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JAN 19 1995

Kim Denkins Day
Sign up for Kim Denkins Day at Nicholas County High School by Thursday, Jan. 19. All persons needing discount tickets must sign up at the high school. Bus ride is \$2. Buses leave at the NCHS at 12:30 for the 2 p.m. game to be held Jan. 22, when the play Georgia. Tickets are \$3 for adults \$1 for senior citizens and students.

Class A Region
The Nicholas County High School Lady Jackets participate in Region play at Paris beginning 7:30 p.m. Friday night, Jan. 20. If the Lady Jackets defeat St. Patrick, they will play in finals Saturday night at Paris. Winners of Saturday night's game go to state.

Babies of 1994
Inside are the beautiful babes born to parents of Nicholas County in 1994. See page four to take a look at these bundles of joy.

Forecast - chance of a.m. showers, high 47, low 38. Friday - partly sunny, high 35, low 22. Saturday - snow flurries possible, high 31, low 18.

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Correction
Last week's Carlisle Mercury included the wrong date on the top of the front page where the title of the paper, issue number and price are located. The issue should have stated January 12 instead of January 5. The January 5 issue had already been printed the previous week. This was an error in editing and we apologize for the mistake.

Diabetes group to meet Jan. 24
The Nicholas County Diabetes Support Group will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 24, at 7 p.m. at the Carlisle United Methodist Church. The focus of the meeting will be to determine whether there is a continuing need for a diabetes support group in Nicholas County, and, if so, how that need can best be met. Everyone is invited to attend to share opinions. Meetings are free and open to the public, with no registration fee required. For more information, call Theresa Bean or Lisa Wheat at (606) 234-8750.

School budget review scheduled January 23
The Nicholas County Board of Education will review the 1995 annual school budget at the Central School Office 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 23. No action will be taken. The public is invited.

Governor gives authority to put millions into school sites
Gov. Brewster C. Jones has authorized Department of Education to shift \$2.3 million in state school funds to increase state support of local school building programs and pupil transportation. The transfer of \$13 million to the Facilities Support Program in Kentucky will mean the state will meet its full financial commitment to that program for the first time since it was established in 1991-92. The shift of \$15.2 million will mean full state funding for local pupil transportation for the first time since 1990-91. Also, \$26,400 will be moved to fully fund the transportation of students to vocational schools for the first time in a decade. Strong economic and revenue growth has made it possible for us to fulfill our commitment to support local schools," Jones said. The funds became available because average daily attendance at Kentucky schools this year has been lower than estimated in the state budget. (Most state aid to local school districts is based on average daily attendance.) The shift of these funds will ease the financial pressures felt by many of our districts," said Education Commissioner Thomas C. Boyson. "More importantly, the governor has put the state back into the position of fulfilling its statutory commitments to pupil transportation and equalized support of local school construction." The transfers will increase total state support of the building fund to \$28.4 million and of pupil transportation to \$140.9 million. Total state funding for elementary and secondary education exceeds \$2.2 billion.



School's in Head Start students Jessica Johnson, left, and Lacey Hardin, right, await the arrival of their school buses at the end of a long educational day at the Nicholas County Elementary School. (Photo by Kim Hamilton)

Greg Reid elected chair of school facilities committee

By Kim Hamilton of the Carlisle Mercury Staff
Nicholas County High School Principal Greg Reid was elected unanimously to chair The Local Planning Committee for Facilities of the Nicholas County School District during the committee's first meeting Monday night at the elementary school. Jimmy Dale was elected vice chair and will help guide over the 17 member committee that will create a 20 to 30 year plan for the buildings at both Nicholas County Schools. "This is one of the most important things we can do," said Superintendent Randy Eversly. "We need to be realistic, set

and personal biases and do what's best for the community and the children." Eversly, facilities consultant Gene Schales attended the meeting and gave a three-inch notebook and the initial planning agenda to committee members. The board hired the consulting group The Scholes Group, Inc., from Lexington to assist with development of the facilities plan. The plan includes the mission, structure, responsibilities and process of drafting a plan to possibly procure money in the future for new buildings. Much of the site planning and dollar procurement relies on the enrollment at the school.

Schales told the committee. He also said the committee that members would be filling their notebooks with more information as the year progresses. The committee is mandated by the Kentucky Education Reform Act (KERA) to have a plan by Dec. 31, 1995. "Tonight orientation tape you started," Schales said. "Tonight orientation tape were planned with state involvement and was listed as capital construction projects. Now you must have a master plan and a district plan. Your mission is to create a plan," he said. "Every school district in Kentucky was

Education Foundation says illiteracy rate 40 percent here

By Kim Hamilton of the Carlisle Mercury Staff
The Nicholas County Education Foundation discussed tutorial programs for children and parents to help offset a high percentage of adult illiteracy during its monthly meeting Jan. 10.

Nicholas County has a high rate of functional illiteracy, according to members of the foundation. "I'd like to start addressing this."

"We have over 40 percent of people in Nicholas County who are able to function without knowing how to read and write," said Carol Sparks, chair of the foundation. "I'd like to start addressing this."



Randy Eversly, Nicholas County Schools Superintendent, discusses items on the education foundation's agenda during a recent meeting. At the far left is Carolyn Crockett, the foundation's treasurer. (Photo by Kim Hamilton).

Students required to get parental permission to smoke outside at school

By Kim Hamilton of the Carlisle Mercury Staff
The Nicholas County High School Site-Based Council wrestled with a decision Wednesday on whether or not to allow students to have permission to smoke in the designated area outside the school building. The council voted 4-1 to approve sending letters to parents requiring written permission to allow students who are under 18 to smoke in the smoking area. The permission letters will be some what similar to permission forms for students over 16 to drive to and from school. Members of the council discussed the problem of students smoking in the bathrooms inside the building, which is now illegal due to a new state law that bans smoking by anyone (students or faculty) inside the building. Council also discussed the issue of under aged students smoking in the bathrooms and the designated smoking area. Since it is illegal for those under 18 to buy tobacco and illegal for stores to sell it to anyone under 18, council members perceived the issue as a problem.

The council discussed the issue because it could pose liability to the school system later on, according to Kathy Green, council leader representative. Green noted a possible problem with lawsuit liability if a parent becomes angry with the school for having a system in which parental permission to smoke has been solicited for students going to public. It, but we need something on file, she said. We need to do something so the board will back us up on expulsion if it becomes necessary," said Principal Greg Reid. The discussion of what action to take ranged from locking students from smoking inside to banning smoking altogether on school property. The council also talked about how to enforce allowing only the students with permission to smoke in the smoking area and noted that some students who are under legal smoking age could be smoking in the bathrooms and the smoking area. When we were in school, it worked to have a designated smoking area, because we respected that privilege. Smokers

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Baesler outlines proposals for national welfare reform

By Kim Hamilton of the Carlisle Mercury Staff
Congressman Scotty Baesler said Nicholas Counties Saturday that people believe too many myths about those who receive welfare.

Baesler talked with about 20 local citizens who attended the meeting on welfare reform at the Nicholas County Elementary School. "One of the biggest myths is that most mothers on welfare are teenagers, but in fact, less than eight percent of Aid to Families with Dependent Child

are under the age of 20," Baesler said. Another myth, according to Baesler, is that women keep having children to increase their AFDC payments, but the fact is that in Kentucky the maximum AFDC payment for a mother with one child is \$192 and \$228 for a mother with two children - an increase of \$32. "Now I don't think many women are going to have a child for \$32 a month," Baesler said. Baesler showed the group two proposals. One proposal was

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Carol Sparks, president of the Nicholas County Education Foundation, talks about promotions at a recent meeting. At far left is Mark Mattox, foundation member.