

MEMORIAL CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
LEXINGTON, KY 40506-0001
CALL 1-800-452-1111
Thursday - Sunny, High 92,
72.
Friday - Sunny, High 90, Low
72.
Saturday - Partly sunny, T-
derstorms throughout area.
89, Low 71.

Focus on veterans
Nicholas County veterans of World War II are being remembered in this issue of The Carlisle Mercury on pages 1-2 and 8-10. The Mercury appreciates all those who have shared stories and photographs.

**Car wash/
bake sale**
The Carlisle United Methodist Church Youth Group is sponsoring a car wash and bake sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, August 5 at Carlisle IGA. Donations will be accepted.

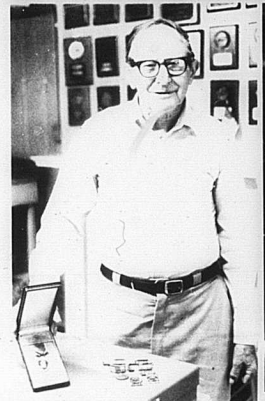
**WORLD WAR II
COMMEMORATION
AUG. 4-6**
DOWNTOWN CARLISLE IS THE SITE OF THE WORLD WAR II COMMEMORATION AUG. 4-6. SPONSORED BY CARLISLE/NICHOLAS COUNTY TOURISM INC. PLEASE BRING LAWN CHAIRS TO ALL EVENTS.

**AUG
3
1995**

THE CARLISLE MERCURY

SEVING NICHOLAS COUNTY SINCE 1867

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The Carlisle Mercury Leigh Stone Photo
Raymond Snapp of Carlisle displays some of his "treasures" from World War II. He remains proud of his medals and wartime experience and looks forward to seeing other veterans at the commemoration in Carlisle. "A Time To Remember", Aug. 4-6.



The Carlisle Mercury Leigh Stone Photo
Paul Donovan, a U.S. Navy "sonar man" during World War II, holds a souvenir from his war days, a Japanese gas mask. Donovan has several items from the war, including shrapnel pieces and chop sticks and German binoculars.



JUNE ALLISON



ALLIE VICE
Innis Ockerman, Neil and Coach Ben Pumphrey talked about their days in service during World War II and are looking forward to "A Time To Remember" war commemoration at downtown Carlisle Aug. 4-6.

Veterans recall war days in time for Carlisle commemoration

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following profiles of Nicholas County World War II veterans are published in time for the ending of World War II, which occurred 50 years ago.

By Leigh Stone
OF THE Carlisle Mercury Staff
CARLISLE: He crossed the Atlantic Ocean 18 times and the Pacific Ocean twice, all part of the mission as being a destroyer escort during World War II.

Paul Donovan, 71, was 19 "when they came and got me." It was 1943 and he was 19 years old when he first put on a U.S. Navy uniform.

"I operated underwater sonar, searching for submarines. We'd escort merchant ships that carried people, troops, oil, just all kinds of supplies."

Aboard the U. S. S. Indiana, Donovan was once close to history. "We were escorting a ship. We didn't know the atomic bomb was on the ship at the time. We escorted it out of Pearl

Harbor. We found out about it after it was dropped."

Throughout the years, Donovan has kept up with one of his service buddies, Neal Ziegler of Oak Ridge, Tenn., still corresponds with Donovan. "He was a sonar man like me."

"We were escorting a ship. We didn't know the atomic bomb was on the ship at the time."

Donovan was married to Eva Farley for many years. They dated during the war. They are the parents of Paula of Minneapolis, Bill of Prestonsburg, and Paul of Lexington.

Donovan said he's looking forward to "A Time To Remember" being held Aug. 4-6 in Carlisle, a commemoration for

World War II veterans. "I don't want to miss that. I want to see everything and see some people."

Innis Ockerman recalls days spent in Germany

By Leigh Stone
OF THE Carlisle Mercury Staff
CARLISLE: The Germans were using a church on a hill in Italy as a observation point when the word from command descended through the monks.

"They wouldn't let us bomb the church," recalled Innis Ockerman, 75, of Carlisle about his days during World War II.

From the church, the army told Ockerman's group to pull back and head to Anzio, which to this day, Ockerman refers to as "The Beach Head."

As the age of 23, Ockerman was tending the farm when he got the notice to serve. He was married to Lois and had three children, Steve of Lake Carbon, Patricia of Morefield and Timothy, an army captain at Monterey, Calif. He went with several friends, in-

cluding Eugene Neal. When he left Pier 13 in New York City, it would be two years before his duty ended in 1945. From New York, he traveled to Northern Italy and to the area where the church was located. It was an exciting time to be alive.

"I had tasks to cover, I would have had a camera and took notes. But you weren't allowed to, anyway, due to the security of the outfit," Ockerman said in his latest interview dated in June. **EDITOR'S NOTE:** Cp Innis Ockerman, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Ockerman, Carlisle Route 1, is the 15th FA Bn. With the 5th Army, After 16 consecutive months of combat duty

Local men, women played part in largest event in human history

By Jason Hart
Special to The Mercury
World War II was the largest event in human history, fought on six of the world's seven continents on all of the world's oceans.

People like Innis Ockerman, Ben Pumphrey, Paul Donovan, Raymond Snapp, Allie Vice, Warren Pipher, Jr., Hiram Hogg, Claude Curtis, Sherman Hamm, Joe Smart, June Allison, and other men and women from our area were part of this epic and tragic testament to the power of the human spirit.

The United States tried to avoid becoming entangled in the war, but with the growing aggression of the Nazi forces and the invasion of France and the Low Countries and the increasing peril of the position of the United Kingdom, the US was hard pressed to stay neutral.

With the institution of the "Lend-Lease" program, which provided ships and equipment to the British, the US bolstered our English allies, but the attack on Pearl Harbor by elements of the Japanese Royal Navy finally brought the US into the war against the Axis powers.

America was ill-prepared for war, having been lulled into a false sense of security by the dubious security offered by the "Treaty of Versailles" at the end of World War I, and by the false belief that the Japanese were incapable of waging modern war.

American soldiers soon were supplied with more modern weapons. Like the M1 Garand rifle, the M1 and M2 carbine, the Sherman tank, and the Browning Automatic Rifle, or BAR, American manufacturing might and ingenuity, coupled with an urgency in the civilian population rarely seen in today's society soon threatened to overwhelm the Axis forces.

American bombers like the B-17 Flying Fortress and B-24 Liberator filled the sky over Germany, exacting a terrible cost from both military and civilian targets. US Marines

of the war, gave one last through the Alps, committing the last of their strength. It was too late. The Russians stormed into Berlin, to find the leader of this empire that threaten to overtake civilization, Hitler, dead by his own hand.

In the war with Japan, Americans fought an is hopping campaign to their way to the Japanese mainland. US soldiers and marines pushed the Japanese across the corner them on their island.

B-29 Superfort bombers, operating from bases on Guam, pelessly, day and night. General MacArthur's invasion of the island, resulting casualties to be hundreds of thousands, hap even a million.

President Harry S. Truman made the fateful decision, however, that put an end to the war.

A single plane with name "Enola Gay" painted the side flew over the Hiroshima, laden with atomic bombs. Seconds later, the city disappeared in a flash of atomic fire.

Two days later, another plane called "Bock's Car" over the city of Nagasaki. That city suffered the fate. Representatives of the Japanese signed a treaty in Tokyo Bay. General Douglas MacArthur rarely seen in today's society soon threatened to overwhelm the Axis forces.

Men and women Carlisle and Nicholas County played parts in this war, shaping our lives even today. There were no small parts in this tragedy, all efforts important, and perhaps the most important, and perhaps the most important, and perhaps the most important.

Pumphrey completed every mission
During World War II, Ben Pumphrey monitored radar on the B-24 Liberator, he taught math and coached football and track in Nicholas County.

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