

A Salute To Nicholas County's 1994-95 Basketball Bluejackets & Lady Jackets Inside

Submit your recipes today for Recipe & Songbook
The Carlisle Mercury will again present our Holiday Recipe & Song Book in time for your holiday enjoyment. If you have a favorite recipe, send it to us at P.O. Box 272, Carlisle, Kentucky 40311-0272.

Coats needed for drive
A drive is under way to supply those in need with winter coats. Organized by the Nicholas County Family Youth Resource Center, the Coat Closet Project is accepting coats of all sizes. Carlisle Cleaners will clean the coats. For more information about the drive, call Charles Canupp at 289-3702.

**Thursday & Friday: Colder, with lows in the freezing range.
Saturday & Sunday: Continued dry, cold, with highs reaching only the forty degree range.**

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THE CARLISLE MERCURY

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It's confirmed Nicholas ASCS office is on closure list

By Leigh Stone
OF THE CARLISLE MERCURY STAFF
CARLISLE - The Nicholas County ASCS Office is on the closure list.
He did announce that Nicholas County was on the list, said Jim Furnish, executive director of the Nicholas County ASCS Tuesday evening.
A district director of the USDA Office in Lexington contacted Furnish Tuesday, the same day U. S. Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy made the official announcement at 3:30 p.m.
"We understand that 20 offices were on the closure list in Kentucky. There were 1,100 nationally. He didn't reveal what the other counties on the list were," Furnish said.
A committee to keep the local

ASCs Office open has endeavored to find reasons why the office should be kept open and to communicate that information to agriculture officials in Washington. Congressman Scotty Beetsler's office has been one government liaison for the committee to keep information up-to-date.
Both Nicholas County residents and social organizations and government offices have written letters to Washington stressing that local farmers would be hurt by the closure.
"It's still not over," Furnish contended. "There will likely be a period so Nicholas County people can make their feelings known." Hopsy (Hampton) was.
Continued on Page 10



The Annual Nicholas County Lion's Club Snow Queen Parade held Saturday, Dec. 3 on Main Street featured bands and floats and high organizations such as Page 5.



The Carlisle Mercury Jason Hart Photo
Representative Jim Lovell presents Danna Livingsood with a bouquet and a tiana, signifying the beginning of Livingsood's reign as Snow Queen. Livingsood was crowned after Saturday night's parade in Carlisle.



The Carlisle Mercury Jason Hart Photo
Denny Nunnelly crowns Mandy Adkinson Snow Princess after the Annual Christmas Parade Saturday Night.



The Carlisle Mercury Jason Hart Photo
Carlisle Volunteer Firefighters Bobby Kelley and Gary Barry fight the flames that heavily damaged an auto repair shop Wednesday. The shop, owned by Browne Hollar, is located on Spring Street in Carlisle.

Tobacco agreement should please Nicholas farmers

By Leigh Stone
OF THE CARLISLE MERCURY STAFF
CARLISLE - Nicholas County farmers may have a "wait and see" stance about recent negotiations to reduce the tobacco quotas.
According to a news release by Randy Greene for the Burley Tobacco Growers Co-operative Association, Lexington, negotiations that ended Dec. 1 between America tobacco manufacturers and tobacco growers promise to stabilize the U. S. industry.

"We hope," interjected Nicholas County ASCS Executive Director Jim Furnish Tuesday morning. "That's basically the impression of it now. I headed some tobacco over the weekend and the people I talked to felt good about it. The hope is that it will stabilize the quota for the next five to seven years."
However, Furnish indicated some hesitation about the agreement. "The bottom line is that it is only an agreement. It is not binding. It's not law. And there was some verbiage in the

document. I understand that the advantageous to (tobacco) companies, so it looks like the ball is with the companies. And they got the best end of it. If it creates stabilization, we'll be happy," Furnish said.
Greene's statement said the agreement would also reduce surplus leaf stocks held by farmer-owned co-operatives, and would sustain current levels of U. S. tobacco farming.

"At least that's how leaders of the Burley Tobacco Growers Co-operative Association view the several weeks of closed door negotiations held in Washington, D. C.," Greene reported.
Under the agreement terms, five U. S. cigarette makers - Phillip Morris, R. J. Reynolds, Brown and Williamson, Lorillard and American, will participate in the buyout of surplus stocks now held by one North Carolina floor-cured co-operative and the pair of burley co-ops in Knoxville, Tenn., and Lexington, Ky.
The agreement includes provisions
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Nicholas County receives state school-to-work grant

By Leigh Stone
OF THE CARLISLE MERCURY STAFF
CARLISLE - Community leaders have joined Nicholas County School staff to implement a school-to-work grant.
The grant awards were announced by Kentucky Governor Ebereton Jones in late November.
Nicholas County shares the \$10,000 grant with seven other areas. The funds will be used to implement education programs

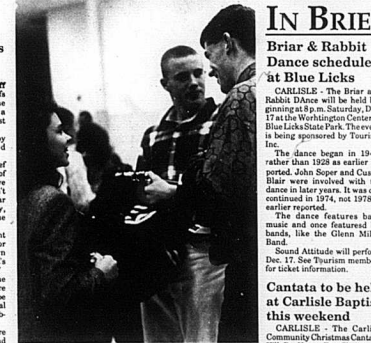
to inform students of the needs of business and industry.
Charles Canupp, director of the Nicholas County Family Youth Resource Center, helped write the local grant application. He will be assisted in the program by local community businessman Carty Lester, co-owner of Lester's Family Store, and Mike Hillock of First National Bank of Carlisle.
"The grant will be used to identify the school-to-work

transition needs. We want to insure when they leave school, high school students, vocational students, and institutions of higher learning, your two and four year colleges, that they have the skills employers need on the job. The program will work to make sure students will both read and write English and have a basic command of math. Those with higher degrees will have more specific knowledge about what employers want on the job,"

Canupp explained.
Gov. Jones presented 22 of the Kentucky local labor market school-to-work grants. They totaled more than \$2.8 million.
"School-to-work programs are a joint venture among business, labor, education and government designed to help students make a successful transition from school to the job," the Governor stated in a news release.
Canupp helped write the local
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Fires fewer in number so far this year, say chiefs

By Leigh Stone
OF THE CARLISLE MERCURY STAFF
CARLISLE - Local fire chiefs say the number of fires in the city and county this year is a little lower than this time last year.
Fewer fires are caused by faulty chimneys and wood stoves.
Nicholas County Fire Chief Mark Hughes said, "None of these recently have been stove related. Most of them, we don't know the causes but most appear to be electrical. Generally, there's more (fire calls) this time of the year."
Carlisle City Fire Department Chief James Berry said, "For the year as a whole, we are down on the number of fire calls. It's just recently went up a little."
Berry said the causes of the fires this year in the city were varied. Some were said to be caused by cigarettes, but several were caused by electrical problems.
"So far, people seem to be more careful about their chimneys and stoves. There's usually two to three chimney fires by this time of year, but so far, we've had an extremely quiet year," Berry said.



The Carlisle Mercury Leigh Stone Photo
NCHS Cheerleader Hannah Hunt, left, talks with Justin Massey, center, and Colin Brodnick, after the football banquet. Justin received a jacket.

IN BRIEF

Briar & Rabbit Dance scheduled at Blue Licks

CARLISLE - The Briar and Rabbit Dance will be held beginning at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17 at the Worthington Center at Blue Licks State Park. The event is being sponsored by Tourism Inc.
The dance began in 1948, rather than 1928 as earlier reported. John Soper and Custar Blair were involved with the dance in later years. It was discontinued in 1974, not 1978 as earlier reported.
The dance features band music and once featured big bands, like the Glenn Miller Band.
Sound Attitude will perform Dec. 17. See Tourism materials for ticket information.

Cantata to be held at Carlisle Baptist this weekend

CARLISLE - The Carlisle Community Christmas Cantata, "I'll Be Home For Christmas" will be presented at Carlisle Baptist Church Saturday, Dec. 10, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 11 at 5 p.m.