Opinion

One good turn deserves another

One of the most important community-wide events took place here last Wednesday. The Nicholas County Health Fair attracted several hundred persons (228 forms were turned in) from all walks of life who availed themselves of mostly free health screenings and information designed to promote health education and awareness among those 18 years of age and older.

To be commended are the local professionals — doctors of medicine, dentistry and eye care, hospital technicians, nurses — and volunteers from almost every local organization who manned stations throughout the day. In some cases, volunteers arrived before the 10 a.m. start and remained until the 7 p.m. closing. Still others split the seven-hour tour of duty.

People began arriving about 8 a.m., two hours in advance of startup. Some left, citing the necessity of getting to work. Most stayed, even though the lines were long throughout the morning hours. Those who took advantage of services offered seemed amazed at the variety of screenings which lined the Old Armory Building and overflowed into other offices and the basement. It was a veritable clinic on Main Street in downtown Carlisle.

The Nicholas County Health Fair was one of 20 under the auspices of the Blue Grass Health Fair during the week of March 30-April 7. Sponsors were WLEX-TV, the University of Kentucky Albert B. Chandler Medical Center and the National Health Screening Conficil for Volunteer Organizations Inc.

A local coordinator, Sharon Wilson, put it this way: "We are thrilled with the response of the people who came, the people who made it possible and those behind the scenes (local supermarkets who supplied food for workers, Blue Grass Industries Inc., and business people who gave whatever time they could). We feel sure this will become an annual event."

We do, too. Anything this successful certainly bears repeating.

Let's track down The Cookie Monster

Girl Scouts have been selling cookies to the public since 1934 without a serious problem — until this year.

Now, there has been a rash of reports across the nation that customers are finding metal objects — pins, needles, staples — in their cookie cartons and within the cookies themselves. There even have been some injuries.

Many of the tainted cookies can be traced to a bakery in Louisville which turns out about half of the 100 million boxes made each year. The Food and Drug Administration is investigating. (Cookies sold in Nicholas County are purchased from a bakery in Richmond, Va.)

Girl Scouts go door-to-door selling these cookies to raise money for their local chapters, regional councils and national headquarters. More than 60 percent of their sales income goes directly back into the Girl Scout organization, much of it to help finance camping and other wholesome activities. Now this tampering jeopardizes their programs.

The tainted cookies already have caused one state — Maine — to halt sales in six counties. If it is necessary to halt sales elsewhere, it will seriously harm the Girl Scout effort.

We can't help but wonder if the culprit isn't some sulking, malcontented bakery employee who is doing this damage over a quarrel he has had with management. If so, we wish the authorities quick success in tracking the culprit down.

Letters from our readers

To The Carlisle Mercury:

We think the Health Fair last week in Carlisle was one of the best community efforts we've ever seen. It brightens one's outlook in today's "what's in it for me" society to see so many people pitch in unselfishly to help their fellow man.

We understand a number of health problems were discovered that probably would have gone undetected otherwise.

The doctors, pharmacists, nurses, dentists, ministers, health personnel and lay persons who donated their services, and the sponsors who supported it, should be congratulated and thanked for a job well done.

Joanie and Jock Conley

Agree or not

Teachers not supermarket items

by S.C. Van Curon

Frankfort — It came somewhat as a surprise to this column that there was so much editorial criticism of the General Assembly for not passing additional taxes to obtain the extra $234 million Gov. Martha Layne Collins requested.

The editorials were based chiefly on the needs for improvement in education in Kentucky, the plea on which the governor based her request, but failed to provide a definitive program for spending the additional money.

In several public appearances the governor said the money was earmarked for education, but Rep. Pat Friebert of Lexington refuted this statement from the floor of the House, saying the budget contained no earmarking of these funds for education or any other purpose.

SEVERAL STEPS for improving education in Kentucky were provided, and these were funded: mandatory kindergarten, pupil testing, teacher evaluation, teacher probationary period, higher qualifications for school board members, etc.

Small salary increments were provided for teachers, two percent the first year and three percent the second year of the budget, but the governor's career ladder program was not approved.

A call to get rid of several frills in secondary schools with a return to the basics was heard in legislative chambers but little was done toward this end.

It is generally agreed that higher salaries are needed to attract some of the more talented people to the classrooms, but it should be thoroughly understood this cannot be achieved on a grand scale within a year or two. You can't get these people like choosing an item in the supermarket.

IT WILL TAKE more than a decade to make an appreciative showing toward this goal. There are thousands of excellent teachers in our classrooms now who have suffered from lack of adequate earnings and borne the insults and degredation by being classified as second class citizens looking for payday and quitting time.

These teachers deserve to serve out their working life in the classroom if they so choose, provided of course, they do acceptable jobs.

The General Assembly was correct in requesting that a plan be presented to use the money before it is appropriated. The money in the governor's request could have been used for any purpose, and some of it probably would have been diverted.

Actions in the past have proved that money alone is not the cure. There was a time when Latin or other foreign languages were required in high school for college entrance. The English language has many roots in these and it gave the students a better understanding of the English language as well as humanity.

PARENTS are not without blame for the sorry state of the education system within this state. People have been unwilling to pay taxes at the local level. The General Assembly corrected a portion of this by requiring a minimum local level support before being able to receive state funds.

Parents also have neglected the supervision and encouragement of their children to get interested in learning and to see that they did. Too many parents have looked upon schools as a babysitting service.

The two most important requisites for a good education system is a dedicated teacher and a child who wants to learn.

Down Memory Lane

Assistant postmaster retires; Fewer arrests for drunkenness

Thursday, April 16, 1964

Arnold C. Bowen retired as assistant postmaster of the Carlisle Post Office Friday after nearly 32 years of service. Eugene R. Snapp has been promoted to the position of chief clerk and Calvin Wills has accepted the position vacated by Mr. Snapp. E.E. "Tim" Sutton is postmaster.

Fire destroyed the home and furnishings of J.T. Edwards, about a mile and one-half from here on the Upper Jacksntown Road Friday.

Mrs. Thomas C. Johnson, president of the Seventh District PTA, presided at the spring conference of the Seventh District held Wednesday, April 8, at the Eastern Elementary School in Scott County.

The senior class of Nicholas County High School will present the annual play, a three-act comedy, "June Mad" on Thursday and Friday, April 23-24 at 8 p.m. Members of the cast are Dwain Green, Wanda Hamm, LeeAnn Moss, Wayne Capps, Faye Lyness, Jimmy Boyd, Joyce Wills, Steve Ockerman, James Anderson, Billy Stacey, Luanne Ellington, Danny Booth and Leanne Roberts.

County firemen Woody Wilson and Frankie Hughes answered a call to the farm of Julian Gaunce on Saltwell Road where they extinguished a grass fire Friday afternoon.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. William E. Hill, Florida, a son, April 5. — To Mr. and Mrs. Meredith Jackson, a daughter, Ruby Jean, April 13 at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Norman Curtis, Millersburg, a daughter, Anita Carol, April 9 at Nicholas County Hospital.

MARRIED — Miss Ann Todd Jeffries and Edward Thomas Houlihan, Saturday at Christ the King Catholic Church.

DIED — Miss Florence Vimont, 88, Millersburg, April 12 at Bourbon County Hospital. — Letitia Cox Maddox, 62, April 7 at home in Cincinnati, OH.

Thursday, April 20, 1944

Last week, Pendleton and Rowan County went city in the local option election. This calls attention to the fact that Nicholas County has had local option nearly one and a half years. One of the best barometers for measuring local option is the fact of fewer arrests and trials for drunkenness and bootlegging, as shown by city and county records.

The Methodist fellowship organization entertained with a going-away party Saturday night at the home of Miss Louise Hopkins in honor of Junior and Hugh Elston Nichols, who left this week for their new home in Nicholasville.

The members of the National Honor Society of Carlisle High School presented an informal tea Tuesday from 4:30 to 6:00 at the school in honor of the teachers and mothers of the Honor Society members. Three new members, Miss Marie Ballard, Miss Virginia Lee Cowan and Mrs. Armand Weddle, were welcomed into the society.

DIED — Daniel P. Vaughn, 83, April 19 at home near Ellisville. — Mrs. Bertha Conway Cameron, 62, wife of Kelley Cameron, Friday at home. — Virgil Feyman, 64, Saturday, at Clark County Hospital. — Mrs. Mary Lou Birrenger, wife of N.H. Birrenger, Tuesday at home near Flemingsburg. — Mrs. Edith Lynnam Lawrence, wife of John H. Lawrence, Monday at home. — Pvt. Kenneth S. Gaunce, 25, Saturday in Lexington.

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Here Abouts · · · · · with Emily A. Wolf

It was fun for Nancy...

The Blairs — Custer and Carolyn Proc and Proc and Sara Jim — weren't the only ones who were on the west coast prior to or during the recent NCAA Final Four tournament.

Nancy Mathias, daughter of former resident Frank and Florence Mathias, was a member of the cheerleading squad for Dayton University where her author-father teaches history.

In response to a letter of condolence (Dayton's loss to Georgetown) from Jock and Joanie Conley, Frank wrote:

"I have no idea what a 'hoya' is, but that is one team that is not liked in Dayton, not because they beat us but because they cursed our players all during the game and acted like the bunch of paid punks they are.

"Our players and cheerleaders developed a mountain of contempt for the entire Georgetown operation. Everyone here was rooting for UK, just as sure as you were that the Twin Towers would blast Ewing back to the East Coast. And last night Florence and I were rooting for Houston, a team we never root for under ordinary circumstances."

Nancy and her cheerleading pals have literally had one of the greatest times of their lives. First it was to Salt Lake City where Dayton put the bee on LSU and Oklahoma. They went skiing on an 11,000 ft. mountain, taking a chairlift up through clouds and out into the bright sunlight on top.

Then, they came back to Dayton and I had to stop at a store to bring her home so she could buy a bathing suit — from snow skiing to water skiing! The next day they took off for Los Angeles, stayed in a beautiful hotel alongside the UCLA campus, and performed right well in Pauley Pavilion as the Flyers laid it on Washington.

"By this time the city of Dayton was in an uproar. Red and blue banners were everywhere and classes were a shambles here at UD. (Coach) Don Donaher could have owned the city if he had made it past Georgetown. As it was, the Flyers did right well, not getting blown out, and holding the Hoyas to a mere two point lead well into the second half.

"It has been a great season for us, and Nancy got in swims at two different beaches, one of which featured Hare Krishnas, dancing in circles and shouting their names. She'll be talking about all of this for years to come. It has been hard on her parents keeping up with her, but we've both had fun trying. And cheerleading days suddenly come to an end and they have for her. She is now interviewing in the job market with graduation looming on April 29. Anybody need an EX-cheerleader?

"I've got to get down (to Lake Carnico) and turn the water on before long and also get a carpenter to fix the roof where a big limb hit it last winter. Custer has the insurance on it (he should have taken some insurance out on his trip to see the Cats in Seattle — disaster policy of some kind with Lloyds!)."

The Blairs, it should be pointed out, were impressed with everything about the trip except the game itself. And, for the record, CP survived her first flight ever in flying (?) color.

What happened to the Cats, we asked?

The head man, was the unanimous reply.

*****

Remember the Christmas Castata at the First Baptist Church which drew such acclaim last December? Well, the choir is at it again with The Fourth Cross Easter music in two preview performances this weekend, one Saturday at 7 p.m. and another on Sunday at 5 p.m....Speaking of churches, the corner of Chestnut and Locust, just past the Christian Church has to be the coldest corner in Carlisle. It's almost like facing a wind tunnel as you cross the intersection...

*****

More Balloon Descend — A Prestonsburg man, William F. Warrix, called to say that he and his wife Maudie found a bunch of six balloons, tied together, which came to the ground on their farm on Crooked Creek Road.

They had seen recent articles in The Mercury about similar findings in that vicinity, launched from a Falmouth, Ky. elementary school. Warrix said the ones he found were from St. DePaul Elementary in Bedford, Ind., well up in the state.

Three had burst and the others had deflated after coming in contact with the ground. Any other sightings? Give us a call.

*****

Shop Talk — In answer to two questions, 1, the reason some pictures in the paper reproduce so dark is that they are color prints of poor quality and usually of large groups. Black and white prints are far superior for our purposes. Try to stay away from color film when snapping group pictures for publication. We'll all look better.

And 2, the in-again, out-again appearances of Hospital Notes as a weekly feature is due to the fact that we do not always receive the information in time for inclusion.

For some unknown reason the letter, mailed by the hospital and postmarked here on Saturday, reaches our desk on the following Wednesday, after The Mercury is printed.

We've alerted the hospital office and hopefully this will all be resolved soon.

*****

Our thanks to **Bobbie Jeffries** in Columbia for the following clipping:

"Everything is further away than it used to be. It's twice as far to the corner...and they've added a hill, I've noticed.

"I've given up running for the bus; it leaves faster than it used to. They

*See Herebouts, page 3

Op-Ed page

Hey, Vern, she wants Cary Grant ...I'd like Dolly Parton, know whatta mean?

Author Fran Lebowitz sounds like a complainer, and that's because she is, and a very good one at that. Life has been hard on this high school dropout, forcing her into the role of author "because the only other marketable skill I had was driving."

"You may find it odd," she tells her audience, "that someone who hates school so much would have chosen a career that is essentially a lifetime of homework." The difference is, when I hand in my work, they give me money instead of marks."

Yet, writing, on the whole, she says, ranks only slightly above coal mining as a career. Miss Lebowitz provided other opinions on a wide variety of topics:

Word processors: "I'm such a slow writer that I don't need anything as fast as a computer. In fact, I could write in my own blood and not hurt myself."

Self-improvement: "Most people have much less potential than they imagine."

Exercise: "You can call it jogging if you want, you can call it tennis if you want. I call it gym. I don't have to go anymore. So I don't."

Being Pope: "My interest in being Pope is entirely secular. The Pope has great jewelry. The Pope never has to look for an apartment. And on top of the list of papacy perks, people kneel when he walks into the room. That's appealing, you have to admit."

Airplanes: "If I had a hundred million dollars, I wouldn't buy any airplane. If I was rich enough to have a plane, I wouldn't have to go anywhere."

Reading: "Reading is better than real life. It is certainly better than my life. I'm a very promiscuous reader."

Ronald Reagan: "I am not disturbed about having an actor as president. I am disturbed about having a B actor as president. I mean I think America is a great country. We deserve Cary Grant."

Leisure-time activities: "For relaxation I believe in getting right to the point and I sleep."

Women's liberation: "I think the word 'Ms.' has a deteriorating effect on the English language. The longer the use of the word 'Ms.' is allowed to go on, the further deteriorating effects it will cause to the English language. It will lead to women doctors wanting to be called 'Ds.'"

— RM —

A U.S. Senator participated in a seminar on the nation's economic condition and, when asked to speak, made a point when he told the story about the businessman who needed a crackerjack accountant and started a search. Finally, he found the right guy.

His new accountant sat at an old desk behind a dim lamp and wore a green eyeshade. There was a bottle of whiskey on the top of the desk and a spittoon on the floor. When a friend called and noticed the unusual office arrangement, he brought it up.

"I thought you needed a good accountant," he said.

"I did and this fellow is terrific," the businessman said. "My problems are solved."

"You've got to be kidding."

"Not at all," the businessman said. He related that he called Arthur Andersen & Co. and asked an accountant to add two and two. He gave four as the answer. Then he called Price Waterhouse with the same question and got the same answer.

"And then I called this man with that same question," the businessman said.

"So what happened?"

"He asked me what sounded good to me," the businessman said.

— RM —

Pythagoras had his theorems, Einstein his theories and Murphy his laws. I have developed the Principles of Inverse Proliferation (PIP).

After years of research, I've determined that inverse proliferation affects all human behavior. You cannot escape it. Consider these categorized examples:

Travel. There are Principles of Inverse Proliferation between the amount of luggage you are carrying and the distance from curbside to the airline ticket counter. The more luggage, the greater the distance.

Vacations. There is PIP to consider between the size of the nonrefundable deposit you made on a motel room and the health of your children (or spouse) the night before you are scheduled to leave.

Weekend. The same applies on the time at which you take a much-needed long weekend and the weather conditions during just those days, despite any forecasts made to the contrary.

Auto. There are Principles of Inverse Proliferation involved between the time you remove your snow tires and the date of the last major snowstorm of the year.

Home Care. Principles of Inverse Proliferation comes to the front in the amount of plumbing parts you have removed, coupled with the importance of completing the new assembly and the availability of one key out — or, more generally, the need for a specific part and the time the store closes.

Children. There is PIP between how tired you are and how late your son or daughter stays out that night.

Success. Likewise in your ability to pull over to the side of the road and the progressing state of car sickness of the child in the back seat.

Medicine. PIP comes forth in the amount of pain in your tooth and the office hours of the dentist.

Business. The same between the importance of the guests you are entertaining, the size of the restaurant tab and either the credit card acceptable and the amount of cash you have in your pocket.

Marriage. The Principles of Inverse Proliferation is easily recognized in the clothes of the husband, average six years old, and that of his wife, which can be measured in hours.

— RM —

In Money magazine recently there was this discussion on the financial problems that wealthy folks have trying to live up to their income. It is enough to wring the heart of us folks in poordom.

For instance, did you realize that the price of a Rolls-Royce Corniche has gone up 226 percent in the last 10 years? In 1974, you could drive away — or be driven away — in a Rolls for a paltry $47,800. Today the same car costs $156,000 not to mention what chauffeurs are asking these days.

A full-length black opal mink coat has doubled in price, from $6,500 to $13,000. You can't hire Peter Duchin and a seven-piece orchestra for a dime less than $12,250 — all they wanted to play while you boogied away in 1974 was $5,500. And a custom made men's suit has jumped from $795 to $1,599 and a Bob Mackie dress will set you back $14,000 instead of the $5,000 it was priced at 10 years ago.

So you are having lots of money isn't all champagne and caviar (a pound of fresh triple-O grade beluga caviar is $375, by the way)! And you thought rich folks had no problems, didn't you?

Onward, upward.

RUSS METZ

Here Abouts

Continued from page 2

even make the stairs steeper than in the old days.

"And have you noticed the smaller print in the newspaper? Nor does it make any sense to ask anyone to read to you; they speak in such low tones these days.

"The material in our clothes is skimpier now, too...especially around the waist and hips, which makes it difficult to bend down to put your shoes on.

"Even people are changing. They are so much younger than when I was their age. On the other hand, people my age are so much older looking than I am.

"I ran into an old friend the other day and he had aged so much I didn't recognize me! I got to thinking about the poor thing when I was combing my hair recently. I glanced at my reflection.

"Confound it all, they don't even make mirrors like they used to!!!"

Somebody Said — How do I know my youth is spent? My get up and go has got up and went. (A favorite of **Mrs. Virginia Reynolds** when it was reprinted here a long time ago.)

Kindergarten, first grade registration is April 20

Parents who have children who will be five or six years of age on or before Oct. 1, 1984 are to register their child for kindergarten or first grade Friday, April 20. Registration will be conducted at Nicholas County Elementary from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

At the time of registration bring (1) the child's birth verification card or birth certificate, (2) certificate of immunization or shot records, (3) medical examination form, and (4) certificate of tuberculin skin test. The required Th skin test and certificate of immunization may be obtained at the Nicholas County Health Center.

ANY CHILD who is four or five years of age is eligible to register for Head Start. Acceptance to the Head Start program is based upon family income. Parents must bring (1) social security number, (3) child's birth certificate, (3) immunization record and (4) income verification.

Children who are currently enrolled in kindergarten will not be required to register for first grade.

Further information concerning registration can be obtained by contacting Betty Conrad, Director of Pupil Personnel, Nicholas County Board of Education, phone 289-2364. Information concerning the Head Start program can be obtained by calling the Community Action Center, phone 289-7173.

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