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W-E-L-C-O-M-E To America



McConnell's representative visits Carlisle

By Josh Shepherd
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

The Bluegrass area field representative for U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell said the senator is the primary instigator in opening an international tobacco trade.

Pat Allen, in a meeting with local citizenry to present their concerns to McConnell explained his position and works on a number of different issues concerning Kentucky and its people.

McConnell's work on the Federal Agriculture committee has focused on opening foreign exports of United States tobacco.

McConnell was the primary instigator in opening a market for Kentucky tobacco in Korea. Since the decline in domestic consumption of tobacco, McConnell believes the future of the tobacco market lies in foreign exports and is working to open trade lines to several countries.

American tobacco products are in high demand in several foreign markets and McConnell is working to open these markets widely, Allen said.

On education, Allen said McConnell is concerned with upgrading Kentucky's educational standards. One way he feels Kentucky can develop a better educational system, Allen said, is by creating better teacher incentive programs.

"Schools need to set a minimum standard of teaching, then define or set an incentive for a better level, a mid-level of sorts, to a high level of excellence and find a way either to reward or benefit teachers who strive to excel beyond the minimum level of acceptable instruction."

Though the state educational system is primarily in the hands of state government, McConnell does not advocate merely throwing money into the school system with no guarantee that conditions will improve. Much of what needs to be done must come from the local level, Allen said.

McConnell supports the need for a breakfast program in schools, Allen said.

"There are many children in the state who cannot be provided with three meals a day in Kentucky, and McConnell recognizes hungry children

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Charles Gates, left, meets with Pat Allen, field representative for Senator Mitch McConnell, in a meeting last week in Carlisle. - Josh Shepherd Photo



Rotary foreign exchange student arrives
✓ See Josh Shepherd's Feature at 6

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A rough beginning . . .

Nicholas County's Raymond Brown, a sophomore running back, looks for some room on the left side as Fleming County defenders attempt to close the gap. Nicholas County fell to the Panthers in the season opener for both teams, 30-6 in Flemingsburg. The Jackets will entertain East Carter in the home opener, Friday at NCHS field. See this week's game story inside. - Josh Shepherd Photo

Dedications highlight celebration

By Pam Hodges
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

BLUE LIGHTS - The Ukiof Marker and the Worthington Center at Blue Licks State Park were dedicated during the Battle of Blue Licks re-enactment celebration over the weekend.

The Ukiof Marker was unveiled because the land was donated by Dr. Edmond and Lida Ukiof to Blue Licks to build the Worthington Center. Along with the land used as the site for the center the gift included 68 acres of land.

The center was named after Representative Pete Worthington, because he initiated the conception of a multi-purpose building and hope and

worked to acquire funds for the project.

Opening remarks were given by park superintendent Sam Devine.

Robertson County Judge

Executive G. Wayne Husker

said at people, jobs, and tourism dollars."

"The Worthington Center will be used to attract thou-

sands at people, jobs, and there is place to rest for meetings and have family re-

Commissioner of Parks un-

Smith said, "Because of

there was a problem, but now

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One, Two, Three, Snip

Blue Licks State Park had the grand opening of the Worthington Center on Saturday afternoon at the park. From left to right Representative Pete Worthington, Lida Worthington, Mary Kay Oakes, Senator Ed Ford, Representative Adrian Arnold, Park Superintendent Sam Devine and other dignitaries cut the ribbon on the opening of the center. Josh Shepherd Photo