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Letters To The Editor

Editor:

On April 6, 1992 Joyce Clark was transferred from the Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington to the Nicholas County Hospital in Carlisle.

We want to say a special thanks to Mr. Dan Miller, Doris Ecton, Pam Garrison, and the members of the board for allowing Joyce to be transferred to our home town.

Words cannot express the gratitude and the love that we have for Dr. Curtz, Dr. Villaflor, and each and everyone of the nurses, nurses assistants, lab technicians, and physical therapists. They have given Joyce the very best care that she could possibly have.

Nicholas County is very fortunate to have this fine hospital and nursing home in our community.

Sincerely,
The Family of Joyce Clark

Lady Jackets fall in first round of regional

By Pam Bowles
Of the Carlisle Mercury Staff

SILVER GROVE — The Nicholas County Lady Jackets fell to Campbell County 20-11 in the first round of the 10th regional softball tournament on Wednesday.

The Lady Jackets were playing in the first regional tournament as Nicholas fielded their first team this year.

Campbell County struck first with two runs in the first inning.

The Lady Jackets used 10 batters off four hits to score five runs to take a 5-2 lead.

In the third inning Campbell scored five runs to take the lead back at 7-5.

In the fourth inning the Lady Jackets used 12 batters for seven to score six runs for a 11-9 lead. Nicholas hitters included Elizabeth Schandning, Tacy Earlywine, Gabrelle Fryman, Twayna Livingood, and Favia Pope for singles and triples for Kim Denkins and Tina Fryman.

Campbell County held on to a 20-11 victory with two runs in the fifth inning, five in the sixth and four in the seven inning to move on to the second round of the 10th regional tournament.

Celebrating 125 Years
The Carlisle Mercury

The Carlisle Mercury/Pam Bowles Photo

Gabrelle Fryman swings the bat last Wednesday in a lossing effort in the first round of the 10th regional tournament in Campbell County against Campbell County.

Mercury Memories

5 Years Ago

Thursday, June 4, 1987

Nicholas County had a third and two sixth place finishes in the Kentucky State High School Track Meet, last weekend in Lexington. Christel Bussell, making her second appearance at a state meet, finished third in the 100 meter hurdles and sixth in the long jump. Michelle Gray finished sixth in the 100 meter dash.

Steve Chapin has been appointed to the position of District Conservationist in Nicholas County by the Soil Conservation Service. Chapin will be filling the position left vacant by Curtis Rosser.

Elaine S. Joseph, daughter of Layla and Simon Joseph, has been placed on the Dean's List at the University of Kentucky Community System for the spring semester, 1987, in recognition of high scholastic achievement.

MARRIED: Suzanne Grimes and Scott Dixon May 30.

DID: Mrs. Helsie Conis McElfresh, May 21; Mrs. Lula C. Willoughby, May 30; Mrs. Violet Marie Fair, May 30; Mrs. Gladys Bussell Bradley, May 13; Gary Robbins, May 26.

10 Years Ago

Thursday, June 3, 1982

The Nicholas County High School senior class, numbering 68, graduated Sunday night in ceremonies held in the high school gymnasium. Named Co-Valedictorians for the class were Barbara Lynn Edwards, daughter of Mrs. Barbara Edwards and the late Orlan Edwards, and Peggy Dee Stewart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Stewart of Millersburg.

A ninth grader and son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rose of Carlisle, Tim Rose, has a straight 4.0 average at Millersburg Military Academy and has been named to the Junior National Honor Society, MMI has announced.

Three Nicholas Countians have been commissioned as Kentucky Colonels by Governor John Y. Brown Jr. They are Diane Hunt Zornes and Buddy Burke, both of Stoney Creek Road, and the Rev. David C. Stancil of Sycamore Hill.

BORN: Jennie Lynn Evans, May 18; Robbie Allen Biddle, May 25; Travis Lee Conner, May 19.

MARRIED: Mary Lou Schepers and Michael J. Anderson, May 1.

DIED: Miss Anna Mae Allison, May 24; Emory G. Asbury, May 27; Mrs. Hattie Derrickson, May 27; Franklin C. McIntyre, May 31; Frank A. Weaver, May 28.

20 Years Ago

Thursday, June 1, 1972

1972 honor students at Nicholas County high School are co-valedictorians Sharon Crawford and Karen Terrell, and co-salutatorians are Kenneth McDonald and Melicent Sugg.

Mrs. Ramona Sowell won fourth Expert Hair Styling award of the Central States Championship in Louisville on May 21 and 22. She also won a cash award.

A new method of public financing which save Nicholas County taxpayers $125,000 was pioneered recently by the local board of education. Called "advanced refunding" the new method of financing produces $1,285,000 of public funds which will be used to retire a previous bond issue obtained in 1970 at the then prevalent interest rate of more than seven percent.

BORN: Tina Bernice Green, May 25; Susan Patricia Conley, May 25; Angela Dawn Mattox, May 16.

MARRIED: Miss Jenette Waller and Robert McAuly, May 27.

DID: Herbert Hamilton, May 26; Miss Mary Jane King, May 25; Arthur L. Bretz, May 25; Mrs. Gertrude Woodall, May 29.

40 Years Ago

Thursday, June 5, 1942

H.L. Herndon, chairman of the Nicholas County PMA Committee announced this week that measuring tobacco for 1952 would begin sometime around July 1.

The championship five gaited stakes in the fourth annual Carlisle V.F.W. Horse Show was captured by Peggy, ridden by George DeAtley of North Middletown.

Mr. and Mrs. Mont Ewell celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ewell Clinkenbeard.

BORN: To Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cunningham of Pittsburg, a son, May 3; To Mr. and Mrs. Clay Lynn Morgan, Evansville, Indiana, a son, Clay Lynn Jr., May 29; To Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds Feeback, a daughter, Judy Ann, Thursday; To Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schmitt, Evansville, Indiana, a daughter, May 30.

MARRIED: Miss Nancye Bruce Whaley, daughter of Mrs. Katherine S. Whaley, Lexington, to Jack Jones Early, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Early of Corbin, June 1 in Lexington; Miss Julianne Hazelrigg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Hazelrigg, to Charles Duty Givens, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Givens, Friday in Sharpsburg; Miss Clois Alexander, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David W. Alexander, to Ermon Barbee, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lafe Barbee, May 24 in Flemingsburg; Miss Mary Hilda Townsend, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. G.W. Townsend, to Harold E. Haynes Jr., Tuesday in Carlisle.

DIED: Mrs. Artie Bell Ritchie Smith, 85, Tuesday in Lexington; Taylor Bowen, 76, Sunday at his home; Mrs. Bess Burnaw Henry, 68, in Paris; Gilbert Jolly, 28, Tuesday.

50 Years Ago

Thursday, June 4, 1942

Fifty years ago yesterday a young Robertson County fellow came to Carlisle. He had a wife, a baby son and a dollar in his pocket. He must of gotten that second dollar. In fact he must have gotten several of them. For J.H. Fulton has been in the barber business which carries his name ever since he came to Carlisle.

Miss Jane Allen Judge, 10, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hanson Judge, near Moorefield, suffered a fracture of the right arm recently when she fell from a horse.

BORN: To Mr. and Mrs. Howard Dorton, a daughter, Wednesday at home on Mulberry Street; To Mr. and Mrs. Wilbon Dorton, a son, Johnson Memorial Hospital; To Mr. and Mrs. Ray Caswell, a son, Thornton Lee, May 14; To Mr. and Mrs. Fisher Gaffin, New York City, a son, Theodore Fisher, Tuesday.

MARRIED: Miss Bettie C. Bowen and George Mason McCord Monday by the Rev. Estal L. Taylor; Miss Elizabeth Lee Foley and Dr. Scott Whitehouse, Tuesday, June 2, in Versailles; Miss Helen Wallace Barbee and James Thomas Harper, June 1; Miss Helen Pogue, Brooksville, and Idles Boyd, Bethel, Sunday; Miss Edna Helen Neal and William George Flora, Wednesday.

DIED: Miss Jane B. Tilton, 78, Tuesday at home on Broadway; Owen Mann, 76, Monday at home; Eugene Berry, 29, Wednesday; David Mynear, 74, Saturday at home in Centerville; Lewis Thomas Higgins, 93, Thursday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Mollie H. Quiett.

Judge finds

Continued from Page 1

was based on allegations that the city police were negligent in reporting Byrd as possibly an unsafe driver due to his alleged epilepsy and that the city was liable as a result of the accident.

That opinion, however, was apparently not shared by Nicholas County Circuit Judge McGinnes, who granted a motion for a summary judgement in the case by Jane Durkin Samuel and Leslie Patterson Vose of the Lexington firm of Landrum and Shouse, representing the City of Carlisle. McGinnes found in favor of the city in the state lawsuit.

Carlisle, however, is not out from under the case. According to city attorney Skip Watson, there is also a Federal lawsuit pending a motion for either dismissal or summary judgement. An appeal of Judge McGinnis' decision has also been filed in the state courts, Watson said.

Comments about the case from Samuel or Vose were unavailable before press time.

In other business of the Carlisle City Council:

•Considered adopting a more comprehensive ordinance restricting the discharge of firearms within the city limits of Carlisle to include restrictions on air and B.B. guns. Council said numerous complaints about air rifles and B.B. guns have been received by city residents. Council agreed to address the situation at the next regular council meeting.

•Council tabled a decision on accepting one of three bids made for the installation of a spillway at the Carlisle Reservoir Dam.

•Council dismissed discussions on sewer hook-ups to Carnico and for a business license ordinances.

•Scheduled a special meeting to discuss employee raises on Monday, June 22, at 7:00 p.m.

•Approved by a vote of 5-1, Ronnie Clark voting no, to donate $200 to Bluegrass Recycling.

•Scheduled a bid opening for painting the Jockey water tank for Monday, June 15, at 1:30 p.m.

•Agreed to erect handicapped access signs and install a doorbell to council chambers for access of the handicapped and disabled.

The Carlisle Mercury/Josh Shepherd Photo

The Carlisle Rotary Club sponsored a dinner honoring the coaching staff of the Nicholas County High School for a job well done this season at the Carlisle Depot Thursday night.

The Carlisle Mercury/Ruxanne Bow Photo

The Nicholas County Junior High students enjoyed th activities of the prom last Wednesday night as they sit around the table and discussed the evening.

Celebrating 125 Years
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Regina's Pages of the Past

JUNE 1, 1939

Material Gathered From 100 Small Town Papers

"The Editor Writes" is the title of a new featured broadcast over WSAI. Starring Clair Shadwell as he sits in the living room of his mythical home reading to "Mom" the most recent news and editorial commentary as found in the several small town papers at his disposal, the program is broadcast Wednesdays, from 7:30 to 7:45 p. m., EST.

"The Editor Writes" is the result of a belief among WSAI program officials that the place of the small town newspaper editor is invaluable to his community and that his commentary is basic in American national life.

Material for each Wednesday's broadcast is gathered from a dozen newspapers among the nearly 100 at present on the program's source list. Each week the program cites news and editorial comment as found in a different set of newspapers, both daily and weekly.

The program is in the form of a monologue, with Clair Shadwell reading to "Mom" as he sits in his living room reading over the small town papers. Excerpts from each publication are read aloud and briefly commented upon.

The initial broadcast Wednesday May 24, included the following newspapers: The Hillsboro News-Herald; the Warren County News; the Falmouth, Ky. Outlook; the Carlisle Mercury; the Georgetown, Ohio News-Democrat; the Plain Dealer of North Vernon, Ind.; the News Bee; the Ripley, Ohio, Bee; the Williamsburg, Ohio, Times; the Eaton Democrat; the Carrollton, Kentucky, News Democrat, and the Gallatin County News.

Editor's and columnists whose writings were read include: H. I. Daily, Jr., W. J. Shonert, Mrs. Warren H. Fisher, Alfred Heizer, Bill Wylie, Ralph D. Fuhr, Ralph Haney, James Tandy Ellis and Mark Meadows.

Ockerman relates experience at Okinawa

By Josh Shepherd
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE — In the rocky, violent hills of Okinawa the Japanese entrenched themselves in small human size caves. Some were tombs. Others deadly surprise traps for the advancing American soldiers.

From the distance Sergeant Chester Ockerman watched the American bombers pulverize the hillside, watching the haze of dust and smoke erupt from the ground. In his mind he could not imagine anyone surviving such an onslaught.

Hours later, he was positioned at the foot of those hills leading an assault blindly up under heavy fire from the enemy.

"Somehow, they had dug themselves caves so deep the bombs couldn't get at them. Many survived and were pinning us down from spot to spot. We were lucky only in the fact there were no Zero strafing runs coming down on top of us," Ockerman said.

Two-thirds of the way up the hill, he was surprised to find himself suddenly knocked eight feet back down. When the knee mortar collided against him, he felt nothing. He looked up and half his pant leg was gone. He drew his web belt tightly around his leg to slow the flow of blood.

Lying on his back on the hill, waiting for help to come, Ockerman heard the troops throw themselves against the Japanese, not knowing for certain if they succeeded finally in turning them away.

He moved in and out of consciousness, everything blurred, the battle around him fading, becoming distorted. Since arriving on Okinawa, everything had become dream-like, Ockerman said. It was unlike anything he had ever expected coming there.

When Ockerman first enlisted, he and Gaylord Barton went together to the recruiting offices in Lexington with the Navy in mind. But when they arrived to join, there were literally hundreds of men in the Navy line.

The line for the Marines was considerably less, about 25 people, which guaranteed a considerably shorter wait. Ockerman laughed. His decision to join the Marines was simply a matter of convenience.

After basic training at Parris Island, Ockerman didn't go immediately to battle. He would be two years stateside pulling guard duty at a Navy yard in Portsmouth, Virginia.

"The Marines apparently were interested for guard duty. You had the Military Police keeping an eye on the troops in the streets, we kept watch over the yards. For the most part, it was a bit dull, but safe," Ockerman said.

It was December,1944. Ockerman was 27. The war was going badly for the axis powers and in Virginia, Ockerman received orders and was transferred to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, there to pick up Marine field training in preparation for action in the Pacific.

But the certainty of actually going to fight did not arouse in Ockerman any sense of apprehension, no second guessing his decision to enter the conflict. There really was no decision to it, he said. With orders in hand and training behind him, he boarded a train with his troop, strangers all, and began a journey to California.

For five days, the troop train travelled across the country, stopping at station to station, picking up more and more soldiers on the way. It was a big time, he said. The excitement of the travel. Never mind seeing only the stations, he was watching the changing countryside pass by, glancing as the midwestern hills opened out to miles and miles of flat, grass covered plain, through sandy desert, the mountains, and finally, California, Camp Pendleton and the U.S.S. General Hughes.

The Hughes, a recently christened troop ship, dropped anchor at Pearl Harbor. At dock, confined on ship, Ockerman looked over the infamous site, seeing little evidence of the attack which had propelled himself and the United States into war in the first place.

It was all cleaned up. The devastation that had frightened radio listeners two years ago was barely evident. All that had once happened seemed hidden from view, tucked away somewhere.

Even in Guam, with the war looming ever closer, there was never the feeling that what he saw was the true war. The devastation grew gradually worse, but being exposed to it by degree, it never quite registered on Ockerman. It was still some far away something he had never seen, only drilled and trained to meet.

All there was to do in the meantime was drill, work, and wait.

It wouldn't last long.

The approach to Okinawa went largely undercover of a naval transport vehicle, filled with nameless soldiers waiting to be released from the steel gate several yards from the beach and the Yen Ton airstrip which the Americans had already secured.

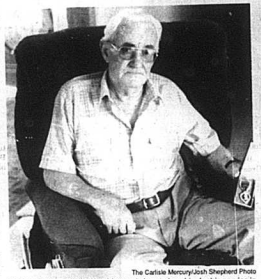
"Even then I wasn't concerned for myself. I was all I had. There was no one I knew very well and as soon as we landed we moved as quickly as possible to the battle lines," Ockerman said.

Eight hours after he arrived, of watching soldiers clean out knee high hovels with grenades and flame-throwers, wading past rice paddies, and finally joining the battle itself, Ockerman was wounded and removed from the hillside.

"Strange as it may sound, when I was rehabilitating, I was disappointed. There was only one hill left to secure and our efforts. Those who were lucky enough to escape unharmed formed part of the occupation forces in Japan after they surrendered," Ockerman said.

Field hospitals saved his leg. For nine months afterward, Ockerman healed at a naval hospital in Oregon, the sound of the rockets and bombs being pumped into the Okinawa hillsides echoed in his mind farther and farther away. For three years he had been active with the forces, but the friends he made, those long lasting military kinships, were those who healed with him in the states.

Okinawa, one of the last stepping stones to the Japanese shore, had been won at a cost. For some, it lasted the length of a dream.



The Carlisle Mercury/Josh Shepherd Photo

Chester Ockerman displays his purple heart given him for his service in the Pacific Theater of World War II.

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