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Blackberry Festival begins Monday; a look back

By Janis R. Duncan
of the Carlisle Mercury Staff
The Blackberry Festival has been "the event" of the summer for longer than a lot of citizens of Nicholas County can remember. Bill Power, who was mayor of Carlisle 24 years, can remember back to the beginning in 1948 because he was 1983 district commander of the VFW, at the time, and a member of the Lloyd George Post No. 8666 in Carlisle, the organization which started it.

The 1987 Blackberry Festival will hold June 29 through July 4. Bill Power will be the master of ceremonies each evening.

The schedule of events is as follows:
Monday-Friday, rides by Guthrie Shows.
Monday, 8:00 p.m. till midnight music by the Showmasters.
Tuesday, 8 p.m. until midnight, music by the Showmasters.
Wednesday, 7 to 9 p.m. Bluegrass Bandit Crogers, 9 p.m. until midnight, Showmasters.
Thursday, 8 p.m. parade and crowning of queen. Also special guest speaker, 9 p.m. until midnight, music by the Showmasters.
Friday, 8 p.m. until midnight, music by the Showmasters.

Saturday, 7:45 a.m. Kids' Run; 8 a.m. Blackberry Festival 5K Run (the races are sponsored by The Carlisle-Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce, several local merchants and local industry are participating as co-sponsors); 8 p.m. until midnight, music by the Showmasters. Fireworks, 11 p.m., sponsored by the Carlisle-Community Women's Club.

(Unlike previous years, the queen's parade will not be held until Thursday night. Those wishing to participate should call 289-7589 or 289-2594.)

In the beginning, the event was called "Homecoming Festival" and was a three-day affair. There was dancing in the streets, a fiddlers' contest, and contests for kids. The highlight of the first festival was

the giving away of a new Jeep, which was won by City Herriot Power, who he would never forget delivering the Jeep to Herriot. He and some other VFW members took the vehicle to Herriot's house on US 66 on Sunday morning. Mrs.

Herriot came out carrying a huge platter of fried chicken, the spread table along with other food on the hood of the Jeep, and everyone enjoyed a delicious dinner. There was not another ride that first year, or for the next three

or four years. Then Power contacted a carnival on Cincinnati, which came every year with rides which were built and repaired by their merchants.

Guthrie Shows has replaced the Cincinnati firm. All along Main Street in front of the courthouse, merchants set up booths and displayed their merchandise.

Power remembers Duncan and R. Ector's booth, which was crowded with the appliances that Dan Duncan and his son, Billy Duncan sold their store on Locust Street where M.C. Bell Insurance Agency is.



Former governor A.H. "Happy" Chandler crowned Blackberry Festival queen Bonnie Garrett in 1956. Chandler is front row, from left, Diane Hatfield Allison, Melinda McClinton Marshall, Chandler, queen Garrett, Barbara Willis Insko, and Geraldine Moore Beyond. Back row, Donna Scott Eastman, Janet Fryman Mitchell, not named, Faye Selva Mathis, and Herriot Richards Smart. L. S. Representative Thurston B. Morton was the guest speaker in the picture on display at the American Legion, and was brought to The Mercury office for publication by L. S. member John Ector. n.a.

Council allots money to agencies

By Janis R. Duncan
of the Carlisle Mercury Staff
Three agencies will benefit from decisions made by Carlisle City Council Monday night.

The senior citizens, the Carlisle-Nicholas County Industrial Authority and the Nicholas County Antislavery Service are recipients of the City of Carlisle's Revenue Sharing Fund money, which was allocated Monday night at a public hearing conducted by the Carlisle City Council.

Community Action and the Nicholas County Park and Recreation Board also received part of the \$19,700 Revenue Sharing money which was available to the city for the last time.

Revenue sharing, which is federal money, has been phased out of the nation's budget, and will therefore no longer be available to augment the budget of city and county governments.

The allocation to Nicholas County Senior Center, \$3,000; Community Action, \$2,500 to help with transportation; park board, \$1,800; and antislavery service, \$1,600 (community council had already promised to give)

Industrial Authority, \$9,200 (which makes good on a \$10,000 pledge council made at the beginning of several months ago).

A second public hearing was held Monday night to discuss the Municipal Fund Plan. The entry order amount from 1986-87 is \$11,262.84. \$29,317 has been received by the city for 1987-88, making the total available to the fund \$41,659.84.

Carlisle Mayor Lee Hertz announced the following streets would be blacktopped this summer using the fund: Spoutown, Shannon Way, some streets in Green Valley, Millersburg, High, and some streets in Kentucky Heights.

Blacktopping work will be done on Cliftway, Showtown, Walnut, High, Rice and Spoutown.

Council explored, due to very expensive lawsuits against some cities, some insurance companies have decided they didn't want to insure cities anymore, therefore making it almost impossible for cities to have coverage.

KMI is attempting to establish an insurance pool among their members (central Kentucky cities). Members would pool their premiums, and draw from this pool when claims are necessary. This plan would decrease the premiums as now paying, and make it affordable for those to have the necessary liability insurance.

The general fund expenditure was changed to \$600,000. Council members also passed a motion to accept an ordinance amending the budget.

Richard Cantelmy of Alexander & Alexander, a brokerage firm in Louisville, spoke to council members concerning an insurance plan through Kentucky Municipal League (KML).

Insurance coverage for city and county governments has become an expensive it has become almost prohibitive in some cases.

Vice dairy operation a family affair

By Janis R. Duncan
of the Carlisle Mercury Staff
Running a dairy is not a small task. It takes time, money, patience and elbow grease.

But what it takes the most is love - loving what you're doing, and that's what Cliff Vice says about his son.

"Steve loves his milk," Vice said as he discussed his dairy operation. And indeed he must have a special affection.

In rubber boots up to his knees, it's a messy job but the quarters are a little confining, the smell is not exactly pleasant. He has done these two a day for two hours each time, sometimes there is a problem with the equipment, so you're attending to the job as hand getting six cows in their stalls, locking them up to the milking machines, pulling feed chains, checking the milk, explaining to the bulk tank supplier that something is wrong with the temperature reading of the milk inside the tank, and at the same time answering the questions of a curious reporter.

Might make you pull your hair out, right?
No, Steve Vice. As his father says, "he loves it."

That gives you an indication, as it did me, to the world of dairy on a Nicholas county farm. Steve Vice, who is the Farm Bureau insurance agent in Nicholas County, runs his dairy on his farm on the Moorefield Road, about five miles from Carlisle. He bought the farm from Mrs. Cleve Groves in 1968, and since carries the milk to the dairy operation.

Steve Vice also carries the milk on Route 2, several days a week. He said he has milked since he was a small boy, and sold the milk. When he worked at Southern States, it was a 10-hour job. After work he would go to his former farm in law, Chad Whitaker's farm and milk. Then, he said, you milk by hand, put the milk in a tall aluminum can and cooled it in a big barrel of water.

He also used to milk at the local Walter Shepherd's farm on Carpenter Road.

He has 100 head of cattle, consisting of five cows and five heifers about 10 months and then turn them out for two months, so their bodies can build back up for milking.

He raises about 75 baby calves on bottles for about six weeks. They are put in a field by themselves after being bottle fed for a few months when they are from 3 to 5 days old.

At present he and Steve are milking 55 cows. He sells his Dairy Queen, Inc. milk to the milk can company. He bought the milk in a new going to the Kroger plant in Carlisle.

Milk is hauled from his farm every other day, at 4:00 p.m. per hauling.

View is paid \$13.60 per hundred pounds of milk. In the winter, the price may go up \$1.00.

The lactation center is a factor in the money the dairyman receives. Each bulk load of milk is tested. A content of 3.5 percent butterfat is good. Higher than 3.5 percent brings more money.

If milk smells like onions, the company will not accept it, and will contaminate any milk it comes into contact with.

The lactation center factor is in determining the quality of the milk. If automatic milkers are left on the cow too long, mastitis occurs, which is an inflammation of the udder. This condition can cause the lacter count to be too high. Also some medicine can cause the same thing, and if done at night, so no spraying can occur.

The alfalfa is grown in Vice's farm. It is cut and chopped in the field and blown into wagons which are then driven to the silo. The silo can hold 580 tons of alfalfa.

There is another silo which stores 150 tons of alfalfa. It houses corn silage.

A stock exchange is located near the milk tank and the electronic system it utilizes the heat from the fresh milk to heat water to 110 to 120 degrees. Then the water is pumped into the individual feed chutes that water, which is used in the automatic milker washers, to 100 degrees.

Extension office seeks new tax

By Marsha Livingston
of the Carlisle Mercury Staff
Several homeowners, farmers, county extension employees and concerned citizens gathered at Nicholas County Fiscal Court meeting Wednesday, June 17, in support of a proposed tax for the county extension office.

William Caswell, a local farmer, acted as spokesman for the group, appearing before the court.

"I grew up in this community with 411, homestead and agriculture," Caswell said. "I want my children to grow up with some thing," he added. "I know the county has a lot of problems right now, but we are trying to come up with a feasible way to keep county extension service in Nicholas County," Caswell said.

Along with Bill Herbat, area extension director for University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Caswell proposed a plan to elect a county extension district board for Nicholas County, which would be responsible for the taxing district.

The board, if formed, would set a tax rate to raise funds for the operation of the county extension service.

The tax would generate about \$46,000. Of that total, \$4,600 would be required to collect the tax.

This action would relieve the necessity of budget appropriation from the Nicholas County Fiscal Court for the county extension service.

According to Caswell and Herbat, a tax of four cents (4¢) per acre would be sufficient to cover the cost of the county extension office.

The University of Kentucky Extension District Board would be responsible for the county extension office. Herbat said the University of Kentucky would cover the cost of operating the county extension office if the board is formed, and will first of the year when collection of the tax would begin.

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Court approves budget

By Marsha Livingston
of the Carlisle Mercury Staff
Nicholas County Fiscal Court has adopted a six-month budget, effective July 1, 1987, through December 31, 1987.

After cutting the budget \$48,560 at the June 3 fiscal court meeting, court members voted unanimously to accept the proposed budget at regular meeting Wednesday, June 17.

However, the question of accepting Ronald McDonald's \$18,000 bid for six-month ambulance service was raised by Magistrate Orville Atkinson.

"What about the next six months?" Atkinson asked, referring to January, 1988, through June, 1988.

"Will he take the contract for the same amount?" Atkinson asked.

"We don't want McDonald to take the contract for \$18,000 this six months," Magistrate Floyd Bunch added, "and then raise his bid to \$24,000 for the next six months."

McDonald said his wife would be called away from the meeting by an ambulance run; however, upon their return, Bunch asked.

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