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Drug arrest made; officer resigns

**June
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By Charles Mattox
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A Carlisle Police Officer has resigned and an investigation continues into alleged drug activity in Carlisle.

Carlisle Police Officer Kenny Brockman resigned at the end of his shift Monday morning as Nicholas County Sheriff's Deputy Benny Buckler arrested Ashley Nicole Pettit, Brockman's fiancé, at approximately 8:30 a.m.

"Officer Brockman resigned this morning citing personal reasons," said Carlisle Chief of Police Wil-

liam Denton, Monday. "I wish him the best of luck."

Brockman had served the city of Carlisle as a police officer for approximately one year and six months.

According to Pettit's arrest citation, the Nicholas County Sheriff's Department and the Carlisle Police charged her with trafficking in a controlled substance, following an investigation.

The citation states that Pettit "was being investigated by the sheriff's department and officers at the Carlisle Police Department after receiving numerous complaints that

(Pettit) and her boyfriend Officer Kenny Brockman of the Carlisle Police Department were selling illegal prescription drugs."

Deputy Sheriff Benny Buckler arrested Pettit.

Sheriff Dick Garrett and Carlisle Police Officers Sgt. Darrell Layne and Mike Kinkaden, witnessed her arrest, according to the arrest citation.

After her arrest Pettit was taken to the Montgomery County Jail and later released on bond. She is scheduled to appear in Nicholas District Court this week.

Chief Denton says there should be no lack of patrolling of law enforcement, even though Brockman was resigned, as former area lawman Mark Snedegar was sworn in Monday morning as Carlisle's new police officer.

Snedegar has been in-

involved in law enforcement for 17 years serving with the Flemingsburg Police Department and the Lewis and Bath County Sheriff's Departments in the past.

Snedegar will be featured in detail in future editions of the Carlisle Mercury.

No injuries in single-vehicle accident

By Charles Mattox
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A single-vehicle accident on Buffalo Trail Road June 4 during a rainstorm looked destructive, but luckily the driver, Tyler Tubbs of Elizaville was wearing a seatbelt and thus was uninjured.

According to Nicholas

County Sheriff Dick Garrett, Tyler Tubbs, 18, of Elizaville, lost control of her 2007 Cobalt LS on Buffalo Trail Road, near Headquarters at approximately 2 p.m. June 4. The car was allegedly crowded off the road by an oncoming vehicle, struck an earthen embankment, flipped on its top and came to rest upside down near the

edge of the road.

"She was wearing a seatbelt and I believe that prevented serious injury from occurring," Sheriff Garrett said.

According to Garrett, Tubbs was the sole occupant of the vehicle and airbags also deployed during the accident.



Photo by Charles Mattox

A 2007 Cobalt LS, driven by Tyler Tubbs of Elizaville was involved in a single-vehicle accident near Headquarters June 4. Tubbs suffered no injuries as a result according to Sheriff Dick Garrett.

City receives funds, examines strong budget

By Charles Mattox
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Members of the Carlisle City Council held the first reading of their fiscal budget Monday night.

"I'm concerned about the rising costs of fuel, but I'm pleased with the financial strength and stability of the city," Carlisle Mayor Ronnie Clark said Tuesday morning.

Clark also recently received a \$3,000 Safety Grant from the Kentucky League of Cities Insurance Services.

The funds are slated for the purchase of one M40 Confined Space Kit, two Scott Leak Alert Gas Leak

locators, one Health Odorator and two Akron Turbo Jet nozzles.

City council members passed a resolution appointing James Ertel to replace Charles Crawford on the City of Carlisle Independent Planning Commission.

Council members also reviewed the police report issued by Carlisle Chief of Police William Denton.

According to the report, Carlisle Police Officers made 46 arrests from the first week of May to June 9. Carlisle police officers also closed five cases and opened six new cases and issued 192 citations and served 18 warrants in that same time period.



Photo by Charles Mattox

High school journalists sweep KHSJA

The Nicholas County High School '07-'08 Bluejacket Buzz staff competed in the annual Kentucky High School Journalism Association contest. The staff won multiple awards, including first place awards in Overall Newspaper Design, Page One Design, Two Page Layout, and Advertising. The staff also received 2nd place General Excellence in Class A high school newspaper publications. Congratulations journalists!

Legality of Industrial Authority challenged by Mayor Ronnie Clark

By Charles Mattox
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The agenda was cut short for the members of the Carlisle-Nicholas County Industrial Development Authority Board, when Carlisle Mayor Ronnie Clark, in his first meeting as a member of the board, "challenged the legality" of the status of several of the existing members of the board after a brief, but spiked verbal exchange between himself and Board Treasurer Bascom Sorrell.

The meeting had been uneventful in many regards up to that point.

The agenda had been followed in order with the minutes of the previous meeting, including Sorrell's six-page letter that was read during the board's May 12 meeting, being approved.

Sorrell's letter detailed his thoughts and a conversation with Clark, in which he questioned Clark's decision of recommending the Carlisle City Council members pass an ordinance placing him and Nicholas County Judge-Executive Larry Tinsler to the Industrial Authority Board.

Sorrell also questions the accuracy of his expired term as stated in Clark's May 13 letter to him.

"This letter is to inform you that I will be replacing you with another member on the Industrial Authority Board. Your term expired on Jan. 1, 2008 and I am

not reappointing you to this board," the letter reads.

Sorrell and Clark sat diagonally across the table from one another during the June 8 meeting, which went very smoothly through eight listed items on the agenda, with items 6-8 listed as "Old business."

These items included a brief presentation by Martha Fightmaster on her update of a community "Skill Set Evaluation. With funding provided in part through the Bluegrass Workforce Investment Board, Fightmaster is collecting raw data to prepare in document form for future industrial clients of the community who may be seeking specific work skills.

A brief update on the status of L.C. manufacturing was given and Board Member Duane Kenney gave a report on the progress of the local Community Assessment Core Leadership groups.

Following Kenney's report and brief discussion by board members on the progress of certain groups involved in the local assessment, the first order of business under the agenda title "New business" was invoked.

The first listed item under "New business" on the agenda was "Letter from Ronnie Clark, dated May 13, 2008 to Bascom Sorrell, informing him he's being replaced with another member on the Industrial Board."

Mayor Clark immediately

spoke up and stated that Sorrell had been "unjustly appointed" by former Mayor of Carlisle Gene Kelly.

Clark then stated that there had been no executive order produced or oath given to Sorrell and therefore his appointment was not legal.

Buckler stated on the citation that Pettit was cooperative.

The citation further states that at least one illegal drug sale was recorded by "a qualified informant wearing a wire."

Buckler stated on the citation that Pettit was cooperative.

Clark said that he had, and after searching through a briefcase of legal documents, slid the notarized copy of his oath across the table to Clark.

Several others present said they had no such documentation or memory of "raising their right hand and swearing an oath" before either any previous or existing mayor of Carlisle or county judge executive.

"You're legal," Clark said to Jones.

"You mean the rest of us are illegal?" Board member Ernie Carmicle asked with a bewildered look in his eyes that mirrored several other board members, including Sorrell's.

Sorrell spoke softly saying something to the effect that the bonded treasurer of the Industrial Authority Board couldn't simply "just be replaced" on a whim.

"You're wrong," Clark told Sorrell.

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Conservation funds available

By Charles Mattox
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If you own property along the main fork of The Licking River, or along one of the tributaries that flows into the Licking River, you may qualify for federal funding thanks to a program being implemented through the Licking River Valley Resources, Conservation and Development Program.

The program is called the Private Stewardship Program.

"This is a great program and there is very little paperwork to file," said Tom Leith.

Leith is the Licking River RC&D coordinator.

The Private Stewardship Program, which is being funded through the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, has \$50,000 available, with the funding being a 50%-50% matching grant.

According to Leith, the funds could be used to fence areas along the River or its tributaries that would prevent livestock from polluting the stream directly. The funds can also be used to install watering systems inside the fenced areas for the livestock.

The 10% of the funding required by the landowner can

be in the form of labor or farm materials, according to Leith.

"There will also be some funding for planting trees inside the fences and creating access beneficial to wildlife," Leith said.

"Another grant has been obtained through the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Office totaling \$17,000 which we envision working with other programs with a 50-50 grant."

Leith encourages all interested and qualified landowners to contact his office at 859-289-2352 or Tom Carpenter at the Nicholas County Conservation District housed in the Nicholas County Extension Office at 289-2312.

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