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## Carlisle Court Days



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# The Carlisle Mercury

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## Wagon train causes many to stop, look and listen

On trip across Commonwealth

By Julie Pfeifer  
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

People in automobiles were a little shocked Monday morning to pull up behind a wagon train on U.S. 66.

This wagon train was part of Visionquest, a rehabilitation program for troubled youth. Children with negative pasts join or are assigned by the courts to Visionquest and make one of the trips across the country, explained assistant wagonmaster Doug McCowan.

This wagon train started out in Franklin, Pennsylvania and will end up in Yachau Junction, Florida, he said. They have been on the road five weeks; since the end of August.

There is more than one Visionquest wagon train, he said. One is coming up behind this one, as well as wagon trains in the west, where the program began.

McCowan said there is also an Oceanquest program, where children go on ocean voyages.

The teens make a one-year commitment to the group, he explained, and begin their Visionquest in what he called an impact camp. This is where they stabilize, he said, and "identify what they need to figure out about their lives."

"They have earned the right to come out here," he said.

During the trip there are various honors to achieve. A teen can work their way up from teamsters, who drive the wagons, to scouts, who ride horses in front of the train, controlling its flow and the flow of traffic around it.

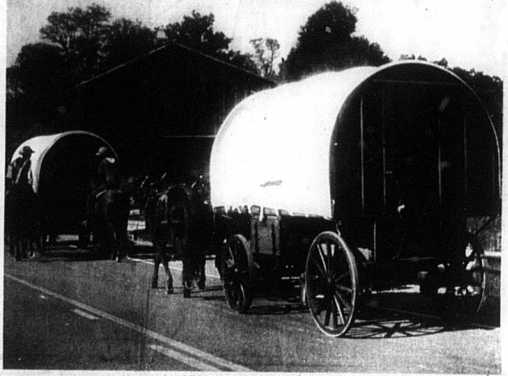
"It's an honor to be a scout," he said.

The kids may even go beyond, to the Mustang Program, for kids who show ability with the horses, their instructor says.

Schooling consists of four hours a day in computer equipped school buses, one of their brochures says.

The horses they use are mustangs that are captured and broken for use by the wagon train. At the mustang training center, kids participate in the breaking.

The group spent one night on Forest Retreat Farm, and will move on in the morning. They rise at about five a.m., he said and finally get on the road about eight. They drive for five days and sit for two. This weekend they will be on a farm closer to Lexington.



Movin' on - A wagon train loaded with children as part of a rehabilitation program passed through Kentucky Monday. The journey will take them from Pennsylvania to Florida. - Julie Pfeifer Photo

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## Council has two special meetings in one week

By Julie Pfeifer  
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

"We're discussing details," Mayor Les Hents said, "not dollars."

Thus, the agenda was established for the first of two special meetings called this week by the Carlisle City Council.

The Council discussed the details of the blue book, the personnel policy for the city employees at its meeting on September 21.

As it stands, city attorney Skip Watson pointed out, there are many problems with the policy, such as the fact that job descriptions are not included in the book and a better grievance provision needs to be set up.

Another necessary aspect of the blue book will be city employee classifications and a pay plan based on the length of employment.

Before adjourning, the council called another meeting for 5:00 p.m. on September 22.

## Council has two special meetings in one week

At this meeting Billgrass Area Development advisor and coordinator, Jane Stephens, was to discuss the appraisal of land the city may buy for the sewer plant. However, this discussion was postponed while the city attorney writes a letter to the appraiser, as requested by the council.

The court agreed to buy a new judge truck if the truck meets the approval of Gene Kelley and his assistant. A Continued on Page 3

**Grease fire in county causes little damage**

Nicholas County firemen responded to a grease fire, September 22, at 9:45 a.m. It was the first call in September for the department.

Three men arrived at the home of Jack Smith, five miles east of Carlisle on Moorfield Road.

According to a Nicholas County Fire Department report, the grease fire was contained to a small area of the kitchen and the only damage sustained was to the stove.

## Weather Summary

Agricultural Forecast

Fair weather will continue through Wednesday before the next expected low pressure system from the plains brings a chance of showers Thursday and Friday.

The low pressure trough and its associated cold front could wet fields with a half inch or more of new moisture before ushering in colder air for the weekend.

Cooler air and slower drying rates could delay resumption of field activities until the beginning of the new week.

In the meantime, harvest will be able to move full speed ahead Wednesday. Afternoon relative humidities will fall to 35 or 45 percent. So combining of soybeans may need to be suspended for a few hours if excessive dryness causes beans to shatter. Higher humidity levels persisting Wednesday should allow uninterrupted progress once excess moisture from dew has dissipated.

As an example of the effective drying in the field today, the moisture content of mature corn should drop at least a half and as much as a full percentage point.

Depending upon initial moisture level, corn at higher moisture level will lose proportionately more. Drying rates may be slightly reduced Wednesday as more humid air begins to enter the picture.

Cooler air will hold daytime temperatures at the lower 70s by Saturday. And nighttime readings could fall as low as the upper 40s by Sunday.

**Extended forecast**

Thursday through Saturday

Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers Thursday and Friday. Partly cloudy and cooler Saturday. Highs mid to upper 70s Thursday and Friday cooling into the low 70s Saturday. Lows in the mid to upper 60s.

The 8 to 10 day outlook... projects much below normal temperatures for Sunday through the following Thursday. Little or no precipitation is in the outlook. So cool sunny days and chilly nights may be in store next week.

## Court grants requests

By Julie Pfeifer  
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

Todd Switzer, of the Bluegrass Area Development District and Mike Pryor, of the Sharpsburg Water District, left the Nicholas County fiscal court meeting Saturday with exactly what they asked for.

Early in the meeting Switzer said he simply wanted a verbal agreement concerning the application for a Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant to install a water line extension. This line extension would benefit 170 Nicholas County residents and 61 Bath County residents.

The council voted to commit \$10,000 from Area Development Funds to the project and it granted Judge-Executive Reese Smoot permission to sign the application.

Switzer said the commitment of funds from the fiscal court shows HUD that there is local support for the project, which will help in securing Continued on Page 3

## Arnold is named

Adrian Arnold (D-M, Sterling) has been named chairman of the Agriculture Committee of the Southern Legislative Conference.

Arnold's appointment was made in Lexington where the SLC held its annual meeting. He is a veteran member of the House committee and contributes a great deal to the objectives of the panel, according to a SLC spokesman.

"This appointment is a great honor and a challenge," Arnold said.

Farmers and Agrilbusiness are experiencing a severe economic slump. If through our work, these southern states can ease the problems surrounding agriculture, it will be gratifying," he said.

Arnold, an eight-term House member, has long been involved in Kentucky agricultural matters and is a member of the House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Arnold, who represents Nicholas County, as well as Bath and Montgomery counties, is chairman of the Kentucky House Committee on Counties and Districts.

## Indicted warehouse worker said some tobacco from Nicholas

A Carroll County tobacco warehouse employee was indicted by a federal grand jury in Lexington on charges that he illegally sold 21,000 pounds of tobacco, according to a published report in the Lexington Herald-Leader.

Ronald Smoot of Owenton was named in a six-count indictment returned last Wednesday, charging him with making a false and fraudulent statement.

Smoot allegedly provided that the tobacco was grown on farms in Nicholas, Madison, Boyle and Jackson counties when he knew it was grown on farms in those counties.

According to the report, Smoot sold 21,000 pounds of tobacco at Kentucky Tobacco Warehouse in Carrollton at a driving license in which he would represent the tobacco as having been grown by farmers who had allowed Smoot to use their Harry Tobacco Marketing Card numbers.

Smoot reportedly received in excess of \$31,000 from the sale of that tobacco, which he allegedly split with farmers who provided card numbers.

The farmers turned out to be undercover federal agents, the report said. This information was from Assistant U.S. Attorney John Compton.

According to the report, Compton said the agents provided Smoot only with marketing card numbers, not tobacco. Compton said he was not certain where Smoot had gotten the tobacco he allegedly sold.

## Indicted warehouse worker said some tobacco from Nicholas

Representative Adrian Arnold