

## Redistricting may remove Arnold from Nicholas

By Job Shepherd  
of The Carbonium Press

Frankfort — According to statements made by State Representative Adria Arnold, state representatives will be redrawing voting districts in late 1991 which could shift Nicholas County's representation from Arnold to 7th district Representative Jim McMaster.

Population shifts since 1980 have seen a growth in numbers in Central Kentucky and a decrease in population in Eastern Kentucky which has caused representative districts to become unbalanced.

According to laws regard-

ing state voting districts each representative district in the state of Kentucky must be made up of approximately 26,851 people. However voting populations change in areas due to a number of different circumstances.

For example, the last time the state has had to redraw representative and senatorial districts was back in 1972, when the coal boom brought an influx of people into the Eastern Kentucky area. This shift in the concentration of population forced the legislature to realign districts in order to maintain its required standards set by the federal

government.

This shift in the voting districts can affect districts within a long range, Arnold said. In fact, the shift in Eastern Kentucky actually changed Nicholas County's affiliation, splitting it from Bourbon County and putting it in the 74th district with Montgomery and Bath counties.

However, in 1992, after the effects of the coal boom have diminished, a dramatic increase in population in the Lexington area has forced an area of the city to petition for a minority representative district.

This addition to the Fayette County area is in accordance to mandates established by the federal government in the Voting Rights Act which prevents the formation of districts that undermine or undercut the voting power of minorities.

However, adding another voting district will offset the balance of population in adjoining districts. Therefore the legislature must designate the districts so that they may retain roughly the same number of people.

What this could mean for Nicholas County, Arnold

said, is losing Arnold as a representative to have these familiar lines of communication.

"I think what should be stressed right now is that the state subcommittee on redistricting is only pooling opinions right now. No plan for redistricting has been drawn up in a bill or has been prepared for voting.

"I have already made it clear to several members of the subcommittee I don't want to lose Nicholas County in my up with a redistricting plan district. When you've represented a county consistently for the last 17 years you develop relations with the people. I know many people in Nicholas and it helps a repre-

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# THE CARLISLE MERCURY

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## City named in suit

By Job Shepherd  
of The Carbonium Press

Carlisle — The City of Carlisle has been added to a growing amended complaint list of defendants in a law suit concerning a year old automobile accident involving a Fleming County and a Nicholas County man.

The lawsuit stems from a November 13, 1990 automobile accident in which a Fleming County man, James Ricky Jones, was injured on U.S. Highway 68. Jones' automobile was struck by Nicholas County resident Mark Byrd when he allegedly suffered a seizure while driving along the highway.

According to the amended complaint filed with the Nicholas County Circuit Clerk last Friday, Jones' attorneys allege that the City of Carlisle is liable for compensatory damages in the case because it is assumed the city either knew or should have known that Byrd was an unsafe, dangerous and unfit driver who had been previously involved in many automobile accidents prior to the

November 13 accident.

Plaintiffs further allege that the city did not carry out its duty to file accurate automobile accident reports concerning Mark Byrd's condition. Attorney's allege that the possible breach of duty on the part of the City of Carlisle may have resulted in the automobile accident which has caused Jones pain and suffering, loss of wages, and will incur medical expenses. The complaint also alleges that Jones' ability to work and earn money has been permanently impaired.

Jones' complaint also takes in suit against Byrd and the Preferred Risk Mutual Insurance Company.

The focus of the compensation demanded of Carlisle, should a judge rule in favor and hold trial and hand down a judgment rule against the city, will include compensatory and punitive damages in an amount in excess of the dollar jurisdictional limits of the court, a jury trial, and coverage of all legal costs incurred during the proceedings.



The Carlisle Mercury/Pam Bowles Photo  
Vince Wells and Rusty Lawrence participated in the Carlisle-Nicholas County Tourism Inc. presentation of a Womanless Wedding Saturday night at the Nicholas County High School Gym. Spectators were heard to say that Lawrence as the wedding birdie was the toast of Nicholas County brides. They were joined in mistaken matrimony by Rev. Steve Smith. Fred Burnsw, the ringbearer was the couple say their vows.

Board policy reversed in regard to middle school participation in high school activities. See page 7 for details

## Fire chiefs give winter tips

By Job Shepherd  
of The Carbonium Press

NICHOLAS COUNTY — During the winter months, the most prevalent type of house fire occurs in the chimney.

According to Nicholas County and Carlisle Fire Chiefs Mark Hughes and Tommy Crawford, chimney fires account for the majority of the winter fire calls they have had to answer in the past few years.

These fires are caused for several reasons. Abandoned bird's nests or other flammable materials could catch and create a minor blaze.

However, most chimney fires are much more serious.

Creosote, or soot, will always build up in a chimney and often it can become as thick as tar, Crawford said. In fact, creosote and tar are very much alike.

If creosote is allowed to build up thickly, it will catch fire and melt in the same way tar can, Hughes said. And, just like tar, creosote burns at a very high temperature.

"The ideal is when days

start getting cold, you should try and find some way to clean out a chimney or wood burning stove pipe before you begin burning wood. And it should be cleaned out twice during the winter because creosote can build up quickly in chimneys," Hughes said.

In the early winter, there is a company which offers chimney sweeping service, Crawford added.

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The Carlisle Mercury/Job Shepherd Photo  
Terry Hughes, 26, of Carlisle, Kentucky was driving down W. Main Street when he noticed the motor in his father's truck began missing and smoke was trailing behind the truck. As he pulled to the curb, smoke was blowing out from beneath the hood. The Carlisle Fire Department was immediately dispatched and arrived seconds later while Doug Garratt of Garratt's Furniture had covered the flames with chemical from a fire extinguisher from the store. The fire department dechoked the motor to cool it and remained for several minutes afterward.

## Hamm trial case continued

By Job Shepherd  
of The Carbonium Press

CYNTHIANA — Defense counsel for Steven D. Hamm of Cynthiana was granted a 60 day continuance in the proceedings last Wednesday afternoon which postpones the trial until January 13, 1992.

by prosecuting attorney Jack Keith of Cynthiana.

"No motion by the defense for suppression of evidence was granted by Circuit Judge Robert McGinnis.

However McGinnis did allow Wolsch's motion for a continuance on the defense's grounds that it has not had ample time to interview the 75 witnesses introduced by the prosecution. Defense also maintained it has not had the opportunity to analyze the lab results entered by the prosecution on a pair of headlights taken from Hamm's wrecked automobile.

In the hearing, Keith explained the prosecution had only recently received the results of the lab examination of

Hamm's headlights.

According to the prosecution, Bill Tobin, a metallurgist with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and an investigator in the accidental explosion on the USS Iowa, examined the headlights and determined that at the time of the accident Hamm's headlights were not illuminated.

Defense claimed it had not been given opportunity to have its own experts examine the headlights themselves.

Among the 75 witnesses presented by the prosecution, approximately four to five specialists will be present to present their findings on the physical aspects of the accident.

Jury selection is scheduled to begin January 13.