



The Carlisle Mercury

"Proud to be serving Nicholas County since 1867"

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Across Nicholas County Carlisle Mercury closing

In its 157th year of service to Nicholas County and surrounding areas, *The Carlisle Mercury* will cease operations after its July 25 issue.

According to Publisher Jack McNeely, all subscribers will be given an option of receiving a refund. They will all receive letters by the end of the month explaining their options.

"This has been a very difficult decision," McNeely said from his office in nearby Morehead. "But financially, it's been an inevitable decision for some time."

"We appreciate the loyalty of those subscribers who have remained a part of our readership family," he added. *The Carlisle Mercury* is the 10th oldest newspaper in the Bluegrass.

Class of 1972 to meet

Bourton County High School's 30th reunion of the class of 1972 will be held Saturday, Aug. 24 at Stonor Creek Country Club. For more information, contact Peggy Tracy at (502) 223-2691.

Veterans rep to be in Carlisle

A Veterans Benefits Field Representative with the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs will be at the Nicholas County Courthouse in Carlisle on the third Wednesday of each month, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Veterans and their families may receive counseling and assistance in applying for state or federal veterans benefits.

This is a free service, provided by the state department of veterans affairs. Bring appropriate documents at visit.

For details or to answer questions, call 1-866-376-0308. Leave a message if office staff are unable to answer.

Free higher ed guide for seniors

The 2001-2002 edition of "Getting In," a free guide to postsecondary education in Kentucky, is now being sent to guidance counselors for distribution to all high school seniors.

The booklet is published by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority and is available online at www.kheas.com, as well. It offers information on financial aid.

For more information, call 1-800-928-8926.

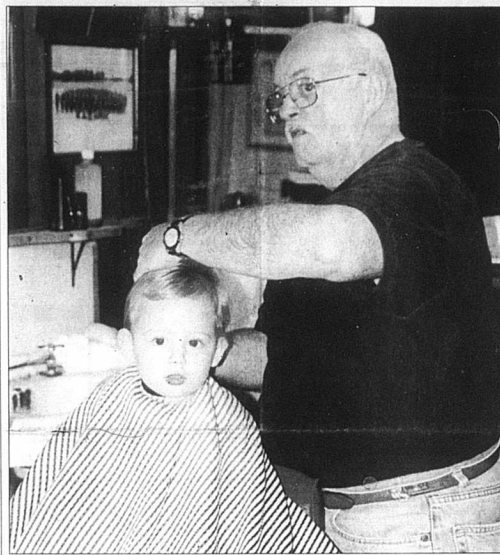
Newsroom

1-800-247-6142

Weather

See the forecast on page 2!

A cut above



Myra Hogan photo

Joe Crouch cuts Will Gaunce's hair for the first time.

Family tradition spans miles

By Myra Hogan
Special to *The Carlisle Mercury*

Joe Crouch moved to Carter County in 1981 and became a resident of Olive Hill. He is a native of Carlisle, Ky., where he also had a barber shop before 1981.

He moved to Carter County to become a part of the National Guard regiment in Olive Hill. He also began working at a barber shop in Grayson on Hord Street.

Crouch recently had a visit from a former customer at Carlisle.

Brent Gaunce and his wife brought their son, Will Gaunce, one and a half years old, all the way to Grayson for his first haircut.

"I give out first haircut certificates," Crouch said. "Also a lock of their hair to save."

"The Gaunce family traveled around 75 miles to Grayson for Will to get his first haircut," Crouch added. "They wanted him to have a first haircut certificate from the same barber as his father."

The parents brought a camera and videotape recorder for the big event.

Will's grandpa is also a former Carlisle client of Crouch.

Crouch has since retired from the National Guard, after 37 years of service.

However, you can still find him on Hord Street cutting hair.

Crouch's mother, Mianne, resides in Carlisle.

Pentagon wants Congress to Go Away

By Esther Schrader
(c) 2002, Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON - Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld is pushing a series of sweeping proposals that would weaken congressional oversight of the Pentagon and give the military more freedom to manage itself than ever before.

The Pentagon has proposed eliminating requirements for filing hundreds of reports on its activities to Congress every year. Pentagon officials are also drafting proposals to ban strikes by contract workers, eliminate federal personnel rules protecting civilian workers at the Pentagon and bypass environmentalists in Congress.

Some proposals are more provocative. They include allowing the Pentagon to send its initiatives directly to Capitol Hill before other agencies could review them.

Once there, the legislation would require Congress to vote quickly, with only limited debate. That "defense

streamlining initiative" was quickly shelved after objections from officials within the administration itself, who feared the seeming chutzpah of a Pentagon trying to avoid the normal reviews. Drafted by the Office of Management and Budget at Rumsfeld's request, senior administration officials say it is far from abandoned.

Indeed, administration officials say it is part of a grander plan that is very much in play - to relieve the Pentagon, and later other executive branch agencies,

from oversight which Rumsfeld calls burdensome and inefficient, but which critics say is a necessary inconvenience of democracy.

The proposals, said a senior Defense official who spoke on condition of anonymity, are "the tip of the iceberg."

"I don't see it as an abdication of oversight, but it's time to talk seriously about, in effect, reacting the table," the senior official said.

"We have an unprecedented challenge ahead of us in fighting

terrorism, and it's time for a longer term discussion about roles and visions between the branches of government."

Rumsfeld's Pentagon is not likely to gain passage of any plan that significantly weakens congressional oversight, political leaders say. But the war against terrorism has given Rumsfeld a powerful platform, and his aides believe they can grab more control than the Defense Department has ever had.

See PENTAGON on 2

WMKY, WOCS part of public radio network

Effective July 15 - exactly one month after its 37th anniversary as East Kentucky's first public radio station - WMKY and its sister station, WOCS, will become members of Morehead State University's new public radio network.

Identified as Morehead State Public Radio, the network includes FM transmitters in Rowan, Lee and Martin counties. It is based in a new digital broadcast center at Breckinridge Hall, newly renovated and expanded home of MSU's Department of Communication and Theatre.

Network members are WMKY, Morehead, 90.3 FM; WOCS Radio, Lenoire-Bonneville, 88.3 FM; and translator W202BH, Inez, 88.3 FM.

"Adopting a network structure is the next logical step in our plan to provide all of East Kentucky with quality public radio programming," said Keith Kappes, MSU's vice president for university relations.

"With transmitters in three widely scattered areas of our service region, we truly are a public radio network and should identify ourselves as such."

"It is especially fitting to make this change as we begin broadcasting from the new Breck facilities," Kappes added. "We also hope to resume full-time Webcasting in the coming year."

"Returning our operations to an academic building underscores our ongoing commitment to provide the best learning environment for the student staff members who make public radio such an important part of the University," said Dan Costi, MSU's general manager. He noted that nearly 50 students are involved with public radio each semester.

WMKY signed on the air June 15, 1965, as a 10-watt station operating from the Combs Building on the MSU campus. The station later became a charter member of National Public Radio (NPR). Today, the station operates at 50,000 watts.

WOCS Radio, formerly known as WSPF, was purchased by MSU in July 2000. Studios were established at Owensley County High School in Booneville and power was increased from 100 to 1,000 watts. The station returned to the airwaves at full power in November 2001.

The WOCS transmitter is located in Heatsville and the station is licensed to Lenoire with an FCC application pending to change the city of license to Booneville. Meanwhile, it is identified with both communities.

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How to reach us

Phone: 800-247-6142
Fax: 606-784-7337
Mail: 722 W. First Street, Morehead, KY 40352

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