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# THE CARLISLE MERCURY

Keeping You In Touch — Our Community Commitment

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## Sub-zero weather causes problems at sewer plant



By Josh Shephard  
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

Because of recent sub-zero temperatures nearly everything at the Carlisle Sewer Treatment plant has experienced problems, Gene Kelley, sewer plant manager said.

Problems began as early as Saturday, December 16, when the first snowfall landed in Nicholas County and have compounded everyday, culminating on Christmas weekend.

A potentially serious problem was averted when a chlorine line froze, Kelley said.

If the line had burst it would have been a dangerous situation, but Kelley got the fire department to help and the group got to the line before anything serious occurred.

Drain and water lines have all frozen, but Kelley said these problems have not affected plant operations as much as a few items.

"We have no choice but to do anything we can to keep the plant working. Luckily, only a few problems have developed into something serious," Kelley said.

The digester line, a primary line carrying sludge for initial processing, froze. Though it is more of a waiting game for water lines to freeze, the digester line is a crucial element to processing for maintaining federal and state environmental standards.

Plant workers were forced to cut a three-foot section of the line away and discovered nearly 30 feet of the line had been frozen, Kelley said.

Workers have been successful in thawing the line and maintaining the sub-zero temperatures.

Ice buildup on the trickling filter has been controlled by taking sledgehammers to the ice, he said.

One major problem still exists, Kelley said.

A 20-year-old chain on the primary clarifier has broken and Kelley said he has been unable to locate a replacement.

The chain, which aids in turning a straggler to carry sludge to a process chamber, broke on December 18. The chain was repaired, but it then broke permanently the following day.

"It was constantly building up on the links. We tried to control it by keeping warm water on it, but we would have to work 24 hours a day to keep the ice off," Kelley said.

Some electric motors have also been affected, and some back-up motors were engaged, but the plant capacity has diminished from its normal 200,000 gallons to 150,000 gallons per day.

"Cold has been the villain in all this," Kelley said.

Nearly all parts of the plant were exposed to the severe temperatures and the equipment is not designed to handle sub-zero temperatures for an extended period of time, Kelley said.

"It is ironic that when we are building a new sewer plant that we get the worst possible conditions for the old trickling filter system to handle. Fortunately, though, none of the equipment for the new plant was affected," Kelley said.

However, though the old system has sustained some damage, the plant remains in reasonable working order, he said.

Continued on Page 6

Another nail in the wall

Baldert Henley of Mt. Vernon sits atop a wall December 28 as he works on a new building in Carlisle. Workers are busy building a branch office for the Deposit Bank of Carlisle on the west end of town.

## Health care laws Industry regulation helps smaller units

By Jeff Spradling  
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

Nicholas County Hospital Administrator Rob Hester said the Kentucky Legislature will most likely review the Certificate of Need law during its 1990 session.

Kentucky's Certificate of Need law, in effect since 1972, regulates capital expenditures in the health care industry.

However, the CON law is under fire primarily by Humana Inc., which would like to see the law weakened or repealed to permit its own expansion.

"The CON law is used to examine the need for new construction, additions, renovations, establishment of new services and purchases of major medical equipment in hospitals, nursing homes and other health care facilities.

"We're hoping for some change in the law, but we don't want a total repeal," Hester said.

"I think it's good to have to go through CON for updates," Hester said he would like to see some streamlining of the law to permit easier updates with things like buildings and computers.

A statement issued by the Kentucky Hospital Association, offers support for reviewing and maintaining the CON law.

"It is important that Kentucky support health planning and Certificate of Need review as an ongoing, long-term objective of the Commonwealth," the statement said.

Hester said that a repeal of the CON law would not produce an immediate effect on the Nicholas County facility, which has 28 acute care and 26 long term care beds.

"I don't think Humana would come here," but, Hester said, "it would make competition a lot harder. There would be more competition for people with health insurance."

"You have to look at the ripple effect. How would it affect Lexington? Humana could have a blank check to add facilities."

The Kentucky Hospital Association said in its statement that such competition may fuel price increases.

"While less regulation for business is generally more favorable, the health care industry is unique since it provides lifesaving human services as opposed to selling commodities. It is quasi-public."

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## Dry month delays burley stripping

By Jeff Spradling  
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

A lack of rainfall in December has delayed tobacco stripping in Nicholas County, extending the sales season for local growers.

About one-fourth, or 200, to 250,000 pounds of tobacco marketing cards have been returned to the local sales office, Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service office, agent Jim Furnish said.

"We started good in November. We've had a bad December. That one reason we're not closer to done," Furnish said.

He said about 60-70 percent of the state's crop has been sold and that the figure is probably indicative of total local crop sales.

Furnish said most local producers are receiving \$1.67 a pound for their tobacco.

"A small percentage is bringing \$1.60 to \$1.65," Furnish said.

The ASCS agent said about half of the county's growers have coverage they are selling under a 1-time arrangement, that allows the sale of an additional 5 percent.

Local growers are selling their crops equally among five area markets — Mt. Sterling, Paris, Maysville, Cynthia and Lexington — according to Furnish.

Nicholas County ranks in the top five counties in the state in burley production, with a 5 million pound quota.

The state market held firm during the fourth week of sales. Both price and quality were similar to that of the previous week.

Volume remained light as placed under loan during the week.

The Christmas break went into effect December 14 and sales are scheduled to resume January 9, 1990.

Gross sales during the fourth week amounted to \$2,929,919 pounds and averaged \$167.30 per hundred — up 2 cents from last week.

For the season, 298.1 million pounds have sold for \$475.1 million.

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Net sales amounted to 48,098,753 pounds this week, increasing the season total to 332,876,543 pounds.

Before Christmas last season net sales totaled 304,621,000 pounds.

Average for about 88 percent of the grades were unchanged this week. The practical top price was \$1.68 per hundred for grade B1FR.

However, most marketings sold for \$1.67 per hundred. The lowest average recorded was \$1.64 for grade N1G.

No major changes were noted in quality, with good and fair tobacco accounting for about 71 percent of sales.

There was a small increase in the percentage of mixed tobacco sold with less leaf. By group, leaf made up about 54 percent of sales, cuts 20, mixed 19, flyings 4, tips 2 and various nondecurs 1 percent.

From a color standpoint, group 78 percent of marketings was classified as tan or tannish red.

The Burley Cooperative received no tobacco this week, maintaining the season figure of 98.03 pounds.

Information for this article was also obtained from the Associated Press.

## In 1989: Lt. Gov. in Carlisle; Judge Jack Arnold resigns

**JULY**

Thursday, July 6, 1989  
The Nicholas County Extension office is conducting the largest intensive cattle grazing system ever attempted. This program is to see if cattle can survive on a diet of infected rescue with a significant increase in cattle weight gain. The other reason is to see if concentrating the area cattled, they want to see if cattle weight gain is significant.

Lieutenant Governor Brenton Jones will speak in Carlisle after the crowning of the 1989 Blackberry Festival Queen.

Nicholas County has the best enforcement of child support

collections in an 11 county area, according to Dean Conley, Child Support Coordinator in the Nicholas County Attorney's Office.

Alana Rattle, Nicholas County High School, was selected as one of 200 students to attending a one-week Summer Camp, a one-week program for Prospective Teachers.

BORN: Laurel Lynn Malory, June 10, 1989.

DIED: Mac Shannon Booth, 67, June 30, 1989; Verbal Lee Ireland Simon, 69, June 30, 1989.

Thursday, July 13, 1989  
Judge Jack Arnold, who has served as circuit and district judge in Nicholas and Robertson counties for the past seven and one-half years has resigned to accept a federal position in Dayton, Ohio.

Mary Susan Dotson was selected 1989 Blackberry Festival Queen at Thursday, July 6, 1989 festivities.

Gayle Kelley and Nikki Smoot are the male and female winners of the SK Run held on July 4, 1989 at the Blackberry Festival.

The Family Life Skills program, a questioned bill for a high school student's family and a new football coach are highlighted activities of the Nicholas County Board of Education meeting.

Main Street programs are used to aid communities in making their downtowns a surviving place once again.

MARRIED: Larlynn Laffer and Hammed Koury,

April 15, 1989; Ellen Kay McKinley and Michael Sowell, June 10, 1989.

DIED: Elma Stewart, 81, July 9, 1989; Thibis Caswell Smith, 87, June 26, 1989; Eddie Lee Mitchell, 40, June 26, 1989; Hazel M. Burberry, 75, July 5, 1989; Joseph G. Harrison, 94, July 5, 1989; Dorothy Mae Danielle Hadley, 71, July 8, 1989.

Thursday, July 20, 1989  
Greg Leisher, who plays football as well as other sports at Nicholas County from 1971-1976, has been named head football coach at Nicholas County High School.

Nicholas County Fiscal Court, after an hour and a half of executive session deliberation, has placed the Nicholas County road supervisor, John Ectey, on probation for the duration of an investigation of allegations concerning misappropriation of funds.

Carlisle has entered the Certified Cities Program for 1989 in an effort to stimulate economic growth and vitality.

Nicholas County Planning and Zoning Commission recommended the request of Jim Brown to re-zone a portion of a residential district to a commercial district on West Main Street.

BORN: Katherine Ann Rose, July 3, 1989; Katie Ann Ryan, July 11, 1989.

MARRIED: Cynthia Patrick and Terry Brian Grooms, June 10, 1989.

DIED: Mrs. Arlie Shephard

Mann, 91, July 14, 1989; Everett Ellis Watkins, 80, July 17, 1989; Ora Thomas Smith, 70, July 14, 1989.

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Lady Jackets claim Harrison Tourney with three wins

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