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Financing sought For sewer project

By Janet H. Dunson
Of The Mercury Staff

Carlisle City Council members discussed ways to finance \$500,000 of the \$1.3 million sewer system project, Monday night during Council's regular monthly meeting.

If the \$200,000 HUD Community Block Grant application for the system is accepted, and funds awarded, Council members want to be sure they have exhausted every possibility for repaying the balance of the project.

Don Hassall of Bluegrass AID discussed with council the HUD grant application, and the importance of listing all financial avenues open to the city to fund the balance of the project.

It was suggested that \$100,000 of the \$200,000 budgeted to the sewer system reserves fund be used. Also,

James Anderson and Herbert Duncan were sworn in Monday night as incoming members of Nicholas County Board of Education.

The oath was administered by board member Billy Higgins and statements of intention and loyalty were signed by both newcomers.

Minutes from two previous meetings were reviewed and approved, including those from a special closed meeting held January 6 for the purpose of expelling board member.

Duncan nominated Bill Hunter as new chairman of the board, the motion being accepted by acclamation. Superintendent Don Elder relinquished chairmanship to Hunter for the remainder of the meeting.

\$20,000 of \$40,000 awarded to Nicholas County by the Kentucky Development Fund is a possibility. Fiscal Court and council members will work out details of the money. City Clerk Mary Tapp informed council she had applied for money at the First National Bank for water and sewer improvements. She is waiting on confirmation of amount.

Hassall suggested contacting organizations and clubs in town in this manner, the lower the amount of applied grant money will be. Also the percent of increase in sewer rates would not be as great.

Again Hassall emphasized that Carlisle must do as much as possible for itself in order to stand a good chance to be awarded the hoped-for HUD grant.

Council will have a called meeting in about three weeks when Hassall

The position of vice chairman was delegated to James Anderson and Faye Robinson was reappointed as treasurer.

New officers being duly assigned and the approval of the treasurer's report done, the board went on to consider the following agenda items.

Substitute teachers

Six applicants were considered for the position of substitute teacher in Nicholas County Schools. All were approved unanimously. Five of whom carry a degree of BA or better.

Added to the list were Barbara Hopkins, Wendell McKee, Sheah McKee, Julie Shepherd, Barbara Edwards, and Terry Brett.

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has completed the grant application, for council's review, approval, and final vote of acceptance.

Marilyn Hunt, an Avon salesperson in Carlisle, appeared before Council to voice her disapproval of the recently imposed \$20 business license tax. She stated that she didn't make \$100 a year out of Avon, and could not afford to pay the tax. She also said, "I'll quit selling Avon if I have to pay the license."

Charles Scoblen was given approval on his \$60 proposal to repair the apartments in the city building with an inspection to be conducted at the completion of the project. In each apartment, he will install one ground fault, one 220 outlet in the bedroom or living room, and two 110 outlets in the kitchen.

Council member Tommy Vaughn stated he thought the price was fair and asked City Clerk Tapp if there were funds available for this project. She stated that there was Revenue Sharing money in the Building Fund to cover the amount.

Several members felt that the rent

Blue Licks Park grows 50 acres

Blue Licks State Park has grown by approximately 50 acres.

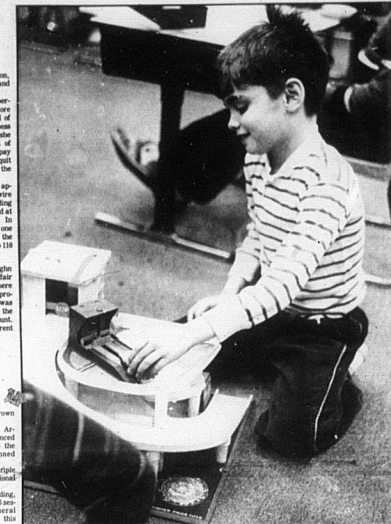
State Representative Adrian Arnold (D-Mt. Sterling) has announced 50 acres has been donated to the park, for expansion of planned facilities.

Arnold said the donation will triple the space slated for recreational development in the park.

The \$200,000 oil weather building, which was funded during the 1986 session of the Kentucky General Assembly, will be constructed this year of the land.

According to Blue Licks Park Manager Sam Devine, design criteria is being gathered for the building.

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Fun time!
Nicholas County Elementary School student Billy Jo Williams makes the best of playtime during the day in Joan Spickler's first grade class.



As clouds of winter haze above the Nicholas County Courthouse, the entire state makes the ground up with water to the east and a warm sun to bring forth nature's wondrous display.

Radon gas a household concern

By Honda Smart
Special to The Carlisle Mercury

Radon gas is a serious concern for many people in Nicholas County. It is a naturally occurring gas that can be found in many places, including homes.

Think of all the precautions we take to keep our homes safe from the elements of nature, but do we ever think about radon-actively from substances like radon gas that may be no further away than your basement, crawl space or bedroom?

Radon is a radioactive gas that is colorless, odorless and tasteless. It comes from the natural breakdown of uranium, granite, phosphate and shale.

Radon seeps into houses through cracks in foundations, sump pumps, drains and fittings. Around underground utility pipes and from radon-contaminated well water.

Solid concrete walls cannot block radon seeping through materials, such as cinder blocks and concrete, have traces of uranium and may be a significant radon source.

In the outdoor air, radon is diluted to a very low concentration and is not very harmful to us, but when it becomes trapped in an enclosed space, it accumulates and becomes harmful to humans.

Experts have devised a profile of the typical radon-contaminated houses: straight rather than with basements or crawl spaces and single-level as opposed to multi-level.

The Department for Health Services will determine radon levels in about 1,200 Kentucky homes the state made this month, announced Kentucky Health Commissioner Carlisle H. Moore, M.D.

The detectors will determine radon levels in selected homes in all of Kentucky's counties.

This study will give us information about the magnitude of the radon problem in Kentucky," said Moore. "We know that some areas of the state are more likely to be affected by radon, but we need data about the entire state to make accurate comparisons with local health depart-

ments will randomly select homes for participation in the study, according to Edna Moore, director of the Kentucky Division of Radiation and Consumer Product Safety.

"To choose homes, inspectors will use detailed maps of areas 10 miles by 10 miles," Moore said.

"They will choose two homes in each of these quadrangles for the placement of a radon detector."

Inspectors will place the detectors and help homeowners complete a questionnaire about their homes.

The placement of the detectors will take about three months.

Detectors will remain in homes for two to three days, and homeowners will place them in boxes that inspectors usually mail them to an EPA laboratory in Montgomery, Alabama.

The detector, a metal canister, four inches in diameter and about two inches tall, is filled with charcoal, which traps any radon that might be in the air.

Once the EPA laboratory has analyzed the charcoal, results will be sent to the Department for Health Services and shared with home owners, if they desire.

The questionnaire homeowners complete will include information about the type of house, floor, radon supply, ventilation devices, insulation and wall construction, and the age of the house.

"EPA results and data from the questionnaire will be entered into a computer system," said Hernandez, "allowing us to retrieve information about radon levels by county, by area, by type of house, by geologic formation under the house and by many other correlations."

"In other words, this survey will provide us with a wealth of information about radon activity in Kentucky."

and we'll go from there."

Kentucky is one of 10 states conducting a radon survey under auspices of the EPA, which is providing the state with the detector.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimated that as many as 12,000 deaths from lung cancer occur each year in the United States as a result of radon gas, the second leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers.

Experts calculate that years of exposure to levels of 4 pCi/l carry with them a one-in-100 risk of fatal lung cancer; at 20 pCi/l, a level comparable to smoking 10 cigarettes a day, the risk of fatal lung cancer rises to 10 in 100.

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Edna Moore of the Department for Health Services explains the use of radon monitors, which will be placed in 1,200 Kentucky homes during the next three months.