

# The Carlisle Mercury

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Almost a perfect reflection. A full day, with no wind brought this picture last year. It was taken near the 4H Camp about 6:30 in the evening. —Mercury photo.

## Big Farm Show And Tractor Pull is set for Feb 16-19

A company out to prove itself in the electric field will be one of the highlights at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center all year.

Various exhibits in floor displays ranging from big names in tractors and combines, like Ford, John Deere and Allis-Chalmers, to outfits with names like Area Supply Company of Patahala, Ohio. They'll be bringing electric field control units for cows.

As always, the show is free to the public and designed for both window shoppers and serious buyers. Parking is \$2 per vehicle.

It will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Since the mid-70's, the show has sold out all of its indoor exhibit space — that means one out of every three exhibitors. Thousands of items, big and small, will fill the east and west wings and halls, plus the pavilion.

Other areas will be busy, too. Freedom Hall Coliseum will reorganize its basketball floor for a few days to be the setting of the Championship Tractor Pulls. They're strange to the eyes and loud to the ears, but they're among the most famous and most successful pulls in the country. Over in Branchland Arena, those tractors with engine power will be on public display from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

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## FHA celebrates

The Nicholas County chapter of Future Homemakers of America will hold its 125th anniversary in a national celebration of FHA/REHO Week, Feb. 6-12, 1982. Celebrated as part of Vocational Education Week, this annual event gives FHA/REHO members an opportunity to show their background home economics and how their participation will prepare them for the future.

As a part of the week activities, the chapter's 66 members have planned different projects for each day. Monday, Feb. 7, will be Member Appreciation Day; Tuesday, Feb. 8, will be Tractor Appreciation Day; Wednesday, Feb. 9, Officer Appreciation Day; Thursday, Feb. 10, Red/White Day; officers and members will wear the FHA colors; and Friday, Feb. 11, will be Student Body Appreciation Day.

Also the second annual Love Tree will be posted in the school hall and people will purchase valentines to display on it. There will be a display of officers' pictures and their files in the main hall throughout FHA Week.

"FHA/REHO Week," says President Mary Beth Knapke, "gives each member a chance to get involved and learn more about FHA as an organization. Future Homemakers of America is a national vocational student organization with two kinds of chapters. FHA and REHO chapters emphasize home economics related occupations.

## Mercury wins two awards at KPA meet

The Carlisle Mercury won two newspaper awards of excellence at the statewide meeting of the Kentucky Press Association, held at the Executive Inn in Owensboro Jan. 27-28. The annual meeting was attended by the meeting by candidates for governor Grady Stumbo, Lt. Gov. Martha Layne Collins and Harvey Stane.

Awards received by the Mercury included a first place for best news story by weekly class newspapers in Kentucky for 1982. The story was written by former editor James C. Smith, who is named on the plaque, and was about the controversy over the ambulance tax passed and then unpassed by the Nicholas County fiscal court.

Second award was given to current editor Jim B. Wankle for his column, "This Corner," on one locally written subject. In his remarks before the KPA meeting, candidate Harvey Stane announced plans to install a microprocessor terminal in each of Kentucky's public school classrooms. Stane stressed that jobs in the future would require computer literacy.

"It's been estimated that by 1985, up to 75 percent of all jobs will require a knowledge of computers," Stane said. Lt. Gov. Collins stressed her campaign follow-up order in Kentucky, but was somewhat unclear on where the funds would come from in finance such a program.

The Lt. Gov. noted that the death penalty is a necessary form of justice. "When all appeals are exhausted and when there is no doubt in the mind of the court, I as Governor, will comply with the sentence handed down by the court," Collins said, adding "I will sign the death warrants."

There currently are 13 men and one woman on death row at the Kentucky State Prison at Eddyville. The last execution in Kentucky was carried out in March 1962.

The Lt. Gov. also disclosed her plans for a comprehensive statewide correctional system that also to include state facilities. Among the proposals are a new 200-inmate medium security prison. The new prison estimated to cost \$50,000,000 would be complemented by a series of regional and feeder jails, as well as local temporary lockups.

Eastern Kentucky native Grady Stumbo, former Secretary of the Department for Human Resources, also addressed the group of editors and publishers and reported, generally, his remarks delivered recently at a similar meeting in Morehead. In these remarks he said that his years as a hospital administrator and doctor had caused him to be sympathetic to Kentucky's problems and especially to the impact of the coal industry on Kentucky's standard of living.

Other awards handed out by the Kentucky Press Association, Home Mads of South County was another first place award for his column on a variety of topics as well as awards for editorials on a basketball.

Senior — Dawn Curran, Camille Curran, Christy George, Kim Eckler, Joe Johnson, Gina Short, Greg Smart, Brian Watkins, Julie Will, Ginger Fryman.

Second Nine Weeks — Greg Bloomfield, Angie Buckner, Michelle Clark, Cornelia Chinkenshard, Patricia Cox, Keith Howard, Cynthia Fisher, Matthew Gutrie, Jill Irvin, Amy McFarland, Jeff Siddle, Derek Zachary.

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Editor honored  
Jim Butler Wankle, editor of The Carlisle Mercury, has returned from a 24-day tour of duty with the Naval Reserve at the Fleet Combat Training Center, Dan Creek, Va.

Mr. Wankle finished at the top of his U.S. Navy class with a grade of 88.6 percent. He also completed the scheduled six-week course in four weeks. The combination of these two achievements was recognized by a Letter of Commendation from the Base Commanding Officer, in which the CO said, "This achievement on this Anti-Submarine Warfare course has not been accomplished before in the history of the school."

## Burley: our 13 month tobacco crop

Tracking our famous Kentucky burley from seedbed to process plant to the retailer and smoker

From Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association  
Tobacco is the "13-month" crop, and it is labor all the way. That is its reputation down on the farm, where it is produced. And there is an element of truth in the claim. Each year's crop overflows the next. Next year's plant-beds are prepared sometimes before the current crop is disposed of. And as for planting, that's something that goes on all the time, usually for years in advance. The process from the time the seed is sown to the plant-bed until the matured leaf is harvested in the field is about five months. The other seven months of the year are taken up with the major tasks of harvesting, curing, and finally the stripping and marketing.

This final task of the tobacco grower's year — setting the crop on the market and converting it to cash, can be a long and arduous process. It begins in November and continues through the winter until the crop is ready for harvest. Golden-ripe burley is harvested and hung on sticks in the barn for drying. A highly dry-rot process. Here it is carefully loaded through its curing stages. Finally this is accomplished under natural weather conditions, and if those are favorable the crop can be ready for shipment in 10 to 15 weeks. Some times curing can be aided by artificial means, by heating or increasing air circulation through the barn.

Burley tobacco is sold at auction warehouses. Some 20-25 percent of the crop is purchased and processed by independent dealers for foreign buyers. The rest is bought and processed by the major tobacco companies.

Tobacco is sold in counties throughout the state but is not suitable for manufacturing purposes. It is sold in the form of leaf, and kept at the proper moisture level all through the curing process.

Under the rush of marketing season the warehouse floors are cleared to make room for more sales, and the buyers keep their purchases moving to processing plants where the tobacco is prepared for storage. Sometimes the crop is sold in two lots for the processing plants to keep up in, which are the newly-sold tobacco "green period" and kept in bogsheads several days or weeks until it can be marketed to the redryers.

Since tobacco reaches the redrying plant in various crop-ery assortments as sold at the warehouses, it may also vary in quality. It must be tested to meet the specifications of the buying interests or manufacturers. Inspectors from the USDA examine and grade the tobacco; stalks, waxes, and machines.

The process takes ample time and cannot be rushed. When the market

season is in full swing many processing plants work continuously 24 hours a day. The redrying plant arrives by heated rail, then adds a controlled amount of moisture again. After the leaf is ready for storage or export. In storage the leaf goes through several stages of fermentation and "waxes" involving chemical changes that stabilize the curing process and that started in the farmer's barn.

The modern high-speed harvest plant's mechanical changes are still used for most storage tobacco. A bogshead holds 60 to 1200 pounds of leaf, the weight varying according to type of tobacco and method of packing. Some handlers are now using cardboard or wooden cartons, for easier loading and stacking.

Tobacco stocks owned by the major manufacturers are stored in over 500 company-owned, leased or public warehouses, located in eight states.

When the tobacco has been aged to the desired stage, and acquired the proper qualities of flavor and aroma, it is transferred to the factories. Here the leaf is converted into cigarettes, cigars, pipe and chewing tobacco, and snuff. Many hundreds of thousands of workers are employed in the tobacco plants.

The tobacco manufacturing industry is a complex network that vastly contributes to the nation's economy. Finished tobacco products go into tobacco warehouses at the great marketing centers. Cigarettes, cigars, pipe and snuff are carried out to the worldwide distribution process.

In this country they distribute tobacco products to some two million retail outlets. Cigarettes cost retail outlets more frequently than any other product, exceeding in dollar value the total revenues for bread, milk, poultry or paper. Vending machines account for 10 percent of the total sales.

\* See Burley on page 18