

INSIDE FRONT PAGE

Lodge with 30 rooms planned for Blue Licks

By Josh Shepherd
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE, April 21 - With \$1.5 million appropriated by the state legislature for the construction of a 30 room lodge to be attached to the Worthington Center at Blue Licks State Park, State Representative Pete Worthington said he hopes to get the lodge running by the 1992 tourist season.

The Worthington Center itself was designed with expansion in mind when plans were drawn by Hooker and Associates, Worthington said.

On Kentucky 32

Completion of bridge project expected in next few weeks

By Josh Shepherd
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

MYERS STATION, April 20 - Within the month the Myers Station Bridge to Fleming County on Highway 32 should be open to traffic, Tom Hite, one of the foremen for bridge construction, said Friday.

Work has proceeded smoothly since construction began last August, Hite said. Working according to schedule, bridge construction hit few snags early in the building process.

Hiteover the Rose Construction Company, contracted to the job, were forced to wait when they realized a small additional detour would have to be constructed to accommodate main road construction through the new

bridge which will hook into Highway 32.

Little time had lapsed, however, after workers delivered blueprint for the additional detour, Hite said.

After the bridge is opened, a connection to Ishmael Chapel Road will be laid in and general clean-up of the area will commence, he said.

But according to Hite, the hardest part of the job is over. Workers cut down, at the deepest point of the camp hill, about 10 feet of ash, the by-product of the nearby power plant, which was roughly 400 feet across.

We hope to open the bridge in stages," Hite said. But hopefully, with the minor work we will need to do, we could be finished by mid-summer."



Bridge construction across the Licking River to Fleming County on Highway 32 in Myers Station is just weeks away from being opened to traffic. Tom Hite, one of the construction foremen, said the critical part of construction is complete. Once a road and entrance to Ishmael Chapel is constructed, workers will level out gravel across the detour and begin dismantling the old bridge.

Celebrating National Library Week

By Josh Shepherd
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In celebration of National Library Week, the Nicholas County Public Library is granting amnesty to all persons with overdue fines on books and materials returned this week.

Nicholas County Librarians Sylvia Anderson and Jane Buckler say they are more concerned with getting books returned than any money they could make on overdue fines. On the average, Anderson said, the library loses from 250 to 300 books a year to patrons who check them out and never return them.

"The losses on each book amount to almost \$20.00. Most of that money belongs to taxpayers and it hinders our ability to offer variety of material we have to constantly replace the books we lose," Anderson said.

Book prices have more than tripled in nearly 20 years, but the funds granted to the library have not risen at a comparable rate, she said. Books not returned to the library means other services the institution could possibly provide have to wait, she said.

The public library offers numerous services free of charge to anyone who passes through the doors, but unfortunately the public, in general, considers the library simply as a source for fiction and non-fiction publications.

Partly, Anderson said, it is true. Book lending is the traditional function of the public library.

For readers, a new borrowing service has been imple-

mented between nine county public libraries in the surrounding area which would allow holders of library cards from one county to check out books in another.

"You don't have to pay several library card fees to every other county library in order to take out books. With the new service, our patrons can go to the public library in Harrison or Bourbon Counties to find publications we don't have in stock," Buckler said.

The only requirement of the system is the borrower must be in good standing in order to participate in the offer, she continued.

All other services, including inter-library loan offers, audio-books, books on cassette, and large print books continue to circulate through the system, Anderson said.

One service people don't seem to be aware of is the microfiche, a small filing cabinet filled with pamphlets and leaflets on a variety of subjects ranging from the mundane to the very obscure. The file contains informational pamphlets to Nicholas County memorabilia to satisfy any curiosity.

However, even within the 10 years Anderson has worked at the public library, changes in the system continue to alter the face of library services.

They provide movies for most of the day care centers in Carlisle as well as adding provisions of filmstrips for educational or general interest presentations.

One area that has been a boon to the library has been lending popular paperbacks

several cottages along the banks of the Licking River.

Worthington said about \$200,000 is left over from the budget appropriated to build the Center and he plans to use that money to construct three 2-bedroom cottages spread along the river which would set the design stage for additional cottages to be located in spots between the original three.

However most of his plans for the area are in a planning and design stage, he said. Worthington said his hope is to receive all appropriations for Blue Licks development by fiscal year 1992.

"If we receive appropriations early, I believe we can begin construction by July, 1991 to be ready for the 1992 tourist season," Worthington said.

The State Department of Parks and Recreation have completed a feasibility study that estimates about 15 additional employees Blue Licks will be needed to man the lodge operation, but at this point in planning, Worthington said it is difficult to determine exact figures with any level of certainty.

Long range planning also calls for the construction of



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are encouraged to participate in an important part of their child's development and learning.

The library is endeavoring to expand its resources in the field of genealogy and a number of methods have been explored to more fully cultivate the huge interest Anderson said she has seen develop.

"I've had people come from as far as California tracing their family roots through Carlisle. It has proven to be a subject of immense fascination and we are making steps to offer a range of resources to aid them in their search including keeping a record of visitors who have come to us seeking their roots," Buckler said.

On the front desk sits the library's Genealogical Register, a ring binder notebook filled with names and addresses of people desiring information on a particular family line.

Anderson reports about 40-50 people pass monthly through the library from across the country searching for any remnant of their family tree.

However, genealogy is only one area in which the library is attempting to expand.

They are also working to increase the number of Kentucky Authors and the whole range of their works. From Jesse Stuart to Nicholas County's own Barbara Kingsolver, the library is attempting to make available an important part of Kentucky's heritage, Buckler said.

The Summer Reading program will again be offered for children this year. Parents

are encouraged to participate in an important part of their child's development and learning.

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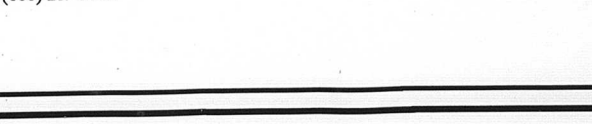
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The Carlisle Mercury's Kyle Nector clings to a tree while finding the top prize in the NCEC Easter Egg hunt, earlier this month. Full time kindergarten class room aide, and most of the class looks on.