tonight

A second community meeting has been scheduled for tonight (Thursday, March 18) at the Blue Grass Industries dining room to discuss plans for immediately economic development in Carlisle and Nicholas County. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. A five-man board was set up at the first meeting in January to investigate exactly what type of organization would be most effective in leading the local effort to promote growth. According to John Burke, who spearheaded the local movement, that committee feels the best way for the county to actively work toward economic development is to reorganize the Carlisle-Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce.



John Burke

Within the newly structured chamber, Burke said the group would like to see an Economic Development Board established. That board would work exclusively on promoting economic and industrial development in the county. Now calling themselves the "Committee for Reorganization," the five-man group has mailed letters of invitation to tonight's meeting to local business and civic leaders encouraging their attendance. Burke said the committee chose the private route over alternative negotiations with governmental officials. The Economic Development Board would receive a percentage of the dues collected by the Chamber, and Burke said he hopes to get additional support from the city council and the fiscal court.

Governor releases revised road plan; nothing new planned for Nicholas County

Gov. John Y. Brown, 26, and Transportation Secretary Frank Metts last Wednesday announced the second edition of the state's five-year road and bridge construction plan, calling the initial plan "a tremendous success." The new five-year plan makes public the 26 highway construction projects and 24 bridge replacement projects planned for the next five years. Arkansas has done no reauthorizing work in two years, and Alabama is \$300 million behind in their reauthorizing," Metts said. "By comparison, Kentucky is getting a very good return on their tax dollars," he said. "Nearly 24 percent of the projects scheduled for construction in the first

County unemployment climbs to 11.3 percent

Unemployment in Nicholas County jumped to 11.3 percent of the county's civilian labor force in January, while unemployment across the Commonwealth reached a record high of 11.5 percent, according to recently released statistics from the state Department for Human Resources. That figure represents some 230 jobless Nicholas Countyans that were unable to find work in January, 47 of which have lost their jobs since November. The county's unemployment rate is up from 11.1 percent in December, and 7.8 percent in November. The national rate for January was 9.4 percent. The DHR statistics show that the number of jobs in a Kentucky's metropolitan area rose by 1,300 from December to January. That is the highest number of unemployed workers in the state since records began being compiled in 1967. Ninety-seven of Kentucky's 120 counties had unemployment rates in double figures during January. Ninety-nine counties had rates above the national average. DHR statistics also indicated that 11 Kentucky counties had unemployment rates above 20 percent and two counties had rates exceeding 30 percent. The highest unemployment rates in Kentucky were reported in Mendota County, which had a rate of 22.1 percent and neighboring Robertson County with 24.8 percent of its work force off the job. Union County had the state's lowest unemployment rate for January at 4.8 percent. The number of jobless persons in the Lexington metropolitan area rose by 1,300 from December to January. That is the highest number of unemployed workers in the state since records began being compiled in 1967. Ninety-seven of Kentucky's 120 counties had unemployment rates in double figures during January. Ninety-nine counties had rates above the national average.

Smith leaving Mercury post

Mercury Editor James C. Smith has resigned his position with the local newspaper effective March 25. Smith has accepted a job as an editor with the Charleston Daily Mail, Charleston, W. Va. A Nicholas County native, Smith returned to Carlisle in May of 1981

Wanke to edit local paper

A Bath County resident will become the editor of the Carlisle Mercury Monday, March 22. He is Jim Butler Wanke, 48, replacing current editor James C. Smith, who has taken an editorial position with the Charleston Daily Mail in Charleston, W. Va. The new editor is popularly known as "Jim Butler" and lives with his family on a farm five miles south of Owingsville near the small community of Olympia. He is married to Dolly Dauchner by Wanke, a native of Means, in Mendota County. She is the Art Supervisor in the Montgomery County Elementary Schools. One son, Kenneth Carlton, is an employee of Columbia Gas in Winchester and is also a high school basketball referee. A daughter, April Melton, is a student at Blue Licks Battle Bicentennial. — See Wanke to edit, page 11



Jim Butler Wanke

Historical society plans to branch out in coming months

by Jean W. Conley, Director Nicholas County Historical Society The Nicholas County Historical Society is planning to expand its activities extensively this year with a view to attracting new members. Among topics being discussed by the directors, about which they would like public input, are the following: Programs: The Society plans to schedule a series of high-quality programs and speakers for members and guests only, as one of the benefits of membership. Suggestions are being sought as to what types of programs members would like made available. The most recent program, the 1978/1900 Anniversary movie and slide showing of Dr. and Mrs. Wendell Kingmaker, was well attended and well received. Many remarks were made during the showing like "Oh there's so and so... with she could see that!" or "I didn't see him dressed like that!" Those who attended seemed to really enjoy the program, and more are planned like it. Among others being considered, is the suggestion for a show and Tell Hour where members could bring their historical items and explain to the group the significance of it. The point is to have fun and be interested as a member while fulfilling a very worthwhile need of the community by being a member. Money-making projects: The direc-



The Nicholas County Historical Society hopes to branch out into more activities in the coming months. Pictured above are local persons who participated in the Society-sponsored play "Simon Green" at Blue Licks in 1971. — Photo submitted.

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