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Inside This Week — The Carlisle Mercury

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Hamm case continued in Harrison Co. court

By Job Shepherd

CYNTHIANA — In arraignment at Harrison Circuit Court Wednesday, July 10, Steven D. Hamm, 30, entered a plea of not guilty to murder charges stemming from a two-car collision which caused the death of two Nicholas County men. Hamm, who was arrested and charged with murder July 8 following a two-vehicle accident in Cynthiana two days earlier, was appointed a

public defender, attorney Doug Wright, and the cash bond remained set at \$200,000. According to a spokesman at the Bourbon County jail, Hamm was transferred to Pendleton County jail. Hamm was to have a preliminary hearing Wednesday, July 17, but because lab results were not back, the commonwealth and the defense agreed to a continuance. The hearing was scheduled to the following Wednesday.

Steps taken on landfill by Nicholas Co. Court

By Job Shepherd

CARLISLE — The first step toward closure of the Nicholas County landfill were taken last Thursday morning. Engineer Steve Burns, representing Endicott and Associates, was at the landfill Thursday with landfill supervisor Phillip Howard to take soil samples and to survey the slope of the area in preparation of administering the state Landfill Closure Plan. The samples he collects will determine the permeability of the soil and the depth of coverage over the landfill. According to the state plan, closure of a landfill has certain requirements with regard to the depth at which solid waste is buried and the rate at which moisture percolates through the soil, Burns said.

What concerns the state most is the amount of leachate through the soil of the landfill, Burns said. Basically leachate is the amount of surface and ground water that runs through or near a landfill that can carry off buried solid waste with it, he said. This run-off can represent a threat of contamination to fresh water lakes and streams, Burns said. Nicholas County has no leaching problem at all, Burns said. In his last survey of the landfill in 1989, Burns

said he found no evidence of any leachate near the area. If there were any leachate present here, it would show up along the rock wall at the Nicholas County rock quarry next door. There would be water running through that rock," Burns said. Nicholas County is avoiding a great deal of cost by taking steps to close the landfill now before new state environmental regulations go into effect, Burns said. Under the old regulations, the county is required to monitor ground and surface water run-offs for a period of two years, Burns said. The new regulations would require such monitoring for thirty years.

"I realize the state has the interests of the environment in mind, but for the Nicholas landfill, thirty years is overkill," Burns said. Because of the relatively low clay content in the soil at the landfill, Burns estimates that burial of the solid waste stored there should be between two to three feet deep, but otherwise he feels the Nicholas County quarry is in good shape for closing. "I'll need to wait for the final word from the Shelby tests before a final determination can be made, but closing this landfill should not be much of a problem," Burns said.

There are also concerns, he said, that more modular



The Carlisle Mercury/Pam Bowles Photo
The Nicholas County Fire Department responded to a double wide trailer fire on Locust Grove Road Saturday night at approximately 11:45 p.m. The trailer was fully engulfed with flames when the fire department arrived on the scene. The resident, Marvin Frederick, was not at home at the time of the fire. The cause of the fire is unknown. Nicholas County Fire Chief Mark Hughes pictured tries to put out the biases.

Concern aired over modular home

By Job Shepherd

On the Carbon Run

CARLISLE — Concern over the construction of a modular home in Carlisle was the subject of a dispute at a special meeting of the Carlisle City Council Monday night.

Sue Bell appeared before the court to voice a complaint against a modular home being constructed near Robin Lane.

According to Bell, residents of the Robin Lane have complained that the presence of the modular home, being built by John Eton, may have a damaging effect on the value of their property.

There are also concerns, he said, that more modular

homes may come into the area and create an eyesore in a otherwise nice looking area of town.

Councilman Ronnie Clark said the city ordinance on homes built within Carlisle city limits have a very exact definition on the type and dimensions a home must have to be built. If the modular home in question meets these standards, Clark said, then it is legal for it to be built.

"I believe that the modular home you're talking about may be equal in property value to the other homes on the street," Clark said.

As to further homes being built in the area, council members said the possibility was unlikely because of regulations concerning the establishment of subdivisions.

Bell also said complaints have been made against Eton's construction of a pond in the same area. However, ac-

ording to Carlisle City Attorney Skip Watson, the City has no jurisdiction unless the pond represents a threat to property or life.

Watson suggested she address her grievances to the Division of Water and to the Planning and Zoning Commission which meets Wednesday, July 24.

Bell said she intends to follow up her complaints.

A second reading on a City ordinance to include modular homes within the city definition of a dwelling units was read. However Watson said he had not yet been informed by Planning and Zoning Commission attorney Billy Hopkins that the commission had recommended the ordinance amendment to the council.

The council had two choices, Watson said. They could go ahead and approve

the second reading and wait for the recommendation to make their approval official. However, he advised them to table their decision until the regular council meeting next month. By then, Watson said, he would have the commission recommendation.

In council business, Betty Barton said she had received complaints from residents at the end of Morgan Street about the lack of street lights. Residents felt it was too dark and requested a street lamp be installed. Following Barton's request, Carlisle Mayor Frankie Hughes instructed Carlisle Police Chief Sam Finch to compile a list of non-functioning street lights in Carlisle and work on getting them functioning again.

In other Council business, Council discussed salary increments for city employees.

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Procedure outlined for landfill closing

By Job Shepherd

On the Carbon Run

CARLISLE — Initial procedures for closing the Nicholas County landfill outside Carlisle have started, Rose Smoot, Nicholas County Judge Executive, said Thursday morning.

Bids for a county-wide garbage collection will be opened at the August 13 meeting of the Nicholas County Fiscal Court, Smoot said.

The State government, in its attempt to mandate significant improvements in Kentucky's environment, have established new standards for the maintenance and function of landfills located

across the state, Smoot said.

It is obvious these standards, which go into effect in July of 1992, will demand a cost greater than Nicholas County can reasonably meet, he said.

Therefore the fiscal court has opted to close the landfill. According to Judge Smoot, the court plans to close off all landfill dumping after December 31, 1991. To replace the landfill, Smoot said the court will make a county-wide garbage pick up service available. However, the cost of such a collection service will not be placed on all taxpayers, he said.

The State requires that since we won't be operating

landfill, that we are to make a collection system available. But this does not mean all county residents have to take the service; only those people who want the service will get it. Therefore billing will be on an individual household basis. There will be no garbage tax levied," Smoot said.

In the 1991 budget, over \$91,000 is allocated toward running and maintaining the county landfill. This money will be divided among other county budgets. "In the long run, that money will be present much more in other court services to Nicholas County," Smoot said.



The Carlisle Mercury/Job Shepherd
Nicholas County Fill Supervisor Phillip Howard collects soil samples for Steve Burns of Endicott and Associates and George Attanasio of who will be performing lab tests on the soil. This work is in preparation of the state Landfill Closure plan.