

The Carlisle Mercury

Serving Nicholas County Since 1867

120th Year, No. 41

Carlisle, KY 40311-0272

Thursday, October 8, 1987

40 cents per copy

OCT
8
1987

Vo-Ed really more than just shop

By Heather Mathes
of the Carlisle Mercury Staff
What is the first thing you think of when someone mentions Vocational School?

Many years ago this stigma was created that vocational schools were places where students occupied regularly scheduled classes.

Now Harrison County Vocational School is trying to wash the taint of that stigma.

There are two types of vocational educational schools.

The first being a restructured program traditionally located inside schools with classes such as agriculture and home economics. These are funded by state and local authorities.

Jim Plummer, area center principal, said, Harrison County Vocational is the second type of program, proprietary level, and is directly operated by Harrison County Schools.

This means the school system is directly responsible for chief maintenance of the building and grounds even though all operating costs are paid by the Kentucky Department of Education Office of Vocational Education.

Nicholas, Harrison, Bourbon, and Henderson counties contract to send students to the school.

Plummer said, "The number of students is initially determined by a survey of supported schools. The principals of each school are asked to determine how many would like to attend vocational and they give

numerical answer and I add the total. This ensures that everyone gets a fair share of places in the classes."

In the absence of enough high school students, Adult Education Classes may be instituted.

Another misconception is that because the school is state funded it is completely controlled by the state.

"To clear this up, Plummer said, "The final authority is the local school district from which the students come even though I do recommend an option. They handle discipline matters and determine calendar and schedule."

Official school steering committees involving a superintendent, principal, guidance counselor, board member and an official representative from each county meet twice a year to settle affairs affecting all representative counties.

Plummer said, "We come from an improvement standpoint and we will happily work with the best solution as long as all the options and share information between all parties."

The Steering Committee will meet in October on scheduling problems and time of testing.

Harrison County Vocational has been primarily elective classes.

This has posed many enrollment problems as valuable electives must be sacrificed to schedule math and science credits in order to graduate.

But an answer may be on the way in the form of a new curriculum called Principles of Technology which fills in with the historically applied academic program of vocational schools.

Principles of Technology is an applied Physics and Science program which qualifies as a Science credit and this in turn may boost enrollment because of an added required credit.

It will also help Applied Industrial Educators in other local school systems because it contains the basic principles behind machine.

Plummer says of the program, "We are really excited because companies want broad based, educated people and we would like to provide that."

Two support systems are conducted in Harrison County Vocational.

Businesses in Cooperative Education employ students on a 2 week on the job and two week in class training basis.

The students receive minimum wage and the employer evaluates the student for a grade.

The Learning Center system is a tutoring type of program.

It enables students who have missed a lot of school due to illness

or a student who needs help with classes to receive the attention he or she needs.

Mr. Summa the Remedial Level One teacher said, "I also teach in Franklin County and the special needs are there."

The Program Advisory Committee or Craft Committee is composed of Professionals within the community subserving with the teachers.

As Frank Thomas McNabb, welding teacher explained, "If me-

surety of businesses do not use brass welding then time spent on that subject is small. But if my welding is in great demand then greater time will be spent on that."

Plummer said, "In this way the local taxpayer plays a part in what the students learn."

Harrison County Vocational has recently been evaluated and approved for five more years.

Plummer said, "There have been a lot of derogatory things said about education in Kentucky, but our

system is the most accountable system there is. We are credited and respected by impartial inspectors from out of state, many times."

Part of the curriculum are carpentry, auto mechanics, health services, business and office education, machine shop, industrial electricity, and welding.

Before graduating students must complete a skills test to be awarded the certificate containing the title of the curriculum the person completed on Page 3

Continued on Page 3

Historic rides this weekend

A vintage 1905 passenger train will run from Paris to Mayville, October 10-11.

The train will also make two stops in Carlisle on the trip.

According to state representative Pete Warrington the train will stop in Carlisle about 9:45 a.m. each morning to allow pictures, etc. and to allow those wanting to board the train to do so.

The train will make two round-trip trips from Paris to Mayville. A one way ticket, which includes returns but ride, will be \$10.00.

According to Warrington the train should arrive back in Paris at 4 p.m. each day.

In the package there is a sched-

uled tour of downtown Mayville, and Washington and other stops, including Blue Lake.

Representative Warrington suggests those planning to ride the train should wear casual clothes and soft sole shoes. The train is steel plated and may slipper if slick bottom shoes are worn.

The train will consist of 18 cars, including the engine and tender.

The Carlisle Depot will be open Saturday morning and again for a special program for visitors and observers to gather.

Due to prior commitments, the depot will not open Sunday.

Tickets are available at Carlisle Drug and Hopkins Drug.

Forest fire damage is severe Monday

Nicholas County Volunteer Firemen were called to a grass-forest fire 15 miles from Carlisle on Crooked Creek Road, Monday afternoon.

The fire, which was reported at 4:30 p.m. Monday, required all fire department vehicles to combat the blaze.

Ten Nicholas County firemen responded to the scene, over the home of Donald Caskey.

The cause of the fire, according to the fire department report, is listed as unknown. The blaze destroyed a two-story building, 20 red oak logs, and approximately 15 acres of forest.

Harrison County units also responded to the fire.

At 11:15 p.m. Monday night, Nicholas County firemen returned to the Crooked Creek fire scene to put water on some hot spots and additional bales of hay. Six firemen responded Monday night, and returned at 1:30 a.m.



Hugh Corsett, 32, Lexington, was fatally injured when the 1979 Oldsmobile he was driving collided with a motor home, at approximately 10 a.m. Tuesday. The motor home was occupied by Donald and Elizabeth Hooten of Chicago. According to a county fire department report, the head on collision occurred 10 miles from Carlisle on U.S. 68. The department was called to see the laws of life to free Corsett. The accident was worked by the Kentucky State Police and the Nicholas County Sheriff's office. According to the report, the motor home apparently dropped off the shoulder of the road, crossed the center line and struck the Oldsmobile head-on. The Hootens were transported to Nicholas County Hospital by Nicholas County Ambulance Service personnel. -134 9876 P244

History and need highlight Fire Prevention Week County Fire Department working toward purchase of truck

By Heather Mathes
of the Carlisle Mercury Staff
In the early days of Carlisle, bucket brigades were the only method to fight a fire.

The building on Chestnut Street that now houses fire engines once housed a team of horses ready to slip into a harness in the three to four minutes it took to pump up the steam engine.

Water was drawn to fight the fire from cisterns located under city streets.

In 1831 another cistern was built and the engine cost \$250 plus \$25 worth of silver.

A new engine house was built in 1822 on the public square.

In 1838 it was found that apparatus for the engine were in dire need.

So fire hooks and a ladder were purchased by a local man known as "Uncle Billy Stewart" who acted

upon a Board of Trustees decision. A barn full of straw blazed in 1840 and eight granaries across an alley on fire.

This was the first and last time the area was used since they were declared useless as firefighters could not get to the very top of the building to fight the fire.

This year promptly and local blacksmiths.

In 1877 local carpenters helped build more cisterns because Fire Marshall Barrett helped the city buy new engines at 10 percent the original cost.

The Carlisle Fire Company was organized in 1878 by a mass meeting of citizens.

This notice was posted: "All those contemplating fire will please postpone same until the company is ready to combat the emergency."

In 1903 saw the horses being replaced with the steam engine.

The "Wildcat Whistle" was installed as the first alarm in 1910 at the light plant.

The next fire was in 1911. 22 buildings were burned and fire fighters from Millersburg and Paris were called to assist.

This year also saw the building on South Locust Street burn, where the Masonic Building is located.

In 1914 the first motorized engine was bought and the fire system is moved to the site on Chestnut Street.

However this is the City Fire Department story. County fires posed

a whole new problem.

Fires in rural areas could not be ignored, and in the early '60s a County Department was created by concerned citizens.

Jobs in Nicholas County organized in community committees to reach large sectors and additional bales of hay. Six firemen responded Monday night, and returned at 1:30 a.m.

Harold Latten served as General Chairman and Harold Hughes as Steering Committee Chairman.

The 1963 fire engine was delivered March 5, 1964. The engine had two storage pumps, that at 100 pounds of pressure could pump up to 400 gallons per minute.

It also located an auxiliary pump that could convert water from a well or stream, 200-gallon booster hose, and a 1,000 gallon booster tank.

In 1964, 304 miles were driven on men could fight 15 grass fires, four barns or similar structures, five cisterns, and save six houses and out buildings.

Similar situations were to follow.

Today Mark Hughes, Eddie Bar-

lowine, Mike Hughes, Bill Mitchell, Calvin Denton, Sam Reynolds, Jeff Snapp, Oliver Vee, John King, Matt Hughes, Steve Vance, Doug Carwell, and Tony Fryman are the county's brave volunteer fire fighters.

But there is a serious problem in the Nicholas County Volunteers Fire Department. It needs a new fire engine.

As Mark Hughes has said, "The old fire engine is 24 years old and they don't last forever."

When asked about the problem of buying the engine Hughes said, "The old engine cost \$1,000, the new engine will be \$70,000. Tax money cannot meet this price."

Fund Raising you say? Well, the firemen are becoming experts in the field.

The firemen had a booth on Court Days.

The fire department also had a fine response to the family portrait offer.

They have already received a grant by taking advantage through the State Fire Marshall.

The time goal issue was brought up.

Hughes said "We are hopeful of raising the funds needed next year because of the eight months delivery time it takes us to get in the order for the engine and then receive it. But we can only hope it will be soon."

The old engine will be kept and used as back-up in case a larger than usual fire problem is posed.

Through the years the Carlisle Fire Department and the County Fire Department have had problems and even tragedies but with the help of Carlisle and Nicholas County citizens by the latest problem can be quickly erased.



National
Fire Prevention Week
October 4 - 11, 1987