

Road Priorities

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has named the high priority roads in Nicholas County. See the map on Page 2. Meanwhile, several residents have called The Mercury to express thanks to city and county road crews for the work done to clear area roadways.

Lady Jackets Reign!

Nicholas County Lady Jackets defeated the Paris Lady Hounds Jan. 4. Catch the action with Mercury Sports writer Dan Bishop on Page 8.

POSTMASTER'S

REQUEST
CARLISLE POSTMASTER CHARLES WATKINS THANKS ALL RESIDENTS WHO HAVE CLEARED THE WAY TO THEIR MAILBOX. SERVICE IS SLOWED WHEN POSTAL CARRIERS CAN'T EASILY REACH A MAILBOX DUE TO SNOW DRIFTS.

Area Weather Forecast

Thursday - Mostly cloudy. Rain or snow. Low 27. High 36.
Friday - Light snow. Low 25. High 32.
Saturday - Mostly cloudy. Low 26. High 35.

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Winter storm strikes

City, county declare emergency status

By Leigh Stone

OF THE CARLISLE MERCURY

CARLISLE - Applications to become a state of emergency from both the City of Carlisle and Nicholas County were both accepted by state officials by 10:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 8.

Carlisle Mayor Ronnie Clark and Nicholas County Judge Executive Chuck Smith removed their snow-covered gloves in the meeting room of the city building to sign the "declarations of local state emergency."

"This doesn't mean there's been any money approved yet. This is just the first step," Mayor Clark explained. "It could help us get money to help pay our employees for all the overtime and for extra fuel it takes to run the equipment, back hoes and such," Clark said.

Both Clark and Smith said workers worked 36 hours

straight to clear area roadways. Area citizens watched through their living room windows Saturday evening as the snow came down. City and county crews were both the job all day Sunday.

"This doesn't mean any money's been approved yet. This is just the first step," Mayor Clark explained.

Kentucky State Police Public Affairs Officer Ian Wuchner told The Mercury Monday morning, "Everybody in Nicholas County must have stayed in all weekend. I don't have any traffic accidents to report."

The county had five dump trucks with blades, a front loader and road grader all on the roads Sunday.

The Carlisle Kentucky National Guard was called upon to help the city and Nicholas County during the snow storm. As of Monday afternoon, Sgt. Jim Galbraith said one of the National Guard's four-wheel drive vehicles had taken one Nicholas County resident to Lexington Hospital.

Ronnie McDonald of the Nicholas County Ambulance Service, said the service has been able to make runs without great delay. "I think we should compliment the city workers and the county road workers on the job they've done to clear our roadways. They've done an excellent job."

Clark said the city had one backhoe and rented two more from area residents. Clark used his personally-owned back hoe to clear roads and clear parking

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Council delays water district discussion; hears concerns about liquor ordinance

By Leigh Stone

OF THE CARLISLE MERCURY

CARLISLE - City Council agreed during Monday night's regular meeting to postpone a decision about making a contract to sell water to the Nicholas County Water District.

Mayor Ronnie Clark noted that the February meeting had been changed from the regular time, the second Monday of each month, to the third Monday, on Feb. 19.

"Giving the extra time will give the engineers, GRW of Lexington, more time to analyze the city's water capacity and what the city would have to do

in water production to meet those needs," explained Mayor Clark.

Clark added that the February meeting agenda would include discussion on cleaning the city lake and would take a look at providing a new water tower with a 450,000 gallon tank. The city currently has a water tank at the city lake that doesn't hold water. The tank dates back to the early 1900s. The tank next to it holds water, but dates back to the 1920s, the mayor recalled. Its capacity is 230,000 plus gallons. The ground tank at Jockey is in good shape. The standing tank at Jockey is also

in good shape. The other ground tank at Kennedy is in good shape, the mayor said.

"I think the main factor all this is cost - of water plant expansion is the ability to produce more water. Who would actually pay for that? My biggest concern is there's no rate increase passed onto the citizens of the city to make our capacity larger. I don't want to raise people in town and don't think anybody else does to enlarge the plant. Even if we could get a loan or grant, the lender could ask the city to increase water

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National Guardsmen Sgt. David Farrow and Steven Mattox get ready to board a four-wheel drive Humvee Monday morning. The Guard was called upon to take ill residents to area hospitals.



From left, Nicholas County Judge Executive Chuck Smith and Carlisle Mayor Ronnie Clark signed the state emergency Monday morning. Hazardous roadways mean overtime for city and county employees, additional equipment and fuel costs, too. The declaration was the first step in trying to get state funding assistance.



Crockett's Shopwise employees kept busy Monday morning re-stocking the dairy section. Milk and bread were top sellers when the snow storm hit the area Saturday, January 6.

State announces Nicholas County priority roads

FRANKFORT - Priority A roadways in Nicholas County according to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet are U. S. 68, KY 36 and KY 1455.

In a news release issued by the Cabinet, the category includes interstates, parkways, urban expressways and other state roads with exceptionally large volumes of traffic. These roads to be cleared will be Priority B and then C.

Safety is our number one priority. Through planning ahead, the priority route system is designed to make traffic movement during inclement weather as safe as possible for

the traveling public," said Transportation Secretary Fred N. Mudge.

State maintenance areas

Annual Chamber meeting set for Jan. 16

The Carlisle, Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce will have its annual membership meeting Tuesday, Jan. 16 at Nicholas County Elementary School.

All members, prospective members, families and friends are invited to attend this chamber meeting.

clearing roads in Nicholas County with the highest traffic volumes and patterns to determine maintenance areas.

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Both Lady Jacket teams defeated Paris last week in basketball action. See Dan Bishop's report on Page 8.

Jason Walters cleared the sidewalk in front of Jimmy Hall's Barber Shop, Main Street, Carlisle, early Monday morning.