

## FEATURE AT SIX Griggs helping in health field

By Jack Shephard  
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

With new regulations on the standard of training for health care aids in nursing homes and other health care professions, a need has arisen for dedicated, well-trained health aid personnel. Fulfilling that need is Donna Griggs.

With 26 years of experience as a health aid, Griggs has ranked up an impressive list of credentials as a basic home health care instructor.

But her recognition of the need for education in basic health care was not immediate because, she said, her first job as a nursing assistant was primarily with hospitals.

Raised in Flemingburg, Griggs worked as an assistant in hospitals around Kentucky, New York, and Colorado. Among these included work in the old Nicholas County Hospital on Scrub Grass Road before the hospital moved, the left Nicholas for work at the old Douglas General Hospital in Paris.

However, raising children and maintaining the hours a hospital demands were too much to handle, she said. She turned to work in nursing homes and it was during this period she recognized the need for home health care.

"At some of the places I worked, the level of knowledge or experience of some employees was so low elderly patients were not receiving proper care. Coming from a hospital background this lack of attention distressed me," Griggs said.

Following this realization, Griggs' attention focused on health aid training, she said. She originated the first home health training program in Paris through the cooperation of the JTPA program with the Minnet Corporation acting as sponsor. With her success in the training course at Bourbon County, she also helped set up three other programs in Bowling Green, Hazard, and Danville, she said.

"There are water and road projects that would take only thousands, not millions, to fix. Road signs, guard rail curves, intersection and bridge improvements," Hogg said. "I'm not saying I have the magic wand which will fix all these problems but it is a matter of putting forth the effort and time to get them approved."

Hogg wants to attempt to curb what he feels are excessive tax increases in the state legislature. There has been no effort to cut taxation in the state and work on ways to support in the general public and serve to harm the integrity of state government, he said.

There is fat in Frankfort and the mere government continues to add fat to their belts, the further away they get from supporting the general public," Hogg said.

Hogg said his business experience has given him the knowledge to deal with people from all walks and all classes.

"You need to have been in business to understand business people and you have got to be a farmer to understand the needs of farmers. People are tired of promises and I make no guarantees that what I have

To apply and qualify for raising don't require high school degree, though she strongly suggests her students earn a diploma.

Her goal, besides giving quality instruction in basic health care, is to instill in her students a desire to continue their education and give them a means to do so, she said.

"Being a health aid gave me the means to work my way through high school and nursing school," she said.

Potential students, however, need to be at least 18 years of age and pass through a screening process to qualify for admittance. The process itself requires students pass a reading comprehension skills exam, supply three professional or personal references and, in a personal interview, demonstrate a quality of caring. Griggs feels it is essential to a health aid qualifications.

"Home Health Care is a way for housewives who desire a flexible schedule to seek some kind of secondary employment but most importantly, it provides a means for high school graduates to obtain employment to afford the costs of furthering their education in college," Griggs said.

"The program she offers also provides excellent insurance to the basic aspects of a career in the nursing field, which would help them if they are considering nursing as a future job, she said.

"I'll do everything I can to help my students learn the things they need to do. If they need help, I'm willing to give them extra time as long as they are willing to learn. I'm simply willing to apply themselves to the task and dedicate themselves to the profession," she said.

Griggs' home health training school is approved by the Kentucky Department of Health Services and the Kentucky Board of Proprietary Education.

Griggs courses are rigorous and demand more than a simple desire for a money-making career, she said.

"There must be a need, a desire if you will, to work in this field because the demands require a great degree of dedication," Griggs said.

set out to do I am going to get done. People want real help, real honesty and representation. "I do make one promise - work hard to try to help alleviate the problems on the local level and reflect to the best of my ability what people need and want in their district and how they want to be represented on the House floor."

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These increases have no support in the general public and serve to harm the integrity of state government, he said.

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## OBITUARIES

**Madhe**  
Laura Madhe, 82, 217 North Street, Carlisle, widow of Robert A. Madhe, died at Franklin Manor Nursing Home, Thursday, March 22, 1990 at the Nicholas County Hospital.

Born in Ball County, to the late Charley and Laura Chubb Grove, she was a member of the Irvingville Baptist Church, a retired school teacher for the Nicholas County School System, and a member of the Nicholas County Retired Teachers Association.

Survivors are three sons, William Mathes, Paris, Leon W. and Charles Mathes, both of Carlisle; a sister, Mrs. Minnie Stump, Paris; eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Services were held 2 p.m. Monday, March 26, at Mathers-Gaunce Funeral Home by Reverend Tom Moore. Burial in Battle Grove Cemetery, Cynthiana.

## Babbage says bill helps Nicholas

The passage of House Bill 14 by the Kentucky General Assembly will save Nicholas County \$3,971 in the initial expenses necessary to conduct a separate presidential preference election, according to State Auditor Bob Babbage.

The legislation would allow the state executive committee of each political party the option of determining their delegate votes by either a party caucus or a presidential preference primary election or a combination of the two methods.

Any election would be incorporated with the existing May primary election. The 1988 Super Tuesday presidential primary cost Kentucky \$2.2 million. And only 23 percent of our voters cast their ballots," Babbage noted. The state reimbursed counties \$1.4 million for election expenses and paid

**Thomas**  
Robert Thomas, 83, a resident of Robertson County, died 9:25 p.m. Thursday, March 22, 1990 at the Brasden Center. Born in Robertson County, April 10, 1906, the son of the late Everett and Frances Lewis Thomas, he was a retired carpenter.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Doris Chamberlain Thomas in 1986, and by two sisters and a brother.

Survivors are two daughters, Mrs. Vivian White, of the Stonevale community, and Mrs. Lillian Moore, Milford, Ohio; a sister, Mrs. Mae Herrington, Carlisle; three grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Services were held 2 p.m. Sunday, March 25, at the Robertson County Funeral Home by Reverend Jimmy Jackson.

Burial in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Memorials may be sent to the Robertson County Life Society.

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Let us help you choose a suitable monument for your departed loved one. Monuments, Markers, Flower Vases, Cemetery Leasing Services. Contact: John Frederick or Ronnie Clark at the Carlisle Cemetery, Phone 289-7387, Phone 289-2106, Ronnie, 289-7983.

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