

Hamilton farm named to historic farms program

By Josh Shepherd
Staff Writer

CHARLESE — Beneath thin layers of gravel and wood at the roots of its lawn, five generations of the Hamilton family have unconsciously committed a piece of their lives to history in the guise of a picturesque farm.

Helen Hamilton, seated on the front porch of the house, expressed a slight tinge of regret at not having named the farm. But the lack of a name did not diminish the fact that the 56-acre Hamilton Farm has been approved by the Kentucky Historic Farms Program as a legitimate Centennial Farm by virtue of the fact it has remained intact in the same family for well over one hundred years.

Because of the honor bestowed on it, the Hamilton Farm has become yet another vital historical link to Nicholas County's history.

But history may be news to the few who peruse this col-

umn, the farm's historic value was impressed upon her many years before the Farm Program was even a thought.

According to her research into its history, John T. Hamilton, her husband's grandfather, and brother George Hamilton purchased the land in March of 1876 from James A. Mathers.

It is interesting to note how March came to be such a pivotal month for the ownership of the farm. Almost exactly 30 years later, in March of 1906, Ernest Hamilton bought out other family interests in the farm and even extended the boundaries of the land.

He turned most of the land into a successful dairy farm and, according to Mrs. Hamilton, was also a hemp producer during World War II.

As a dairy farm, Ernest was keenly attentive to delivering milk to his customers almost twice a day. But con-

sidering the fact it was truck delivered, the errands were tiresome and apparent lack of uniformity of the first cabin in the room bordering it. Like the original cabin, it too is well made from the same broad wood more attention given to the cut and shape of the logs.

"When John and I first started work on the room, we found, among the logs, a

wooden handled broad axe hidden behind the newer addition. Like a Tudor home in reverse, the old cabins began a new life over a hundred years after their usefulness had become less fashionable.

Generations of the Hamilton family continue to hold to this part of their history as important, among the logs, a



The Caucus Mercury/Josh Shepherd Photo
 Helen Hamilton checks over some of the grounds along the inside wall of her home on the Hamilton Farm in Nicholas County, which has been recognized by the Kentucky Historic Farms Program as a Centennial Farm. Although not immediately apparent, the home she stands in front of is actually two log cabins that have, since the early 1820's, been covered up, hiding the history underneath. Mrs. Hamilton has spent years uncovering its past.

School board.....

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Williams, Marilyn Horn, Marianne Lee, Robert Hopkins, Pat Allison, Julie Berryman, Mike Shoby, Jan Sparks, Darrell Denton, Linda Williams, Marjorie Wilson, Angela Jackson, Pricy Darrell and Sara Booth Curran as substitute teachers for the 1992-93 school year.

Ronald Baker, Richard Gardner, Patsy Ector, Darrell Sexton, Thomas Stone, Roy Clark, John Silver, Bob Lane, and Phillip Coldiron as substitute bus drivers for the 1992-93 school year. Jean Thersberry as Literacy Coordinator, Phyllis Sims, Tammy Wagener, Jane Ellen Grimes, Jo Evelyn Hoover, and Janice Denton as substitute Instruction Assistants for the 1992-93 year.

Virginia Smith and Deborah Hutchinson as Instructional Assistants I.

The board approved to set a special meeting for August 17, 1992 at 6 p.m. as the date on which the annual inspection bidding will be held and a meeting with facility to explain their requests for equipment.

The following requests have been made: Agriculture Department - \$15,800, NCIS Music Department - \$2979.45, to approve the Independence Home Economics Department det. Study Contract at \$4,800 - \$3689, NCIS Business / OF omitted by the Family Resource Youth Service Center - \$7035 / 10,035 / State Price Contracts, and NCIS for students 18 or 19 years old Television Sets - \$10,560 to finish school who have \$12,700 State Price contract. dropped out, not all day, but a following business limited number of students submitted the lowest bids and awarded the job for the 1992-93 school year.

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for food and lunchroom supplies to Lexington Food Institutional Dis. P.L. 100-297.

to approve the application for funds under Chapter II of Service, Institutional Dis.

Prior to 1829, when the farm finally came to rest in one owner's hands, John Byers, for an extended period of time, it may be that I'll never know for certain just how old the farm really is, but just from what I've been able to refurbish in the house, it is amazing," Hamilton said.

The house that sits several yards away from the road, across a plank bridge over a small creek, is in itself a wonder to tour.

For several years, Mrs. Hamilton has been busy stripping away the various mud "improvements" that have hidden the original house for some years.

It's unique double chimney, with its wide creek rack hearth, reveals that the home was a type of add-on log home. Rough hewn logs, one atop the other, are pegged together and are now very close to being as rock solid.

Stepping into the Hamilton dining room, one gets the distinct impression of the rough, almost Spartan life of those people who originally built the home. When as one necessity has become a room of

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Single Lever Kitchen Faucet..... \$39.98	Quik-Safe Fly Trap..... \$4.24
PVC Farm Section Hose..... \$1.25	25lb. Calf Fly Dip..... \$27.50
See Us For Discounts On:	Nylon Horse Hair..... \$6.95
Mirafast Energy Free Livestock Vaccines - 2-bolt, 1-bolt, 1/2-bolt..... \$14.95	Shotsman Dog Food..... \$9.50-20 lbs.
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12'x10' Roll Fencing..... \$15.95	12x12 Poly-Meal Feed Pkg..... \$19.95
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Site based makes reluctant special education decision

By Josh Shepherd
Staff Writer

CHARLESE — The lack of space to accommodate one needed special education class forced the Nicholas County High School Site Based Management Council to make a decision with which none were happy.

"They voted to place one special education classroom in the teacher's lounge at the far wall of the High School cafeteria."

Principal and chairman of the site based council, Greg Reid, presented the council with the problem at their regular July meeting last Wednesday night.

Two special education classes taught by two teachers are supposed to be taught separately from each other, Reid explained. However, due to space restrictions last school year, he said, the council had attempted to combine the classes in one room, but the learning environment during the year was, at best, poor, he said.

Not a good situation and it has proven to slow the progress of our special education students," Reid said.

However, he said, efforts to resolve the cramped space situation have left him with two choices: Reid's office or the teacher's lounge.

A suggestion to build a divider in a single classroom was, according to Reid, impossible. A wooden wall, due to fire safety regulations, is illegal, he said, and other types of construction could be costly.

Another suggestion to empty the child development room in the home economics department on the second floor was considered, but abandoned because council agreed it would be counter productive to the academic standards of the high school to create a program in order to serve another.

Reid said space problems have been a continuous thorn

to resolve with in the past, but has been worsened by the massive curriculum changes demanded by Kentucky education reform.

So far, we have tried to use the old weight room and the stage as classrooms, neither of which are any good for the students. The weight room is loud and has no ventilation whatsoever. And the stage is nearly as bad," he said.

The teacher's lounge, however, was not the best alternative but it at least offered more room than his office, he said. Even there, students would be subjected to the noise generated in the cafeteria everyday, very little light, and cramped quarters. But council could find no other alternative.

Council members all agreed that the true solution was a new building, but that suggestion was beyond their power to initiate.

Reluctantly, council came to a consensus to use the teacher's lounge as a special education classroom.

Earlier council agreed to make the following recommendations for combating problems: Jim Simons, Assistant Freshman Basketball Coach; Al Crout, Assistant Academic Team Coach.

However, site based council has two positions left for which they have no coach or sponsor.

One empty slot is for a cheerleading sponsor in basketball and a coach of the Girls' varsity softball team. According to Reid, there have



The Caucus Mercury/Josh Shepherd Photo
 Chris Brumagen is the proud owner and manager of Carlisle's newest business, the rapidly growing chain of "Hawaiian Ice" Brumagen, whose first business outing has 50 year, by his estimation, been a terrific success, receiving a good deal of moral support from his father. They different flavors and combinations of each, making a total of 65 varieties, is not an ice. It is, Brumagen said, better than that.

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been no applicants for cheerleading sponsor.

For Softball, however, council had two to consider, Penny Breitz and Al Crout. Crout removed himself from the meeting during discussion of the candidates for the position.

Other business:

- Council reached a consensus on high school budget proposals for the upcoming school year.
- Tabbed a request from Vice-Principal Ron Baker to begin a job fund pending cost reports.

City council.....

Continued from Page 1

Street for Carlisle Court Days and Car Show.

• Agreed to sell city stickers, but collectors can refuse to pick it up.

• Council amended the budget to pay a \$500 penalty to the Kentucky Division of Water for each of five years in which the city had not started construction of a new spillway.

• Council agreed to install a stop sign at the corner of Second and Symare streets.

• Agreed to build Main

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