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## Sewage plant now complete

**By Kara Road**  
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE — The new sewage treatment plant is complete and fully functional, according to Gene Kelley, Carlisle Sewage Plant Superintendent.

Carlisle City Council met in special session last Monday to discuss the plant. Kelley said there are two areas that may need work from the contractor.

He said water leaks from one wall and landscaping may need to be done in the spring.

Aside from these things, the work done by the contractor, London Bridge Company of London, Kentucky, is complete, according to Kelley.

Kelley said the repair on the wall will take about a half day's work.

He said more grass may need to be sown in the spring because much of it was sewn too late in the year.

"I'd like to see them (London Bridge) come back in the spring and do some landscaping because it is pretty rough in some areas," Kelley said.

Some areas of the plant also collect water after it rains, he added.

"Basically we're 100 percent complete with the function of the plant."

Kelley said several small items were repaired by the contractor as necessary.

The plant is under guarantee for one year, according to Kelley, although he said he is not sure when the guarantee started.

He said the plant began partial functioning in March of this year.

"It's hard to say when we went to 100 percent usage. We had a lot of bugs with electrical equipment but now it's all working like it's supposed to," Kelley said.

Carlisle Mayor Frankie Hughes said the council will meet with a representative from London Bridge and CIBV, the engineering firm

for the plant, to exchange checks.

London Bridge will pay the city for repair of the road in front of the plant and for the utility bill during construction.

Kelley said these checks would total about \$4,000.

The city owes London Bridge between \$30,000 and \$40,000 for completion of the plant, said Kelley.

Carlisle City Clerk Mary Tapp said the city is still waiting for money from a federal grant for the sewage plant.

She said there will not be any money left over from the London Bridge fund after London Bridge is paid.

Discussion not related to the contractor.

Kelley said the utility bills for the plant have been high.

He said the average is about \$1,000 per month.

He said he wants to get timers for some of the equipment to cut down on that cost.

"The bills used to be around \$100, but you're comparing apples and oranges with that."

Kelley said the building needs work on the roof, painting and electric. Costwell asked Matt Hughes to look at the building and give them an estimate on the cost of repairs.

The superintendent said there have also been problems with hauling sludge from the plant.

He said the grit has to be hauled at least three times a week because of odor.

He said hauling has to be done every day for the next 90 days because the sludge has accumulated.

Kelley said the city may need to hire people part time to haul during the night to catch up on what needs to be removed.

"It's at a critical point right now. We're going to have to haul Thanksgiving day just because we've full."

Council member Bonnie Clark said the city should give the city dump truck to the



The Carlisle Mercury/Hank Bond Photo  
Two were injured and taken to Nicholas County Hospital by Nicholas County Ambulance last Thursday night, when two Lincoln Continentals collided on US 69 near the KY 22 intersection. Joshua Pickett, of Maysville, and Robert Johnston of Lexington, sustained minor injuries. Nicholas County Sheriff Charles Ring investigated the wreck and filed the report.

## Landfill, garbage problems continue to grow

**By Tim Jones**  
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

Editor's Note: This is the second in a series of articles about solid waste and its impact on Nicholas County and the state.

CARLISLE — Kentucky's garbage problems continue to grow and grow.

And grow.

Kentucky produces an estimated 3.25 million tons of trash every year, according to a September report from a group of University of Kentucky researchers.

This amount breaks down to an average of a ton of garbage per year per Kentuckian.

The UK researchers also felt garbage production would rise in the Commonwealth.

The report issued by the group said the amount of trash will rise to almost 3.7 million tons a year by the 2000.

The report also said somewhere between 270,000 and 400,000 tons of this garbage will be disposed of illegally.

The illegal dumping, for the most part, will take place in the traditional manner.

Garbage, worn out refrigerators and worn out tires will be thrown over creek banks and into sinkholes and hollows.

Public health concerns

The reasons for regulating landfills and stopping illegal dumping are tied to public health. In particular, the concern is for clean groundwater sources in the state.

According to Charlie Pearl, a spokesman for the Kentucky Department of Natural Resources' Waste Management Division, approximately 700,000 people in the state depend on groundwater as drinking water. This is the water which can be contaminated by improperly regulated landfills, Pearl indicated.

In addition to contaminating water, there are other public health hazards caused by improperly maintained landfills and dumps.

Leading the list of health problems are vectors and disease, according to Paul McConecha, McConecha is the manager of engineering and environmental affairs for Rumpke Engineering of Cincinnati.

Rumpke Engineering runs several landfills in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky, including one in Mt. Sterling.

McConecha said illegal dumping and improperly maintained landfills are breeding grounds for vectors. Vectors are simply animals or insects which carry disease. Examples of garbage carriers are rats, mice and mosquitoes.

Such as encephalitis, according to McConecha.

1990 requirements strict on landfill operators

Concerns for public health led to a new set of requirements for landfills. The requirements were established by the Kentucky National Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet on January 16, 1990.

The requirements, titled the Emergency Solid Waste Regulations, have made Kentucky's landfill standards much tougher than those in other states.

"We went from having the weakest standards for landfills on January 15 to having among the most stringent requirements in the nation on January 16," Paul Nesbitt, a partner of Nesbitt Engineering in Lexington said.

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## Hey kids, write Santa

In keeping with a long-standing tradition, The Carlisle Mercury will again publish letters to Santa this Christmas season.

Youngsters are invited to write Santa, in care of The Mercury, telling what they want him to bring them for Christmas. Mothers and fathers may help their tots send their wishes.

Those who are encouraged to participate by sending us their reminiscences of Christmases past, or whatever might be appropriate during the holiday season. Letters will appear in issue prior to Christmas, hopefully all at one time depending on the amount we receive.

Deadline for letters to Santa is December 16. So get busy, it's later than you think.

## Cheerleaders have long season

**By Kara Road**  
The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE — Cheerleading isn't as easy as it seems. The cheerleaders for the boys' varsity squads at Nicholas County High School can attest to this.

Betty Ballard, sponsor of the cheerleaders for the boys' teams and Nicholas County High School Counselor, said the girls on the squad begin practice at the beginning of May and cheer through the end of the basketball season in February.

She said the cheerleaders practice three days a week during that time, even in the summer.

At the end of football, we start preparing for basketball. It's a long season," said Ballard, in her third year as cheerleading sponsor at Nicholas County.

"You lose count of the hours you practice after so many."

"Some have never cheered before, so we've had to practice more."

She said out of the 11 girls on the team, only three were cheerleaders last year and six or seven of the others had never cheered.

Ballard said, however, there are no seniors on the squad so next year's team should be a little more experienced.

Tryouts for the team are usually held in late April, according to Ballard.

She said there were no actual tryouts this year because 11 girls were interested and the team can handle 12.

There are practice sessions for the girls before tryouts to determine skill level, timing and jumps.

"We look for potential," she said, "and get them there."

Ballard said she stresses dedication to the girls from the start.

"Cheerleading is a lot of work, it is time consuming and competitive," she said.

"I tell them it's a team effort. If one quits, we have to go back and do everything over that we've worked on, such as formations."

She said in her 21 years of experience as a sponsor, very few girls quit once she explained the commitment and dedication necessary for a successful year.

She said the girls enjoy cheerleading and that is the reason they stay with it through the hard work.

"If they didn't like it, they wouldn't make that kind of a commitment."

Karen Banta and Hope Coker, two of the squads three co-captains, said they enjoy what has now become a sport.

Banta said, "It is a lot harder than people think."

Coker said she enjoys cheerleading because it gives her the chance to show off her skills.

"It's worth the work," she said.

Both girls also said they enjoy helping the crowd become more active in the game.

All of the hard work is put to the test near the end of basketball season in regional competitions.

Ballard said last year's squad did not take part because the competition was held the same time as a science fair and the Governor's Cup.

She said the girls voted not to compete since several of them were active in the other competitions and their practice time was cut short.

Ballard said, "This school is so small, we have overlapping."



The Carlisle Mercury/Kara Road Photo  
Susan Colclough, one of three co-captains for the Nicholas County High School Boys' Cheerleading Squad, performs an eagle split during practice in the high school cafeteria. The team practices three or four times a week.