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New truck, insurance top agenda for Fire Board

By Heather Mathes
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff
The Nicholas County Fire Board viewed a 1970 International Pumper which was donated to the department at no cost to the county.

The new truck was picked up by Fire Chief Mark Hughes and Fred Burnaw from Salvage Airforce Base right outside East Detroit on July 1.

According to Hughes, the donation of the truck was continued on Page 6

Weather Advisory
Soil temperatures at a depth of 4 inches are averaging in the mid 70s to lower 80s and will rise a few degrees.

Special Note...
The livestock weather safety index will reach into the danger category, this week.

Extended Outlook
Thursday through Saturday. Continued hot and dry. Highs mainly in the upper 80s. Lows in the 70s. Little or no chance of measurable precipitation.

Highs in the 90s
P.O.P. 0%

By Heather Mathes
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff
During the Fourth of July, hearts across America strike strong cords of patriotism.

Two travelers decided, in the true sense of patriotism, to see all of America.

Not grabbing a quick glance of scenery from a car, bus or train window, however,

Dorothy Costello and Rick Navitsky are taking in the ominous mountains, endless, rolling waves of freshly planted fields, awe-inspiring oceans and, of course, the Bluegrass of Kentucky by bicycle.



A running fourth - Runners, joggers, and bikers had an early morning wake-up July 4, as several runners break from the starting line, Monday. The 5K run is sponsored by the Carlisle - Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce. Another run is planned during Court Days in September. - Heather Mathes Photo

Couple making trip across America on bicycle

Since Costello has roots in Nicholas County, she stopped overnight for a visit with family.

The travelers stayed with Costello's great aunt, Lillian Vice.

What motivates anyone to begin a trek across country? "I needed some time for myself and I had a friend that had talked of all the experiences that can be had and it made me start thinking."

Traveling across country by means of peddling had always been Navitsky's dream.

"I had made a few short trips before, but wanted the

great adventure of learning something new every day.

"Thus, I had the time and money and decided to make the trip while I could," He said.

Training began very early for the two travelers, but both were confident.

Costello said, "I started training at the first of the year, but you really do not know what to expect before you begin on the ride."

It is warned by most to be wary of strangers.

However, these two travelers have met many who have

been helpful, trusting and ready with hospitality that had previously only been known indigenous to the Old South.

Navitsky explained, "On the second night we were out and still very far away from the first stop a terrible electric storm blew up."

"Olan Blankenship, a local restaurant owner in Tuckerston, New Jersey let us stay in an empty apartment and gave us the keys to a tool shed, in case anything had been damaged by the heavy downpour."

"He also gave us food and drinks on the house and only asked that we drop the keys in the mail box when we left."

Costello added, "He was probably the most honest, open and trusting person we have met thus far - and I guess he expected everyone else to feel the same."

"You see, it is illegal to ride on the interstate, but one road merged with the interstate so I thought it would be all right."

"He took me to an exit and would not tell me where I was, and I ended up going 20 miles out of my way and not getting to the camp-ground until 10 that night."

Weather conditions have varied throughout the trip with the hot summer sun breathing down upon the backs of the bicyclists almost full time leaving an odd shaded tan on the backs of their glove clad hands.

Navitsky said, "The first couple of days it was rainy and it flooded the tent, but now we are wishing for that rain."

"I cannot keep count of all the sustenance we have used because Kentucky has given

us real training for the desert sands with all this dry weather."

Costello and Navitsky also find bicycling the best exercise.

He said, "I think it is good for the pulmonary and heart system."

Costello added, "I think going over the Appalachians proved biking is good exercise."

"The 70 miles a day we do now seems like nothing, when before difficult would not even describe it."

"The trip does have a more prime purpose than adventure to the pair."

Carrying a small cooking stove, a week worth of clothing, bedroll, rain gear and sustenance for a day, Costello has also chosen to carry a small bottle of water from the Atlantic Ocean.

Along with scattering shells across the U.S. Costello will empty the bottle into the Pacific Ocean upon reaching their destination.

She said, "I guess it is more symbolic of missing things in the world up a bit, but that is what this trip has been all about to me."

The couples closest destination is Louisville for a stay at the youth hostel.

From there, the miles get longer as Kentucky recedes into the distance and the mighty Rockies loom ahead.

After conquering the desert, the travelers will reach their final stop together in California.

Here Costello will stay before returning to work as an advertising executive.

The adventure seeking Navitsky will return, by route of airplane, to New York where he will complete studies as an Atmospheric Science

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The Nicholas County Volunteer Fire Department's 1970 International Pumper was picked up by Chief Mark Hughes at Salvage Airforce Base on July 1. Granting of the new truck to Nicholas County was made possible by Congressman Larry Hopkins. - Heather Mathes Photo