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# The Carlisle Mercury

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**June  
6  
2007**

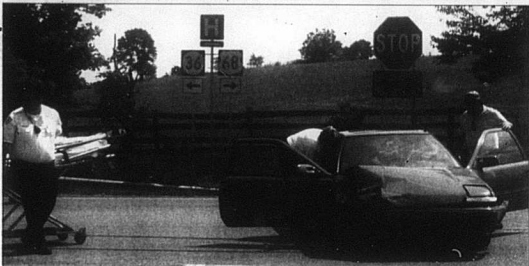


Photo by Charles Mattox

A two vehicle accident, May 31, at the traffic islands sent a Carlisle resident to Nicholas County Hospital. The accident was investigated by Nicholas County Sheriff Dick Garrett.

## Wreck sends one to hospital

A two-vehicle accident on May 31 at 3:26 p.m. at the traffic islands, intersection of US 68 and Concrete Road, sent one local lady to the hospital and snarled afternoon traffic last week.

Rose Corder, 62, of Carlisle, a passenger in a 1991 Toyota Corolla driven by Lester D. Corder Jr., also of Carlisle, received injuries during the accident and was taken by ambulance to Nicholas County Hospital where she was treated and later released.

A juvenile passenger, Lexie Campbell, was also treated and released.

Whitney Dirvin, 20, of Maysville was driving a 2004 Ford Taurus, the second vehicle involved in the accident. Edward Flores, 21, of Lexington, was a passenger in the Dirvin vehicle. Neither Dirvin, nor Flores, were injured.

All occupants were wearing seat belts and air bags deployed during the collision in both vehicles.

Nicholas County Sheriff Dick Garrett responded immediately to the accident, as did members of the Nicholas County Ambulance Service.

## Leaders discuss concerns as Guardsmen deploy

By Charles Mattox  
News Editor  
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Members of the Carlisle-based National Guard unit are scheduled to leave town June 6 after being mobilized as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The 187-member unit of Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery leaves Carlisle on June 6 for approximately six weeks of specialized training at Camp Shelby, Miss., before they then serve a one-year tour of duty in Iraq.

The company commander of the unit, Cpt. Steve Mattingly, 30, has been a soldier for nearly a decade.

He expressed confidence

in the ability of the soldiers in his unit.

"All the soldiers come together and make this a very cohesive group," he said. "And we've got the best group of non-commissioned officers in the National Guard."

Mattingly enlisted in 1998 and said he was compelled to join the military after working in a veteran's hospital in Wilmore.

"I got to work with a lot of vets from World War Two and Korea," he said. "And like Tom Brokaw (news anchor and author) said, 'they were the greatest generation.'"

Because of his college credits, Mattingly was able to enter the military as a specialist fourth class among the enlisted ranks. He later was successful in completing officer Candidate School and became a commissioned officer.

"I wanted to have a better ability to influence problem solving," he said of his decision to become an officer.

Like many of the men he will be leading into war, Mattingly is a family man. He and his wife Molly Fritz Mattingly have four children, including twins who are approximately 9-months-old.

When asked about his deployment to Iraq, Mattingly expressed no concern for himself, but rather for his wife.

"She's got the toughest

mission," he said quietly, and made no further comment on the particular subject. He smiled often, however, when discussing how he had been blessed with his family and how he had recently spent a vacation on the beach with them within the last two months.

"There's nothing better than spending time with family," he said while reflecting on the vacation.

Mattingly summed up the concept of the citizen soldier's military duty and leadership.

"No soldier wants to go to war," he said. "No warrior wants to be left behind. We are soldiers, not politicians. We are not involved in the politics of this war. We've

been given a mission and we will complete the mission."

"I agree completely with Captain Mattingly," said Sgt. First Class Rob Hughes. Hughes is a platoon sergeant who shares command and control responsibilities over approximately 45 of the men to be deployed.

Hughes, 30, is a native of Nicholas County, having been born and raised in the Headquarters community.

He and wife Alicia have two boys; Eli, who is 2-years-old and Jay who is less than a month old.

"It's definitely the hardest thing to prepare for," Hughes said of leaving his family behind while he goes to war. "I've had excellent training for all the military aspects of the mission so I'm not worried about that at all, but it's hard to leave the family."

The unit's mission, according to a press release issued May 16 from the office of the Adjutant General for Kentucky, Major General Donald Storm, will be convoy security and force protection.

"Our greatest threats are going to be IED's (impro-

vised explosive devices)," Hughes said. "That's the number one threat in Iraq."

Hughes said the soldiers he supervises are "the best soldiers in the United States military" and his dedication to those soldiers was obvious to hear when he discussed them. His sense of duty to his country and fellow soldiers across the state and nation was equally obvious.

"You know, there are some soldiers in this unit that will be going on their second tour of duty in Iraq. There are soldiers in Kentucky and in the country who have gone over there three and even four times for separate tours of duty," Hughes said.

"If my going over there can help keep one of them from ever having to go again, then I feel very good about that. I've been in the armed forces for over a dozen years. This is part of history. I understand my duty. I understand that this is what soldiers do."

The Kentucky National Guard has deployed over 8,000 soldiers and airmen in support of the global war on Terror.

## Community Assessment

**PROBLEMS** **SOLUTIONS**

The Nicholas County Community Assessment final report was given to a crowd of approximately 25 individuals who gathered June 1 at the Carlisle United Methodist Church.

Mike Mangot, President of the Kentucky Association for Economic Development gave a power point presentation and discussed the report for approximately two and one half hours.

The report was a follow up for a community survey conducted March 12-23, which was promoted by a local planning team and distributed via email.

The community did not fare well regarding several aspects of the survey, as proven by comments given by members of the community.

301 residents of Nicholas County answered the sur-

vey; 69 percent were female and 31% were male. 22 percent were under the age of 22, 60 percent had lived in Nicholas County for over 20 years, but 16 percent had lived in the county less than a decade.

According to the report, "an overwhelming majority of the survey respondents (81 percent) are dissatisfied in varying degrees with the growth and development of the community, and 75 percent are dissatisfied with the future of Nicholas County."

The survey also indicated respondents scored several community attributes as "Poor" and "Unacceptable."

Those included: job opportunities (80 percent), attractive to youth/young people (86 percent), technical training (80 percent), economic

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"How do you eat an elephant?" Mike Mangot, President and CEO of the Kentucky Association for Economic Development, asked Nicholas County citizens last week while making recommendations to improve the community as a result of the community assessment report.

"You eat an elephant one bite at a time."

Mangot told those gathered they could improve their community, but it would be much like eating an elephant and couldn't be done all at once.

"You have a major challenge," Mangot said. "But we don't want you to experience paralysis by analysis."

Mangot made several recommendations when discussing ways of improving areas of concern listed by members of the community

in the spring survey.

The first concern discussed was with Community Development.

"You have a lack of community development and several vacant and abandoned buildings," he said. "Implementing zoning will help the community, but the effort to do this must be community driven. You have to sell the community on the idea. This will be a political battle. If you want to help develop the community you have to help the political leaders, and they have to take the lead."

Mangot recommended to improve community development in six months that: "The community host public meetings to educate the community on the benefits of zoning and existing areas of concern listed by members of the community

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ously injured during the incident.

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Thieves hit city

Nicholas County Sheriff Dick Garrett and Deputy Benzy Bockler continue to investigate the tragic May 21 attempted theft of items at a substitution of East Kentucky Power, near the community of Headquarters. Officers say one of the would-be thieves was seri-

ously injured during the incident.

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## Copper thefts turn dangerous

Investigators say that crime doesn't pay, especially when thieves attempt to steal copper related items that have an electrical charge running through them.

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