

THE CARLISLE MERCURY

SERVING NICHOLAS COUNTY SINCE 1867

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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. Doreville route will be picked up on Thursday.

Tips from AAA

Remember that children under 12 should always ride in the back seat. Children too large for a child seat and too small for a seat belt should be in a booster seat. If a booster belt hits the child across the neck or face and if the belt crosses the abdomen instead of the lap, the child is too small for a seat belt. Consider having an adult ride in the back seat to restrain the children. Let youngsters help plan the vacation. They could choose a restaurant to stop at along the way, or decide on a family outing during the trip. If you plan to stay at a hotel, ask a travel agent to help you select one that features children's activities and programs. Let the children choose a radio station, tape or CD they like. Consider playing recorded stories or songs for youngsters. Buy a few inexpensive toys, books or snacks, and wrap them. During the trip let the youngsters have them as special treats. Always wear your safety belt and refuse to drive if a child is not properly secured. AAA is a not-for-profit federation of 35 clubs with 1,100 offices providing more than 41 million members in the United States and Canada with services such as travel, insurance, financial and auto.

FSA to distribute farm disaster relief

Following recent announcements by President Clinton and Agriculture Secretary Glickman that the Department of Agriculture is moving forward with the distribution of \$2.7 billion in disaster relief to farmers. All farmers who suffered qualifying losses are eligible for relief, regardless of the crops they produced. Farmers may apply for whichever is the greater of compensation for their crop losses in 1998 or losses in any three of the five years, 1994-1998, but not both. Farmers with multi-year losses will be able to claim payments based on recorded, documented losses only. No farmer will receive more than \$80,000 under the program and those with gross income of more than \$2.5 million are not eligible.

January is national blood donor month

January has been declared National Volunteer Blood Donor Month to honor the thousands of people who care enough to help the sick and injured by giving blood. Nicholas County Hospital and Central Kentucky Blood Center urge you to join the celebration by giving the gift of life on Monday, Jan. 4 from 2-6:30 p.m. at the Hospital's bloodmobile. Twenty-five donors are needed to ensure a stable blood supply for patients in Nicholas County Hospital and other medical facilities in the region. To those everyone who participate during National Volunteer Blood Donor Month, all donors will receive a free travel mug. Donors must be at least 17 years of age, weigh a minimum of 100 pounds and be in good general health. The donation process takes less than an hour. The only source for life-saving blood transfusions is volunteer donors. For more information about the January 4 bloodmobile, call Josh Shepard at 259-7151.



Billy Allison, 17 - "To stop using tobacco products."

What's your New Year's resolution?



Lonnie Brierley, 38 - "To make more money and hopefully work less hours."



Justin Jenkins, 17 - "To stop using tobacco and quit."

Burley tobacco estimate unchanged for Kentucky

The Dec. 1 Kentucky burley tobacco production forecast was unchanged from Nov. 1 at 450 million pounds, according to the Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service. The 1998 estimate was down four percent from 1997 and would be the second largest crop in the last 25 years. The 1998 forecast made Kentucky marketing board's Kentucky marketing board's 1998 average of 225,000 acres, valued at \$1.1 billion, unchanged from last year's 200,000 acres, valued at \$1.1 billion. Compared to a year earlier, harvested acreage was up 5,000 acres while yield per acre was down 140 pounds.

Tobacco selling went smoothly this spring with little delay due to weather conditions. This past summer, dry weather and hot temperatures in July and August hurt the crop to various degrees. The blue mold was present but the damage was kept to a minimum by weather conditions. Black shank did, however, hurt the crop. Dry conditions at harvest resulted in some tobacco drying out instead of curing. November was favorable for stripping tobacco and taking the crop to market. Some producers have expressed concern over the light color of the cured tobacco and the light weight of some of the crop.

The 1998 burley tobacco crop in Kentucky through Dec. 10, 111 sales days, totaled 225 million pounds, according to the Agricultural Marketing Service. These sales include sales of 13.6 million pounds. The burley pool has taken in 103 million pounds (3.6 percent of total sales). The Kentucky average price through Dec. 10 was \$1.91/32 per 100 pounds.

Growers were encouraged to grade their tobacco as it was stripped. Tobacco companies are purchasing tobacco this year based on stalk position.

Combined grades are going for low prices in early sales as scheduled through Dec. 17 and will stay flat after the holidays on Jan. 4.

Projections for the 8-state burley belt was forecast at 632 million pounds, down less than 1 percent from Nov. 1 and down 17.1 million pounds from 1997. Kentucky production accounts for 71 percent of the belt's production. Sales through Dec. 10 for the belt totaled 319 million pounds.

Moore is new KU manager

Anne Moore has been named manager for Kentucky Utilities Company's Paris, Cynthia, and Cadale operations. Moore started with KU in 1983 as a member of the accounting department in Mt. Sterling. She became vice supervisor in Paris in 1990 and transferred to Lexington in 1995. She had been the manager of the downtown Lexington office since 1997.

Moore is a member of the Paris Rotary Club and is past Paris Mayor of the Paris Business and Professional Women's Club.



New representative

Representative-elect Carolyn Belcher, D-Preston, listens to information presented during an orientation for newly elected members of the General Assembly at the State Capitol. Belcher was among 25 newly elected members of the Legislature who attended the three-day orientation, which began on Dec. 1, to meet elected legislators and learn more about the inner workings of the legislative process. Belcher, who will be sworn in along with other new members of the General Assembly on Jan. 13, will represent Kentucky in the 72nd House District in Bath, Bourbon, Fayette and Nicholas counties.

State police say safety top priority for New Year's eve

The New Year's holiday is one of the most celebrated nights of the year. However, it is also one of the deadliest. With the festivities and increased traffic associated with the New Year's holiday, the Kentucky State Police are urging motorists to make safety their number one priority.

If you plan on hosting a holiday party, the KSP suggest that the KSP realize that many Kentuckians will be attending parties where alcohol will be served while the state police want everyone to have fun during the holiday festivities, they also want to make sure everyone is safe and sober if they plan on being behind the wheel.

State police will work in conjunction with local police departments and sheriff's offices across the state throughout the official New Year's holiday, which begins 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31 and ends at 11:59 p.m. Friday, Jan. 1. Kentucky State Police will be patrolling road blocks, as well as moving patrol to target intoxicated drivers, impaired drivers and safety belt and child safety seat violations. All motorists must be buckled up and all children under 40 inches tall must be restrained in a federally approved child safety seat. Troopers will have a no-tolerance policy for travelers stopped on any of these violations.

Pet therapy program helps patients recover in hospital

The Pet Therapy program started with the opening of St. Claire's Transitional Care Unit. Thompson said, which is conducted with assistance from the University of Kentucky's Center for Pet Therapy. Thompson said many hospitals have pet therapy programs. Thompson said she has practiced Pet Therapy for years at the University of Kentucky. She knows of even houses in Clarksville that have pet therapy programs.

In these areas, animals are much a part of eastern Kentucky people's lives," she said. Patients who do not get out or who are unable to walk are brought to them - courtesy of volunteers who volunteer their animals for the program. "It really improves the patient's mood," said Regina Thompson, activity therapist at St. Claire who coordinates the program. "People seem to be with their animals. It's been a very successful program."

Patients who want pets brought to them must first get permission from a nurse or physician. Inpatient patients must submit a certification from a veterinarian. The animal must be healthy and vaccinated, and its claws cannot be excessively long. Only cats and dogs are approved for visitation at this time, Thompson said.

Thompson said the patient's reaction to the pet coming in to visit is the most rewarding part of the program. "The excitement on the patient's face - they just love it so much," she said. "It helps them recall really happy times. It's been a successful program. Never thought it would be that good." For more details, call Thompson at 259-6602.

County attorney gives tips on risks for violent behavior

If you are concerned about someone else's child, constructively discuss your concerns with the child's parents. If the parents show little interest or concern, speak to the child's teacher. As community members, we can help prevent juvenile crime not only by watching for warning signs, but also by taking action. This may not be an easy task. It may make us feel uncomfortable. But the price we pay for avoiding the issue very well could be the life of a child.

Probans attends conference. District Judge Elton William D. Probans from the 16th Judicial District recently attended an orientation conference sponsored by the Administrative Office of the Courts. The conference was held at Cumberland Falls State Resort Park, Dec. 6-10.

Judges attending the orientation learned about many of the issues facing members of the judiciary today. Among the topics addressed were: making the transition from the practice of law to their role as judge; judicial ethics; continuing judicial education. Kentucky's judiciary retirement plan, issues and challenges related to trying DUI and other criminal cases, conducting arraignments, responding to domestic violence petitions, handling probate and small claims cases, juvenile court, and a number of other topics related to serving on the district bench.

Probans was elected to the district bench in November. He will be sworn in on Jan. 2 at 11:30 a.m. at the Harrison County Courthouse in Crabson, Ky. Circuit Judge Robert W. McClain will administer the oath of office.



New Mercury staff member

Britt Smith will be the new advertising sales representative for The Carlisle Mercury. She will receive classified advertising and new copy at the Mercury offices. She can be reached by calling 259-2466 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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