Made by Billy

Eighth grader Billy Coy displays a decoration for the community Christmas tree. Billy is a student at NCES. — Staff photo

Oakland Mills Church honors three ladies

Mrs. Nettie Marshall, Mrs. Ethel Smith and Mrs. Lita Smoot were honored at a surprise worship service Sunday morning at the Oakland Mills Methodist Church and received praying hands pins.

These ladies have a total of 91 years of service at Oakland Mills. When times were hard they kept praying, paying the bills and doing whatever was needed to keep the church going.

The church has recently been carpeted, new ceiling and lights installed, new concrete walk, storm windows and doors, and a fresh coat of paint inside and out.

There are now 33 members. Services are conducted each Sunday with Sunday School at 10 a.m., worship services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Prayer services are held Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

The Rev. Julian McKee, associate pastor since October, invites the public to attend.

VFW Auxiliary

The VFW Ladies Auxiliary will have a potluck Christmas dinner and meeting Monday, December 9, 6 p.m. at the Post.

There will be an exchange of gifts and the new meeting hours will be 7 p.m. instead of 7:30 p.m.

Retired Teachers

The Nicholas County Retired Teachers will have a potluck lunch and meeting Monday, December 9, 12:30 at the Nicholas County Library.

Matrons/Patrons

The Past Matrons and Past Patrons of Marie Chapter 259 will have their annual Christmas dinner and meeting Wednesday, Dec. 11, 6:30 p.m. at Carnico Country Club.

Meeting Monday on important law

An important meeting will be held Monday, December 9 concerning Public Law 94-142, an act to make sure that all exceptional children have available to them a free appropriate public education.

The meeting will be held at the Nicholas County Public Library at 7:30 p.m. Karen Blum, from the Department of Public Advocacy, will be the guest speaker.

The public will have a chance to ask questions about the legal and human rights of Kentuckians with developmental disabilities. All interested persons are invited to attend.

The Georges have dinner

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas T. George of Myers entertained with their annual Thanksgiving day dinner November 28 at their home.

Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Paul Minton, Mr. and Mrs. Steven Minton, Brian and Brett of Lexington; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Trussell, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Trussell, Susan, Kim, Rodney and Roger, Towana and Bradley Trussell, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Brenagen and Missy, Billy Lynn, Mr. and Mrs. Rondall George, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jolly, Carlisle. Rosemary Kinder was an afternoon guest.

Couple wed

Miss Jan Douglas Thomas, Carlisle, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack G. Thomas, Hazard and formerly of Flemingsburg, and Thomas Crawford, Carlisle, son of Margaret Crawford and the late Joe Crawford and foster son of Mrs. Clyda Brett, Carlisle, were married Saturday, November 23, 1985 at the Hazard Christian Church.

Donita Jensee and Matt Hughes, Carlisle, were the attendants.

Mrs. Crawford is a graduate of Fleming County High School and Maysville Community College. She is employed by Blue Grass Industries.

Mr. Crawford is a graduate of Nicholas County High School and is employed by the City of Carlisle as assistant superintendent of utilities. He also serves as assistant chief of the Carlisle Fire Department.

The couple will reside at Nicholas Square Apartment 601.

Vows exchanged

Linda Sue George, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rondall George, and Robert Jolly, son of Mrs. Lucy Jolly, were married Wednesday, November 27, 8 p.m. at the Myers Christian Church by the Rev. Julian McKee.

Kay's Kitchen

By Kay Fisher

To each of you responding to the request for a recipe for Carrot Cake calling for pineapple, my sincere thanks. There seemed to be a slight difference in each recipe so I selected two. Hope one will be just the right one for you.

CARROT PINEAPPLE CAKE

1½ cups all purpose flour
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon cinnamon
½ teaspoon salt
½ cup cooking oil
2 eggs
1 cup finely shredded raw carrot
½ cup crushed pineapple (with syrup)
1 teaspoon vanilla

In large mixer bowl, stir together dry ingredients. Add oil, eggs, carrot, pineapple and vanilla; mix till all ingredients are moistened. Beat with electric mixer two minutes at medium speed. Pour batter into greased and lightly floured 9x9x2-inch baking pan. Bake in 350 degree oven about 35 minutes; cool.

Cream cheese-pecan frosting enhances this moist cake.

Cream Cheese Frosting: Cream together one 3-ounce package cream cheese, softened, and 4 tablespoons softened butter or margarine; beat in 1 teaspoon vanilla and a dash of salt. Gradually add 2½ cups sifted powdered sugar; blend in well. Stir in ½ cup chopped pecans.

CARROT CAKE

2 cups sifted all purpose flour
2 cups sugar
2 teaspoons cinnamon
1½ teaspoons soda
1½ teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 8½ oz. can crushed pineapple, drained
2 eggs, beaten
1¼ cups salad oil
2 teaspoons vanilla
2 cups grated raw carrots, loosely packed
1½ cups broken pecans

Combine flour, sugar, cinnamon, soda, salt and baking powder; mixture well. Drain pineapple, saving syrup; set aside. Make a well in center of dry ingredients; add pineapple syrup, eggs, oil and vanilla; blend thoroughly. Stir in pineapple, carrots and nuts. Turn into greased 10-inch tube pan. Bake in 325-degree oven for 1½ hours, or until done. Cool 10 minutes; turn out onto rack to cool completely. Wrap and freeze.

*****

Hope the following Apple Crisp recipe is the one the reader requested about two weeks ago. It is the most recently published Apple Crisp recipe.

PATTY OAKS APPLE CRISP

5-6 cups apples, peeled, cored and thinly sliced
¾ cup quick oats
¾ cup flour
¾ cup butter or margarine
¾ cup brown sugar
¼ teaspoon cinnamon

Arrange apples in 8½ inch round pan. Combine remaining ingredients, cutting in the butter to make a crumbly mixture. Sprinkle over apples. Bake at 350 degrees for 35-40 minutes. Serve warm. Six servings.

*****

Now if the following recipe is the right one for a beef casserole dish using macaroni, I'll have all requests answered up to date.

COMPANY BEEF

1 pound lean ground beef
1 medium onion, chopped
2 cups canned tomatoes
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
¼ cup chopped green pepper
2 tablespoons chopped parsley
1 8-ounce package elbow macaroni
Salt and pepper to taste
1 can cream of mushroom soup
1 small can tomato sauce (optional)
1 cup grated cheese

Brown beef in heavy skillet. Add the onion, tomatoes, Worcestershire sauce, green pepper and parsley. Simmer for 30 minutes. Cook macaroni and add to beef mixture, salt and pepper. Mix well and put in a casserole. Spoon in mushroom soup and tomato sauce and mix. Sprinkle cheese on top. Bake at 350 degrees about 30 minutes.

SOCIETY

To place Society items, call Mrs. Ann Sherrer at 289-2464

Thanksgiving dinner enjoyed

Col. and Mrs. Gerald Griffith of Ewing entertained all with a Thanksgiving dinner at their home.

Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Phil Carl and Amy of Augusta, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Dawson and sons Josh, Joey and Ray Charlie of Lexington, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Mattox of Frenchburg, Mr. and Mrs. John Wolf and Mr. and Mrs. Steve Curtsinger and Sarah of Lake Carnico.

They were also guests of Mrs. Hoel Asbury during the day.

The Lails have holiday dinner

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lail entertained with a Thanksgiving dinner at home November 28.

Guests included Mrs. Webb Lail, Mrs. Virginia Batterton, Donald Lail Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Ben Lizer and daughters Bonna and Kathy, and George Wagoner, all of Lexington; Mrs. Oliver Wagoner, Ms. Debbie Jo Lizer, Jeremy Lizer, Mrs. Ruth Wagoner, Mrs. Anda Hatton and Mrs. Louise Haney, all of Paris; Mr. and Mrs. William Dean Plunkett and David Michael Plunkett, of Carlisle.

91 years of service

These three members of the Oakland Mills Methodist Church, from left, Mrs. Nettie Marshall, Mrs. Ethel Smith and Mrs. Lita Smoot, have given a combined 91 years service to the church. They were honored at a surprise service Sunday, December 1. — Photo submitted

— Personals —

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ray Ecton, Jay and Beth of Concord, NC were weekend visitors of Mr. and Mrs. E. Ecton Jr. and Mrs. James Judge.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Neal and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Metcalfe and family spent Thanksgiving day with Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Cable of Maysville.

Pvt. Joe Todd Hardwick, Ft. Myers, VA, spent Thanksgiving weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Hardwick. He attended Sunday morning worship services at the First Christian Church with his fiancee, Beth Hammonds.

Dr. and Mrs. Emery Clark, Flemingsburg, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kirkpatrick, Rob and Caroline, Millersburg, Miss Tawnya Mullins, Pikeville, and Mr. and Mrs. M.C. Blair and Beth returned home Monday from the University of Kentucky athletic tour of Hawaii. They attended the UK basketball games with Chaminade and the University of Hawaii.

Mr. and Mrs. John Walters and Logan of Lexington and Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Ockerman and Lindsay were Saturday evening dinner guests of their parents, Billie and Chester Ockerman.

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Webb, Bourbon County, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Mc-Whorter, Paris, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Mattox, Mike and Kent Mattox were dinner guests of Mrs. Carolyn Mattox on Thanksgiving.

Mr. and Mrs. Teddy Shaw and Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Shaw were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Shaw, Lisa, Tracy and Jimmy Allen Jr.

Mrs. Ron Mansfield of Marina Del Ray, CA has returned home after being here to be with her father, Charles Hopkins, who submitted to heart surgery last week.

Mrs. Charles Cox and Cindy and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Allison and family attended the Hess family Thanksgiving reunion at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Kimball near Middletown, IN over the weekend.

Mrs. Raymond Lawrence, Mrs. Etta Ledford and Ms. Sandy Storey, Lexington, Miss Nita Graves, Atlanta, GA, Edward Lawrence, St. Petersburg, FL and Mr. and Mrs. David Moore, Whitehouse, TN were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Storey on Saturday.

Mrs. Barry Burgess and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Burnam spent Thanksgiving weekend with Mr. and Mrs. James Burnaw, Roswell, GA.

Mrs. Ollie Canson returned home Friday after spending Thanksgiving week with her daughter, Mrs. John Brueckner, Mr. Brueckner and Jennifer in Lexington.

Mr. and Mrs. C.H. Enox returned home Saturday after spending Thanksgiving weekend with his brother, Zee Enox and Mrs. Enox of Murray.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Campbell and Kevan spent Thanksgiving with Mr. Campbell's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Campbell of Mt. Prospect, IL.

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Anderson, Tami and Andy and Mrs. Ralph Lail spent Thanksgiving day with Missy Shearer.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Fisher spent Thanksgiving with his sister, Mrs. Tee Nutzin of Ashland.

Mrs. George Roberts and Miss Beulah Hughes spent Thanksgiving weekend with Mrs. Roberts' daughter, Mrs. Lawrence Gabriel, Mr. Gabriel and family at Worthington, OH.

Mr. and Mrs. W.B. Parker spent Thanksgiving in French Lick, IN.

Charles Hopkins, Bourbon County, returned home Monday from St. Joseph Hospital, Lexington after submitting to heart surgery Monday, Nov. 25.

Mrs. Hazel Moore has returned home from a visit with her son, David Moore and Mrs. Moore of Whitehouse, TN.

Mr. and Mrs. Toby Elder, Brian and Katy of Edgewood spent Sunday with his parents, Mr and Mrs. Warren Fisher.

Ms. Pam Halcomb of Danville spent Thanksgiving weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willmer Halcomb.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Pember of Middletown, OH and children John and Janice of Cincinnati, OH, Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Wertzler of Muncie, IN and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Alcher and Ann of Lexington spent Thanksgiving day with Mrs. C.B. Ingles.

Mrs. Katherine Hunt of Cynthiana and son Harvey Allen of Paris, Mrs. Leola Crawford of Lexington and Mrs. Markland spent Thanksgiving with Mrs. Louise McFarland.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Conley and Susan of Wise, VA spent Thanksgiving day with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe F. Conley.

Mr. and Mrs. Gil Fickle and family of Columbia, SC spent Thanksgiving weekend with her sister, Mrs. Billy House, Mr. House and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas George's guests on Sunday were their daughters, Mrs. Jean McCarty, Mr. McCarty, Wendell and grandson, Eric of Fairborn, OH, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Trussell, Mr. and Mrs. Rondall George, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jolly and Brother Thomas Gerneinhart.

Sam Reynolds returned home last week from a two-weeks business trip in South Korea. While there he visited Mr. and Mrs. John Fuller in Seoul.

Violet Sonby and Julian Brunker of Cynthiana and Roy Gaunce of Boone County were guests of Edna Hughes. Co-hostesses are Miss Beverly Herrin and Mrs. Steve Curtsinger.

A Christmas auction for CARE will be conducted.

Births

JONES

Mr. and Mrs. James Ricky Jones of Ewing announce the birth of a son, November 25, 1985 at the Nicholas County Hospital. He weighed eight pounds nine and one-half ounces and has been named James Derrick Ray.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Gray of Ewing.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. James Jones of Ewing.

COLUMBIA

Mr. and Mrs. William Ralph Columbia of Millersburg announce the birth of a daughter, November 26, 1985 at the Nicholas County Hospital. She weighed five pounds 12 ounces and has been named Elizabeth Ann.

Maternal grandparent is Dorothy King of Paris.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Columbia of Millersburg.

RING

Mr. and Mrs. John Wayne Ring of Carlisle announce the birth of a son, November 27, 1985 at the Nicholas County Hospital. He weighed seven pounds two ounces and has been named John Paul.

Maternal grandparent is Fannie Jones of Paris.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Taylor C. Ring of Carlisle.

MITCHELL

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Dean Mitchell of Carlisle announce the birth of a daughter, November 27, 1985 at the Nicholas County Hospital. She weighed six pounds 10 ounces and has been named Jennifer Nicole.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. James Mitchell of Flemingsburg.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Mitchell of Carlisle.

WARMOUTH

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Tracey Warmouth, 1872 Bald Hill Road, announce the birth of a daughter, Samantha Joe, November 21, 1985 at Harrison Memorial Hospital, Cynthiana. She weighed eight pounds five ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Mildred Williams and Phillip Williams of Cynthiana.

Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Noble Pergram of Hudders Mills.

Woman's Club

The Carlisle Community Woman's Club will meet Monday, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Mark Hughes. Co-hostesses are Miss Beverly Herrin and Mrs. Steve Curtsinger.

Couple have dinner Nov. 30

Mr. and Mrs. James Howard, Upper Jacksons Road, entertained with a Thanksgiving dinner November 30.

Those attending were Bobby Smart and Christi, Eugene Glass, Bret and Shane, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Baber, Sherri, John and Janie, Mr. and Mrs. Dell Hellard, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Tooley, Robert Cooper, Mrs. Shirley Poe, Shauna, Chris and Barbara, Lexington; Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Cooper, Paris; J.C. Cooper, Sharon and Betty Jo, Alexandria; Mr. and Mrs. Ben Glass, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Jolly, Mr. and Mrs. George Stoner, Jerry Linville and Renee, Mr. and Mrs. James Biddle, Hobbie and Chuck, Mrs. Wilma Jolly and Ronnie, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Jolly, Mrs. Phyllis Prather, Troy, Kevin and Pamela, Mr. and Mrs. James Dale and Kristi, Mrs. Marcia Glass, Michelle, Melissa and Jennifer, Mr. and Mrs. Jackie Howard and Chris, Carlisle.

Hospital notes

Nov. 22-28, 1985

ADMISSIONS: Carolyn Ring and baby boy, Eliza Lyons, Willie Clem, Minnie Mynear, Larry Jolly, Margie Talley, Hinn Motouk, Ginger Wagoner, J.W. Ecton Sr., Minnie Frederick, Wanda Cox, Arthur Dailey, Settie Ritchie, Bela Willoughby, Russell Bell IV, Helen Flora, Brenda Cox, Allen Howard, Roberta Howard, Sue Mitchell and baby girl, Stanley Caswell, Katherine Bailey, Sarah Fryman, Bernice Whirles, Betty Kelly, Carlisle; Lula Sims, Lena Dotson, Mt. Olivet; Glynn Dwyer, Germanstown; Audrey Earlywine, Burnice Allen, Vera Jones and baby boy, Elsie Hunter, Ina Workman, Ewing; Nancy Mitchell, Carol Columbia and baby girl, Millersburg; Judy Hamilton, Maysilck.

DISCHARGES: Brenda Fulton, Kathleen Jones, Lurlene Ring, Ruby Trussell, Ricky Dale, Bertha Stephens, David Hamilton, Louise Wade, Ethel Dwelly, Arthur Allison, Ina Feelack, Vickie Hons, Carolyn Ring and baby boy, Irene Burns, Wanda Cox, Lisa Hobbs, Hinn Motouk, Arthur Dailey, Willie Clem, Marion Sharp, Eliza Lyons, Russell Bell IV, Sue Mitchell and baby girl, J.W. Ecton Sr., Minnie Frederick, Carlisle; John Snyder, Lillian Moore, Lula Sims, Mt. Olivet; Ina Workman, Audrey Earlywine, Burnice Allen, Vera Jones and baby boy, Ewing; Nancy Mitchell, Millersburg; Jesse Snapp, Cynthiana.

Parks Homemakers

The Parks Homemakers met Nov. 13 at the home of Mrs. Helen Roberts.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. Charles Crawford. Mrs. Rash Grimes gave the devotional from Matthew 25: 40-45. She also had prayer. Nine members and Mrs. Wilson answered the roll call by giving one of their greatest blessings. The minutes were read and approved. Club chairmen took their reports.

Mrs. Paul Cropper gave the family life lesson. The lesson on frozen desserts was given by Mrs. Helen Roberts and Mrs. Stanley Alexander. Mrs. Eula Carter had some games.

Our next meeting will be Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Harold Hamm. We will exchange gifts and bring an extra gift.

Walnut Grove School, 1923-24

This picture of the 1923-24 Walnut Grove School enrollment is the property of Mrs. Willie Mattox. Miss Louella Huddleson, shown on the back row, began her teaching career that year. Those she can identify are: front row, l-r, Lorraine Mattox, Ethel Murrell, Ella Lee Mattox, Bessie Jackson, Fenton Mattox, Ruby Shaw, Lutie Gaunce, ? Mattox, Charles Mattox, (unknown), Lovell Gaunce, Willie Mattox and ? Mattox. Back, Noel Allison, Ethel Mattox, Nellie Gaunce, Miss Huddleson, Wade Bishop, ? Gaunce, Cecil Marshall, Lillian Mattox, (unknown), Thurman Mattox and Robert Gaunce. — Photo submitted

Health Tips from Lee Rose

Continuing advice for the diabetic

The newly diagnosed diabetic may feel quite alone with his condition although his physician carefully explained how the body was not producing enough or no insulin to regulate the use of sugar. The doctor further stated the need to control the problem to prevent such complications as diabetic coma, visual disturbances which could lead to blindness, high blood pressure, serious infections and more.

With the aid of laboratory test results, age and physical status of the patient, the physician carefully calculated whether the individual's diabetes would be controlled by diet and planned exercise alone or if oral diabetes medication should be started. Daily insulin injections in addition to diet and exercise might have been necessary.

If the diagnosis was made in the hospital setting, designated staff worked with the patient, teaching him insulin injection technique and meal planning.

ALTHOUGH the information was skillfully and thoroughly given, the patient may go home with his head spinning with facts and don'ts. Was the insulin to be injected before or after breakfast? Do I take it if I have the flu? Should I eat a snack if I plan to exercise?

Because living well with diabetes includes a thorough understanding of it, more information is needed soon after the realization of day to day activity rules require questions.

These questions and more such as how to accurately test urine and blood for sugar at home can be answered in diabetes classes at the Nicholas County Health Center. Also of great help is the Diabetes Support Group which meets monthly at the Nicholas County Hospital.

WITH CONTINUING medical advancements, diabetics of many years will find new techniques and information related to their control, and will also gain by enrolling in classes and becoming a part of the Support Group.

It is essential for the diabetic to understand and in every possible way to control the condition rather than allowing it to control him.

For more information contact Lee Rose at the Nicholas County Health Center, phone 289-2180.

General Assembly '86

Federal aid cuts, Medicaid and educational reform to dominate action

Threatened cuts in federal aid, continued calls for education reform and worsening problems with the state's Medicaid program and road system figure to dominate much of the action when the 1986 General Assembly convenes its 60-day regular session on Jan. 7.

As usual, drawing up a two-year state budget promises to be the most difficult task lawmakers face, especially since federal revenue-sharing funds are expected to be slashed, if not eliminated, during the coming biennium.

But the lawmakers — who will adjourn their biennial session April 15 — must also confront an array of other key issues of concern to Kentuckians. In fact, if past sessions are any barometer, well over 1,000 bills and resolutions will be introduced before this one winds down.

Here's a closer look at some of the major issues likely to be taken up:

EDUCATION — Although last summer's special session addressed many of the state's educational problems — including teacher salaries and classroom sizes — several more pressing issues will likely be introduced during the upcoming session.

Higher education promises to be a top legislative priority. In fact, a special subcommittee established in the last session has been reviewing problems such as unnecessary duplication and low faculty salaries in the state's universities and colleges.

Another special subcommittee has been looking into the state's teacher retirement system. Retired teachers can anticipate a legislative initiative to give them a cost-of-living increase in their retirement benefits.

A proposal has also been raised that would allow teachers to retire after 27 years, instead of the current 30 years.

TRANSPORTATION — Legislators may be facing another round in the fight to revise the 1982 motor vehicle title law. The 1984 session saw some hot debate on the issue. However, an attempt to speed up the titling process by allowing county clerks to issue them on the spot was eventually thwarted. Some legislators want to throw a few more punches and try again to come up with a better titling system in 1986.

The need for more road improvements will undoubtedly be one of the leading items on the legislative agenda. Officials from the Transportation Cabinet say Kentucky's toll roads and parkways are literally falling apart at their asphalt seams. County roads are also desperately in need of some cosmetic surgery. But finding the money needed to fill the potholes and patch the pavement may prove to be a difficult task.

Kentucky has a mandatory child-safety-seat law. Any child 40 inches tall or under must ride in a car safety seat. However, some concern is being expressed over the difficulty of enforcing a law that doesn't punish you if you break it. Telling citizens to buckle up their babies has decreased the number of infant deaths caused by auto accidents. But some people feel passing of-fenders will bring about even lower death rates.

The national concern for auto safety and the possibility of a federal seat belt law will probably prompt discussions on a mandatory seat belt law for all Kentuckians.

HEALTH AND WELFARE — One issue that has dominated the news in terms of human services and has stirred up considerable interest during the interim is the threatened cuts in the state's Medicaid program. With funding cut at the federal level, and the state unable to fully take up the slack, necessary cutbacks were made to keep the program's budget balanced. At the same time, many nursing-home operators and the elderly felt that their security was being threatened.

Although a stop-gap compromise has been reached, the underlying problems plaguing Medicaid and the entire long-term care situation will be studied further when the legislature convenes.

Legislation that will simplify the state's organ-donation program is expected to wind its way through the committee system and eventually be brought to the chamber floors for debate.

Lawmakers may also be reviewing the pros and cons of eliminating criminal penalties for public intoxication and instituting alternative programs.

ELECTIONS AND AMENDMENTS — One education-related reform that will probably be discussed in 1986 takes the form of a constitutional amendment to make the office of superintendent of public instruction appointive rather than elective. Proponents of this amendment hope it would help take some of the politics out of education.

But other constitutional amendments are likely to be considered too, and one of them — a proposal to allow the establishment of an annual state lottery — promises to be extremely controversial.

It has been suggested that the proceeds of such a lottery could be earmarked for education, or perhaps for a one-time bonus to Vietnam veterans. Dedicating a portion of the money to relieve the shortfall in Medicaid funds has even been discussed.

Another less controversial constitutional amendment that has been proposed would reshape election dates so that elections could be eliminated every second or fourth year — saving state and local governments the enormous costs associated with our current yearly election schedule.

One last amendment that may be considered would allow mayors of first class and second class cities to succeed themselves in office.

Other important issues legislators will likely be debating and discussing while at the Capitol include: the energy needs of the state's low income citizens, the quality of water through the state, the difficulties Kentucky farmers are facing in obtaining and paying back farm loans and prison overcrowding.

Your local legislators, Rep. Adrian Arnold and Sen. Ed Ford, want your views on issues facing the 1986 General Assembly. To leave a message or speak directly to either Arnold or Ford, call Frankfort toll-free, 1-800-372-7181. To check on the status of a particular piece of legislation, call 1-800-633-4171.

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