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Spring '87

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This Week's  
Community Spotlight

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# The Carlisle Mercury

Serving Nicholas County Since 1867

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Seventh grade students at Nicholas County Elementary School visited Jockey plant in Carlisle last Monday as a part of their career exploration program. In the picture above, Vicky Herrington, Jockey employee, demonstrates an automatic packaging machine to the class. Bill Caldwell Photo.

## Forum on sex education draws varied reactions

By Mark J. Livingston  
of The Mercury Staff

Parents, grandparents, principals, school board members, teachers and other school personnel gathered at Nicholas County Elementary School last Wednesday night to discuss the pros and cons of allowing family life education courses to be taught in Nicholas County schools.

After reviewing the purpose and content of the course proposed for instruction in grades five through nine, the majority appeared to be in favor of allowing educators of Family Life Program of the Family County Health Department to offer the course.

The course was reviewed by the board of education last fall, which approved the program pending parental consent to be required and a meeting to be held to inform the public.

Two years ago a school-community relations committee was formed at a town meeting, according to school physician Tim Scott. The committee conducted a public survey of 25 families with children in the Nicholas County school system.

These families were picked randomly from the school computer by choosing every fifth name.

Twenty-five percent responded.

According to Scott, Kentucky is one of the top three or four states in the nation for teenage pregnancies. Out of every 100 teenage girls in the nation, 83 of those became pregnant in 1984, according to Scott.

In comparison, during the same year, 44 out of every 100 teenage girls in Kentucky became pregnant.

Out of 17 counties in the Bluegrass Area Development District, Nicholas County had the highest average rate of teenage pregnancies, with 87 reported in 1984.

According to statistics available, teenage pregnancies did not decrease, as a result of the course, however, the number of pregnancies did.

Should the course be presented, at what age, what subjects would be included were among some of the questions posed on the survey.

Ninety-five percent of those questioned said sex education was a significant problem in our community and was in favor of the family life education course being taught.

Fifteen percent felt the classes should begin in the fifth grade, 11 percent chose sixth grade, 34 percent chose seventh grade, and 13 percent chose eighth grade.

According to Dennis Lemley-Jordan, Director of Teenage Education Leadership Project of the

Continued on Page 2

## Court to hear second reading of tax ordinance

Amid controversy surrounding the legality of the meeting, Nicholas County Fiscal Court acted to hold the second reading of a payroll-occupational tax ordinance, Wednesday, April 1, 1987, beginning at 6 p.m.

The meeting will be held in the large courtroom, upstairs, in the Nicholas County Courthouse.

Meeting last Wednesday, the court passed the first reading of the newly proposed ordinance with only minimum changes.

Local businessmen Jimmy Shaw questioned the legality of the meeting being the general public was not notified of the meeting.

Nicholas County Attorney Jack Conley told Shaw the court had followed the proper steps in having the meeting, however there was some discussion about the Wednesday night meeting actually being the regular meeting date for the court.

Shaw made last week to the Mercury office to discuss the newspaper of the meeting.

By doing so, the court complied with provisions set forth in the open meetings law.

Shaw maintained that notifying the newspaper was not sufficient, but that the newspaper should have been notified in the past.

A notice of the meeting was not included in last week's edition of The Mercury for two reasons.

One, a computer malfunction deleted the item from the Happenings column, which would normally carry the information, and second, The Mercury is a Thursday publication, thus with the meeting date set for Wednesday, the bulk of the readership of the newspaper would not receive the notice until after the meeting.

The ordinance, which is put into effect after one in effect in Garrard County, exempt no one.

In addition, at the last meeting the cap for businesses was discussed, however, the cap for businesses was also removed from consideration.

The only changes in the ordinance were reflected in the paid-use and setting standards under which a business books can be opened for inspection, by the tax administrator. This can only be done by the tax administrator, with approval of fiscal court.

Nicholas County Judge Executive Bess Smoot suggested that if the law is to be put into effect, it should be beneficial to the county to have the tax administrator handle the collection, by purchasing and using a computer system for collection and monitoring the system.

The court took no action on the ordinance, which would prevent additional dollars from being drained from the tax collector.

Although there would be some start-up costs involved for the implementation of the computerized payroll, the long range effect would be cost saving, because county payroll could be processed through the computer, as well as other functions.

"Once we get the start-up done, which might include hiring some staff for a short time to get that done, we should be able to operate smoothly," Smoot said of using the computer.

One alternative, which was discussed, included adding the increased costs continue to be charged to a computerized system for the attorney's office, and pay one-half of the cost of a phone line for the system.

Should Nicholas County Attorney Conley be able to write and thus join the system, this would generate some savings for the county in the implementation of a computer system for the court.

Katherine gave \$5000-\$6000 for the computer hardware and adding on the additional costs of the computer time and phone line, the program, would, according to those at the meeting, allow the county to realize a savings over hiring an additional full-time employee.

According to information discussed surrounding the proposed ordinance, the county would generate approximately \$150,000 per year from a percent tax.

This would be about 50 percent payroll and 10 percent net profits, according to a study done of rates of collection in other counties with an occupational tax.

It was stipulated that the probability of collecting 100 percent of the tax owed each year is not likely and a base figure of 80 percent allowed the county would realize a tax of \$145,000.

"My Court had just heard a report amounting to about \$145,000."

"Spending indicators were would be a fall back in revenue for the first year, with an area of improvement seen for the finances in the year to come."

The county is scheduled to lose \$141,000 in Federal Revenue Sharing funds this year, beginning next fiscal year.

This means the tax, if collected in the first year at a documented average for the first year, would only a gesture about what the county is losing.

In addition, the cost of administration, although lower than some counties, has not been neglected.

The county also faces the universal problem of increased costs for providing services and normal operations. This, too, cannot be avoided without a case by case study.

It was pointed out the county should be able to collect at a higher percentage rate as time goes along, however, costs for services, etc., will continue to increase as well.

There was much discussion from the floor as to the actual need for the tax, and questions concerning why certain items would remain in the budget that were one time items.

Smoot said it is impossible to plan for emergency expenses, and increased costs continue to challenge the county's operation.

The court voted, with Melvin Pryman voting no, to hold the second reading.

The second reading will include a public hearing time prior to the court's attention to act on the ordinance.

## Court hears rough budget analysis

Nicholas County Fiscal Court heard a discouraging report from state on the county's finances.

The court voted, with Melvin Pryman voting no, to hold the second reading.

The second reading will include a public hearing time prior to the court's attention to act on the ordinance.

Spaulding explained how her budget analysis would work.

According to a letter she had sent to the court, Spaulding said, "It is no surprise that county officials are faced with many difficult decisions, one main concern being the loss of Revenue Sharing Funds and increased costs in all phases of county government."

Nicholas County was fortunate to begin this fiscal year with operating surplus, and it is imperative.

Continued on Page 2

## Nicholas man dies in freak fire accident

A 25-year-old Nicholas County man was dead at the scene of a fire in Bourbon County, Saturday, March 21.

James Sands, of Carlisle, died when the backhoe he was operating apparently rolled backward, knocking him to the ground and crushing his chest, according to a Kentucky State Police report.

According to police the accident occurred about 3 p.m.

Sands was apparently leaving down some old fencing on the Arrowhead Farm, on Blackstone Road in Bourbon County, when he appeared to have gotten off the backhoe, which was left in gear.

According to a report filed by Trooper Bill Harris, Sands was taken to the Hinton-Turner Funeral Home.

## Complete Ordinance Text Page 11

## Council to offer Jockey water line leasing plan

By Janis B. Hanson  
Of The Mercury Staff

Responsibility for maintaining the eight inch water line to Linking River when the proposed sewer project is completed was the topic of a called meeting of Carlisle City Council Monday night.

Bob Shoemaker of GRE Electric, city superintendent of Gas, Vandlenham and Mayor Lee Dentis have met with Harry Mademan, a corporate official of Jockey International.

According to Dentis, Jockey has agreed to maintain and be responsible for the newly installed pump which is situated on the property of Jockey's knitting plant. Jockey will also pay the electric bill on the pump.

Responsibility for the seven mile long, eight inch pipe which runs from Jockey plant to the river and which will be used exclusively for Jockey, is in question.

Carlisle Attorney Skip Watson has drawn up an agreement to lease the line to Jockey, and a tentative lease.

If Jockey agrees to lease the line, then the question of insurance comes up.

Council member Cartmill Lester said, "If they lease it, they Contractus Page 2"

The Nicholas County Adult Literacy is exceeding beyond our greatest expectations," said Don Elder, Superintendent of Nicholas County Schools.

"Because we respect the privacy of our students, we can't quote them directly, but we can tell you something of their progress," he said.

Six students have received diplomas for completing the first session with work completed two three hours in advance.

Any would be reader in the county can receive this same instruction in January and February of this year and have demonstrated attention from a tutor.

If one wants to learn to read, call the board of education, 209-2264, come to the NC Elementary School on Monday night between 7 and 9 p.m.

The program needs more volunteers. If you are willing to invest a little time and make a large difference in the lives of our children, call 209-2264, or Helen Hamilton, 209-2264.

The program badly needs more volunteers, to help with the quarterly reports.

There are many other times when one interested person can help.

## Literacy program called a success

The time and tutors two nights a week also drives into the county to pick up the student and returns her to her home after the session.

When asked how she manages to do this, she said, "My students are excited about learning from a state finance officer, North Carolina's first woman to do it."

Still another tutor said his "a fall back in revenue for the first year, with an area of improvement seen for the finances in the year to come."

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DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS APRIL 5TH

