

GENERAL NEWS

Children staying alone need certain facts

By Heather Mathes
of the Carlisle Mercury Staff

Every child from preschool to that in secondary and higher education has loved to spend summer vacation. But for parents, that same vacation may turn into a nightmare of worry and tears.

Nicholas County Elementary School Assistant Principal Marjorie Williams answered key questions that many parents may have concerning leaving children home alone.

Williams said, "I believe children must have a grasp on some important abilities, no matter what the age, before they may be left home alone."

Field Day set July 29

The Nicholas County Extension Service is sponsoring a Field Day July 29.

Everyone wishing to attend should meet at City Tobacco Seed Farm on Walnut Grove Road at 8:30 a.m.

There will also be a cook-out after the seminars. Local banks and farm credit are providing the meal.

Mike Phillips, Nicholas County extension agent, asks that those who plan to attend call him at 289-2312.

There will be four special-ists from UK: Dr. Charles Dougherty will speak on pasture management, focusing on heat stress. Dr. John Johnson will speak on cattle management.

Tobacco will be discussed by Dr. Gary Palmer and horticulture will be discussed by Dr. John Strang.

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She explained, "They have got to know the telephone number of their parents and be able to contact the nearest neighbor consistently, be able to turn the water off and know their own address and telephone number so they will be able to direct emergency technicians to their home."

But this is only the start. Children should not volunteer information on the phone or at the door and should not readily open the door to strangers.

Gary Hansen, Extension specialist in sociology at the University of Kentucky, said, "Children left home all day should know how to take telephone messages, and should be taught to say, when asked if their parents are home, simply, 'They can't come to the phone right now.'"

Should a caller present a reliable neighbor, should be notified.

Williams said, "Children should not have names on their shirt when they walk around town."

"This means that if someone saw your name on your shirt, they could say, 'Johnny, your Dad sent me to get you.'"

Williams finds the most plausible way to prevent a pagedy in is to keep the lines of communication open.

She said, "I think if parents are comfortable with the neighborhood they live in, they are relatively safe."

"Plus, you do not want to warn children against every little bug or pat from a loving neighbor because children need that intellectual interaction."

She added, "But it can be a

two edged sword, because statistics show that it is often a close friend or member of the family that is a child molester, so if a parent can keep the lines of communication open and be able to really talk to their children, molesters may be prevented.

"If a child knows that if some adult is invading their space, they can readily come to the parent or other adults then the lines of communication are open and working for the safety of the child."

Hansen feels that extra phone calls during the day could not only save off-loads, but if the child had never stayed by himself before, but also help to ensure safety.

He said, "Plan with your children when you will call to check on them. Call every couple hours at least."

And he certain they have your number at work, and that co-workers who might answer your phone understand that your child might be calling."

Parents should also register use of the television.

Williams said, "Parents should encourage children not to stand in front of the T.V. all the time because too much can sap the development and turn him or her into a passive child."

"If parents could get with the child and find out the few programs they like to watch and what times the programs are on, they can schedule other times for reading and any community activities."

Do children really like schedules?

Williams said, "Children do like loose flexible schedules because it gives them responsibility, and they want to feel like they are a part of the family."

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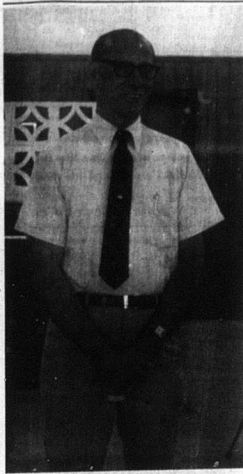
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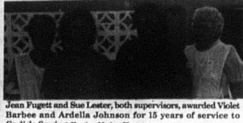


James Wells manager of administration, was honored for 40 years of service to Carlisle Sewing. - Heather Mathes Photo

Other employees at Jockey International also received service awards.

These receiving awards from the Carlisle Sewing Plant were: 20 years of service, Robert Bishop and William Tedder, serving 10 years, Robert Sparks, Cecil Ratiff and Michael McCort, and five years of service, Jon Stacy, Tony Hoggard and Jim Tedder.

These receiving awards from Jockey Knitting were: 35 years of service, Louisa Wagoner; serving 25 years, Jo Ann Mitchell, Patsy Smith, Bertha Vaughn and Don Hasey; 20 years of service are Sandra Howard, Joan Hughes, Bertha Stevens, Junior Terrell and Joyce Torres; 10 years, Joyce Hughes, Jimmie Mitchell and five years of service is Joe Davlen.



John Fugate and Don Lester, both supervisors, awarded Violet Harboe and Ardelia Johnson for 15 years of service to Carlisle Sewing. - Heather Mathes Photo



Bill Griffith, director of finishing, and Ricky Broderick, supervisor, presented Robert Herrington, an employee of Jockey Knitting, with a pocket watch for 15 years of service. Herrington is now a member of the Thorobred Club which consists of those with 15 or more years of service to Jockey International. - Heather Mathes Photo

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