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In the Nicholas County school system

## Teen pregnancy is priority for Family Resource Center

By Rebecca Mullins  
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE - High school is supposed to be filled with first dates, cruising around town with friends and going to ball games.

Some high school graduates remember the most difficult times in high school involving what to wear to school and how to get that cute individual in history class to notice you.

For six girls at Nicholas County High School, however, life holds much more responsibility. Because they are pregnant, they have not only themselves to think about, but another life as well.

The ages of the pregnant girls range anywhere between 13 to 17, according to Family Resource Center director Charles Canupp.

A 1991 survey taken on teen pregnancy available from the state Department of Maternal and Child Health showed that 12 babies were born to teens age 19 and under that year in Nicholas County.

Seven of those babies, the department reported, were born to 18-year-old mothers while four of the babies were born to 16-year-old mothers.



Nicholas County ranked 93 out of 120 in teen births for that year, according to department official LeAnn Gabbard.

The main cause of teen pregnancy in Nicholas County and in other counties, she said, is a lack of education about what can happen when a female has sex without birth control while having sex.

"These girls live in a fantasy world part of the time," Gabbard said. "They think 'If I get pregnant, he'll stay with me.' That's usually not true."

In fact, out of those 12 births reported in 1991, only eight fathers were reported on the birth certificates, which Gabbard said means that most boyfriends leave their girlfriends when they find out they are pregnant.

Teen pregnancy has also become quite costly to Kentucky taxpayers, Gabbard said, because many teens are raising their children with their parents instead of choosing adoption or abortion.

"Adoption has drastically decreased, whether Grandmas or Mom and Dad take care of infants or not," Gabbard said.

She provided a fact sheet on teen births in the state in 1990 which reveals Kentucky spent \$27, 941,000 in food stamps, Medicaid and Assistance for Families with Dependent Children.

Once the child is born, however, it deserves the best care money can provide. So Barbara Hopkins at the Nicholas County Family Resource Center is helping student mothers to learn how to raise a child.

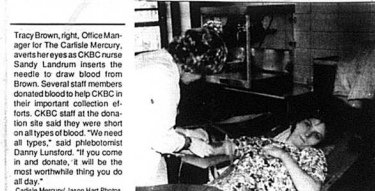
Her class is called the "Teen Parent Support Group."

Hopkins called the support group a "family-in-training" operation where the young mother learn how to support each other and themselves.

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Associate Editor of The Carlisle Mercury Rebecca Mullins, left, and Mercury Sales Manager Carol McConnell donate blood through Central Kentucky Blood Center at Nicholas County High School Tuesday. Blood collected by CKBC is supplied to hospitals around the area for various life-saving and elective surgical procedures that require transfusions.



Tracy Brown, right, Office Manager for The Carlisle Mercury, inserts her eyes as CKBC nurse Nancy Landrum inserts the needle to draw blood from Brown. Several staff members donated blood to help CKBC in their important collection efforts. CKBC staff at the occasion she said they were short on types of blood "We need all types," said phlebotomist Danny Lundford. "If you come in and donate, it will be the most worthwhile thing you do all day."

## Last week's snow storm was one of worst in recent history

By Rebecca Mullins  
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE - If we think the snow storm we had last Thursday was harsh, imagine surviving the storm of Thursday, November 20, 1950.

On that night, inches and inches of snow fell, forming snow drifts up to 18-foot high.

The storm almost feroed Mrs. Beauge Bouda to deliver on a sled rather than in the Nicholas County Hospital, according to a column by Emily Ashby.

What the paper called "the worst snow storm to hit locally since 1857" delayed Piper's Dairy's milk deliveries for once in 28 years and kept many Carlisle visitors from returning home for work.

In 1985, another heavy dose of snowflakes fell on Nicholas County, as recent TV weather reporters have reminded.

Now, once again, after several years of green winters and balmy Februaries, Nicholas County had a cold, white winter's day last week.

The six to eight inches of snow which fell caused about a close two days, forced the cancellation of basketball games and the Annual Chamber of Commerce Membership Meeting and Dinner.

The Nicholas County Football team was also postponed another week because of the storm.

Driving around Carlisle last Friday, one might have

been amazed at the 10 to 12-foot high mountains of snow posted about town. Two white slopes measuring approximately 12 feet were formed with snow gloves at IGA and Deposit Bank's Westside Branch.

Until early morning Friday, the main roads were treacherous in the county. Side roads remained dangerous throughout the day, but U.S. 60, Ky. 22 and Ky. 26 were cleared by the state road department by early morning, according to Wavel Fryman of the state road department.

Fryman said 11 to 12 people put in 16 hours clearing 126

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## McConnell and Coldiron named top cheerleaders in region

By Rebecca Mullins  
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

"Not watch- don't dare, when we're out on the floor, we own 'em by a mile."

Nicholas is back, we're here again; we'll dominate our region. Region 10."

Cheer of Nicholas County Blue-jackets cheerleaders in Region 10 competition.

CARLISLE - Susanna McConnell and Susan Coldiron saw years of cheerleading and exhaustive gymnastics pay off last Saturday in Clark County.

The two Nicholas County Blue-jackets cheerleaders were named to the All-Region 10 competition at Clark County February 27.

The squad placed fifth among 14 other squads, in-

cluding those from Harrison, Bourbon and Pendleton counties.

It was the first time in seven years the squad has placed within the top five in the region, McConnell said.

McConnell, who has been a cheerleader since she was in the third grade, said she was nervous during the competition.

Less agile individuals would understand why. Such difficult cheerleading moves such as the "standing lark" in which a cheerleader does a back flip without using his or her hands, was required of the girls at the meet.

The "round-off back tuck," which McConnell described as a backward flip during

which you "twist in the air, was also part of judging at the competition.

However, McConnell said the rewards she gets from cheerleading are well worth the dangers.

"You have to love cheerleading (to be in it)," McConnell said. "It's great to be on the floor."

Susan Coldiron, who has been a cheerleader for nine years, felt about the same way.

"I like it," Coldiron said about cheerleading. "It's something every girl, little girl should try. I've gained a lot of recognition and pride from Nicholas County being a cheerleader."



A good week for "snow artists".... This snowman was spotted on Myers Road at the home of Pat and Jimmy Flawings, and the snow horse was built by Chad Applegate, 11, at Moorfield Road. Both were built with the results of last week's record snowfall.

## Bowles makes art a business

By Rebecca Mullins  
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE - Wedges of wood become watermelon and right saw blades evolve into pastoral scenes in Carolyn Bowles' studio.

Working with wood by transforming it into works of art is just one of the things Bowles does in her spare time at her and Bobby Bowles' grocery on Myers Road.

She also paints clothing. Some of her most beloved designs are portraits of horses and elder North American Indians she painted on shirts and vests.

When she's not bookkeeping, stacking shelves or cleaning Bowles' Grocery or whatever else there is to do, she said, Bowles is painting tin cans and fashioning wood slugs into Santas.

"I really enjoy my craft work," Bowles said. "When I get started, I don't want to stop."

She even cuts her own wood for her crafts at a sawmill. Some days, one will find her hanging over a drill forming her favorite woods of oak, pine and poplar into shapes she patterned out in her workshop.

"Drills, planes, the sander, I do 'em all. To take an ordinary board and do something out of it is really special," Bowles said.

One of her most impressive works that has been displayed is a rack featuring two white, wide-eyed water fowl rubbing heads over a series of approximately 10 pegs. Clothing, toys and almost anything else can be hung on the rack of which Bowles is so proud.

She also creates birdbuses topped with dried and artificial foliage. They look real down to the tiny eggs placed on straw-like material in the house's entry holes.

The birdbuses are painted in a variety of shades, and are completed with the perching of an artificial bird.

Her paintings are saw displayed in the workshop and her living room required redolent care.

She separated the face of one of the saws into fourths with a large tree and painted her view of fall, winter, spring and summer on each fourth of the metal surface.

Bowles combined three of the four elements of the unit in the seasonal depiction.

Water was shown in the wells and mills of the stormy, airy gray skies of summer and spring. Richly green earth shown through in those seasons as well, as kelly-green grass covered county pastures.

Bowles is acknowledged as an artist in Carlisle and beyond. Her sister, Margie Zantler, creates and sells Kentucky-style crafts and is in Fountain Valley, California where she resides. Zantler has spread word about Bowles out west.

"She does pretty much the same I do. She does a lot of flower arrangements in sprinkling cans and old coffee pots," Bowles said. "You can say anything and make it an arrangement beautiful."

Bowles' work is also marketed and sold in California through her sister.

She is currently marketing her wares at an annual Christmas bazaar in California and in a annual Kentucky crafts bazaar at Zantler's home.

"We have a sale in her house for four days. It was also

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