Fire Department raising funds

According to Nicholas County Fire Chief Mark Hughes, the Fire Department is now offering a family portrait package to area residents to raise money. "We need to buy a new rescue van," said Hughes. Call 289-7226 or 289-2369 for more information.

Pancakes for everyone!

A Pancake Breakfast will be held on September 24 from 4:00 to 10:00 a.m. to benefit the Chamber's Scholarship Program. You can get your pancakes at the Senior Citizens Building on Main Street, at only $2.50 per person.

mid-sixties.
Saturday & Sunday: Cloudy, cool, with temperatures in the upper sixties.

THE CARLISLE MERCURY

SERVING NICHOLAS COUNTY SINCE 1867

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Petitions circulated to keep ASCS open

By Leigh Stone
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE - Residents interested in keeping the Nicholas County ASCS Office open should sign a petition no later than Friday morning.

The petitions will be available at local businesses and government offices such as the City Building and courthouse.

"The petitions will let the right people know there is more than one person interested (in keeping the ASCS Office open). It's the whole community," commented Edgar Darrell.

Nicholas County Extension Agent Mike Phillips told The Mercury Tuesday afternoon that four committee members will go to Lexington to see USDA ASCS Director Hampton "Hoppy" Henton Jr. "We'll hand deliver the petitions and the letters. His scheduled didn't permit him to come to us so we'll go to him."

Robert Wiseman, a representative from Congressman Scotty

Baesler's office, attended a meeting hosted by Nicholas County Judge Executive Chuck Smith Tuesday morning.

Seated around the table in

Robert Wiseman

the judge's office were ASCS Director Jim Furnish; Edgar Darrell; farmers Paul Judge, Dick Letton and Jimmy Caswell; Chamber of Commerce President Rose Brady; Carlisle Mayor

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The Carlisle Mercury/ Leigh Stone Photo
Calvin Morris, left, of Green Valley, Carlisle, was the first winner of a $100 Certificate of Deposit from First National Bank of Carlisle. Morris received the CD from First National President Lanny Hutchison, right, last Monday morning. Morris won by getting cash from the bank's new automatic teller machine. A $20 bill was stamped with the balloon logo in red ink, signifying the CD win. Morris is now eligible for a $300 CD drawing.

Gilbert explains salaries

By Leigh Stone
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

BARDSTOWN - Former Nicholas County School Superintendent Cebert Gilbert has confirmed that the longevity increases for teachers of the Nicholas County school district was approved by the board for the 25th and 30th year of service.

Some teachers of the district were unsure of the amount of the longevity increments and when they would be awarded. Several teachers attended the regular September board of education meeting held Monday, Sept. 12 at the Central School Office and asked the board about the increments.

Gilbert, administrative assistant for the Nelson County Schools in Bardstown, told The Mercury on Monday about the salary increase approved by the board.

"The board approve the five percent increase across the board for everybody, classified and certified staff. Then, I wanted to increase longevity to help teachers with retirement and help entire them to stay in the district for 30 years," Gilbert recalled.

The longevity increments were installed at the 25th and 30th year of service. The increase at the 25th year of service was $2,000. The increase at the 30th year was $1,000. Gilbert said. There were no increases indicated from the 20th to 24th year or from the 26th to the 29th year of service.

Before the board approved the increase, longevity in the district

Continued on Page 3

Dry Ridge KSP makes arrests in local burglaries

DRY RIDGE - The Kentucky State Police have made three arrests leading to the clearance of 20 burglaries in Bourbon and Nicholas counties.

Detective Tim Layne and Trooper Steve Auvenshine have charged William Bretz, 21, J.T. Highlander, 20, and Jason Kelly, 22, all of Paris, with burglary in the first degree.

All three were lodged in the Bourbon County Jail.

On Tuesday, Sept. 6, officers of the Paris Police Department executed an arrest warrant on Jason Kelly. In his possession were stolen property taken from area burglaries. Further investigation led to the arrests of Bretz and Highlander and the recovery of approximately $2,000 worth of stolen property.

The arrests clear 17 open burglary cases in Bourbon and three open cases in Nicholas counties, said Trooper Jan Wuchner, KSP Public Affairs Officer, Dry Ridge.

The investigation is continuing and the recovery of more stolen property is anticipated, reported Wuchner.

The Carlisle Mercury/ Leigh Stone Photo
Kentucky State Police Troopers Clint Graves and Shain Stephens of the Dry Ridge Post and Fish and Wildlife Conservation Officer Herb Booth hold $49,000 worth of marijuana found at a Nicholas County farm. Those with information about marijuana and illegal drugs are asked to call the KSP at a toll-free telephone number: 1-800-DOPE-TIP (1-800-367-3847).

KSP finds marijuana on Nicholas county farm

By Leigh Stone
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE - Marijuana plants worth an estimated $49,000 were found on a Nicholas County farm Wednesday, Sept. 10 by the Kentucky State Police.

Kentucky State Police Troopers Clint Graves and Shain Stephens and Fish and Wildlife Conservation Officer Herb Booth

went to the farm after receiving an anonymous tip, the troopers said.

"We found marijuana plants in the county that looked cultivated. As far as a street value, we got 49 plants worth about $1,000 a plant, Stephens said.

The plants were six to seven feet tall.

No arrests have been made.

The KSP have a toll free number citizens may call: 1-800-DOPE-TIP (1-800-367-3847).

The troopers also said if farmers think there is marijuana growing on their farm to call the toll-free number.

Nicholas County Attorney Jock Conley said the penalty for cultivating marijuana on a first offense is a Class D felony with 1 to 5 years in the penitentiary and a fine of up to $10,000.

O'Bannon honored for Special Olympics service

By Leigh Stone
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff

CARLISLE - Congratulations to Lottie O'Bannon for 20 years of service to Area 8 Special Olympics.

O'Bannon, a teacher of special education at Nicholas County Elementary School since 1967, has entrusted her duties as Special Olympics coordinator to fellow elementary teacher Tony Smith.

O'Bannon issued the following statement to The Mercury:

"Dear parents, coaches and friends of Special Olympics in Nicholas County - On September 13th I retired as your county director.

"I wish to thank all of you for your loyal support over the years.

"The highlight of my career was having an athlete to go to the International Special Olympics at Notre Dame.

"Our athletes still get gold and silver when they compete.

"I am sure you will give our present director, Mr. Tony Smith, your loyal support."

O'Bannon received several special awards for service and some lovely yellow flowers during an awards ceremony held in Lexington recently hosted by Area 8. Area 8 includes Nicholas, Harrison, Woodford, Scott, Anderson, Bourbon, Franklin, Fayette and Clark counties.

O'Bannon said she will continue her work in the classroom.

She holds a bachelor's degree in home economics from Kentucky State and a master's degree in pre-school from Hampton University, Hampton, Va. She received additional training in special education from the Uni-

versity of Kentucky.

O'Bannon is the wife of World War II veteran Thomas O'Bannon. The O'Bannons are the parents of four adult children, Sharon Compton, an in-

structional aide at Nicholas County Elementary, Greg O'Bannon of Carlisle, Michael O'Bannon of Columbus and Arlene O'Bannon of Louisville.

The Carlisle Mercury/ Leigh Stone Photo
Lottie O'Bannon, Special Olympics coordinator and teacher at Nicholas County Elementary School, received awards of appreciation recently from Area 8 Special Olympics for her many years of service. O'Bannon will hand the duties to teacher Tony Smith.

IN BRIEF

Welcome for Dr. Dahan postponed

The welcome social for physician Dr. Chuck Dahan has been postponed. According to Josh Shepherd, director of Public Relations, Johnson-Mathers Health Care Inc., Dahan was to be welcomed to the community at Carlisle Christian Church Sunday, Sept. 25. Paperwork, necessary for Dahan to locate here, was the reason for the postponement. Shepherd said the social will be re-scheduled and The Mercury would be notified.

Prizes for St. Judes to be awarded

If you missed the Bike-A-Thon for St. Jude's Research Hospital held last Saturday at Nicholas County School, call Carolyn Terrell at 289-7446. "We had 15 participants and it was great," praised Terrell. Sponsorship funds should be turned in to Terrell no later than Oct. 3. A prize for participants will be awarded and prizes for the three top fund raisers, she reported.

Blue Licks presents Halloween Camp-Out

Blue Licks State Park, Mt. Olivet, welcomes everyone to a Halloween Camp-Out Oct. 28-29. There will be a costume contest, trick or treating, and a soup supper in the campground. Call (606) 289-5507 for more information.

Smoot family reunion Sept. 25

The annual Smoot Family Reunion will be held Sunday, September 25, at the home of Reese and Patsy Smoot, located at 4720 Maysville Road in Carlisle. There will be a pot luck dinner at 1 p.m.

All relatives and friends are invited to attend.

Fish & Game Club to have pot luck meal

The Nicholas County Fish and Game Club will meet Friday, September 23, at 7:30 p.m. at the club.

The meal will be pot luck.

All members are urged to attend the meeting.

KSP Post 6 welcomes new commander

DRY RIDGE - The Kentucky State Police announce the appointment of Captain Rob Elliott, a 19-year veteran, as commander of the Dry Ridge Post.

Post 6, the Dry Ridge Post, serves Northern Kentucky including Nicholas, Harrison, Bourbon, Bracken, Pendleton, Grant, Campbell, Kenton and Boone counties.

Captain Elliott, a Boone county native, formerly was the commander of Post 8, Morehead, where he served for six years. Additonally, he has served at the posts in Pikeville and Mayfield. Captain Elliott has previously held two assignments at Post 6. He has served in Northern Kentucky, as a trooper on patrol in Pendleton County and as a lieutenant, overseeing the post's criminal investigation division.

Captain Elliott plans to move within the Post 6 area in the near future.