

JAN 5 1984

Council sworn in

City Council members met Friday night, Dec. 26, at 7 p.m. to be officially sworn in by City Clerk Mary Tapp. From left are Clerk Tapp, Betty Barton, Tommy Vaughn, Bobby Barnett, Charles Fay, Clarence Cord and Carmine Lester. Mrs. Barton was elected mayor pro tem.

FmHa processing Drought loan applications

Applications for disaster assistance from farmers in Nicholas County are being processed as fast as they are received in an effort to speed checks to eligible farmers, James A. Letcher, county supervisor for the Farmers Home Administration (FmHa), said. Farm operators in Nicholas County who suffered losses because of the drought earlier this year become eligible for FmHa emergency loans on Oct. 7, 1983 and have six months, or until April 9, 1984 to apply for loans. "Based on preliminary assessments, we expect that about 60 farmers in this county will apply for emergency loans," Letcher said. "So far, we have received 18 applications, or about 30 percent of those expected."

Writer wonders...?

By William D. Cochran. This story is based on true facts. However, some of the facts in it are a bit more interesting. Many of the actual names I have given, both in the camp and in the Florida School that I attended, and since people sometimes are very sensitive to seeing their names printed without their permission, and since I have no idea where they are now, other than my own name the others will be fictitious, but based on persons I know in both places. Some of the conversations where I was not physically present are simulated, as I assume based on what happened afterwards, and what others have told me, and some of the events are not magnified - but it has been a long time.

I wonder how many persons will recognize those three letters that they once stood for and how they helped bring a great nation back to stability from a depression that had held it in an iron fist, slowly choking the lifeblood from it. CCC - Civilian Conservation Corps. To the majority it will have no great meaning, namely because it both was 100 (100 years ago), and the greater part of our population was barely around then, if at all. Federal Agency set it up in April 1933 as part of the New Deal, a program of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The agency was created by the United States Congress for the conservation of the natural resources of our country - timber, soil, water, etc. - but I believe for a two-fold purpose, and the latter just as important (maybe even more so) than the first, to provide employment for young single men between the ages of 17 and 25. Members were called enrollees. The enrollee could be promoted to assistant leader and even to leader. The salary scale, the best that I can now remember, was \$30 monthly for basic enrollee, \$35 monthly for assistant leader, and \$45 for leader. Also you received your room and board, work clothes, and medical care. The only resemblance to the military was the sounding of retreat five days each week, a captain and a lieutenant in the Army Reserve. The only reason that I bring up this reference to the military is that I have had all these years in which to reflect back, and knowing the great foresight and the keen mind of President Roosevelt, I sometimes wonder if perhaps he could see the handwriting on the wall leading him to the great conflict that was to come in a few short years down the road and that CCC could at least introduce one to preparation. I, along with about 1,000,000 others, am an alumna of this organization. It was this that I was added in late '41 or early '42 in as a Farmer's Island at this time. I spent one year in the CCC in 1937. There were five of us from

FARMERS MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR SBA DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Farmers in the state of Kentucky who were ineligible for financial assistance from the Farmers Home Administration as a result of the physical disaster, which occurred between Jan. 1, 1983 and Sept. 30, 1983, may be eligible for assistance from the U.S. Small Business Administration. Under new legislation signed by President Reagan in November, SBA has been directed to provide financial assistance to farmers who suffered crop and/or livestock damage as a result of a disaster beginning between Jan. 1, 1983 and Sept. 30, 1983, said B. B. Wells, district director, Louisville District Office of SBA. The FmHa declared Nicholas among the 115 Kentucky counties a disaster area on Nov. 28, 1983, as a result of the physical disaster. Mr. Wells outlined that only those farmers who did not receive assistance from FmHa due to eligibility reasons and have a letter of referral from FmHa will be eligible to apply to SBA. "Only those farmers who, by reason of their status as aliens, corporations, partnerships and cooperatives and not primarily engaged in agriculture, and whose households, or similar records, are eligible to apply to SBA," said Mr. Wells.

Farmers who were declared by FmHa for credit reasons are not eligible to apply. SBA disaster loans to farmers are limited by law to 80 percent of the cost of repairing or replacing the damaged property, and may not exceed \$50,000. Mr. Wells said the interest rate to be charged will be either 10 1/2 percent or 14 percent, depending upon the individual applicant's ability to recover from the disaster without federal assistance. If the loan made at the 10 1/2 percent rate, the maximum maturity allowed by law is three years. If the loan is made at the 14 percent rate, the maturity is two years. "See Farmers, page 7."

the Carbide Mercury

117th year, No. 1 Carbide, Kentucky 40311 Jan 5, 1984



Changing ownership Jerry's IGA Foodliner has officially become Carbide IGA Foodliner with two new owners at the helm. Gayle Kelley, right, Carbide, and Mike Rosser, Flemingsburg, son of former owner, Jerry Rosser, look over ownership Jan. 1, 1984. They are pictured at the checkout lanes of the store which is located on East Main Street. Both men are former employees of the store - Gayle when it was Cooney's IGA, and more recently Mike worked for his father.

Kelley, Rosser buy IGA store

On Jan. 1, Carbide Food Inc. bought Jerry's IGA in Carbide from Jerry Rosser. All outstanding stock of Carbide Food Inc. is held by Gayle Kelley and Jerry Rosser's son, Michael Rosser. Donna Kelley has been named secretary-treasurer of the corporation. Under the new ownership, Gayle Kelley will be the manager of the IGA and Michael Rosser will be assistant manager. Mr. Kelley, for the past 12 years, has been employed as a store manager by W. T. Sizemore & Co., a wholesale grocery company located in Lexington. He attended Mayville Community College and the University of Kentucky where he received his degree in management. He lives in Kenosha Heights with his wife Donna and two children, Gayla and Stephen. Michael Rosser has attended high school in Flemingsburg. Jerry has decided to spend his time in his home town, Flemingsburg. He plans to expand and remodel that store during 1984. The store will be serviced by W. T. Sizemore, a subsidiary of Watters Inc., the fourth largest voluntary food distributor in the nation. Watters Inc. is headquartered in Hazelwood, Mo. Several improvements, some that since the building has been expanded and remodeled and new one-handling equipment was added. During 1983 the parking lot was resurfaced and striped. However, with the recent growth in his Flemingsburg store, Jerry has decided to spend his time in his home town, Flemingsburg. He plans to expand and remodel that store during 1984. The store will be serviced by W. T. Sizemore, a subsidiary of Watters Inc., the fourth largest voluntary food distributor in the nation. Watters Inc. is headquartered in Hazelwood, Mo.

Food prices dropped 1.4 percent during 1983

Retail grocery shoppers in Kentucky would find their first trip to the food counter in 1984 a little less expensive than a similar visit a year ago. Prices of food products in the state have registered a decline of 1.4 percent during the past 12 months, according to year-end figures released by Kentucky's Bureau of Market Basket Analysis. The bureau's market basket food price survey, conducted monthly since 1979, regularly checks retail food tabulations across the state and compares the grocery price changes with rises and drops in farm product levels. The December marketbasket average, virtually unchanged from the November figure, showed that the average price of 48 selected food items cost \$7.70, up only a penny from the month before, but below the \$8.64 tally of December 1982. Moderate to major price movement was recorded in all sectors of the survey, with red meat and dairy product prices generally lower, while poultry, fruit, vegetables and grain-baked staples had increased. Pork cuts showed the most dramatic decline during the year, dropping 14.2 percent, while poultry and egg products gained the most in overruns - rising 2.5 percent. Beef prices were down one percent on average, dairy products dropped 4.6 percent, fruits and vegetables jumped by five percent and grain-baked foods, such as bread, meal and flour, rose 2.1 percent. Food industry analysts have pointed to a number of factors which influenced food prices during the year, including weather, overproduction of some commodities, and difficult economic conditions affecting consumers' purchasing power. The summer drought, in combination with the federal government's payment-to-land program, sharply reduced grain production across much of the nation, driving those prices higher and reducing profit margins for livestock producers. The weather also had a severe impact on poultry producers in the southern states, where numerous flocks experienced high mortality rates in the face of record-high summer temperatures. Beef prices may have actually been temporarily reduced by the adverse summer weather, analysts said. Feed-up patterns and higher feed costs prompted many cattlemen to liquidate parts of their herds, causing an autumn glut on markets. Later in 1984, that hastened marketing pattern will likely cause prices for the small herd numbers are rebuilt back to normal levels. Dairy industry spokesmen say massive surpluses of their products were primarily responsible for the downward price pattern. In Kentucky, the state Supreme Court's overturning of a milk marketing law may have also contributed to lower prices for fluid milk. The December marketbasket report, while it tracked closely with November's tally in most areas, did show significant price movements for a few items. Chicken breasts, which have grown in popularity among customers of fast-food restaurants, jumped 17 cents to \$1.64 a pound. Corn meal moved to 65 cents for a five-pound bag and potato chips rose six cents a bag. On the down side, vegetables fell 19 cents during the month, to \$1.1 a bushel, and whole milk fell seven cents a gallon, to \$1.98. Witnesses said the state's lowest local marketbasket average in December, while Louisville registered at the high end of the scale. Overall, volunteer surveys working through Kentucky Farm Bureau Women Unions canvassed food market prices in 25 Kentucky communities. "See 1 and 2 pages, page 7."

JANUARY'S CHECKS REFLECT MINOR INCREASE Social Security and supplemental security income (SSI) payments are increased automatically when the cost of living increases three percent or more from one year to the next. Examples of the new benefit rates include: The maximum monthly payment to a worker age 65 in 1983 will increase from \$29 to \$30. The average monthly benefit for a retired couple will increase from \$208 to \$212. The average monthly benefit for a retired couple will increase from \$208 to \$212. The average monthly benefit for an aged widow or widower will increase from \$208 to \$212. The average monthly benefit for a disabled worker will increase from \$208 to \$212. The local marketbasket averages are



I think we've got it! Photo submitted by Joe Judd, NCHS math teacher, and Tracy Woodley, one of his students, are trying to find the answer with a hand held calculator. (See Focus on Schools, page 7.)