

Deaths

KARL RATLIFF
Karl E. Ratliff, husband of Nancy D. Ratliff, 266 West Main Street, Carlisle, died Sunday, May 22, 1983, at the Good Samaritan Hospital, Lexington.
He was a former Nicholas County jailer, retired farmer, member of Carlisle United Methodist Church, and a native of Nicholas County.
Other survivors are three sons, Harold T. Ratliff, Corbin; Osa W. and Ronald W. Ratliff, both of Lexington; one brother, John Hatfield, Waynesville, OH; one sister, Mrs. Almeta Shanks, Albany; 14 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren.
Services were Tuesday, May 24, at the Matthews-Clauser Funeral Home by the Rev. Bob Gipson. Burial in Carlisle Cemetery.

GEORGE ROBERT MCCAIN
George Robert McCain, 77, Burdin, died Monday, May 23, 1983 at James H. Hagan Memorial Hospital, Harrodsburg.
He was a native of Nicholas County, member of the Masonic Lodge in Carlisle, former mayor of Burdin and a retired systems analyst for the Lexington Blue Grass Army Depot at Lexington.
Survivors are his wife, Mary Bryant McCain; one son, George R. McCain Jr., Dayton, OH; one daughter, Jean Regan, Lexington; one brother, Charles H. McCain, Carlisle; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.
Services were Wednesday, May 25, at Alexander and Royalty Funeral Home, Harrodsburg.

CECIL SAPP
Cecil Sapp of Waycross, GA, died Thursday, May 12, 1983 in Waycross.
He was a native of Nicholas County.
Survivors are his wife, Sidney West; one son, Harry Sapp; one daughter, Mrs. Jewell Lerly; all of Waycross; one sister, Mrs. Richard McClain of Versailles.
Services were Saturday, May 14, in Waycross.

Arts Council has openings

The Kentucky Arts Council has openings in its Artists in Education Program for dancers, video artists (preferably with a proficiency in photography as well), and coordinators of folk arts residencies.
For the folk arts residencies, applicants should have an M.A. in folklore or the equivalent in experience. Artists are sought who are temperamentally suited to living and working in small rural communities. Short-term and nine-month positions are available in all areas.

The stipend for a nine-month residency is \$11,250. To apply, submit a detailed resume, names, address and telephone numbers of three references, and a letter expressing interest in and suitability for the position. Deadline for applications is June 15, 1983. For more information, contact Nancy Carpenter, Kentucky Arts Council, Berry Hill, Frankfort, Ky. 40601. An equal opportunity employer.



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**Medicare:
Our next crisis
is now brewing**

by Rep. Larry Hopkins
Created only 13 years ago in 1965, Medicare is already America's second largest social program.
This \$165 billion medical insurance program has grown faster than any other — even social security — doubling in cost almost every 10 years.
Medicare, which consists of hospital insurance financed by part of the social security payroll tax, and doctor insurance financed by an insurance premium and general federal revenues, pays for almost one-half of the health care received by the nation's elderly.
The hospital insurance fund will be bankrupt by 1987 if 1986 unless responsible bipartisan action is taken! The Medicare program is facing serious problems.
To prevent Medicare from becoming a political football — as social security already has become — and to study all proposals in a fair, balanced manner, I have cosponsored legislation with Rep. Claude Pepper and other members of the Select Committee on Aging. This bill calls for a bipartisan commission to study Medicare. The commission would begin work on Oct. 1, 1983, and would submit recommendations on June 1, 1984, to the President and Congress.

Medicare is a fundamental and irrevocable clause in the government's contract with its citizens. I intend to honor that contract and to do whatever is necessary to see the program continue to meet the needs of elderly and disabled people.
Already, there are several recommendations and I'm sure they'll be studied closely by the commission and by the Congress. Please keep in mind these are early suggestions, which may be changed before the Congress meets on them. I would appreciate your thoughts and comments about these recommendations and any other ideas you may have to make the Medicare medical insurance program solvent. If you care to comment on the following proposals, write my Washington office: Rep. Larry J. Hopkins, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.
(1) Make employer contributions to health insurance plans taxable. Employer contributions in excess of \$15 a month for families, and \$10 a month for individuals would be subject to taxation — just as other income. It is estimated this proposal would affect 30 percent of workers with employer-subsidized coverage.
(2) Medicare beneficiaries would pay substantially more for short-term hospital stays, but they would be protected from catastrophic expenses for major

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Canner	30,00-38-00
SLAUGHTER BULLS	
Price trend	2,064-00 higher
Yield grade 1-2	51,00-64-33
VEALERS	
Steady	70,00-87-00
Choice	
FEEDER STEERS	
Steady	
Price trend	60,00-60-00
65-25-71-00	
62-25-67-10	
70,00-80-00	
80,00-83-80	
2025	
HEIFERS	
Price trend	Steady
58,00-65-00	
58,00-65-00	
56,00-62-25	
56,00-60-00	

**Valedictorians,
salutatorians
named at NCHS**

Nicholas County High School graduation was held Sunday evening, May 22, at the gymnasium and Susanne Gault and Jennifer Hughes were named Co-Valedictorians.
Ronald Sexton was named Salutatorian.

The composite picture of the seniors is published on page five in this week's issue, and several pictures and stories about awards given to NCHS students will be featured in future issues of The Mercury.