

GENERAL NEWS

Lucas keeps learning, even after retirement; urges others to do same

Mary Ellen Lucas didn't leave the classroom when she retired after teaching 12 years. She just switched roles.

In commencement ceremonies May 9, Lucas received her doctorate in curriculum and instruction from the University of Kentucky College of Education at the age of 68, a week shy of her 69th birthday. She became the third Donovan Scholar to receive a doctorate in the history of the program.

Lucas, who resides in Petersburg, retired from teaching English and history at Beechwood High School in Ft. Mitchell in June 1980 and quickly turned her thoughts to what to do next. "My mother, Laura Pumphrey, is 97 years old and just has been in the hospital for a while. I'm going to live another 30 years. I have to have something to do."

Lucas had thought about returning to school and then she read her about the Donovan Scholar program, which allows regular 60 and older to enroll in regular academic classes at UK for as little as \$100 a semester. She decided to go to school full-time.

That fall she entered the doctoral program, and five semesters and 122,000 commuting miles later, Lucas has her doctorate in hand. She completed her dissertation on the new teacher education program at Cincinnati College in a year.

Lucas had been a UK student before—50 years ago. A native of Carlisle, Lucas attended UK in 1944. She recalls joining the Alpha Delta Pi social sorority and living in fraternity houses converted to campus during the war.

At the time, she was taking classes and giving much thought to her future. "Finally, I decided it was going to happen. I needed something to do," Lucas said, the completed her degree at Butler University and decided to teach, beginning her career at the two-room Pollard School in Jessamine County.

Her marriage to a man from Erlanger, William Lucas, in 1948, brought her to northern Kentucky. He died six years ago.

Over the years, Lucas taught at Indianapolis public schools, Lloyd Memorial High School, Erlanger, Florence High School, and Dixie Heights High School.

Lucas comes from a family of educators. Her 70-year-old brother is an assistant football and track coach at Harrison County High School, and two of her children are teachers. A daughter in Louisville, and a son, Tim Lucas, is a Lexington architect who was involved in the renovation of Memorial Coliseum at UK. She has six grandchildren.

Lucas said she loved being a student again. "Everyone accepted me as if I was one of them—they treated me just like they did everyone else. This time around, I really appreciated the professors. In everything I did, I got good criticism."

Lucas' advisor, Frank Rickard, associate professor of curriculum and instruction at UK, called her an excellent student. "She has a wealth of experience, and is a very articulate. It took a lot of time to do this."

Brookshire, a philosophy major, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rodney L. Brookshire of Carlisle.

Tennessee was founded in 1780 and is the nation's sixteenth oldest institution of higher learning. For the past six years, U.S. Sen. Alton S. Ward reported that Tennessee was among the top five regional liberal arts colleges in the South, including the number one ranking this year and in 1989.

aminants—which she has plenty of—and an excitement and urge for learning to do what she did," she said.

One of the reasons Lucas wanted to go back to college was to analyze issues facing Kentucky schools. "I knew some-

thing was wrong, but I couldn't dispose what it was," she said. "Now I can talk with people, compare trends and discuss problems."

Characteristically, Lucas doesn't plan to let her doctorate rest.

Everybody asks what I'm going to do with the degree," Lucas said. "I could teach part-time in college, or I can explore something else, even if it's volunteer."

A personality buff, Lucas also wants to continue some writing

and research she began in history, course, pursuing more information about five blacks before the Civil War in her native Nicholas County.

Learning should be life-long, Lucas says, and she encourages other retirees to follow her lead.

"People who get to the point of retirement need to think of a different lifestyle. Too many people get bored and depressed. They get busy sitting around. Especially if they have something to do, they should be willing to share."

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OBITUARIES

HART
Miles Barton Hart, 66, of Morehead, died Thursday, May 23 at 3:00 a.m. at Saint Claire Memorial Center in Morehead, Kentucky, following a short illness.

Mr. Hart was born on April 15, 1929, in Columbus, Ohio. He was the son of the late Thomas Hart and Catherine Brooks Hart.

Mr. Hart was a former employee of Caskey's Auto Parts in Morehead, Kentucky. He was also a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean Conflict, and a former Olive Hill, Kentucky Police Officer.

Surviving are his wife, Vonetta Johnson Hart, two sons, Ken Hart of Grayson, Kentucky, and Jason Hart of Carlisle, Kentucky; five daughters, Jane Hedge of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Jennifer Hart, Connie Saunders, Tanny J. Brewer, and Cathy Collins, all of Morehead, Kentucky; two brothers, Frank Hart of Columbus, Ohio, and Theodore Hart, of Laurel, Mississippi.

Mr. Hart also leaves behind nine grandchildren.

The military funeral was conducted at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 21, at North & Son Home for Funerals by the Reverend Mark Caldwell.

Revisited
Continued from Page 1

colored canvas and lodgepole pine and larch wood. The wood was the same as the Native Americans of South Dakota would have used. In the center of the quarters was an old-fashioned coffee pot, used as part of Sunday morning's breakfast of bacon, eggs, and waffles. The top of the pot was open to the ceiling. The quarters looked comfortable.

"Our ancestor's probably didn't have it quite that good," Rita admitted.

Ten-mile-covered area was a box of canned goods. "We try to keep it as close as possible as we can," she said.

Several outdoor shopkeepers had their wares for sale, ranging from old books to beads to fur to "watches wares," laughed Jud Stevens of Bardonia. Stevens was excitedly dressed in a buckskin dress she'd made herself. The tan color of the dress complimented her tan, dark straight, long hair and blue eyes. "I make all my own clothes. It's cheaper that way."

Stevens had a store filled with beads and clothes for women of the era.

Gene Smith of Memphis, Tenn., wearing buckskin clothing and a fur "Daniel Boone" type hat, said he was enjoying the rendezvous.

Children particularly seemed to have a good time despite the heat. Roger and Janet Ribakubag of Cincinnati arrived Sunday morning, but would be back to Ohio so the children could be in school Monday morning. Children Jill and Betty Barnes, Marie Rhodes and Mark Montag had a picnic in a shady spot and said they were having a good time.

Ray and Roxanne Cooper of Lynchburg, Ohio, and Janet Malhot brought children Megan and Colleen Cooper. All the ladies were dressed in long dresses and pretty straw hats. Ray said his buckskin trousers took him longer to make than all the women's clothing. Roxanne said some of the clothing was purchased but some was sewn by her mother.

The Cooper's view the rendezvous as a historical hobby.

Gas prices decrease

As the Memorial Day holiday approaches, the national average price of self-serve regular unleaded gasoline is 11 cents lower than a year ago, AAA Blue Book Kentucky reported today.

AAA's most recent survey of 43 Lexington area service stations showed the average price of the most popular grade of fuel is \$1.03, down 4 cents from this week last year. The price is 4 cents higher than in the South when the Clublast surveyed gas prices. Prices in the Lexington market ranged from 91 cents to \$1.07 a gallon.

Statewide, AAA reports the average for self-serve regular unleaded is \$1.45 and nationally, it's \$1.105.

WHITE
Thelma Briery White of Carlisle died Monday, May 23 at her mother's residence after a long illness.

She survived by her mother, Willy White, two sons, Gary, Alton, Virginia, and Larry White, Carlisle; two daughters, Betty White, Carlisle, and Lisa Shank, Carlisle; two brothers, Thomas Briery Jr., Carlisle, and Ben Briery, Carlisle; two sisters, Betty Briery, Irvine, and Sandra Briery, Carlisle; and six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father, Thomas Briery, Sr., and a brother, Jimmy Briery. Services will be Wednesday, May 26, at 2 p.m. at the Mothers' Home Funeral Home by Rev. Ray Campbell, with burial in the Carlisle Cemetery.

Casketbearers will be Richard Dyer, Dee Buckler, George Garrett, Drew Brown, Johnny Smith, and Larry Trussell.

Honorary bearers will be Randall Piber, Renee Smith, Keith Hardwick, Jimmy Henderson, Paul Day, Ricky Price, and Mark Hardwick. Donations suggested to Hospice of the Bluegrass or American Cancer Society.

May also be a member of the National Fire, Rescue, and Bombing Association.

Local resident Billy Brothers said he had a good time Sunday. Brother's looked over the shop set up at the entrance of the rendezvous. It had everything from beads to pictures of Elvis Presley.

Another tent Kent County was doing a good job playing the guitar with harmonica attached. He was performing an old French song as Jane Cassidy and Cathy Clarke watched. Kent had four cassette tapes for sale. "I specialize in historic music," he said.

Those interested in historical music may call "The Entertainment" representing Kent at 1-800-972-5698. The address is 3026 Carverton Ave., Box 100, New Orleans, La. 70118.

GENTRY
Mildred Gentry, 78, of Lexington, Kentucky, widow of Forest Gentry died May 6 at the General Hospital in Lexington.

She was born in Nicholas County as the daughter of the late D.T. and Anna C. Conway. She is survived by a son and a daughter-in-law, Joe and Betty Gentry of Lexington; two daughters and sons-in-law, Cecilia and Del-Bernice Paulch

and Mary Lenn and Tom Goshoff of North Augusta, South Carolina; a brother, Billy Conway of Mayville; and several grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by a sister, Margaret Simms, and a brother, John Conway. Funeral services were Monday, May 9, at Kerr Brothers Funeral Home in Lexington, with burial in the Calvary Cemetery in Lexington.

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Memories '94

The annual supplement to The Carlisle Mercury honoring the Nicholas County Graduating Class is scheduled to run June 9, and will feature pictures from graduation. If you have a special graduate you want to send a message to, call us today! Hurry, deadline is June 31 289-2464

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