

# Home for Christmas

Trip from Baghdad makes this year very special for American Lt. Commander Michael Schwartz

By Hank Bond  
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

**FROM BAGHDAD TO CARLISLE** — It will be a very bright Christmas morning for the Schwartz family in 1990. For you see, at 5 a.m. Sunday morning the head of the

"It's not very comforting to have shells and rounds snapping over your head."

— Lt. Commander Michael Schwartz  
In An Exclusive Mercury Interview

Schwartz family, Michael, disembarked from a Coastal Oil Company charter flight to Houston, Texas.

The flight had been originated by former Texas Governor John Connally and Coastal owner Oscar Wight to airlift American hostages from Baghdad, Iraq amidst the terror of Saddam Hussein's takeover of Kuwait and military activity there.

Schwartz has been reunited with his wife Teresa (Peterson) or Terri as he calls her, and his two children, Stephen, 10, and Kelly, 6.

Not only will the family be together for Christmas, but Michael will be home to celebrate

his son's 11th birthday, December 18 and Kelly's seventh birthday in January.

Michael Schwartz is a 22 year veteran of the U.S. Navy, holding the rank of Lieutenant Commander. He is a native of El Paso, Texas where he met his bride of 13 years, Teresa, while she was attending the University of Texas at El Paso.

All of this family information leads back to the group's reason for celebration: Michael's release as a hostage of the Iraq Military Brigade.

Serving as an officer in the Navy for 11 years, Schwartz was in Kuwait at the time of the Iraqi invasion.

Schwartz is not accustomed to military action with nearly three years of duty during the Vietnam conflict — but in this military action circumstances were different.

Schwartz was at the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait, when the invasion took place.

He watched as the artillery and tanks battled it out with shells whizzing overhead and exploding nearby.

"We were able to watch the duels and the live ammunition passed over head.

"It's not very comforting to have shells and rounds snapping over your head.

"We watched his (Hussein's)

troops loot the city — HIS TROOPS — not what many have said. It was not other third country military doing the damage. — it was his troops.

On about the 10th of August Schwartz said the horror took a funny turn.

**Continued on Page 3**

"We watched and did see the execution of some innocent folks . . . marched out and executed."

— Lt. Commander Michael Schwartz

DEC  
13  
1990

## THE CARLISLE MERCURY

The only newspaper that really CARES about Nicholas County  
123rd Year, No. 51 Carlisle, KY 40311-0272 Thursday, December 13, 1990 50 cents per copy

### Nicholas School Board establishes corporation

By Tim Jones  
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

**CARLISLE** — The Nicholas County Board of Education established a district finance corporation to sell bonds for the new bus garage at its meeting Monday night.

The district finance corporation is composed of the school board, the superintendent and the First Kentucky Security Corporation. The board has entered into an agreement with First Security where the financial firm will act as bond broker.

John Banks of First Kentucky Security Corporation addressed the board on the issue of the bonds. Banks said the interest rates are projected to be about 7.2 percent and said three or four buyers would be bid on the bonds.

The bonds will go on sale December 20.

The board also heard from Jack B. Clotfelter of Clotfelter and Associates in Lexington. Clotfelter is an architect and showed the board the preliminary plans his company has for putting walls in the elementary school.

Clotfelter's plan would cost \$1.1 million. Clotfelter said this estimate did not include the cost of a sprinkler system. The sprinkler system would be an additional \$125,000 to \$135,000, Clotfelter said.

The plan, as diagrammed by Clotfelter, will add a new addition on the elementary school to serve as a library. Clotfelter suggested the building plan be done in phases.

The board was only looking at plans Monday night. It took no action on the construction at the elementary school.

The board also decided to start a long-range plan. The board will work with the Kentucky Department of Education and formulate long range goals and plans.

The board decided to handle the complicated question of site based management at a special board meeting. Site based management is required by the Educational Reform Act in at least one school next year, Gilbert said.

Site based management begins with a school council made up of parents, teachers and the school principal. This

council makes the decisions which control curriculum, the budget for the school and the administration of the school. The policy school manual is outlined in the Educational Reform Act.

Bill Guthrie, Nicholas County school administrator, addressed the board briefly about on site management.

Superintendent Gilbert had given Guthrie and transportation director Ed Lane the job of studying the Education Reform Act and creating a Nicholas County policy which will fit with the state requirements.

Guthrie told the board it is limited in how it applies policy to the school councils.

According to Guthrie, most of the powers of the council are flatly stated in the reform act.

The board will discuss the many requirements of site based management at a special meeting on December 28. The meeting will start at 7 p.m.

In other business the board approved several field trips and competitions for students. The academic team's trip to Pikesville for the Eastern Kentucky Educational Tournament, the Chess Club's trip to a competition in Ashland and an eighth grade trip to the Lexington Community Christmas sing in Rupp Arena were approved.

In addition, a music trip to Louisville, fund raisers for the eighth grade basketball team and the high school band, and a Rotary Club Christmas dinner for 25 students was also approved.

The board voted to study a proposal which would allow 30 students and 10 adults to go to Washington, D.C. in April. The board will decide this issue at its next meeting.

Gave the superintendent approval to make necessary arrangements for board members to attend state and national conventions. Board members and the superintendent will attend these conventions if they have opportunities and if they wish to, Gilbert said.

Reaffirmed the acceptance of Judy Construction's bid to build the bus garage.

Authorized Gilbert to take



The Carlisle Mercury-Kara Reed Photo  
Fourth graders from Kathy Girmes class performed "A Christmas Carol" for students at Nicholas County Elementary School Monday. After the play, the actors sang Christmas carols. Students at the K2000 are preparing for the holiday season with decorations, cards and writing letters to local soldiers in Saudi Arabia.



The Carlisle Mercury-Kara Reed Photo  
Council members gathered for a meeting to discuss the 911 system.

### Council hears 911 plan

By Kara Bond  
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

**CARLISLE** — Betty Barton, Carlisle City Council member, presented to Carlisle City Council a South Central Bell plan for a 911 emergency phone system for Nicholas County.

Barton said in the Monday night council meeting she and Nicholas County Judge Executive Reese Smoot met with a representative of South Central Bell to discuss the system.

Barton said the system would cost over \$11,000 a month and over \$2,000 a month

to maintain. She said the cost would be the responsibility of the county.

She added a surcharge of about 80¢ would be assessed on phone bills in the county if the service were accepted.

Barton said the system will not be fully functional for 18 months if accepted.

She said there will be another meeting regarding the 911 system January 8 at the courthouse.

In other action, council elected a new city fire chief. Tom Crawford, Assistant Fire Chief for nine years, was elected to the office.

### For highways Fiscal Court recommends improvements

By Tim Jones  
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

**CARLISLE** — The fiscal court gave its recommendations to the state highway department for county road improvements at its meeting last Tuesday.

John Keith, chief district engineer for the transportation department's Flemingsburg office, told the court what improvements the state had planned for Nicholas County.

The state transportation department, according to Keith, will spend \$217,000 over the next year to maintain the 67 miles of state roads in the county. State maintenance includes mowing the ditches, patching surfaces and removing snow, Keith said.

The state will also spend an additional \$137,000 on one project.

Cassidy Creek Road will be resurfaced from state highway 57 to state highway 32. Approximately six miles of road will be blacktopped and the cost will be \$125,000, Keith said.

The state has allotted Nicholas County \$355,000 for roads in the next year, Keith said. The Cassidy Creek project and maintenance will leave around \$45,000 left for road improvements.

Each magistrate presented the transportation department with a list of roads in their precincts which need improvement.

**Continued on page 15**

### Fryman named to clerk's post

By Tim Jones  
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

**CARLISLE** — Nicholas County Judge Executive Reese Smoot has named Douglas Fryman to succeed Rose Scott as Nicholas County Clerk.

Carlin Mathes was originally appointed as county clerk. Mathes turned down the appointment.

Fryman will begin his term in January.

Continued on page 15