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The Carlisle Mercury/William Millon Photo

Two are injured in Sunday blaze

Valiant rescue saves man as business is destroyed

A Carlisle Mercury Staff Report

CARLISLE — Fire swept through Eddie's Family Restaurant, Sunday afternoon, sending two men to Nicholas County Hospital and causing extensive damage.

Carlisle City Firemen, Nicholas County Firemen, plus volunteers from Millersburg, Paris and Bourbon County responded to the fire, which was dispatched in Carlisle at 5:12 p.m. The fire was reported by Carlisle City Police Officer Lamar Mann, who detected smoke coming from the building.

Business owner Eddie Briery, who was alone, was asleep in the second story apartment when the fire broke out.

Carlisle Fireman Bobby Kelley, who helped get Briery out a front window was also overcome by smoke during the evacuation effort.

Both men were taken to Nicholas County Hospital by Nicholas County Ambulance.

A spokesman said Kelley's effort and his decision to attempt to share oxygen from his backpack was instrumental in saving Briery's life.

Carlisle City Chief Tommy Crawford said Ronnie Clark told him he had seen a hand at the window and that prompted the firemen's efforts to save Briery. Crawford said, "If we had not been able to get Briery out of the front window, I don't believe he would have made it."

Briery and Kelley were admitted to Nicholas County Hospital, following emergency treatment. Both were released Monday morning, after additional tests were run.

Crawford was also able to identify Jimmy Berry as being part of the team which helped get Briery out, but Crawford said, "There were several men there on the two ladders we had to put up to get Briery out and I just can't say who all was there."

According to Nicholas County Fire Chief Mark Hughes, who was the first on the scene and the first to enter the building, the fire appeared to be electrical in origin and began in the basement, spreading to the second floor of the building. Crawford said the fire was between the ceiling and floor of the second story.

For Briery, he must depend on the accounts of the fire from other people to know exactly what happened.

"The last thing I remember was watching the golf tournament on television, and I was planning to get up about 6 (p.m.) o'clock."

"The next thing I remember was seeing Phyllis Mitchell's face at the hospital," Briery added.

Mitchell is a member of the respiratory staff at Nicholas County Hospital.

According to firemen, Briery had somehow found his way to the window at the eastern edge of the second story of the building. Crawford said Briery was barely conscious when firemen removed him from the blazing building. Kelley was able to make it to the ground under his own power, but knew he had taken in too much smoke.

An investigator from the Kentucky State Fire Marshall's office, Jack Flowers of Louisville, was called to investigate the fire. According to Hughes, Flowers planned to return Wednesday, along with an electrician to inspect the damage.

Crawford said Flowers told him following the fire that he was impressed with the departments' abilities to stop the fire. He told the Carlisle Chief he had seen many fires, and this was as good as a stop as there could have been.

Crawford also said had there been 10 more minutes before firemen arrived the outcome may have been drastically different.

Heavy smoke filled the building, which hampered fire fighters' efforts, however the blaze was contained to the business.

Carlisle Florist, located in an adjoining building on the east side of Eddie's Restaurant also filled with smoke. On Monday, contents of Carlisle Florist were moved to the corner building of the block, formerly occupied by Country Collectibles, but was open for business Monday morning.

Neal's Square Deal, which adjoins the restaurant on the west side also suffered some smoke damage, but was open for business Monday.

"I really don't know how I will ever be able to thank Bobby (Kelley) and the members of the fire department for what they did," Briery said Monday morning as he prepared to inspect the damage.

Both Hughes and Crawford lauded the efforts of the Nicholas County and Carlisle Fire Departments, saying the joint efforts put forth made stopping the fire possible.

The other departments were called in to offer back-up support, and Crawford said anytime there is a downtown fire it is necessary to have the additional manpower on hand to fight the blaze should it not be contained.

A life saver . . .

Business owner Eddie Briery is helped from a second story window down ladders by Carlisle firemen, Bobby Kelley, Tommy Crawford, James Biddle and James Berry (in the window) along with Carlisle Police Officer Lamar Mann. Briery and Kelley were admitted to Nicholas County Hospital after emergency treatment. Both were released Monday. Kelley shared oxygen from his air-pack during the rescue effort.

For Industrial Authority budgeting Hughes breaks deadlock for funds

By William Millon
The Courier-Kentucky Post
CARLISLE — Carlisle Mayor Frankie Hughes voted yes to break a tie vote that allowed the Carlisle — Nicholas County Industrial Authority a budget contribution of \$12,000 per year.

Spud Marshall, Executive Director of the Industrial Authority had asked the council to set aside \$15,000 in the next fiscal budget.

Councilman Ronnie Clark made a motion to give the Industrial Authority \$8000, the same amount provided by the Nicholas Count Fiscal Court.

last year. The motion was seconded by council member Sharon Faulconer.

A roll call vote was called for by Mayor Hughes.

Clark, Faulconer, and Charlie Fay voted for the motion. Tommy Vaughn, Doug Garrett, and Betty Barton voted against.

Mayor Hughes broke the tie with a no vote and Garrett followed with a motion to allow \$12,000.

The same members again split on the issue, resulting in Hughes' vote.

Clark told Marshall he was reluctant to give the Indus-

trial Authority the full amount because Marshall had promised to give a quarterly report to the council.

"Last year, we were promised a report every quarter. This is the first report we've heard. I just like to know where our money's going," Clark told Marshall.

Marshall, whose office also heads the Certified Cities application process, Business After Five, and the Carlisle — Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce, said the Industrial Authority was bringing attention to the county, and the efforts should pay off with new

industry in Nicholas County.

"I think our efforts are reflected by the fact that Carlisle will host a mock visit to help us prepare for dealing with prospective industry. Only two cities in the entire state, Lebanon and Carlisle, were chosen. I think that speaks well of what we have been able to accomplish in just one year," Marshall said.

In other business, the council

approved a budget of \$3500 for Carlisle — Nicholas County Tourism, Inc. The money will be used to match

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- ✓ Percheron Horses Thrill Nicholas Co. children . . .
- ✓ Harrison County's basketball team ends Nicholas County's best ever season, 14-1 in the district tournament.

Gilbert upset with architect

By Susan L. Helling
The Courier-Kentucky Post
CARLISLE — Nicholas County Schools Superintendent, Robert Gilbert, expressed displeasure with the late bid date of June 18 to begin the construction project at the elementary school.

Clofelter and Associates are the architects for the project and the preliminary work has been going on for about 10 months according to Gilbert.

"We are about a month behind," he said.

Clofelter responded that there is "No way that a contractor could have the project completed within a two or three month period of time. There should not be a day lost."

Contractors will have to work when the children are not in school on weekends and even Sundays to get the job done.

There is also a contractual clause for penalties if the job is not completed within a legal period of time.

"That will be written right into the contract," Clofelter said.

"School will begin August 21, and we have some dates to accommodate some of the late construction, if we have to," said Gilbert, who discussed the formal adoption of the

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