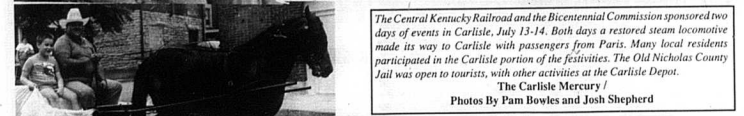


GATHERING TOGETHER DOWN AT THE STATION



The Central Kentucky Railroad and the Bicentennial Commission sponsored two days of events in Carlisle, July 13-14. Both days a restored steam locomotive made its way to Carlisle with passengers from Paris. Many local residents participated in the Carlisle portion of the festivities. The Old Nicholas County Jail was open to tourists, with other activities at the Carlisle Depot.
The Carlisle Mercury /
Photos By Pam Bowles and Josh Shepherd

Cannup-faces first step of new journey

By Hank Bond
of the *Carlisle Mercury*

For Charles Cannup, who has taught vocal music for the past several years, things have taken on a radical change.
After nearly two years of fighting a sinus infection, on Christmas Eve 1990, Cannup knew something was more than a little wrong.
"For the past couple of winters I had been suffering with a sinus infection that appeared to be very difficult to treat.
"This past winter, I thought, here we go again.
"Finally, on the Christmas break I went to the doctor. I first went to an allergy specialist, because of the sinus.
"After a battery of tests I was told most of the allergies I was suffering from were from aerosols and were not treatable. Just have to suffer from it."
"The allergist suggested I go to an ear and throat surgeon for some tests.
"After an examination, the surgeon saw the need to do an operation on January 4."
Cannup went to Good Samaritan in Lexington for the test and it showed there was a tumor on his larynx and there would have to be surgery.
"The first thing I did was to ask a second opinion.
"That didn't take very long. About 30 seconds into a second opinion the same thing was apparent to the doctor."

Cannup said the original plan was to remove one vocal cord and the epiglottis, which would have left Cannup with an altered voice, but still the ability to communicate.
The second physician recommended a more radical surgery, including the removal of most of the lymph nodes as well.
Cannup made the decision to go with the original physician's plan to remove lymph nodes only where cancer was present.
On January 11, Cannup went into St. Joseph's Hospital in Lexington for the surgery.
"I was told I would be in intensive care when I woke up," he remembered. "When I was more aware and awake I would be moved from intensive care to a private room.
"I can barely remember things in intensive care - people a little talking, but I really have no memory of the place until about the 17th of January.
"In fact, I have more memory of World War II than I do of the first days after surgery. Really, most of the month of January seems to have disappeared.
"Also during the surgery, my eyes were redacted. It was necessary to remove both vocal cords and the larynx or Adam's Apple (voice box),

leaving Cannup with no ability to talk normally.
"In fact, I had to learn to eat all over again."
Cannup has been able to do talking again with the use of an Electrolarynx. A monotone, heavy duty oscillator and speaker.
"I cannot whisper or yell, he said.
"I can talk pretty much like always, except I have to work harder at pronouncing words. Some sounds are slurred and others drop out completely."

The Electrolarynx uses the vibrations of the back of the throat and acts as the vocal cords in producing the sounds.
Cannup said he received the machine two days before he left the hospital, but really didn't get interested in using it for a few days.
"I couldn't swallow and while learning to eat again, I just about gave up on using the machine.
"The pain wasn't the big problem, as much as getting used to not breathing through my nose and mouth.
"I had no control over some of the muscles, however pain was controlled and I did not suffer a great deal."
Cannup has a philosophy about this surgery or anything else.
"I believe every journey has a first step and with each step you start the journey over. Just about anyone can take a first step."

problem, but I couldn't swim that much anyway.
"It wouldn't be fair to the children for me to continue trying to teach elementary music, so I moved into another program."
Cannup is now the director of the Family Resource Center for the Nicholas County Schools.
"This program is to help people better utilize the services available in the community.
"Cannup pointed out this is not another social help program, but a broad based program for everyone. There are very little restrictions.
"It is an attempt to make sure every child performs as much as their talents will permit. Every child."
Cannup, a native of Balfour,

Continued on Page 8

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