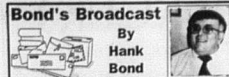


FOCUS



Bond's Broadcast

Maybe we should all take a little closer look at things

We have been hearing for a while the desire to relax restrictions on Kentucky's Certificate of Need requirements.

This Certificate of Need board generally looks at what is available in a given area and makes a determination of what will best suit the area.

If not, however, the builder or provider of service is prevented from going ahead with the project.

For the most part you must receive care from a Humana Hospital. There are some cases of emergency where a short stay in a non-Humana hospital is acceptable.

In addition, the HMO designates where you can purchase medicine.

If any facts are correct, the Kentucky attorney general has ruled Humana is not required to extend the privilege of selling medicine to every drug store requesting the contract.

It would possibly create a monopoly — something I believe would not be good for a majority of the people.

In addition, one cannot help wonder why Humana would want to have the rules relaxed or have an exemption if the facilities would generally benefit the populous as a whole.

I cannot for the life of me believe the Certificate of Need Board would disallow a request from Humana if the construction of the facility is in the best interest of providing top quality health care for the people of Kentucky.

Humana is not a Not-For-Profit operation. This new facility would give it such an advantage in the providing of health care it would nearly create a monopoly.

Humana is humanity served here! Is this best for all Kentuckians? Some health care administrators do not believe this will put Humana on the edge of eliminating competition.

However, the only thing I can see from the situation will be the elimination of most other health care providers, except for those who will take indigent and medical assistance patients.

Utilization coordinators, those who determine how long a patient stays in a hospital following a set of guidelines, can tell you the plain truth about asking for permission to treat Humana patients in a non-Humana hospital. The story isn't pretty.

Unless there is something I am missing it isn't the best or the best for Humana, no matter how much money the corporation has or how many votes it may control.

Continued on Page 3

The Carlisle Mercury

(USPS 090-820) Serving Nicholas County Since 1857

Published every Thursday by The Carlisle Mercury, Inc. at 234 N. Locust St., Carlisle, KY 40311-6212

Postmaster: Please send change of address to: P.O. Box 272, C-9546, KY 40311

In Nicholas County (including toll) \$15.95/Year. All Other Kentucky Counties (incl.) \$15.95/Year. Out Of Kentucky \$20.00

Hank and Marilyn Bond, Co-Publishers

Assistant To The Publishers: Jeff Rogers, Managing Editor; John Shepherd, Associate Editor; Pam Bonita, Sales Manager

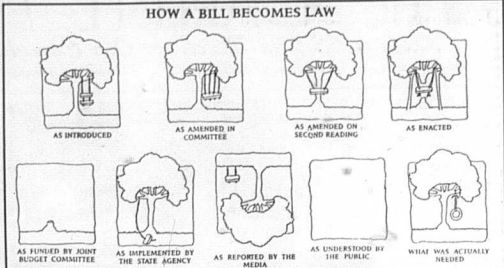
Staff Writers/Photographers: Carol R. Bond, Staff Reporter/Photographer; Matt Thies, Project Photographer; Bruce Mason, Circulation

Deadlines (Prior to Publication): 5 p.m. Friday for news; 5 p.m. Monday for classified advertising

Errors and Omissions: Credit for space occupied by incorrect information will be given if the publication is notified prior to the next publication date.

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Printed and Published by The Carlisle Mercury, Inc. at 234 N. Locust St., Carlisle, KY 40311-6212



The Census Bureau: counting (on) you



In The Chigger Patch With Jeff Spradling

The U.S. Bureau of the Census will begin its decennial (That's a word that means "every 10 years.")

When used, it saves the writer the hassle of writing "every 10 years," not to mention valuable newspaper space.

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How about a little history lesson? The decennial (that's 10 years) for those of you who missed it is the first definition census was mandated in Article I, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution.

Now, here's another fact: define the word again? census this year, the Census Bureau will hire about a half-million people to take the count.

One last note if you get into one of those funny little forms in the mail, don't throw it away. If you've got millions of them, and they won't take excess if you can't fill it out.

Such a population decline would require the state legislature to redistrict Kentucky. There would no doubt be some political battles broken in such a war.

Jeff cursed and motioned for me to follow him to a new vantage point, but at each new position, he took the frogs seemed to wave an inner sense of danger and hopped to safety.

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GENERAL NEWS

Jobs

Continued from Page 1 used to measure trends. The federal census surveys count each worker in the household one time, even if that individual is holding down two jobs or is commuting to jobs in other states.

Service employment rose by 1,000, while increased business and health services. Other gains were in construction and utilities (200).

On the down side, agricultural employment fell by 9,700, which Blackwell said is normal during winter months, when the need for farm employees more than makes up for the loss.

The civilian labor force inched non-military workers and unemployed Kentuckians who actively are seeking work.

Construction employment dropped by 2,200, finance, insurance and real estate was down 200 and manufacturing decreased by 100.

Trade employers added 4,300 more workers to their payroll in November, as department and clothing stores and groceries gained up for the holiday season.

Student of the Week: Robin Griffith, Grade: Junior, Parent: J. B. and Charity Griffith.

College Grads: \$400 can be used as down payment check with the sales consultants & take advantage of these GMAC programs.

Herb Jones Specials: 1987 Olds Firenza - 4 door, automatic, air, 35,000 miles, clean \$6295

Herb Jones Specials: 1985 Chev. Caprice - 4 door, V-8, auto, air, 29,000 miles, sell \$6195

Local students in regional academic event

Three Nicholas County High School students will participate in regional Sweet 16 academic competition at Morehead State Jan. 20.

The students and their parents are Susan Sanders, 2-dimensional art; William Nichols, 3-dimensional art; and Nathan Hunt, chess.

A total of 608 students from 63 high schools will participate in the first of four regional competitions in the 1990 Sweet 16 Academic Showcase.

Morehead State's event will kickoff regional competition with students from regional schools will be awarded on the state level.

First place individual winners receive \$2,000 in scholarships; second place, \$1,000; third place, \$500; and fourth place, \$200.

The scholarships can be used at any Kentucky post-secondary educational institution.

High schools that have first place winners also receive \$1,000 to be used for academic programs.

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