COMMUNITY NEWS

LETTERS

Continued from Page 5

school, city and county officials joined with the representative in acknowledgement of the county's membership.

Having been directly involved in the media for the better part of 40 years, including newspaper ownership and management, in Nicholas County, I know for decades efforts have been made to include Nicholas County in the ARC. This monumental goal has been reached.

Again I would like to thank the Congressman and all of those responsible for working to have our county – our home – in the ARC.

Hank Bond
Carlisle

Dear Editor,

In the spirit of this spooky holiday, I'd like to share with your readers a quote from our 40th President: "The nine most terrifying words in the English language are 'I'm from the government and I'm here to help.'"

The ghosts and ghouls of Halloween aren't the only creatures lurking in the crisp October night. No, there are far more vicious beasts on the prowl this year: politicians who will say anything and make any promise to get the good people of Carlisle to cast a vote for them. They will promise us wonderful things in return for our support. But what they won't admit is that all of those wonderful things come with consequences that impact not only our finances, but our freedoms. Nothing is free.

Thomas Jefferson said, "Most bad government has grown out of too much government." This year's election could very well set the stage for the largest expansion of federal government since the dysfunctional New Deal gave us welfare and Fannie Mae. There is no guarantee that the promise of change for the sake of change will improve our lives. There is only the reality that we and our children and our children's children will be paying for that change. That prospect scares me more than bumping into the devil in the dead of night.

Growing the government is not the answer to our ills. One only needs to look to the other side of the Atlantic to see that inflated government bureaucracy has done nothing to spare Europe from the recent financial turmoil. Any politician who offers to lead us down that same dead end road to big government is truly the boogeyman. And I, for one, am very afraid of that guy.

Sincerely,
Josh Guthrie
Carlisle

Editor,

I'd like to say "Thank You" to all coaches and anyone else involved in the Nicholas County Junior Jackets Football League. This is the first organized sport my son has played and I couldn't be more pleased. In a town where negativity is the standard I am proud of the leaders of this league. They are there for the right reasons, to teach the children the game of football and to ensure they have fun. Thank you specifically to the Flag Football Coaches, Rob and Tina Caswell, Seth Saunders, Ron and Tracy Blakeman, Tip Fryman, and Billy Sosby for making my sons first year of football a fun and learning experience.

Sincerely,
Regina Gaunce Gray
Carlisle

Editor,

I realize that we are all tired of the political ads we have seen over and over every time we turn on the TV. But I feel very strongly about getting this message out to all Nicholas Countians, particularly women. Generations ago, females fought long and hard for women to have the right to vote. It is not only a constitutional right, but it is our duty as citizens of the United States.

I know by now most people already have their minds made up as to which candidate they will vote for. But for those of you who are still undecided, here are some issues to think about. First of all, how gullible and stupid does John McCain and the entire Republican party think we female Americans are to believe that we would vote for a female candidate, simply for that reason, that she's a female. She was obviously chosen in hope that she would get the votes from us disappointed Hillary supporters. But let's face it, she's a far cry from Hillary Clinton. She has campaigned over and over and over that she's a Wal-Mart shopping mainstream American, Hockey Mom. But yet her party has spent over $150,00 on Neiman Marcus suits for her? I don't know about you, but I don't know many mainstream middle class women who shop at Neiman Marcus. During the Republican Convention, the camera focused on a man wearing a button that read "Hoosiers for the HOT CHICK". How sexist!! She has not been allowed to participate in unplanned interviews, but she did however speak to a group of second graders. (I guess her political advisers thought these children wouldn't know if what she was saying was right or wrong). But it backfired. They asked her just what does the Vice President do, and she gave them an incorrect answer. The Republicans continue to say that Senators Obama and Biden are "inexperienced", which is totally ludicrous, but at least they know their job descriptions. The Republican party has obviously chosen style over substance in their lame choice of a Vice-Presidential candidate, who if elected, could Sara Palin should stick to her appearances on Saturday Night Live, a venue that seems much better suited for her.

I am well aware that everyone is entitled to their own opinions be heard, and stop with the attitude that whatever will be will be. If you're happy with our present economic crisis, the cost of living soaring higher and higher, jobs lost on a daily basis, hard working Americans losing their homes, and the possibility of the war continuing not only throughout our lifetime, but also the lifetime, but also the lifetime of our children and possibly even our grandchildren, then by all means, you need to vote the ticket that will give you four more years of the same crap. But I hope that the majority of us Americans love this country enough to do everything we can to ensure a better future, not only for ourselves, but for the future generations.

Cindy Hughes,
Carlisle

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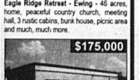

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OCT 31 - NOV 6

Let's Go to the Movies

THE HAUNTING OF MOLLY HARTLEY
1:30, 4:20
PG-13

MAX PAYNE
1:35, 4:20, 7:10, 9:30
PG-13

QUARANTINE
7:40, 9:50
R

ZACH & MIRI
1:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
R

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3 SENIOR YEAR
1:20, 4:25, 7:05, 9:35
G

BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA
1:05, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40
PG

PRIDE & GLORY
1:10, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40
R

FIREPROOF
1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:45
PG

SAW V
1:45, 4:40, 7:30, 9:40
R

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9:00 a.m.

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CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT

JD 317 skidsteer cha 700 hrs, Case 1150D, JD 550C.

VEHICLES

1996 IH dumptruck, 1996 Ford dumptruck, 1991 Chevy dumptruck w, directional arrow.

FARM EQUIPMENT

NH 472 haybine, NH 474 haybine, NH 644 round baler, JD 430 round baler, JD 530 round baler, hayrakes NH 256-258, Case IH 1190 haybine, sq balers, MF 1440 rd baler, Hesston 5510 rd baler, Hesston 5530 rd baler, Gehl 1875 rd baler, JD 566 rd baler, Krone 181 rd baler, Krone 151 rd baler, Case IH 8420 rd baler, hay tedders.

MISCELLANEOUS

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Note: We will receive consignments starting Monday, Nov. 3 through Friday, Nov. 7. 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM daily. NO consignments accepted sale day. Deliver your items anytime during these hours.

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Chicken man gets plucked

By Charles Mattox
News Editor
charles@thecarlislemercury.com

A Paris Restaurant owner was arrested Sunday after police say he staged a false crime scene. Joe Watkins, 58, owner of The Chicken Ranch, a Paris restaurant, was arrested just before midnight Sunday following an incident police are calling a Halloween Prank.

"I've never seen anything like this in my 20 years of law enforcement," said Paris Chief of Police Tim Gray. "This was completely unnecessary."

According to Gray, trouble began when Watkins called an employee and asked that they come to the restaurant to talk.

The employee arrived with a friend to find what appeared to be Watkins lying in a pool of blood with a knife protruding from his body.

"The girls ran out of the business screaming and calling 911," Chief Gray said. "They didn't know if he had stabbed himself or someone else had stabbed him."

As it turned out Watkins was uninjured and was only "playing a Halloween prank."

"Our officers and other emergency services personnel arrived quickly on the scene," Chief Gray said. "Our officers were on high alert and were expecting an intruder."

What they found was Watkins apologizing and asking them to leave and forget about it, as it was "all a prank," according to police.

Instead, Watkins was arrested and taken to the Bourbon County Jail where he was lodged under a $2,000 cash bond.

Mr. Watkins posted bond immediately, according to police.

"This whole thing has been blown out of proportion," Watkins said Tuesday. "I don't think I should have been arrested."

According to Watkins, he did try to play a prank on the employee, and said he had masterminded several pranks in the past.

Watkins said he did not hear the employee come in and when he realized what happened he immediately contacted her on her cell phone to tell her it was just a prank.

"She laughed, but said she had already called the police," Watkins said.

Watkins said, and police confirm, that he immediately contacted police dispatch to notify them that "it was just a prank."

Before dispatch could contact the responding officers they had arrived on the scene with Watkins estimating it took no more than 30 seconds for them to respond once the initial call was made to dispatch.

"I estimate there were approximately 15 emergency personnel who responded to the scene and I would hate to think what might have happened had a real emergency occurred at that same time on the other side of town. Luckily that didn't happen," Chief Gray said.

Gray praised the discipline and training his officers demonstrated at the scene.

"When you get a call like that you go in prepared for anything," he said.

Chief Gray said there have been no other early "Halloween pranks" and he will have extra officers on patrol during Halloween.

"We'll have the usual mischief I'm sure, but hopefully no one will be hurt and the weather will be nice and the children will enjoy themselves."

Watkins says he hopes the case will not be prosecuted but will be dismissed or diverted instead.

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