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 20
 1990



The Carlisle Mercury/Tim Jones photo

Donnie Sevton of Carlisle cuts tobacco in a field on Lower Jackstown Road in Nicholas County. Most of Kentucky's burley tobacco crop is harvested and the next few weeks should see the end of the back-breaking work cutting and housing always bring.

Nicholas "Right on target"

**By Tim Jones
 The Carlisle Mercury Staff**
CARLISLE—The increase in per pupil expenditure has put Nicholas County "right on target" with most school districts, according to first year superintendent Gilbert.

"If the amount spent per pupil will actually be a little lower than what listed in the Herald-Leader due to taxation," Gilbert said, "but it's a pretty close estimate."

The Kentucky Department of Education is trying to equalize the amount of money spent per child in each district. The education department is doing so because the Education Reform Act mandates equal opportunity for quality education. Gilbert felt spending has equaled out between most districts. "If you look at the list," Gilbert observed, "all the items listed between 13 and 152 spent between \$2100 and \$3500 per student. It should be practically the same in every district and this is the closest I've seen it in my 21 years in education."

Gilbert emphasized the need for smaller school districts, like Nicholas County, to be able to spend on an equal level with other schools in the state. "Our children have to be educated like other children," the superintendent said, "and to have quality education you have to have good facilities, good teachers and good parental support. You have to have money to have those things," he said.

The state, according to both Gilbert and other available sources, insists school districts meet what is called the Tier 1 funding level. This year, for all intents and purposes, Tier 1 funding will amount to around \$3,000 per student. The money for the Tier 1 funding comes from both local and state sources.

Most of the school districts in the state met the Tier 1 financing requirements. "We're at a stage now where we must help ourselves," Gilbert explained, "and in this case the state is helping those who help themselves."

**See Related Articles
 on Pages 2 & 3**

Fox Hunt next weekend

CARLISLE—The Central Kentucky Fox Hunters Association will hold its 57th annual Bench Show and Field Trial at the Clay Wildlife Management Area September 26-29.

The Fox Hunt, as it is more commonly called, has always been held in Carlisle and has drawn national publicity on past occasions.

Registration and entry fees are collected on Wednesday the 26th and a bench show is held Wednesday night. The bench show judges the hounds on appearance and physical conformation.

The actual hunt begins on Thursday at daybreak with the traditional casting of the hounds. There are two classes of hounds, derby hounds and all-age hounds, and both are cast on Thursday.

Friday will see the second casting of both the derby hounds and all-age hounds. It will be the last cast for the derby hounds.

Saturday will be the last cast of all-age hounds and will feature the awards ceremony. A dance will be held at the Carlisle National Guard Armory Saturday night from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m.

The vast majority of money spent per child goes for instructional aids and instructional costs, Gilbert said. Money put into instruction helps children the most, Gilbert said, and also costs the most. "This district pays over \$2 million in teacher's salaries. That is far and away our largest cost," Gilbert noted.

The increase in spending per pupil is absolutely essential if Kentucky is to catch and maintain their place in national and world markets, the superintendent said. "We have to have computers in elementary schools and be able to perform site improvements and instructional improvements," Gilbert observed. "Our kids not only have to compete with kids across the state, but with children across the nation and the world."

The hunt, generally for foxes but the dogs will chase coyotes when the opportunity presents itself, will cover the majority of the 4750 acre reserve. Judges will ride horses in an attempt to keep up with the dogs.

The dogs, Walker hounds for the most part, will be judged in the field trial on speed, endurance and cry.

Officers of the Central Kentucky Foxhunters Association are Les Clinckhamer, President; Jim Mitchell, First Vice-President; Roy Dotson, Second Vice-President and Deana Fawnt, Secretary/Treasurer. All are from Carlisle.



The Carlisle Mercury/Courtesy of Roger Womack
 The Central Kentucky Fox Hunters Association are hosting their annual field trials and bench show September 26-29 at the Clay Wildlife Management Area. The hunt will begin with a traditional casting of the hounds, as pictured above.

County may lose if census is right

**By Tim Jones
 The Carlisle Mercury Staff**
CARLISLE—Nicholas County faces a potential loss of revenue and possible federal grants if the census over-sights of 1990 are not corrected, County Attorney Jack Canby said. The Nicholas County Fiscal Court in its Tuesday session.

Nicholas County, according to preliminary statistics from the Charlotte Regional Census Center in North Carolina, has a population of 6665. This number is down from the approximately 7200 counted in the 1980 census.

The county plans to appeal the census and may even have to conduct their own count. Anyone who was not counted by the U.S. Census Bureau is encouraged to notify the county government.

The size of the Nicholas County-population is important for a variety of reasons. Federal grants and programs of all types are often tied to the population of an area and political representation in the state and federal legislatures are also tied to the number of people in a county, city or locality.

Court hears report on Milltown Bridge

**By Tim Jones
 The Carlisle Mercury Staff**
CARLISLE—The Nicholas County Fiscal Court discussed several measures in its meeting at the Courthouse Tuesday morning.

One of the major issues the Court dealt with were the construction bids to repair the bridge on Milltown Point Road.

On the advice of County Judge-Executive Reese Smoot the court decided not to accept the \$42,000 bid of Owen Concrete in Owingsville. Smoot felt the county would be better served to wait until the winter and take new bids so work could begin in the spring.

One of the drawbacks in the Owen Concrete bid, the only bid the court received in the new round of bidding, was the increase of \$4,000 in price since the last meeting. "I want to know why there is such a jump in price," Magistrate Daryl Stacy asked. "4000 in one month is a lot of money."

The representative from Owen Concrete said the cold weather in the latter part of the year led to the increase in price. The concrete has to be kept warm so it will set up in cold weather, according to Owen Construction.

The court will accept new bids in January for the bridge.

The court also heard from Herb Allison and his daughter Dorcas Ockerman. Allison had allowed the county to keep garbage dumpsters on his land for last several years and a recent rainstorm washed the dumpsters into a creek and destroyed Allison's bridge.

Allison came before the court to ask the court to give him the money to repair the bridge. Allison had received \$200 from the court but the cost of fixing his bridge will be \$2300.

The court, after lengthy discussion, decided to pay Allison \$500 rest per year for the last five years. The payment was made to rebuild the bridge and is made in lieu of the payment the court authorized earlier.

Magistrate Floyd Bassell favored the payment for the bridge. "If it was my bridge I'd want it back," Bassell said, "and these people have helped out the county for a long time and its time for the county to help them."

Jack Canby, Nicholas County Attorney, told the court they were not setting a precedent. A payment is being made for past use to help people pay for a bridge," Canby stated.

The motion carried 3-0 with Judge-Executive Smoot and Magistrate Carl Cohens abstaining.

The court also heard a representative from the Bluegrass Area Development District discuss the initial planning study the county must have done for its solid waste management program.

Nike Morgan, representative Bluegrass ADD told the assembled magistrates the state requires an update of Nicholas County's 1985 solid waste disposal plan. Morgan said counties such as Nicholas must come up with suitable programs which includes recycling and other garbage management efforts.

The present system of landfills is astronomously expensive, according to Morgan, and the monitoring of a landfill after closing it will cost \$300,000 per acre. The state requires the landfill be monitored for three years after closing.

Morgan and Bluegrass ADD hope to get the contract for the solid waste plan from the fiscal court. Morgan said the area development district has developed plans as to the stage of developing plans for several counties in the district, including Bourbon County.

The court, on the advice of Smoot, decided to take bids and make a decision in October.

In Nicholas Marijuana found no arrests made

CARLISLE—Kentucky State Police and other members of the Kentucky Governor's Marijuana Strike Force have detected and eradicated 22 marijuana plants in Nicholas County since the program began January 2, 1990.

There have been no arrests in Nicholas County. Through the first of September there has been a total of 421,289 plants destroyed statewide with 147 people arrested.

In the Bluegrass Area Development District officers have destroyed a total of 6,897 plants with a total of eight arrests.

Plant location and eradication schedules are not released by the Task Force.