## GENERAL NEWS

# Local churches unite for traditional youth group meeting, discussion

By Heather Mathes
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

The tradition of youth groups gathering together for fun, games, food, and serious discussion has been reinstated into the curriculum of churches in rural Nicholas County and Carlisle.

On March 13 youth groups from Carlisle Christian, East Union and Blue Licks Christian churches gathered at the host church in Blue Licks for an day-long celebration.

East Union Church minister Steven Kenley, youth sponsor Benita Dampier, Carlisle Christian Church minister Steve Smith, youth sponsor Mary Anne Smith and Blue Licks Christian Church minister Tony Smith and youth sponsor Judy Turpin were adult chaperones present.

Chad, Kim and Shaun Beacraft, Emily Hamilton, Christy Sexton and Sandy Dampier represented East Union Church.

From Carlisle Christian Church, Jennifer Hardin, Becky Stewart, Kim Sumner and Jennie Fryman attended.

The Blue Licks Church Youth Group, with the most in attendance, won the youth rally banner.

Togie Hughes, Greg Watkins, Erin and Collier Mathes, Kami Turpin, Janelle and Alicia Sibert and Joe Hatton represented that group.

Cakes, cookies and other refreshments for the event were provided by the ladies of Blue Licks.

For devotional the groups broke into four teams and discussed the possible banning of sports prayer.

Tony Smith, head minister at Blue Licks, said, "In Los Angeles, specifically the San Fernando Valley, a ban was placed upon pre-game sports prayer.

They must be careful.

"They do not mention the Lord's name or close with 'Amen,' asking, for example, the big Blue-jacket in the sky to give some help," Smith said.

"The four teams present today came to the main conclusion that prayer could not be taken lightly in this way.

"They also felt that to pray, one must pray in Christ's name," added Smith.

"In a youth group magazine where I find topics for us to discuss, I read that many of the coaches say they go ahead and pray anyway.

"If they will continue however, the groups also discussed the possibility of the sports' prayer dispute affecting this part of the country.

"We feel that there is always a chance that this issue could affect us.

"In the past, a commotion was stirred about the 10 commandments being in classrooms and prayer in schools period.

"So I personally think that there is always a good possibility that this could prove to be the next dispute moving into our part of the country," Smith said.

Following the discussion, the youth all played a game of Win, Lose or Draw with East Union taking first place and then closed with prayer given by Tony Smith.

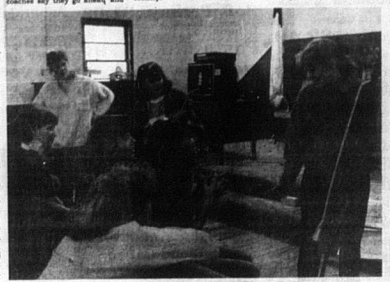
On schedule for the future of the youth of Blue Licks is a trip this summer.

"July 8-15 we will be traveling to Florida with approximately eight kids and seven adult chaperones.

"We will spend three days of that at Disney World and the rest of the time vacationing at different spots in Florida.

"We will continue with fund-raisers and other youth activities to provide financial aid for the trip," concluded Smith.

Plans for the future include, more youth groups gathering together at rotating locations to learn more about each other and share input on issues surrounding them.



Youth from three local churches share fun, games and new ideas at Blue Licks Christian Church while carrying on the tradition of the local youth rally. - Heather Mathes Photo


Eunice and her prize winning hog astonished and dazzled a packed stadium at the county fair when she offered her rendition of the *Battle Hymn of the Republic* while Ferlin, the above said suspicious specimen of pork, shuffled off the buffalo 'trough' right.

NOTICE: If the readers of the Carlisle Mercury do not want story's, such as Eunice's pet pig, to steal the spotlight in the headlines they will please make suggestions as to feature items and other story ideas.

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## SCHOOL

# Nicholas school system integrating more visual arts into curriculum

By Heather Mathes
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

The Nicholas County School system is making a great effort this year to enable students to become culturally minded.

The school system is attempting this by integrating more visual art studies into the students' curriculum and extra-curricula activities.

Nicolette Mallory, art teacher based at Nicholas County Elementary, teaches, on the average, eight classes of art daily.

"I have the primary grades for half an hour and the high school Art I class for 55 minutes," Mallory said.

Mallory, a post-resident of urban Chicago, graduated from the University of Illinois and completed a master's degree from the University of Cincinnati in December.

After six years of teaching experience in Cincinnati, Mallory has concluded that art teachers are making great advances.

"Teachers in the field of art education are making the effort to incorporate art history along with art production so the students get a better idea of where the various techniques come from," Mallory said.

On the junior high end, Mallory has organized an art club to better serve some of Nicholas County's artistically-talented students by giving them additional instruction and opportunity to work, and by taking these interested students to see "real" art at museums, galleries, craft shops, studios and other schools.

Twelve students from grades six, seven and eight will be selected by Mallory based on an above average talent and ability shown in class work, outside work brought in and the student's willingness to cooperate and behave in an acceptable manner.

"Twelve may seem a small number but all three grade's members will be meeting at the same time.

"Also the students will be learning more advanced techniques such as silk screen printing on T-shirts and posters, calligraphy, designing games, button making, tie-dying and environmental work, that cannot be accomplished in regular classroom time," Mallory said.

What are students learning at the present time?

"Right now we are working on a set of posters to advertise the science fair and making designs for art club T-shirts for members.

"Also, we are selling Argus posters that are $1.50 to help with the cost of extra materials and suggested field trips such as trips to art museums in Cincinnati and various other museums at state universities," Mallory said.

The club's general goal is not just to promote visual art in the school but to extend a cultural invitation to the community.

"I think there are talented people in this community that enjoy art and could show kids here how rewarding art can be," Mallory said.

Students in the art club from six grade are Charlie Warner, Kevin Fosback, Renee Walker, Andy and Elizabeth Schanding, Chuck Holder, Shane Witt and David Peck.

Students in the art club from seventh grade are Angela Campbell, Renee Linville, Krista Russell, Emily Hamilton, Andrea Galbraith, Tracey Mattox, Angie Hall and Melinda Gray.

Students involved from eighth grade are Susann Cox, Leeka Christie, Bennie Buckler, Janella Sibert, Melissa Davis, Dawna Bates, Latoya Williams, David Schanding, Susann Hall and Billy Nichols.

The high school's Art I class has had great success so far this year.

"We have several entries in the regional high school competition and pieces at the University of Kentucky and Morehead State University on exhibit," Mallory said,

"At Morehead, student works are being displayed in he Claypool Young Art Gallery Building from March 21-29," Mallory added.

Students participating in the exhibit are Randy Compton with a pastel drawing and ceramic bowl; Susan Sanders, painting and sculpture of a dinosaur; Tweety Adams, painting; James Hill, painting; Hill in collaboration with Cam Griffith with a sculpture of a lion head; Cathy Gallagher, pencil drawing and ceramic sculpture of a bear.

Lucinda Praither with a sculpture of an animal head; Russell Howard, sculpture of a face titled "Deception;" Chris Knapke, plaster sculpture titled "Jester" and ceramic container featuring a caricatured head on top and Chia Bromagin with a wood and paper sculpture.

"At the University of Kentucky some of the same students' work is being exhibited at the Center for Contemporary on Rose Street from March 21 to 29," said Mallory.

What's in the future plans for the art club?

"The high school and eighth grade art club members are traveling to Morehead for high school art day to see exhibitions and demonstrations in each department.

"Also the students are working on reports of specific artists or techniques and learning to describe a work separating their opinion from what they actually see and to interpret works in general," Mallory said.

Ah-a poster on Mallory's class room wall conveys to students, "Art is to society as dreams are to a person."

Students at Nicholas County Elementary enjoy the breakfast program and 'grammar school' before classes begin. - Heather Mathes Photo


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