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Dr. Eslie Asbury addresses

Nicholas County Historical Society annual meeting at Carnico Country Club June 12

PART ONE

Thanks for the fine introduction. If you outline all who know the truth about you, you get honors, honorary degrees and finally an invitation to address the Nicholas County Historical Society, and you get a flattering introduction. Seniors do not regard such honors as mere flowers on an old man's grave. Deserved or not, we cherish them. They relieve boredom, one of the hazards of age. These occasions provide a captive audience for reminiscing, one of the privileges, even shonken of age. My first operation was in 1913, also in a house in Henry County. It was a boy with typhoid fever. In spite of anti-diphtheria serum, he stopped breathing. I straddled him deep in a feather bed, and did a tracheotomy. Amortemia was not necessary. The father wanted to send me his farm. Four days later when I came to remove the tube, the boy had recovered, the father had recovered and I was paid \$50.00. I asked for my bill. The expense of the serum and travel was \$60.00 and I made \$10.00. The father said, "I don't want your money. I'll make it an even \$100." I received early the old man's advice "under the hill while there is still a tear in the eye."

school in a one room log house. My father, a teacher, decided to study Mayville, riding horseback and using traps, bagging and Model-T Ford. At that time hill people still feared hospitals and in instances they were right. Some hospitals were collectors of infections. Even more people feared the expense and the disruption of the trip to the city. My best assistant was a man who had taken a Red Cross correspondence course in nursing. We removed everything from a room, dampened the floor, and set up a World War I portable, collapsible #12 operating table. These cases were terrible chores but I can't remember a single death. They did well because they were immune to their own bugs and felt that their name environment. Long before I had my farm I did operations in Bourbon County, Cynthiana and Mayville hospitals. Between 1940 and 1975 I worked on weekends at the new Nicholas County Hospital with the help of Dr. Marford and Kinnesher, bringing in my patients from adjacent counties and some from Cincinnati. We also had a lot of local charity cases but the hospital I believe was the only one in the area. In 1933 I started looking for a farm where the family could spend the

summer and where our childhood could be exposed to Kentucky rural traditions. Personally I wanted a base for hunting, fishing, and horseback riding. I almost bought a place in Boone County. In 1934, through Uncle Tom Asbury, we bought Forest Retreat at an auction paying \$60 an acre, the same price paid for it in the twenties. The previous owner, Dr. Campbell, paid \$200 an acre for it in the twenties. In the death of the depression I bought in the neighborhood of Uncle Tom Asbury. I didn't look at the place before I bought it and hadn't seen it since I was a boy. I thought I had a bargain but my Cincinnati lunch friends were skeptical. When did a city doctor ever own a country sickles they said. "I can prove it," I replied. "Right after the sale a man offered me \$200 for just the rabbit and blackberry concessions."

The house, barn and fence were in ruins but on the original farm and on later purchases we found six historic landmarks, now on the National List of Historic Sites, a step above the usual classification of historic places. They include the tavern and post-houses built by Governor Thomas Metcalf in 1806, Boone's cabin, built in 1875, the house built in 1814, the Metcalf cemetery and the D.A.R. Monument.

We first restored the house under the guidance of Judge Innes Ross and Mrs. Cassius Clay and with the help of a picture in Colima History, Metcalf's builder by trade, was the architect. He later built the courthouse at Paris and the old state capital, one the basis of the Kentucky Historical Society. Building Forest Retreat Metcalf used slaves, many of them skilled artisans who hand carried the Adam mantles, doors, stair rails, window frames, and the chair rails. Unlike most houses of this period, each room had a built-in front yard when the Federal Government planned to remove the curve on U.S. Route 60. With the help of the D.A.R., Steve Wilkins, State Highway Commissioner and Governor Mills, we were able to save it and also the large nearby stone culvert, constructed in 1850 when the Mayville-Leaston Pike was built during Metcalf's term as Governor. This pike, the first paved road west of the Alleghenies, is now a part of the Pioneer National Monument.

The post-horn, like the culvert, is a fine example of the hand made and buildings in the Colonials in England. We found the stone walls intact but the wooden part required rebuilding.

(To be continued next week.)

The Carlisle Mercury

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Nicholas farmers eligible for disaster emergency loans

Farmers in Nicholas County are eligible for disaster emergency loans from the Farmers Home Administration (FHA) to recover from losses caused by excessive rainfall, high winds and flooding followed by drought. Secretary of Agriculture John H. Block has authorized the service in Nicholas County. Damage assessments by the agency show significant losses in tobacco and other row crops in this area.

FHA State Director Kendall L. Seaton said emergency loans will be made to farmers who are unable to secure credit from other sources that are needed to restore farming operations to normal. Loans must be based on substantial loss resulting from heavy rains, flooding, high winds, followed by drought between May 1, 1981 and September 30, 1981.

The Cynthiana County Office which serves Nicholas County, will take applications for loans based on physical and production losses until March 31, 1982. No Annual Production Loss or Major Adjustment loans may be processed after Sept. 30, 1982 as the authority for these programs expires on that date.

Mr. Seaton said damage assessments by the FHA county office show significant losses of tobacco and other row crops in this area. 90 percent of the tobacco crop was destroyed. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, makes disaster emergency loans at varying interest rates and for terms consistent with the borrower's repayment ability. Amounts offsetting actual loss are loaned at an interest rate of five percent not to exceed a loan amount of \$50,000. Additional amounts needed to restore or make necessary changes in farm operations are loaned at 11 1/2 percent for real estate purposes and at 15 percent for operating purposes.

Mr. Seaton said the law provides for disaster emergency credit to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial part of their living. Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who are U.S. citizens, or to farming partnerships, corporations or cooperatives in which U.S. citizens hold a majority interest.

The office serving Nicholas County is located on U.S. 62 East in Cynthiana, Ky.

Applications will be taken at the local FHA office every Monday morning 9:00-12:00.

On June 23, the office will be open from 9:00-3:00.

More cheese for people

The Senior Citizens Center has announced there will be cheese available for people over 60 and according to income guidelines. No date of delivery has been announced. For more information phone 289-2220.

Day Care Center open to all children

Contrary to what many people think, the Day Care Center at the old hospital building in Carlisle is open to all children, not just low-income families. Margaret Hunter, Rural Program Coordinator of the CAA for Nicholas County, said the Mercury recently.

We think this mistaken impression is stopping a lot of parents from taking advantage of day care for their small children. Head Teacher for the Day Care Program Elaine Broderick said, Mrs. Broderick, the former Elaine Schandling and a native of Nicholas County, is now in charge of the Day Care Center, with the title of Head Teacher.

"I have two children of my own, and our family was living in Lexington, where I graduated from college. We decided to move back to Carlisle because we wanted a better place for our children to live."

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"It's really difficult enough for families where both the husband and wife work, and we feel like we are providing a service to the community that is needed," Mrs. Broderick said. Rates for the day care arrive vary from \$5 to \$1 a day for the first child and each child in addition to only half that amount.

Children can be brought to the center regardless of age from as early as 20 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Mr. Broderick, who has a Bachelor's Degree in Child Development and lacks only a few hours for her Masters Degree, said she is trying to help the children develop themselves, rather than just being a baby-sitting service. "We want the children to develop socially, emotionally and physically as they should at this age."

Mrs. Broderick said there are many activities for the children, plus they are able to take meals and snacks are furnished.

All fees must be paid in advance at the beginning of the week by check or cash and more information can be had by calling 289-7172.

"Even if a parent just wants to go shopping for part of a day," Mrs. Broderick said, "we can take their children for half a day or whatever they want."

Mrs. Broderick is a 1963 graduate of Nicholas County High School, and has taught school since 1973.

Benefit dinner nets over \$1200

Over 200 people attended the Hospital benefit dinner held at Forest Retreat Farm on Friday evening, June 18. The buffet dinner was catered by Broderick's Tavern and the Lexington chapter of the Kentucky's Chapter gave a performance of Barber Shop quartet music.

Proceeds from the art and antique auction and the dinner itself came to over \$1200. This entire amount will be used for special needs of the hospital and nursing home.

The Nicholas County Health Care Auxiliary sponsors three major projects during the year: the benefit dinner in June, their Christmas Bazaar and the Hospital Gift Shop.

During the past year the Auxiliary has purchased drapes for the entire nursing home, two wheel chairs, a fetal heart rate monitor, and provided a nursing scholarship, all totaling more than \$5,000 in the local Health Care Facility.

Festival schedule

The Carnico Cloverleaf Square Driveway and the Haden's Cigars from Versailles will perform Friday, July 2, from 7:30 until 10:30 at the 20th Annual Carlisle Blackberry Festival. The Show Masters will provide the music each night from 8 until 12:30.

"See Festival, page 8"

Nicholas County has 670 Vets; 320 from WWII

Nicholas County has a total of 670 veterans, of whom 320 are persons who have served during a war-time period, according to the Veterans Administration.

The latest statistics show that 113 served in Vietnam, 124 in Korea, 120 in World War II, and 313 in other wars.

Over one-fourth of all Vietnam Era veterans served in the combat area.

"See Nicholas Vets, page 16"



Framed Mrs. George Dale displays oak leaf frame donated by Mrs. Glenn Booth for the art and antique auction held Friday evening at the Hospital benefit dinner at Forest Retreat Farm. Earl Hamman served as auctioneer. — Photo Submitted.

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