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The Carlisle Mercury

Vol. 141 No. 21 The Nicholas County News Since 1867 Wednesday, May 23, 2007

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May
23
2007

By Charles Mattox
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A former Carlisle Chief of Police and a Carlisle native, who is now a conservation officer, helped save the life of a fellow conservation officer following a tragic boating accident on the Licking River, May 14.

According to a press release issued May 16 by the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and comments by Fish and Wildlife officials, Conservation Officers Corey Ellis of Mayeville and William Allan Earlywine of Carlisle were searching for

illegal nets along the Nicholas and Harrison county sections of the river when their 14-foot johnboat struck a submerged log and flipped in swift water.

The accident happened approximately one mile downstream from where Nicholas County joins Harrison along the Licking River.

Earlywine received bruises and contusions, but was not seriously injured when the boat capsized and threw both officers into the river.

Ellis lost consciousness after suffering a blow to the head.

After capsizing, Earlywine immediately called for

his partner, but there was no answer. He then noticed Ellis' bright yellow life preserver and swam to catch him in the swift current.

Officials say the inflatable life preservers worn by the officers kept the accident from becoming a tragedy.

"My heart skipped a beat when I saw that Cory was floating face down in the water," Earlywine said in department press release.

"I was very relieved when he began to regain consciousness, but he was bleeding profusely. I could see that he had a serious head laceration."

Sgt. Herbert Booth, supervisor of the two officers, was nearby in the small Harrison County community of Burns Vista.

He spoke briefly about the incident in a phone interview.

"The incident occurred near the mouth of Cedar Creek," Booth said. "The officers were approaching a rifle and their boat struck a submerged log, which threw both officers out of the boat."

Both officers were wearing special life jackets which inflate upon impact with the water, and I believe the fact that they were wearing those jackets, coupled with Officer Earlywine's actions,

prevented this from being a very terrible tragedy."

Booth said that after Earlywine swam to Ellis as he drifted downstream with him ensuring his airway was clear and he was breathing properly.

The radios and cell phones belonging to both officers had been lost in the river. Earlywine cradled Ellis as the pair continued floating downstream, keeping his head above water and his airway clear as he continued to assess his injuries.

As blood continued flowing from a large wound on

See EARLYWINE Page 20



William Earlywine



Photo by Charles Mattox

Remembering

For Charles "Joe" McIlvain, of High Street, Carlisle, nearly every day is in some small way, Memorial Day. McIlvain served his country in the Army from 1948-1952. See related story on page 17.

Cancer Coalition hosts Celebration of Life

Approximately 50 Nicholas Countians joined together May 19 at the Carlisle United Methodist Church for the 11th annual Celebration of Life sponsored by the Nicholas County Cancer Coalition and the Carlisle Deposit Bank.

"Cancer affects every family in Nicholas County," said Peggy Seithers, the Health Education Director for WEDCO District Health

Department, which serves Scott, Nicholas and Harrison Counties.

Seithers was present for the celebration, and shared some very disturbing news about the rate of occurrence of cancer for Nicholas Countians.

"According to the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, Nicholas County, Kentucky has the third highest rate of cancer per capita in the United States," she said. "We know of 33 new diagnosed cases of cancer in this county just since last June, and with the confidentiality of the health laws we feel like there are probably even more."

Cancer Coalition members work through the year to fight cancer and one of the annual highlights is the Celebration of Life. Those in attendance at Saturday's gathering enjoyed a delicious brunch, served by Michelle McDonald, heard testimony from cancer survivors and family members of those who have experienced cancer, and heard inspiring

words from guest speaker, State Representative Carolyn Belcher.

Belcher encouraged those in attendance to focus on three aspects of their life as it revolved around their health, to help prevent and survive cancer.

Belcher listed those aspects as physical, fellowship and spiritual.

"You should take care of yourself, not just for yourself, but also for your children and your family," she said while discussing the "physical" aspect of life. Belcher also said that cancer screenings were very important. She said many others present agreed that early detection was the key to survival. Belcher also discussed the values of nutrition and physical exercise in helping to prevent cancer and survive it.

"Find an exercise plan that works for you," she said when discussing the variety of ways every individual can become better physically fit. Belcher also encouraged everyone to contact their lo-

cal health department and learn more about the importance of a nutritional diet.

Belcher also touched on the positive benefits of fellowship with others, and having a spiritual connection to life. Belcher said those were two key components that had a positive influence on people's health, especially those recovering from cancer.

"All things are possible through God," she said as she heard the end of her discussion and dozens of heads nodded in agreement before giving her thunderous applause.

Belcher also asked those in attendance to take action.

"Join the fight against cancer," she said. "You can donate money, you can donate your time, or you can be simply an advocate."

Cancer has reached a near epidemic status in Nicholas County and the need for community involvement is increasing.

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IRAQ Local Unit to deploy

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The Carlisle-based National Guard unit recently received mobilization orders for Operation Iraqi Freedom. The unit will depart Carlisle from the National Guard Armory on June 5.

Members of Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery (187 soldiers) will depart Carlisle for 74 days of training at Camp Shelby, Miss. before going to Iraq for approximately one year of duty, according to a press release issued May 16 from the office of the Adjutant General for Kentucky, Major General Donald Storm.

According to the release, the unit's mission will be to provide "convoy security" and "force protection."

Some of the soldiers were at the Carlisle National Guard Armory May 21, preparing documents and assisting with any final details before unit deploys.

Their morale is high.

They say their training for the pending mission has been exceptional. But they are more than just proud soldiers with a difficult mission before them.

They are also family members, neighbors and friends, who will be away from their loved ones and their communities, while deployed.

"I'm ready to go, and get it done, and get back home," said Sgt. Robby Caswell, 27, of Saltwell. Caswell was born and raised in Nicholas County and is very involved in community sporting events. He is currently assisting with coaching duties of the girl's softball team, The Wild Things.

"I enjoy being outdoors and I enjoy all sports. I really enjoy coaching. I coach everything from softball to football. I've even coached soccer before," Caswell said. Caswell and wife Tina have an eight-month-old daughter.

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