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**The Carlisle Mercury**  
Sandy Hamilton  
Marketing Consultant

218 N Locust St.  
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Fax: 859-289-4000  
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Contact Melissa Mitchell  
to get it on the Calendar of Events

**Don't be left out! Add your business to the list of professionals!**  
Call Sandy at 859-289-6425 or 859-473-2825

**AWARD**  
Continued from Page 1

...and we raised a large garden which I helped with and I also helped my mother with canning each year. We had a good farm life.

...Letcher worked at Jockey International in Carlisle for nearly 38 years before retiring at 62. She said it took her only moments to adjust to the retired life.

"It took about as long as it took the door to close behind me and I was ready for retirement," she said. "I was ready to devote more time to service."

Letcher said she developed a love for singing old Gospel songs with friends while she worked at Jockey and it is a love she cherishes still.

"I can't really sing very well but I do enjoy the songs," she said with an easy laugh.

Letcher teaches Sunday school at Oakland Mills Methodist Church each week and regularly provides services for other area health care facilities.

She is an avid student of the teachings of the Bible, and when asked which book of the Bible was her favorite, she paused thoughtfully and replied, "Psalms. I like all the books, but Psalms are my favorite."

Letcher has strong faith. She also has a deep understanding and humble philosophy of life.

"What you're serving the Lord... well you just live one day at a time and don't worry about things so much. God has control over all of us and we often don't understand things that are happening, but if you trust in the Lord it will be ok."

Letcher said she counted her family members and friends among her greatest blessings and when asked what all of us and we often don't understand things that are happening, but if you trust in the Lord it will be ok."

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07 Chevy Equinox	\$22,995	04 Chevy Equinox	\$14,950	07 Chevy Impala LT	\$14,950	05 Ford F-250 XL	\$22,995
07 Chevy Equinox	\$22,995	04 Chevy Equinox	\$14,950	07 Chevy Impala LT	\$14,950	05 Ford F-250 XL	\$22,995
07 Chevy Equinox	\$22,995	04 Chevy Equinox	\$14,950	07 Chevy Impala LT	\$14,950	05 Ford F-250 XL	\$22,995

**Destruction by Tobacco**  
essay by William Rawlings

When English settlers founded the Jamestown colony in 1607, they came to Virginia looking for gold. Instead of gold, they found a cash crop that made them wealthy: tobacco. In Kentucky where I live, raising tobacco is a big part of our way of life. Tobacco is how a lot of families I know earn their living. But tobacco doesn't just make money. It brings misery and death.

Using tobacco is expensive. A lot of people would rather spend money on cigarettes and chewing tobacco instead of food for their families. And even though some people my age think smoking makes them look cool, it really carries a high social cost. Watching someone spit chewing tobacco is disgusting. And when was the last time you got on an elevator with someone who smokes? You can smell the stink of it on their clothes!

The biggest cost of using tobacco comes in human life. According to a recent study in the British Medical Journal, Lancet, the worldwide death toll from smoking-related illness is 4.83 million people every year. That's like 2500 times the size of Carlisle (population about 2000) being ripped out every 12 months.

The list of health problems caused by smoking and chewing tobacco is huge. There's lung disease like the emphysema that cost my Papa his life. There are circulatory problems like high blood pressure and hardening of the arteries that can cause heart attacks and strokes. And of course there is cancer, affecting the lungs, heart, and even the brain. Any one of these illnesses can kill a person. And any one of them can cost several thousand dollars to treat. Since tobacco is part of our way of life. Raising it provides money for families here in Nicholas County, Kentucky. The tobacco industry is big business in America. But I say it's time we found another business to get into. We need to get off this crazy train ride to death. I don't smoke or chew tobacco, and I urge my friends and classmates not to either.

Looking forward to a very...  
**Happy New Year!**

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