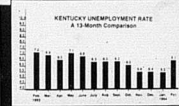


First Year Primary to hold registration
Registration for all first year primary students in Nicholas County will be held from 9 a.m. until 12 noon on Friday, April 1, at Nicholas County Elementary. To be eligible, children must be 5 years old on or before October 1, 1994. For information, contact Rob Lane at 295-3770.

Datebook
Fish & Game Club to meet
The Nicholas County Fish & Game Club will meet Friday, March 25 at 7:30. Members will gather at the Club, and the meal will be potluck. All members are urged to attend.



Area Weather Forecast
Thursday & Friday: Clear, with highs nearing the 70 degree mark. Lows 40 to 45.
Saturday & Sunday: Cloudy, scattered showers. Highs in the 60s.

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County KIRIS scores flawed; other schools in state face problem

By Leigh Stone
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff
CARLISLE—It may be a couple more weeks before Nicholas County School test scores of the 1992-93 Kentucky Instructional Results Information System (KIRIS) are available. KIRIS scores for the county are in, but aren't correct. Nicholas County joins 104 other schools in the state which had their test scores in writing portfolios revealed by the testing company, Advanced Systems of New Hampshire and the Kentucky Department of Education. "They lowered our (high school writing portfolio) score by 20 points," said Nicholas County Schools Instructional Supervisor Phyllis Ramey. The school found out by FAX Monday, March 21, that they had the option of keeping the original scores. However, a faculty committee met Tuesday, March 22 and voted to accept the Advanced Systems scoring. They accepted the Advanced Systems scoring because it will keep the baseline and threshold indices down and we have more room for improvement on next year's scores," Ramey said.

Scores were published Friday, March 11, in the Lexington Herald-Leader. Ramey said the newspaper had the scores from the state department of education before the local school system had them. KIRIS is a series of tests taken by students in the fourth, eighth and 12th grades covering reading, writing, math, social studies and science. The test was first instituted as part of Kentucky Education Reform Act (KERA) in 1990-91. Nicholas County seniors just finished taking the 1993-94 KIRIS and elementary school students will take the tests in April. The tests are taken for about two hours each school day for two weeks. Nicholas County School Superintendent Colbert Gilbert commented on the score results. "They were about what I expected. I understand our eighth grade test scores were a little lower, but you're never pleased until you're at the top. I'm satisfied with the fourth and the 12th grades, but the eighth grade, I expected was a little lower because we do not have the facilities for performance

handwriting," Gilbert said. "We do not have the (learning) facilities for science, home economics, agriculture, industrial arts. We can't give the hands on experience our students need to compete with other schools." The writer's problem with the Nicholas County scores, Ramey revealed. "We are trying students on our report with no names. These were counted against us. All students had a number. No names are used. We have no students with those numbers. They don't belong to us." "That's what's holding up our final accountability," Ramey said. The assessment/accountability board of the Kentucky Department of Education is trying to correct the discrepancy. There are several categories of achievement in KIRIS with None being the lowest, then Apprentice, next Proficient and at the top, Distinguished. The goal is to have every student show improvement from one category to the next, from the novice category to the apprentice to proficient and so on.

The transitional base system mostly requires written responses and a limited amount of multiple choice answers. The nonobjective system takes in attendance, drop out rate, retention and successful transitions. All three sections make up the final score.

Ministerial Association to hold lunch
By Leigh Stone
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff
CARLISLE—Take an hour for lunch and worship to participate in the Holy Week Lunch Feb. 28-31. Sponsored annually by the Nicholas County Ministerial Association, the pre-Easter luncheon will be held from 1 p.m. daily at United Methodist Church, Chestnut Street. "We welcome working people to come their lunch hour and everyone to be fed and spiritually fed as well," said Rev. Steve Smith of Carlisle Christian Church. Area churches will help provide the lunches with the United Methodist Church Ladies helping prepare and serve the food. Lunch is free with donations welcome. The schedule is as follows: Monday, the Rev. David Statton of Assembly of God will speak "The Cross, the Sign of Peace." Tuesday, the Rev. Steve Smith of Carlisle Christian will speak on "The Cross, the Sign of Obedience." Wednesday, the Rev. Jim Daughon of Carlisle United Methodist will speak on "The Cross, the Sign of Suffering." Thursday, the Rev. Kevin Thomas of First Baptist will speak on "The Cross, the Sign of Forgiveness." Father Mike Weglicki of the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church will present the Good Friday service at United Methodist at 2 p.m. The Rev. Smith said each lunch fest will feature a devotional thought, more brief than a usual sermon, and possibly some special music. "The Ministerial Association started it about five years ago and it's been a wonderful thing. At first it was highly attended, but as the years have gone by it's been less attended religious service. It's a good thing to have before Easter, celebrating the resurrection. We focus in depth on a spiritual way about the cross and the resurrection. It brings the community together in quite an unusual way."

NCWD moving ahead with project

By Leigh Stone
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff
CARLISLE—Contractor bids for a \$1.7 million water project will be accepted at the Nicholas County Courthouse 2 p.m. Thursday, March 31. The Nicholas County Water District Board approved the contract bid resolution with a motion made by board member Jim Simons and seconded by board member Jim Caswell at their regularly scheduled meeting Thursday, March 17.

C. Beuren Garten and Steve Dale of Howard K. Bell Engineers Inc., Lexington, attended the meeting along with water board chairman Garvey Curtisinger, Jim Caswell, Jim Simons and new board member Sam Reynolds who was welcomed to the Board. Reynolds was appointed by the Nicholas County Fiscal Court to replace David Tipton who resigned last month. Also in attendance was maintenance supervisor Grant Paynter, and board secretary

Boogie Hall. The water project is an extension of the Nicholas County Water District, adding approximately 200 customers. Ground should be broken for the project sometime this spring. Bids must be approved by the Farmers Home Administration and then approved by Public Service Commission. Approximately 75 to 80 days after approval, construction can begin. Continued on Page 10

Authority forced to reduce hours, staff

By Leigh Stone
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff
CARLISLE—A financial crunch has forced the Carlisle Nicholas County Industrial Authority to reduce office hours. The agency works in tandem with the Chamber of Commerce to promote economic development. The authority needs an estimated \$3,000 to remain open full time until the end of the fiscal year, June 30.

Funding comes from both the city and county. The city provides \$1,000 and the county provides \$1,000. It was hoped that the Nicholas County Fiscal Court could provide the extra funding by selling land at the local Industrial Park. The Nicholas County Fiscal Court voted against selling an acre of land to a prospective buyer was owner during its regular March meeting held Thursday, March 8.

The business man's offer of \$15,000 to build mini storage units could have provided enough money to keep the Industrial Authority open pending until the end of the fiscal year. The Industrial Authority, open in Carlisle since 1986, is located at 117 Leasat St. near The Depot Bank Howard. The Chamber of Commerce joined with the authority in 1991 when the two agencies consolidated. Continued on Page 9

Howard worked her last day on payroll last week. Marshall, retired industrial engineer from the Lexington Deposit Bank owner Jim Brown donated the office and the First National Bank of Carlisle donated the furniture. The authority's expenses include utilities and the salary of a one employee, Kathy Howard, who worked 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. She worked for the Chamber of Commerce free

of charge. Howard worked her last day on payroll last week. Marshall, retired industrial engineer from the Lexington Deposit Bank owner Jim Brown donated the office and the First National Bank of Carlisle donated the furniture. The authority's expenses include utilities and the salary of a one employee, Kathy Howard, who worked 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. She worked for the Chamber of Commerce free

Carlisle certified status; now a Certified Community

By Leigh Stone
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff
CARLISLE—The city certified city status remains, but the status name has changed. Carlisle is now a Certified Community. "The theme is partnership. We are emphasizing that cities need to work together rather than competing. They have similar goals," Harmon said. "So you mean the team doesn't have to be in the county? We could go in with Paris or other cities," asked Spud Marshall, Industrial Authority executive director. "You can go in other counties," Harmon replied. "We're trying to not change horses in the middle of the stream for you who have been a certified city for five years or so, but this will broaden the city good place to live and work. Literature distributed by

dated. The Industrial Authority used to operate from a post office box before having the office. Deposit Bank owner Jim Brown donated the office and the First National Bank of Carlisle donated the furniture. The authority's expenses include utilities and the salary of a one employee, Kathy Howard, who worked 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. She worked for the Chamber of Commerce free

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IGA Clown Tina Fryman made the day for young Carlisle IGA shoppers on Saturday when she gave balloons to happy youngsters. Nicole, Tiffany and Brandi Burnett easily enjoyed their shopping trip.



The Carlisle Mercury staff photo shows the Nicholas County Board of Education meeting in special session 7 p.m. Monday, March 28 at the Central School Office. The selection process committee met with Dr. Tim Holt, director of board team development for the Kentucky School Board Association at the central office Sunday, March 20, to conduct a workshop with the superintendent screening.

IN BRIEF

The Nicholas County Board of Education will meet in special session 7 p.m. Monday, March 28 at the Central School Office. The selection process committee met with Dr. Tim Holt, director of board team development for the Kentucky School Board Association at the central office Sunday, March 20, to conduct a workshop with the superintendent screening. According to School Board Chairman Louise Zashbar, the goal of the screening committee and board concerning the selection of a superintendent to replace Superintendent Colbert Gilbert, whose contract was not renewed by the board. Gilbert's contract ends June 30.