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The Carlisle Mercury

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Wreck leads to injuries, arrest

By Charles Mattox
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A single-vehicle accident in the early evening hours of Feb. 2 injured two family members, one seriously.

Ruth Peters, 45, of Osbow Road, Carlisle, was driving a 1996 Toyota Camry, when she lost control of the vehicle, which left the roadway and struck a tree, according to Carlisle Police Officer Brad Weaver.

Peters' daughter, Jennifer Peters, 26, a passenger in the front seat, received injuries to her head and was transported to the Nicholas County Hospital by EMS personnel. She was later taken by ambulance to the University of Kentucky Medical Center, according to Weaver.

Jennifer Peters' 3-year-old son, Jaiden Terrill, a passenger in the back seat was also taken to the Nicholas County Hospital with non-life threatening injuries following the accident.

Ruth Peters was charged with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol drugs, first offense, aggravator, according to Weaver, who said blood tests were pending. Peters was also charged with license to be in possession and failure to produce an insurance card.

Weaver said neither passenger was wearing seat belts. Weaver and other officers continue to stress the importance of wearing seat belts.

Also responding to the accident were Carlisle Chief of Police William Denton, Nicholas County EMS personnel and Nicholas County Jailer Jeff Sidles.



Photo by Shivan Dotson

Two passengers were injured and the driver was arrested following this single vehicle accident, Feb. 2.

TORNADO Ellisville area hit

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First the satellite systems went off.

Then the electricity went off.

Approximately two minutes later, according to those who were there in Ellisville, it sounded as if a train came roaring down upon them from the sky.

But it wasn't a train. National Weather Service officials say it was an 85-mile per hour wind that struck Nicholas County and say the wind was strictly a "straight line wind." Others, who hunkered beneath it as it swept over them, believe it was a tornado.

There have been no injuries reported from the storm that dropped from the sky near Ellisville at approximately 10 p.m. Jan. 29, but the destructive force could have easily been deadly judging from the damage.

It sounded like a big train and honey, it was roaring when it came through here," William Fryman Jr., said of what he heard moments before a portion of his roof was ripped from his home.

Fryman and wife Sue, along with William Fryman Sr., opted to leave after the storm passed due to the damage and lack of electricity. Fryman said they spent



Photo by Charles Mattox

A large tree was uprooted by strong winds and struck the Dunn home along Old US 68 Jan. 30. Several homes along US 68 were damaged but no injuries have been reported.

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Photo by Charles Mattox

New officers

New Nicholas County-Carlisle Industrial Development Authority Board members were recently elected during the Authority's annual meeting. L-R, members Bascum Sorrell, Ernie Carmicle and Lanning Hutchinson are shown with new Authority Chairman Tom Ockerman and outgoing Industrial Chairman Mike Pryor.

Worker beaten during robbery

By Charles Mattox
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FLEMINGSBURG - A Rowan County man, with close family ties to Nicholas County, is recovering after robbers beat him, robbed him and duct-taped him to a chair at the office of Fleming-Mason Energy offices in Flemingsburg early last week.

Fleming Mason Energy is a rural cooperative that services families in portions of Nicholas County. The utility office is undergoing major renovations and Bill "Mike" Powers, formerly of Carlisle, was working late, alone, as a painter in a portion of the building undergoing renovation.

According to Flemingsburg Chief of Police Randy Sergeant, Powers was beaten severely by two thieves wearing ski masks and dressed in black. They also robbed him before taping him to a chair.

"We believe one of the thieves had a pistol," Sergeant said. "The motive for the robbery was theft. Two desktop computers were

taken along with two cameras and a substantial amount of cash."

Sergeant is assisting Kentucky State Police Detective Joe Veneman of the KSP Morehead Post. FPD Officers Tyler Rushing and Brad Crawford are also assisting in the investigation.

The two burglars ransacked the offices and duct taped Powers to a chair after beating him unconscious.

"They beat him with their fists," Sergeant said. "One of the men was very quiet but the other was very loud and made many threatening statements to Powers during the robbery."

Powers was found approximately four hours later by a co-worker.

Police have recovered physical evidence from the scene but no arrests have been made.

Powers' mother Carol Powers of Carlisle is well-known among the community and said her son is recovering steadily from his injuries.

"He's still pretty sore and has a little trouble sleeping, but he's healing fine," she said. "I sure hope they catch who did this."

Man is bound to grand jury

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A Carlisle man had his drug trafficking charges bound over to the grand jury following a preliminary hearing in Nicholas District Court Jan. 30.

Fernando Lopez, 39, of Miller's Station Road, Carlisle, appeared in court before the Honorable Judge Jay Delaney with his attorney Jennifer Wittmeyer. A court-appointed interpreter was also present, as was Nicholas County Jailer Jeff Sidles.

Lopez was arrested Jan. 18 and charged with trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree, and trafficking in marijuana, less than eight ounces, after a joint investigation of Kentucky State Police Detectives from Dry Ridge, and KSP Detectives assigned to Drug Enforcement Special Investigations (DESI) who were also assisted by Buffalo Trace Narcotics Task Force officers.

A KSP detective assigned to DESI, and who works undercover in northeast-

ern Kentucky, was the only witness called to testify by County Attorney Dawn Letcher.

The undercover agent testified that he and other officers had been contacted by agents with the Buffalo Trace Narcotics Task Force (BTNTF) who informed them that a cooperating witness was available to make drug purchases in Nicholas County and had done so in the past.

The detective testified that he had met the cooperating witness in the Fleming County Sheriff's Office with an agent from Buffalo Trace.

When Wittmeyer questioned the undercover agent about how the cooperating witness had become involved with BTNTF the undercover detective replied that it was his understanding that the cooperating witness had pending charges in Fleming County.

"He was charged with cultivating or possession. I'm not sure," he testified.

"It was the first time I had dealt with him, but he has a

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