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Commentary

By Jason Hart

A problem often faced by newspapers is a dilemma concerning the newsworthiness of a story versus advertising revenues. I personally know of several papers that have been asked by advertisers not to run a certain article, or to run something, and were threatened (in veiled fashion, of course) with the advertiser taking their business elsewhere.

This has never happened to me personally, but it is a situation that must be handled carefully.

A newspaper manager or editor can never, in good conscience, compromise the interests of the reading public. The only "good" reasons not to run a newsworthy article is the possible injury to parties involved, damage to the reputation of the newspaper, and what I call "unique situations". These include situations that might involve undue grief for a family who has suffered a loss, and so on.

The courts, of course, deal with those that spread untrue, damaging "news" about people, through civil libel and slander cases. The best defense in these cases is truth, told in the interest of the reader.

The guidelines that dictate what a newspaper should print are in the minds of those who run the papers, and are unwritten ones at that. We can only use our judgement and common sense in deciding what we need to print.

This is often a difficult setup, but is much better than having some great authority, such as the government, telling us what we can and cannot print.

We may not always agree with what you see in print, but we all must remember that freedom of the press, and freedom of speech are vital ingredients in a free society. Like the old saying goes, "I do not agree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it". This right must never be compromised, by those who wish to control the press, or by the greatest corrupter of all: the almighty dollar.

This may not seem relevant in the context of a small weekly newspaper, but these ideals which guide The Carlisle Mercury echo in the work of the New York Times, Chicago Tribune, and other great publications. Freedom is not dependant on size or readership. We will not change after 126 years of journalistic freedom and high standards.

On a lighter note, congratulations are in order for the Bluejackets Boys Varsity Cheerleaders, who placed 5th last week in the 10th region cheerleading competition. They competed against fourteen other teams, and this year was the first time they made it past the first round of competition.

Also, tournament play starts this week for both the Bluejackets and Lady Jackets, so let's all get behind them and cheer them to victory!

Mercury Memories

5 Years Ago

Thursday, March 3, 1988

Nicholas County School System will be one of 151 of Kentucky's school districts participating in a program to detect radon gas buildup.

The Nicholas County seventh and eighth grade cheerleaders competed February 6, both teams placing third in their division.

A Ewing man was killed at 12:20 p.m. Monday in a motor vehicle accident on Ky. 3315 (Cassity Creek Road), six miles off Ky. 32.

MARRIED: Susan Sechrist and Dr. Terry Clark, February 27.

DIED: Maudie Mae Thomas, February 20; Will (Bill) Hamilton Vickers, February 19; Eddie Prather, February 15.

10 Years Ago

Thursday, March 3, 1983

Danville educator and Carlisle native Kent Mann has been chosen by the Kentucky Jaycees as one of the state's five "outstanding young men of the year." Mann is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clay Mann of Nicholas County and grandson of Mrs. Margaret Day.

County firemen were called twice to the Dr. Morgan farm, ten miles north of Carlisle, according to Fire Chief Woody Wilson. A silo with hay in it was afire on Tuesday, February 22, apparently caused by spontaneous combustion.

BORN: Ryan Allen McNabb, February 18.

DIED: Charley Sloan, February 25; Mrs. Cecelia Fudge Feebuck, February 26; Mrs. Ann Donovan Rogers, February 26; Mrs. Joe Emma Summers Harris, February 26; Hancy Fay McCarty, February 18; Robert Neal Bringal, February 16; Mrs. Elizabeth Allison Gaunce, February 24; John W. (Pete) Fyman, February 24; Mrs. Retta Hamilton, February 22.

20 Years Ago

Thursday, March 1, 1973

Nicholas County High School students Miles Hughes and Hugh Wilson participated in the 1973 Morehead State University Band Clinic February 16, 17, and 18. Clinic participants were chosen to represent their schools by their directors.

Mrs. Robert (Kathy) Hagson won a favorable decision in Nicholas County Circuit Court on February 19 in a suit filed against the Nicholas County Board of Education. She was awarded an additional $2,970 in salary plus benefit of a year toward tenure by Judge John Lair.

Mrs. David Zachary and Mrs. Andrew Hamon won third and fifth place awards respectively playing progressive bridge on Friday, February 23, at the Cynthiana Country Club.

BORN: Carl Shrout, February 20; To Mr. and Mrs. Louis Williams, a son, February 25; Malcolm Thomas Berry, February 12; To Mr. and Mrs. Estil Hunt, a son, February 24.

MARRIED: Miss Wanda Jean Burke and James Martin Eades, February 23.

DIED: Mrs. Helen H. Hunt, February 6; Thomas E. Hunt, February 23; Mrs. Mary Huddleson Hash, February 25; Raymond Taylor, February 24; Mrs. Beulah Jenette Stewart, February 26; Mrs. Ruth C. Palmer, February 21.

40 Years Ago

Thursday, March 5, 1953

The chartering of an American Legion post in Henryville, the first of its kind ever organized here, was held Friday night in the Odd Fellows hall in Henryville. Officers elected are: Alando White Sr., commander; Ab Sharp Jr., first vice commander; Allen To Saunders, second vice commander.

March roared in like a lion Sunday in the form of a two inch snow that approached blizzard proportions Sunday night and stranded several weekend travelers, who were attempting to make their way back to Carlisle.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Richey at Rose Hill was burglarized Sunday afternoon and $30 in cash was taken.

BORN: To Mr. and Mrs. Hobart Hamilton, Barterville, a son, Clifton Hobart, February 27.

MARRIED: Miss Evelyn Blount, Lexington, to James T. Highlander Jr., Lexington, Friday.

DIED: Mrs. Margaret Scott Mink, 74, Lexington, Thursday; Mrs. Hester Hurst, 79, Fleming county, Friday; Mrs. Ludie Day Pickett, 85, Sunday in Wilmore; Henry Thomas Tibbs, 63, Sunday; Clarence Hamilton, 64, Sunday in Ripley, Ohio.

50 Years Ago

Thursday, March 11, 1943

James Patrick Conley, junior in the College of Commerce at the University of Kentucky, was recently selected for membership into Lamp and Cross, honorary organization for senior men.

Lt. Allen V. Hopkins has received his fourth decoration, the Distinguished Flying Cross, for completion of 200 hours of combat duty. Other decorations are the Silver Star, Purple Heart and Airman's Medal.

M.P. Nichols resigns as County Agriculture Agent and William T. Straw of Warsaw will be his successor.

MARRIED: Miss Lorene Hutchison, 18, Sharpsburg, and Lloyd McCarty, 19, Paris, on March 8.

DIED: Mrs. Lucy Holland Laughlin, 77, Tuesday at Johnson Memorial Hospital; Mrs. Louise Shaw Snapp, 84, Wednesday at home in Barterville; Mrs. Lucy Gaunce Jefferson, 49, Sunday at home on the East Union Road; Mrs. Elizabeth Shrout Woodward, 72, Thursday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Charles Irvin; Bruce M. Hamm, 73, Tuesday at home on the Maysville Road.

Letter To The Editor

This letter is in response to the article in last week's paper concerning the Fiscal Court Water Works issue concerning the east end water line.

The city wants the line; Nicholas County Water District wants it.

Mr. Hal Williams, the general manager of the water district says the lines are in our district, so therefore, it's ours. It's ours because there's government money in it. Where [does] this Mr. Williams come from?

I think he's wrong about this line. I don't think there's any government money in this line, as it was put in about 1950. I have about $4,000 in it myself.

But that's Nicholas County for you; they go out of town and get all their general managers. No wonder there are no jobs here.

I think the city should have the line.

Jack Randolph

Address Your Letters To The Editor To:
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P.O. Box 272
Carlisle, KY 40311
Please Include Your Full Name and address. And phone number if possible.

Mercury Vapours

by Warren R. Fisher

Reprinted from Thursday, March 3, 1960

"Good Morning, How are You?" Of course the day is a drizzle, a typical "blue Monday", but can we help it, if we try to take the bright approach, not that we always succeed! And while on the subject, life as we know it would soon cease to exist without rain or snow, but we like those bright sunny days, too.

--MV--

Senator Robertson of Virginia, died a little arithmetic, and found the Great Society is training unemployed as plumber's helpers at a cost of $5,497 each per year--more than enough to put a man through Harvard. Man! What they can do with our tax money.

--MV--

There's just one thing we hate to contemplate--re-districting of Kentucky's Congressional districts. Congressman John C. Watts has ably represeited those in agriculture and business alike, and we for one, don't care to be grouped with another segment of the state. But come March 31, we may lose our friend to a second re-districting.

--MV--

We've all heard the one--"The country's going to the dogs", well the cats have it this time! Chief of Police Eugene Kelley points out, "Cats will have to be destroyed if their owners do not keep them confined." The felines are scratching the paint on automobiles, an expensive pastime, cat or no.

--MV--

Martin's Builders Supply of Mt. Sterling, we're told is leasing Woody Wilson's lot on Market Street, for a new lumber outlet. That cleaned-up lots looks a lot nicer now.

--MV--

There's a difference of opinion at our house. Did March come in as a lamb or was that howling wind the lion act?

--MV--

Each of the great American sports--baseball, football, basketball--has its season. Right now, it's deduction hunting.--From Changing Times.

Rebecca's Bits

By Rebecca Barrett Mullins

I've talked to a few people over the past few days who have informed me that air travel is just not for them.

One person I talked to said, "I always said, if the good Lord intended me to fly, He would have given me wings." That was plain enough.

A few others told me the same thing, pretty much, with colorful language like "hijacker" and "a crash killing hundreds" highlighting their description of air-flight.

Such pessimists, I believed.

Then I took a plane ride myself two weeks ago. I began my ascent into the skies of American Airlines with the upmost optimism, anticipating a smooth cruise at 30,000 feet and the sweet taste of honey-roasted peanuts on my tongue.

Except for the fact that the Airlines has switched the old standard peanuts with pretzels now to keep their passengers healthier (a good investment for them), my departure from Louisville and arrival in New Orleans was very efficient. I arrived on time to attend all the fabulous pre-Fat Tuesday parades with my friend in the Big Easy.

I was hoping everything would go as well on the way back. It can be difficult to have complete trust in an airline company in this era of layoffs, rumors of pilots who are FUI (flying under the influence) and the betrayal of its customers by switching their peanuts for EEK! healthy pretzels.

In this case, I my skepticism was justified in the worst way. I arrived in Carlisle a day late because the airline had mechanical trouble and couldn't fly me back to Louisville until almost 18 hours after my scheduled flight time.

As a result, I was flown to Dallas, Texas where I spent the night in the Dallas/Fort Worth Hilton, drinking scorched coffee provided *generously* for me and faxing my stories to the Mercury office when I could have been typing them in on schedule the next day. I also woke up at 5:30 in the morning to catch a flight to Nashville so I could catch a plane that would end up being two hours late anyway.

Obviously, I requested a refund or at least a partial refund for my plane fare from one of the lead American Airline agent while in Nashville. She gave me that well-practiced airline agent smile, and said, "We put you up in the Hilton last night," intimating that was all one of the few remaining airlines in this country could do for me.

I thought to myself, "If a flight is over-booked, you get a free ticket, usually. If you miss a day of work, end up in a hotel you have no desire to be in and are forced to sit in an airport for a total of six hours because your plane is missing parts and nobody can find them, you get nothing."

Oh, well, folks. I guess the skies are a little more polluted than we all thought.

Local Methodists Contribute $700

Quota For Educational Institutions Exceeded As Campaign Ends Tuesday

The Carlisle Methodist church exceeded its quota of $700 to help pay the debt on Kentucky Wesleyan College and Lindsay-Wilson College, Rev. C. A. Sweazy, pastor of the church, announced Wednesday morning. The campaign closed Tuesday night. The exact amount contributed by members of the local church will not be known for several days, as more contributions are to be made.

The committee in charge of raising the fund was composed of Rev. Sweazy, Harry Kennedy, Robert Harper and R. T. Kirkland. The home of each member of the church was visited, and Rev. Sweazy said that in every instance the campaign was heartily endorsed.

The quota for the Maysville district was $10,000. Dr. Warner P. Davis, presiding elder, has not heard from all churches in the district, but it is believed the quota will be reached.

Teen pregnancy...

Continued from Page 1

during their term of birth.

"We have expectant"mothers and mothers with young children. We meet once a week to deal with child development," Hopkins said. "(We discuss) what to expect when the child is born and what you do with a baby to ready them for school," she said.

Hopkins had recently discussed with the board of education the possibility of providing day care at school for teen mothers so they can remain in school rather than dropping out to care for their child.

That would be extremely helpful, considering teenage pregnancy is a major cause of school dropout, according to the Department of Maternal and Child Health.

The department's 1990 fact sheet stated that although the exact number of of dropouts related to pregnancy is unknown, 7552 Kentucky students in grades 7-12 dropped out in 1990 for various reasons, including teenage pregnancy.

Hopkins helps the girls by recognizing that they have needs when they are pregnant, especially at their age. She lets them know that their child isn't the only important part of the pregnancy.

"I [tell them] your life is going to change. These are things you must do for yourself," she said. "In our county, most of these things are just focused on the baby, not the girls themselves."

Topics of discussion in the support group range from available medical services such as Women with Infants and Children nutrition vouchers at grocery stores to how and when to have a baby immunized against disease-a growing need.

Other talk in the group is between the girls themselves. They share feelings that no one else except they are having at that moment.

"The girls form a good bond and can take care of each other," Hopkins said.

Realizing that you are going to have a child when you are a child yourself is a big load to carry. Hopefully, the teen support group can help the girls relieve at least a small portion of their concerns.

And, most importantly, perhaps it can help them realize they don't have to dropout of school just because their lives are running a little faster than today's social clock permits.

"We want to make it easier for girls to attend school," Hopkins said.

The Carlisle Mercury/Rebecca Mullins Photo

Crystal Ring and Crystal Watkins helped devise this stage for a puppet show featuring Medieval songs and poems held recently at Nicholas County Elementary School.

Worst snow storm...

Continued from Page 1

miles of road in Nicholas County and covering them with salt.

"What we did is we put down a layer of salt at 2:30-3 p.m. The trucks have been going non-stop," Fryman said.

They were working so hard that some of the plows on the department's four or five old trucks had broken.

"We've had them for years," Fryman said.

He intimated that last week's storm wasn't as bad as snow storms past, despite the county's reaction to the weather by closing many of its functions down.

"Everything was all right [for us]," Fryman said. All we need is some sleep.

"The last big one was 1985. It was a bad one. We had wind and drifts with it then. It was two or three days before we got the roads open."

Last Friday, while meteorological reporters spoke of sleet storms to begin that evening, Fryman and his road crew cranked up the heaters in their trucks and waited.

"If it freezes, some of us will have to stay until about midnight," he said.

Luckily, for them and the rest of the county, no further accumulation was reported over the weekend in Nicholas County.

The Carlisle Mercury/Rebecca Mullins Photo

Carolyn Bowles is pictured abovewith a circular saw blade she painted to represent each of the four seasons of weather.

Bowles...

Continued from Page 1

in three other boutiques for weekend sales this past year. I take some [crafts] when I go [visit her]," Bowles said.

"People love Kentucky crafts in California. But the competition out there is really fierce. The people out there have the money to pay for these things, but they want quality, too," she stated.

And ever since her husband Bobby Bowles bought her a starter set of paints and a couple of art books years ago, Carolyn Bowles has tried to earn and maintain a reputation of a quality crafts person.

The quality is evident in everything from her handcrafted "Hillbilly Backscratchers" to her handpainted sweatshirts.

"I do what I like until it looks right to me," she said. "I've always loved these things."

The Carlisle Mercury/Rebecca Mullins Photo

Celia Trussell (left), Kristen Hobbs (right) and Jason Vice rest in the doorway of the igloo they built last Thursday during the big snowstorm. It took them several hours to build the icehouse, which they molded with a plastic swimming pool and small table.

Wedco Board of Health meeting March 15

The Wedco District Board of Health will hold its quarterly board meeting on Monday, March 15, 1993, at the Timberline Steak House, Paris by-pass, Paris, Kentucky at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting is opened to the public.

KSP made several arrests last week

Kentucky State Police

Kentucky State Police reports are provided by Trooper James Dalwick, public information officer, at the Dry Ridge Post of the Kentucky State Police.

Trooper Kenneth Jones has charged Gary Smith, 28, of Carlisle with assault, fourth degree (domestic violence). Arrest occurred at 2:04 p.m. February 26, 3 5/10 miles east of Carlisle on Elderberry Drive. Smith was turned over to Nicholas County Transportation Officer.

Trooper Jeff Mayberry has charged David W. Allison, 25, of Paris, Kentucky with DUI and no insurance. Arrest occurred at 10:45 p.m. February 27, six miles east of Carlisle on KY 3315. Allison was turned over to Nicholas County Transportation Officer.

Trooper Jeff Mayberry has charged James W. Best, 28, of Paris, Kentucky, with DUI, second offense and operating on DUI suspended operators license, second offense. Gregory Wayne Mitchell, 29, of Paris was charged with AI. The arrests occurred at 12:45 a.m. on February 28, 2 2/10 miles east of Carlisle on US 68. Both were turned over to Nicholas County Transportation Officer.

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Regina's Pages Of The Past

MARCH 3, 1938

Thirteen Local Students At University Of Ky.

Surpassing the registration figures for the second term of the 1936-37 school year at the University of Kentucky by a margin of 203, the current semester's enrollment of the state institution closed officially February 14, with a total of 3,470 students entered for classwork, the largest second semester's enrollment in the history of the University.

The figure missed reaching the first semester's all-time record of 3,535 by only 65 registrants. In the past the second semester count has always fallen approximately 150 short of that of the first session. Although February 14 marked the end of registration for regular students, those entering the University for Independent work will be allowed extra time for signing up.

Among those registered from Nicholas county are: Miss Myrtle Alexander, Miss Gladys Booth, Berlyn Brown, Glenn Clay, William Conley, Mrs. Jimmye Pauline Hamm, William Judge, Mrs. Louise Linville, Ezra Mattox, Bob Scott, James Smathers, Everette Stephenson and Harvey White-house.