

THE CARLISLE MERCURY

SERVING NICHOLAS COUNTY SINCE 1867
132nd Year, No. 52 Carlisle, KY 40311-0272 Thursday, December 24, 1998 50¢ Per Copy

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No trash collection Jan. 1

Due to Jan. 1 being a holiday, there will be no city trash collection that day.
Thursday's trash will be picked up on Wednesday. Denesville route will be picked up on Thursday.
Any questions, call the city office.

Police probe sex misconduct charges in Bath

Five boys at Bath County Middle School have been investigated by Kentucky State Police for alleged indecent exposure and indecent touching of 19 girls.

Trooper Ralph Lockard, of Post 8 in Morehead, and the Kentucky Department of Social Services is also investigating the incidents, which allegedly occurred at the school in 1997 after school hours.

The boys were suspended on Dec. 12 after school officials learned of the allegations, Lockard said.

Lockard said state police would not discuss specifics of the case, or how long the alleged offenses occurred. It is unclear if the case will be referred to juvenile court.

Bus, pickup truck collide, no injuries

There were no injuries in a collision between a bus and pickup truck in Montgomery County Friday, Kentucky State Police Post 8 in Morehead said.
The accident occurred on Clay Lick Drive at 8 a.m. Boy V. Trimble, 49, of Jeffersonville, was backing a school bus into private drive, when he struck a 1988 GMC pickup truck traveling behind the bus, police said.
The pickup was driven by J. Holliday, 36, of Sherrill. Both drivers and three state passengers on Trimble's bus were not injured. Seat belts were in use.

Trooper Gene Moody is the investigating officer.

Jayne stadium break-in probed

The break in thefts of an office and supply rooms at Morehead State University's Jayne Stadium, is being investigated by MSU Police.

Suspects broke into the Jayne Stadium complex between Dec. 11-14, police said.

A top computer was taken from the office of Jeff Faith, the assistant football coach. The assistant top was valued at \$2,000.

Three pairs of Nike tennis shoes, valued at \$60 each, and a recreational graphic calculator, valued at \$75, were taken from the track and cross-country supply room. Three pairs of Nike tennis shoes were also taken from the football storage room.

Those with information on the case can call the MSU Police at 783-2325.

Car break-in thefts reported at university

The third incident of break-in thefts from vehicles at a Morehead State University parking field, is being investigated by MSU Police.

Cars parked in Area 23 behind Dingler Hall were targeted for the third time in about a month.

A 1991 Ford Probe, belonging to Shauna Deshaun, 20, of Dingler Hall, a shriner for seven years, was broken into last Monday. The car's door was forced open.

Items taken include a CD, valued at \$200; a Whistler radar detector, \$150; and \$1,000 in cash.

A Dodge Stratus belonging to Hubert Hall, 20, of 317 Fields Hall, was also broken into during the same time. Suspects broke out the sun roof window to gain entry.

The items taken included a Rockwell stereo amplifier (Punch 200), valued at \$500; 70 CDs, mostly by the group Van Halen, in a black nylon case, valued at \$100.

The sunroof damage was estimated at \$1,000.



Beth Hill got a hug from Santa Claus during the Shriner's annual dinner for children and their families.



Paige Clark got a visit from Santa Claus during the Shriner-sponsored children in Morehead Friday night.

Shriners hold 20th annual Christmas dinner for children

The crowd was lively Friday night at the middle school cafeteria when nearly a hundred people attended the Christmas dinner and gift exchange for local children who have been treated at Shriner hospitals.

This year marked the 20th annual dinner and celebration for children who are orthopedic and burn patients sponsored for treatment by Morehead Shriner.

Guests brightened as Santa Claus dropped in to pay a visit and hand out individual gifts to children after dinner.

"This is what we do," said Don Hall, a shriner for seven years. "It's our reward, to watch the smiles on the children's faces when they see Santa coming to give them their gifts."

"These kids go through a lot and they deserve to be recognized," said Chester Boyd, a shriner for 14 years. "This annual event helps let them know they're special, yet, at the same time, it's always good to see the

children we've helped, to see them improve from year to year. It's our Christmas present to them," he said.

"It's a good feeling to see the expressions on the children's faces when they see Santa coming. Their eyes really just light up," said David Kidd, a shriner for six years and outgoing president of the Morehead Shriner Club.

A group of Morehead shriners recently traveled to the Shriner's orthopedic hospital in Lexington and presented each child patient there with an envelope with a Christmas card and money. That is also an annual event.

The shriners are all about fun, fellowship and philanthropy, Hall said.

"It's a volunteer organization," Hamilton continued. "To have to provide for members to keep them working. When it starts being work, you don't get as much participation."

"So when we ride in a parade, we're there mainly to entertain and make the public aware of who we are and what we do," he said.

Contact any shriner for information on getting hospital assistance if your child has an orthopedic bone problem or has suffered from burn injuries.

The shriners are part of a national Imperial Shrine Temple, which budgeted \$40 million this year for 22 hospitals in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Panama and Puerto Rico. All thousands have been rebuilt to become state-of-the-art in the last 10 years.

Brace yourself.... Stress is here just in time for the Christmas season

Could it be we've asked for it?

Have you captured the holiday spirit yet?
You know, that feeling of shopping until you're dizzy, grabbing as you stand in long lines, running the gauntlet through the toy section, being nudged and bumped, being flat broke?

And then there are family obligations.
Expectations run high, money runs low and time runs out about this time every year, causing that all-too-familiar seasonal torment defined as stress as preparations get underway to have a "peaceful" Christmas.

"It's not difficult to imagine why so many people get stressed out or depressed during the Christmas season," said Lou Gearty, family counselor at Pathways.

"We began creating our expectations for Christmas as children. Viewed from the magazine glass of childhood, everything about Christmas is big, bright and beautiful."

"We then carry this vision with us into adulthood, expecting the same excitement we experienced as children. Yet now we are the ones who must produce it. Somehow we want to duplicate that feeling, and when we can't, we become frustrated," he said.

Commercial hype surrounding the holiday's feeds into the "ideal Christmas" mentality, also continued. The message is for an ideal Christmas, we must buy all the ideal material things.

"Keep your expectations of the holiday realistic. You shouldn't have to try to have a merry Christmas because that's not going to be merry for you," said Marc Kell, mental health case manager at Pathways.

"Furthermore, Gearty said, that our Christmas traditions will show we're supposed to feel joy, generous and loving. Yet even very well-adjusted people can hardly sustain such

possession for an entire day, much as a whole holiday season. When we inevitably fail to create this spirit, we end up feeling out of sync with the whole holiday spectacle around us."

Having a Christmas that lives up to your expectations means to let even your own expectations die. Just like any other day of the year, some things about Christmas will be good, some things will be added, "We also write cards to everyone in the family, telling them what we think is special about that person," she said.

"Yes, there are people who get affected by changes in tradition. My grandparents were resistant to that change. They liked seeing lots of gifts piled around the tree. But all the coming get everyone has the time or money to do a big Christmas, and, we all felt we were getting too materialistic anyway. We wanted to enjoy each other," Wilke said.

"Remember to dig into a spiritual well and become a part of a greater community. Recognize that Christmas is about God becoming flesh; not the reverse," Gearty said. "Give more of yourself."

Just as you can create your own customs, you can eliminate the customs that no longer enhance your holiday celebration.

Mental health counselors advise we seek back into a normal routine. Take down decorations gradually, pace yourself and relax. Put off New Year's resolutions until after you're able to get back on your feet.

Being realistic is not being cynical, either. "I'm not being cynical," said Gary Hanser, Eastern Kentucky University of Agriculture. "It is a way for you to avoid unnecessary disappointment. You and your family are more likely to enjoy your holiday experience if you don't try to compare them to an unrealistic ideal."

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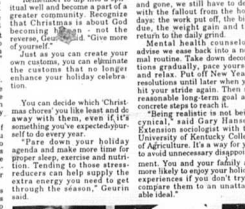
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Kentucky Supreme Court upholds county pay hikes

Major pay hikes for county officials approved by the state legislature were upheld by the Kentucky Supreme Court Thursday.

Salaries for county judges, executives, clerks, jailers and sheriffs will rise as much as 12 percent on Jan. 1 under the law passed by the general Assembly and signed by Gov. Paul Patton.

The increases would vary, depending on the status of the county and years in office.

Administrative officers will receive a 4 percent raise, Campbell County and state judges a 6 percent raise and the county sheriff will receive a 12 percent raise.

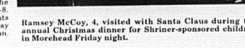
The state supreme court heard the case, after Campbell County Circuit Judge William J. Welch declared the law unconstitutional in September. Opponents claimed the law violated a provision of the constitution that caps the salaries of county officials.

The minimum salaries for judge-executive and jailer will increase Jan. 1 from \$47,726 to \$55,343.

MSU holiday closings listed
Morehead State University will close for the holiday at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 23.

Administrative offices will reopen at 9 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 4. Registration for the spring semester will be Jan. 7-8.

Freshman and transfer students who advance register may pay tuition fees on Wednesday, Jan. 7.



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