

**Nicholas Facts**

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The Community Action Park offers a playground, picnic area, and a shelter house.

The West End Recreational Park includes a horse show rink, a tractor and truck pull track, ball fields, playground equipment and a picnic area.

Lake Garvin, including a 156-acre lake, a golf course, a camping area, boat docks, boating and fishing facilities, is located three miles from Carlisle. Portions of the area have now been annexed into the city.

Clay Wildlife reserve is located 10 miles from Carlisle.

Some of the many special events in Nicholas County include the annual Blackberry Festival, Court Days, Central Kentucky Fox Hunt, Christmas Parade, plus several horse shows, horse pulls and truck and tractor pulls. For the past two years the Lions Club has sponsored a circus.

Forest Retreat was the home of Thomas Metcalf, Kentucky's 10th governor.

The Old Louisville and Nashville Railroad Depot on Market Street in Carlisle has been restored by the Carlisle - Nicholas County Historical Society and includes a

museum with artifacts of old Carlisle and Nicholas County and items surrounding the railroad industry.

Blue Licks Battlefield State Park, which is just across the county line in Robertson County, 13 miles from Carlisle, is a 100-acre park on the site of the last battle of the revolutionary war in Kentucky.

A museum features Indian and pioneer artifacts, an audiovisual program, and prehistoric bones from animals trapped at Blue Licks.

The new Worthington Multi-Purpose Center is available for large gatherings.

The park also features camping, swimming facilities and a large picnic area.

A complete driving tour of Nicholas County is included in another portion of this publication.

Within easy traveling distance of Carlisle are the Daniel Boone National Forest, Cave Run Lake, The Kentucky Horse Park, Waveland State Shrine, Boonesborough State Park, Waveland State Shrine, Kincaid Lake State Park, Greenoak Lake State Park and Carter Caves State Park.

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Frankie Hughes is Mayor of Carlisle with six council members: Doug Garrett, Betty Barton, Tommy Vaughn, Sharon Faulconer, Ronnie Clark and Charles Fay.

Nicholas County is served by a county judge-executive and five magistrates, each serving four year terms. Rose Smoot is Nicholas County Judge Executive. Magistrates include: Juanita Smith, Carl Coburn, Gary Stacy, Earl L. Plank and Floyd Bussell.

Other elected officials in county offices include: Jack Conley, county attorney; Doug Fryman, county clerk; Sally Watkins, circuit clerk; Rose Brady, property valuation administrator and Charles Ring, sheriff.

The City of Carlisle also has a planning and Zoning Commission, which enforces zoning regulations.

Mandatory state codes enforced include: Kentucky plumbing Code, National Electric Code, Kentucky Boiler Regulations and Standards, and the Kentucky Building Code.

The City of Carlisle charges a fee of \$10 annually for an automobile sticker and requires a license from insurance companies.

Nicholas County has a 1 percent occupational and net profits tax.

Rescue service is provided by the Carlisle-Nicholas County Ambulance Service.

Both the City of Carlisle and Nicholas County Government have volunteer fire departments.

Each department has a roster with 10 men. The City Department has two primary trucks, while the county has two trucks, and a rescue van.

The Nicholas County Fire Department also has available the Jaws - of Life for rescue operations.

In addition, Nicholas County Hospital provides helicopter facilities for landing and transporting patients to trauma centers in Kentucky, once primary treatment has been given at Nicholas County Hospital.

Refuse collection and disposal is provided by a private business in joint cooperation with the City of Carlisle.

A refuse collection fee is assessed to the monthly utilities bill from the city.

Nicholas County provides dumpsters to residents and businesses at no charge.

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Religious offerings in Nicholas County include: Assembly of God, Baptist, Bible Missionary, Catholic, Christian Baptist, Church of Christ, Methodist and Presbyterian.

The nearest Synagogues are located in Lexington, 36 miles southwest.

The county is served by two financial institutions, Deposit Bank of Carlisle and First National Bank of Carlisle.

There are more than 25 civic and professional organizations in Nicholas County.

Nicholas County is represented by the 74th Representative District (Adrian Arnold, D-Mc. Sterling) and the 90th Senatorial District (Dr. Ed Ford D-Cynthiana) in the Kentucky General Assembly.

Nicholas County is represented in Washington D.C. by two U.S. Senators: Wendell Ford (D) and Mitch McConnell (R) and the sixth Congressional Representative: Larry Hopkins (R-Lexington).

Nicholas County has two divisions of District Court and Nicholas Circuit Court as means for judicial process. Donald Wells and Wayne McGee are district judges, and

Bob McGinnis is the circuit judge.

Publications and Media

Carlisle and Nicholas County are served by The Carlisle Mercury, as the county's only

paid publication.

The Carlisle Mercury is published each Thursday and is the paper of general distribution for Nicholas County, Kentucky.

The paper was established January 1, 1967, and from 1912 to 1967 was owned and operated by the Fisher Family.

Warren and Kay Fisher sold the paper to Marilyn and Hank Bond in September of 1967. Warren Fisher spent most of his adult life in operation of the publication and brought many state and national awards to the county. In 1991 he was honored for his contributions to the newspaper industry by the Kentucky Press Association.

Since 1966, when the Bonds assumed operation of the paper, The Carlisle Mercury has 157 awards from the Kentucky Weekly Newspaper Association and the Kentucky Press Association.

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**County Driving Tour**

Driving Tour of Nicholas County, Kentucky

This driving tour is designed to give you a flavor of Nicholas County with its gently rolling countryside, rich history and friendly people. Pioneers first entered the county in the 1780s. John Finley and Daniel Home made trips into this area and led the way for others to follow.

The first explorers of the area came into Kentucky by way of the Cumberland Gap or down the Ohio River to Limestone, the present day site of Mayville.

Even before these first early settlers arrived this area was the home to prehistoric animals and people. Giant animals roamed the hills and fed on the salt that was abundant around the Blue Licks area. The platypus, musk ox, ground sloth, buffaloes, bear and possibly the saber tooth tiger are some of these early animals.

Several groups of prehistoric people lived here including the Paleo-Indian, Archaic, Adena and the Fort Ancient people. These various groups arrived in Nicholas County as early as 8,000 B.C. relax and enjoy a step back into a simpler time. A time that contin-

ues to live today in this lovely rural area.

1. Tollgate Historical Marker and Pioneer Cemetery

Immediately upon leaving Millersburg and entering Nicholas County an historical marker and cemetery are on the left side of the highway.

As you enter Nicholas County from Bourbon County you are traveling on one of the oldest roads in Kentucky. U.S. 68 was originally a path made by thousands of buffaloes as they made their way to the salt licks in and around the Blue Lick area.

This buffalo trace also was used by the Indians as they hunted in Kentucky. By 1787 the road had become a thoroughfare carrying lines of wagons from Limestone, now Mayville, Kentucky. The first man to bring

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Commercial radio, with a variety of formats, includes stations from Owingsville, Flemingburg, Cynthiana, Mt. Sterling, Mayville, Paris, Winchester and Lexington.

Several clear channel stations can be heard in Nicholas County.

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