

# The Carlisle Mercury

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**Better short grass than none**  
The warm spring weather and a bit of rain have finally stopped some farmers from hazing hay. These horses were working hard in this pasture on Walnut Grove Road but getting the hay done the other day.—Mercury photo.

## Burley program in danger again Hopkins says a dangerous splinter group is formed

By Rep. Larry Hopkins  
Developments in progress now point to a serious fragmentation of the federal tobacco program. In a year when we need cohesiveness, a spirit of cooperation among all tobacco interests, we have the potential splitting of the fragile — but essential — coalition which have been built and strengthened over the years. Our opponents would like nothing more than to see tobacco pit tobacco growers versus manufacturers, state versus federal, one commodity against another and even intra-agency bickering among members of Congress.

"United we stand, divided we fall," is Kentucky's motto. It applies more than ever to the entire spectrum of tobacco. We cannot allow splinter groups to divide and conquer us. The tobacco program has served millions of farmers and served us. We must stand and fight together to preserve it.

**New splinter group**  
Formation of a splinter group of tobacco growers in North Carolina is one of the most surprising developments in recent weeks. This group wants the absolute abolition of the federal tobacco program. Claiming a membership of 200, the militant group says it can no longer produce flue-cured tobacco within the confines of the existing no net cost tobacco program and make a profit. Therefore, these farmers would like an opportunity to grow tobacco without the price support program.

In a letter to members of Congress, these farmers state that the program regulations "are a horrendous maze, and growers resent the police state tactics necessary to enforce state tobacco acreage limitations."

While this group claims to want free enterprise, in this same document, it says it favors a supply control program to protect tobacco growers from unstable market prices for tobacco. This is exactly what we now have in the form of price supports. This group is truly misnamed, because it wants to demolish what we now have and replace it with, lastingly, the same thing.

**Legislation pending**  
Partially in response to Rep. Charlie Hoar's, D-N.C., introduction of H.R. 1480 pertaining to collection of grower assessments of flue-cured tobacco, the North Carolina group was formed. Even pro-tobacco legislation in Congress is risky business these days. I'm very concerned about bringing any tobacco measures to the floor at this time. I don't feel it's wise to send legislation to the Senate for possible changes by anti-tobacco senators who would do anything but harm to our program.

Anti-tobacco legislation has been drafted by Rep. Tom Petri, D-Wis., et al., to deregulate the federal tobacco program. The legislation would repeal laws providing price supports, acreage allotments and marketing quotas and the marketing mechanism which controls the price of the program.

The aforementioned North Carolina tobacco activists have joined forces with these anti-tobacco congressmen and senators.

My advice to both sides: Give the no net cost tobacco program a

## 200 persons attend anti-liquor meeting

**Guthrie authorized to publish petition names**

A crowd estimated at about 200 persons gathered at the Carlisle Christian Church Sunday evening and heard several prominent Kentuckians speak out against legislated liquor sales and the effects of alcohol. One of those was Mrs. Loretta Little of Lexington, who had lost her son in a car accident involving a "drunk driver."

"My son and I had dinner together that night. We made plans for his birthday party which was a few days later. Ten minutes later he lay dying, struck down by a drunk driver. Ironically, he was killed three years ago on April 14, the date of the local option election in Carlisle," Mrs. Little said, as the crowd listened.

Mrs. Little said her son was struck while riding his motorcycle, by a man with two previous arrests for "driving under the influence."

"That man is currently serving an eight month sentence for 'taking another life,'" Mrs. Little said.

Loretta Little spoke as a member of the Lexington Chapter of MAD, Mothers Against Drunk Driving. Petitions requesting a local option vote in four Nicholas County precincts were filed earlier this year and the vote is to be held in those precincts on Saturday, April 14.

Fred Lammert, Chief of Police in Morehead, Ky., told the group of the effect of legal liquor sales in that city. He reported citations for public intoxication up 140 percent since legal liquor sales were begun, driving under the influence up 540 percent and other alcohol related crimes up 200 percent. He told of having to transport prisoners to jails in Carter, Clark and Montgomery Counties because the Rowan County Jail was filled to capacity and of the added expense to the county as a result of the legislation of alcohol.

**Delbert Butts spoke**  
Delbert Butts, director of the Kentucky Temperance League, addressed the academic side of the local option question pointing out that the only guaranteed income to city and county governments was license fees. He reported that statistics showed that cities where liquor sales were legal usually had higher crime rates than cities where there were no legal liquor sales and that this increase in crime resulted in increased expenditures for law enforcement far above the increase in revenue from liquor sales. He cited Springfield, Ky., as an example of this crime under the influence problem, more than doubled after the legislation of liquor sales.

Dotie Marshall, treasurer of Citizens for a Better Community, said of the rally, "Carlisle has always been on the little town with the big heart. We are trying to keep it from becoming the little town with the broken heart and I think the wonderful crowd we have here tonight shows that there are many people who feel as we do. We think that we have been richly blessed by the attendance at this rally."

Following the rally, those in attendance enjoyed a fellowship period with wine and cheese.

refreshments provided by CBC.  
Names to be published  
Meanwhile, at a CBC meeting held last week, the group authorized Publicity Chairman Bill Guthrie to publish the names of all those who had signed the petitions requesting a local option vote in four Nicholas County precincts, City Building, Mathias, Engine House and Mayor's Office.

Guthrie also said he had been in touch with the Attorney General's office regarding the legality of publishing such petitions and that "some general petitions are a matter of public record, there was no reason why they could not be published."

The CBC group said the reason for publishing the names was to determine if there were any unauthorized signatures on the petitions. Guthrie was instructed to use his own judgment as to the time and method of publication.

"Each petition contains the minimum number of signatures required to legally call for the local option election to be placed before the people," Guthrie said. "If there are only one or two unauthorized signatures on each petition and, through publication of these petitions, we are able to have those signatures removed, it will cause the elections scheduled for April 14 to be cancelled, saving the county part of the expense of this election."

**Election cost**  
Guthrie said the last local option election cost the county about \$200. "This one will cost about that much too. So that's about \$200 spent on decisions that may very well be cancelled."

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## Myers liquor vote upheld

An appeal of the validity of the Myers local option vote last December 4, making the precinct wet, has been denied by Circuit Court Judge G.A. Famularo, who also criticized the action brought before his court, saying "it is the opinion of this court that the contention has attempted to appeal this action by means of a 'control of an election' rather than a proper intervention and appeal to a higher court."

In his written judgment filed by clerk March 23, upholding his court's earlier decision allowing one precinct in a county to be wet, one precinct in a county cannot

## Good Friday, Easter services

(Service services are listed at the bottom of page 14.)  
The annual community service of worship commemorating Good Friday will be held in the First Baptist Church at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, April 1. The service will include special music, as well as dramatic interpretation of the crucifixion event, coordinated by Rev. Al Campbell. The service is for persons of all faiths, and is conducted under the auspices of the Nicholas County Ministerial Association.

**Chapels**  
Several local and state offices will close at noon on Friday, April 1, in observance of Good Friday services.

The Circuit Clerk's office will close at noon on Friday, April 1. The office will be open as usual from 10 to 12 noon on Saturday.

The Department for Human Resources will close at noon Friday.

Federal offices, including the post office, will be open as usual on Friday.

## Park Board asks for support

A meeting is set for the Nicholas County commission on Thursday, Mar. 31, at 5:30 p.m., to get signatures to show support for a grant to improve the city park.

The Park Board is going to apply for a grant through the Bluegrass A&E to fund to replace lights, replace the wooden bleachers with metal ones, repair the tennis court, and replace the old bridge with a new one.

The Park Board urges everyone interested to be present at the meeting, to show support for the project from the public.

## Long distance change coming on Friday

"Folks who need to make long distance calls from coin telephones will have several ways to pay for them," Rene said. "You can call collect, carry enough change to pay for the calls, or — most convenient of all — charge calls to a Bell System Calling Card."

That's when South Central Bell begins requiring approval for each call. The operator will dial the third number before completing the call. If the third party refuses the charges, or if the number cannot be reached — for any reason — the call will not be completed. The new rules also apply when callers dial their own numbers.

"This change will protect people from being billed for calls they don't want charged to their number," said Carl Rene, district manager for Bell.

Operators now complete third-number calls without approval, but are telling customers that approval will be required after April 1.

Rene said Calling Cards may be obtained by calling Bell Center service representative. The number is in the front of the phone book on the page titled "How to Reach Us at South Central Bell."



**National Honor Society**  
Fourteen Nicholas County High School students were inducted into the membership of the National Honor Society in an afternoon ceremony at the high school, Wednesday, March 16. They were selected for scholarship, service, leadership and character. From left are Rhonda Vaughn, Ginger Fryman, Susanne Jones, Marsha Lyons, Carl Johnson, Jo Ellen Howard, Keith Lyons, Steve Anderson, Denise

Highland, Cliff Ramsey, Cindy Livingston, Shaheed Koury, Pam Sparks, Lisa Shaw. The NHS chapter has been active since 1962. The National Honor Society ranks as one of the oldest and most prestigious national organizations for high school students. These students' parents were honored at a reception last Sunday.—Photo submitted.