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**USDA implements plan to control contamination**  
Swine, beef and sheep farmers should be aware the USDA has begun a program to eliminate microbial pathogens in the food supply. It is beginning to carry out on-farm investigations in an effort to reduce contamination, particularly E. coli, at the source. In addition, the USDA plans to test "isolation" cows at the slaughterhouse.

**KY charts rise of poverty in families**  
Data from the 1993 Kentucky Kids Count Report suggests that 31 percent rise in single-parent families in the last decade is one of the reasons why the proportion of Kentucky's children living in poverty has risen to 25 percent. Fully 56 percent of the state's poor families with children fall in the single parent category.

**Filing deadline set**  
January 25 is the filing deadline for Nicholas County residents who plan to run for elective office in the 1994 primary election. Elections will be held for the US Congress, all 100 seats in the Ky House of Representatives, the 10 Ky Senate seats in even numbered congressional districts and two seats on the Nicholas County School Board. Candidates for local offices will file with the Nicholas County Clerk.

**Area Weather Forecast**  
**Thursday & Friday** - Highs in the lower thirties, lows in the upper twenties. Mostly cloudy, dry and cool.  
**Saturday & Sunday** - Mostly cloudy, chance of showers, heavier snow overnight. Lows in the twenties, overnight lows dip to 13 degrees.

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**In Brief**

**NCWD advises residents to boil**  
Nicholas County Water District Board Chairman Garvey Currier said Tuesday that residents of Concord Road should boil any water they use. "We are repairing a break in the line," said Currier. "This only affects Concord Road, and it will only be for the next 72 hours."  
For more information, residents may call the water district offices at 289-3157.

**Closing in honor of a national hero**  
The Nicholas County School system and the Nicholas County Courthouse will be closed in honor of the nationally observed holiday, the birthday of slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Illusion and Magic Show comes to Nicholas County**  
The Nicholas County Lions Club will sponsor Roger & Lee Ann's Grand Illusion Magic Show at the Nicholas County High School on Friday, February 4 at 7:30 p.m. Many special effects on stage include indoor fireworks, strobe lights, computerized lighting and also smoke and fog.

Roger and Lee Ann Depard of Cincinnati have been professional magicians for over 23 years, they are members of the International Brotherhood of Magicians and members of the Society of American Magicians. Grand Illusion, the largest traveling show in Kentucky, Tennessee and Ohio, have appeared with Ed McMahon, the Grand Open, WGN television and many other local radio and TV shows.

Proceeds from the illusion and magic show will benefit eye glasses for needy children in Nicholas County.

Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door for children and adults. For more ticket information contact any Nicholas County Lions Club member.

**Tobacco allotments available for farmers**  
Nicholas County tobacco producers who own land and do not have a tobacco quota may be eligible for a new farm tobacco allotment. However, certain requirements must be met. Producers must have knowledge and experience of growing tobacco. Fifty percent of his or her income must be from the sale of farm products. Producers must have land and equipment to grow tobacco.

Any questions should be directed to the Nicholas County ASCS Office on Morefield Road in Carlisle, 289-2234.

**NCHS Bluejackets schedule previewed**  
The Nicholas County High Bluejackets square off against Augusta on Friday evening with the home court advantage, 6 p.m. The team travels to Paris on Saturday to play on the Greyhounds home court, also 6 p.m. The Lady Jackets face down Casey County on Saturday as they resume regular season play after game cancellations due to inclement weather, last week. Saturday's game will be played at 5 and 6:30 p.m. The team travels to Bourbon County on Monday to face the Lady Cobblers, 6 p.m.



Many residents of Nicholas County gathered in the fiscal courtroom of the Nicholas County Courthouse in order to gain information on health care reform from Congressman Baesler last Wednesday evening. However, after a crowd gathered, the group moved to the upper courtroom. Baesler handled out standard information but also conducted a question and answer session.

**Health care reform questions answered**

By Heather Mathes-Harris  
OF THE CARLISLE MERCURY STAFF  
**CARLISLE** - Who are you going to pay for? How much more are you going to pay? What happens to our children? Can we still go to our own doctor? Are we going to be any cop on what doctors and hospitals are going to charge? These were just some of the questions the over 42 Nicholas County residents had for Congressman Scotty Baesler when he held a town meeting on national health care reform on Wednesday, January 5, at the Nicholas County Courthouse.

Before the meeting began, Baesler gave each person in attendance an outline of the five different legislative proposals which will be discussed when Congress reconvenes later this month. The five different proposals were classified as: A. The American Health Security Act of 1993 for the single payer plan; B. President Clinton Health Care Reform Plan; C. The Senate's plan; D. The Cooper Plan, as outlined by the American Medical Association; E. and the Affordable Health Care New Act of 1993.

"In simple terms it comes down to this, when you've got a flat on a pickup do you want to fix it, or do you want to buy an entire new vehicle? Most people, or 80 percent of the people we have surveyed have said, just leave it alone, because they don't know what it is going to cost," Baesler said. "They're saying, I've got a little something now and I don't want to pay more for less. Many are saying, why does the government think they can do a better job than the private sector - their track record is not that good."

Baesler makes the recommendation that any changes or improvements be taken a small step at a time. "When you change jobs you don't quit your old job until you have the new one," Baesler said.

**Dispatch services extended**  
and would run short in the landfill and jail fund. "The \$24,000 we usually go toward the dispatching fund is a little steep, and I guess you tend to think that more when you're out of money and your husband says, 'What the hell do you work for?'"  
Several Carlisle City Council members, Mayor Ronnie Clark and City Clerk Mary Tapp attended the meeting. Clark gave all magistrates and Judge Executive Chuck Smith a copy of the log of all calls handled on behalf of the county including calls for the county fire, ambulance, sheriff and the dog warden, during 1993 and January of 1994. "And you have to keep in mind, the dispatcher also acts as a relay system. If the county firemen are out in the county and need to get in touch with the state police, we put that call through. Also, when they are out in the county and the radio cannot reach back to town, and they're carrying water, we act as a relay for those instances also," Clark said. "If the ambulance is answering a wreck call, there is no one down there to answer the phone and there is another wreck at another site - what happens without the dispatching system? Without it, our emergency services are flying blind."



Congressman Scotty Baesler explains each proposal currently in consideration concerning health care. Residents discussed national health care reform with Baesler for over two hours and then moved to other national topics such as gun control.

**School Board reviews 1993 - 94 draft budget**  
By Jason Hart  
OF THE CARLISLE MERCURY STAFF  
**CARLISLE** - The Nicholas County Board of Education met Monday night, and passed several measures. Superintendent Robert Gilbert presented board members Louise Zachary, John Chaves, David Smost, and Sammy Viscio knowledge of the heritage of William John Thomas, Andrea Suzanne Anderson, and Bruce Wayne Barnes as substitute teachers. "These certificates recognize the official commitment to continuing education," said Gilbert. **Continued on Page 8**

**Babies of '93**

The Carlisle Mercury will publish a special section featuring the Babies of 1993. To have your child or grandchild included on these special pages, please send a picture, the parents' and grandparents' name, and enclose \$10.00 for processing. The pictures and information will appear in the January 19 edition of The Carlisle Mercury.