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Board to reconsider one to one exchange

By Pam Bowles
Of the Carlsle Mercury Staff

CARLSLE — The Nicholas County Board of Education was confronted with the possibility of discontinuing the one for one exchange of students from one school system to another Monday night at the school board meeting.

The policy was designed because of the large amount of students wanting to attend other school systems.

The policy limited the amount of students leaving Nicholas without another student replacing them from the corresponding school. The end result kept Nicholas County from losing ADA money from the state.

Nicholas County was losing a great deal of money from the state because of the exit of students.

The times have changed and the amount of students wanting to leave has been cut.

The Nicholas County High School Site Based Management had submitted a letter in regard to the current attendance policy to ask the board to discontinue the current policy.

The problem the council is facing is teachers teaching in this system and living in other counties cannot bring their children here, unless there is a child to exchange with, pay the tuition, move into the county, or give up their guardianship.

Carla Allison and her husband gave up guardianship of their daughter so she could attend Nicholas County Schools.

Allison is a member of the faculty at Nicholas County Schools and lives in Mt. Olivet.

Allison wanted her children to have a better education than she felt they were getting in the Robertson County School System.

Robertson County will not let the state money go with the students, so parents have to make a decision on what to do about their children's education.

Allison said, "The Robertson County's Director of Pupil Personnel reports to the state department each time her child starts in school."

She said this was to make sure she was living in Nicholas County and not in Mt. Olivet.

Allison said her daughter spends about 95 percent of her time in Nicholas County.

Nicholas County Superintendent Colbert Gilbert ask the board to consider discontinuing the current policy.

Gilbert said the school system is a business and is very competitive. Families have to make difficult decisions to break up their families to have their children attend Nicholas County Schools.

Gilbert told the board about a bill in the legislature which would eliminate school districts from keeping ADD money if a student wants to transfer. The bill would let students transfer where ever they desire and the state money would go with the student.

"The decision will be made by April 16 in the legislature," Director of Pupil Personnel, Rob Lane said, there were seven students who desired to attend Nicholas County without the ability to have a one for one exchange.

All the students were able to attend Nicholas except for one, either the students moved or changed their guardianship.

The board said it would be discrimination if they allowed teachers to bring their children here with the current policy in force.

"They felt this could not be added to the policy. They would either keep it as is or discontinue the policy," Louise Zachary, Nicholas County Board Chairperson, ask the newer board members if they needed a little time to think over the discussion.

She said, she has always felt it is better to think over a discussion like this over night before making it.

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The Nicholas County Ambulance Service responded to an automobile accident on HWY 32, Monday at approximately 6 p.m. A two vehicle accident involving a 1987 Plymouth, which ran off the road and hit a parked car, a 1979 AMC, and flipped upside down. Ben Sharp, driving the Plymouth, was transported to the Nicholas County Hospital by the Nicholas County Ambulance Service according the Carlisle Police Department.

Council balks at trash pickup costs

By Josh Shephard
Of the Carlsle Mercury Staff

CARLSLE — Facing a bid that will cost twice the amount the city paid two years ago for city garbage collection, the Carlisle City Council again tabled a decision to accept Brownie Holler's A-1 Sanitation bid, the only sanitation company to make the city an offer, since council opened bids in early January.

The question before the council was put simply enough by Carlisle Mayor Frankie Hughes, "Do we raise trash pickup for the city?"

Brownie Holler, owner of A-1 Sanitation, has operated under contract with the city for the past two years, at a cost of approximately \$32,000 a year.

But then, the situation was different.

In 1990, Kentucky had not passed some of the most stringent laws regarding the maintenance of landfills, which ultimately forced the closing of the hundreds of local landfills including the one in Nicholas County. The state also didn't require all

state counties to make a universal system of collection available to all its residents.

Since the start of 1992, the city to transport and dump garbage in privately owned regional landfills have increased dramatically. Where Holler once paid one dollar for every cubic yard of garbage he delivered one mile out to the Nicholas County landfill, he now pays \$5 a cubic yard to a landfill 35-40 miles away in Mason County.

He also delivers recyclable material, primarily cardboard, to a collection station in Lexington.

The increase in his costs, and his immediate need to purchase another large garbage truck to handle the anticipated increase in business in Nicholas County, have, according to Holler, forced him to raise his bid to approximately \$93,000 a year.

But despite Holler's explanation, Council members, Monday night, were still hesitant about approving the bid.

Councilman Cartmell Lester expressed their frustration best.

"If we wanted to have had

the bare minimum cost for garbage pickup, we should have bought ourselves a garbage truck years ago, then paid the minimum on employees and truck maintenance. You can't fault a business for wanting to bid out their services for a profit," Lester said.

However, according to figures presented by council members, Holler would have 729 total cash customers. The figures were broken down to 674 residences, charged the lowest price for collection, 63 commercial businesses, and 22 miscellaneous sources, such as Jockey International.

Following a short presentation of Holler's operation by Lester, Council agreed to hold a special session concerned only with the trash collection situation and the options that lay before them.

Increased costs also brought one Carlisle resident to complain about the sale of city stickers in Carlisle.

Joe Bach, a recently settled member of the Carlisle community, appeared before council to complain about the sale of city stickers.

He felt the cost \$15 out of the city sticker excessive and the requirement and unnecessary request by council.

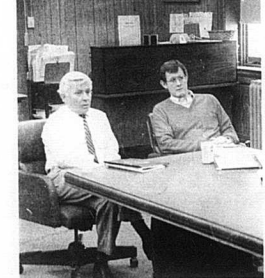
Bach said he would sooner support a 1.0 percent occupational tax to generate the income the city receives by the sale of stickers.

But Bach's complaint revolved beyond merely the sale of city stickers. He felt citizens in Carlisle were being unfairly taxed and ordinance restrictions a burden too onerous for Carlisle residents to bear.

According to Bach, the original intent of the city stickers was a voluntary act to aid in the purchase of a city fire truck back in the late 1970s. Since the truck was purchased, the city decided to continue the sale of such stickers as an added generator of city revenue.

Council members responded that the sale of stickers are not received much serious complaint, other than reports that not all city residents were purchasing the stickers as required.

But, more importantly, Council also didn't require all



The Carlsle Mercury's Josh Shephard (left) and Senator Ed Ford and Representative Jim LeMaster (right) spoke to the citizens of Nicholas County on Saturday morning on the issues facing them in the 1992 legislative session.

LeMaster and Ford confront issues

By Josh Shephard
Of the Carlsle Mercury Staff

CARLSLE — Being a leader in education reform is starting to pay off for Kentucky, State Representative Jim LeMaster and Senator Ed Ford told Nicholas County citizens in a town meeting last Saturday.

LeMaster and Ford took about three hours away from complete.

"I think the key word right now is 'patients,'" Ford said. "I know 68 improvements have been a part of the six year plan for as long as I've been in the House and Senate during the 1992 session."

Many Nicholas Countians were on hand with questions and comments concerning the legislative session.

Rumors concerning the approval of a budget for road improvements to U.S. 68 remain unconfirmed, Ford said. The list of highways for the 1992 six-year road plan was completed on Saturday and neither LeMaster or Ford could confirm whether or not highway 68 was included on the budget.

But, according to reports from Fleming County Transportation and Highways supervisor Jack Keith, surveys and plans for two possible right-of-ways through Elizaville are very nearly complete.

Following a discussion of 68 were questions concerning the widening of Paris Pike.

LeMaster and Ford voiced their support of the road improvements, but cited difficulties the state still must overcome before work can even begin on the Northeastern Kentucky's primary connection to Lexington.

"Paris Pike is not simply a Bourbon County issue. What those who wish to preserve Paris Pike must consider is that Paris Pike is used frequently by Bach, Nicholas, Robertson, Fleming, and even Mason County people who make their living working in Lexington," LeMaster said.

But just like 68, no progress on Paris Pike improvements has been made because of a tangle of disputes between factions wanting to preserve the historic integrity of the roadway.

It is possible, LeMaster said, to construct a four lane highway without disrupting the historic nature of that section of U.S. 27.

"There is perhaps a three mile stretch which could be endangered by a broad four lane construction. I would leap at any possibility to preserve the historic significance and beauty of Paris Pike and at the same time provide a safer and more convenient passage in and out of Lexington," LeMaster said.

Development of these main highways would also serve to improve industrial prospects for both Bourbon and Nicholas Counties.

According to LeMaster, there should be bright prospects ahead for Kentucky's employment future.

Several factors have come together to improve Kentucky's business climate, chief among them being the

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