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## Public hearing could be kept private

By Leigh Stone  
Managing Editor

It could be a public meeting without public input.

According to Kentucky Department of Education Associate Commissioner Tom Willis, the public hearing being held for Superintendent, Randy Every 1 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 12 could consist of Every deciding against talking about the charges in public.

Basically, he (Every) has the option of saying he says in private, said Willis.

Discipline charges, mostly involving incompetency, were leveled against Every by the Nicholas County Board of Education July 2.

Furthermore, no outside mediator is necessary, according to Willis. To Willis' knowledge, the meeting will be led by the board's attorney.

They've already presented charges so after the hearing, they can take another vote in light of what he has to say, Willis suggested last Friday.

Willis said he may attend the hearing, and he expressed Every's counsel, Fred Pieters, and Wayne Young, who is his attorney.

Willis contends by law, it takes a 4/5 vote by board members to get KDE Commissioner

Wilmer Cody to investigate the charges and meet Every. The board came up with a three to two vote. Chairman Mike Vice, Vice-Chair Donna Gail Mattot and member Robert Hartsfield supported Every while members Don Elder and Sherry Upgraff voted "no."

They presented the charges to Commissioner Cody earlier and he said "no. You have to present the charges to him

(Every) yourself."

Willis said it's hard to speculate the outcome of the public hearing. Every has stated June 30, 1998 on his contract.

A similar situation occurred in a school board within the last year in Hartsville County. Superintendent Mrs. Grace Ann Talliver decided to keep her public hearing in private in a closed session. She agreed to present the charges to him

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## High school staffing complete

### Enrollment's up & party planned

By Leigh Stone  
Managing Editor

Staffing at Nicholas County High School is complete. It looks like enrollment is up or at least the same as last year.

New school personnel are discussing a "Back to School Party."

Principal Greg Reid said Tuesday he'd hired the last teacher needed earlier that day.

Since a staffing reduction was announced last spring, several staff members were notified by letter they'd no longer be needed. Some teachers decided to move on anyway, leaving some spots to fill before classes start Aug. 15.

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The NCHS Site Based Decision Making Council reluctantly

named positions that could be cut for the 1997-98 school year that would hopefully save the district money. It was feared the district would be in financial peril if cuts weren't made. Two physical education positions were cut along with a foreign language teaching position and two aide positions.

The district was able to put one aide back to work by switching her salary to federal funds (instead of the district's general fund). However, it lost Head Basketball Coach John Norman, teacher football coach Robert Hopkins, and foreign language teacher, Ms. Brough, and a physics teacher, Ms. Dickinson.

English/journalism instructor Jack Hayes attained a position in Fayette County. Science instructor Travis Huber accepted a position in Mason County. Huber said Reid had asked him to stay, but he'd already accepted Mason County's offer which paid more.

Bill Anderson retired as a teacher. He has already agreed to come back as a classified employee. He will drive a school bus. And, he will continue to coach basketball. Reid said:

Dyanna Griffith was rehired by the board and accepted the English position vacated by Hayes.

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## Seniors support Blue Grass Games

Nicholas County Senior Citizens supported the Blue Grass Games. They traveled to Frankfort and arrived back at the Senior Center about 2:30 p.m. last Friday. Pictured are Noble McIvan, Herbert Smoot, Clara Ruth Craig, Ben Glass and his bride, Alberta, Rachel Maslin, William Morris, Vernon Wilson, Cabon Morris and Adam George.

## Alternative school questioned

### Board hasn't decided to participate

By Leigh Stone  
Managing Editor

Properly owned by Millersburg Baptist Church may not have Nicholas County alternative school students enrolled when school starts.

"It's not a done deal! The school board hasn't approved it," said Nicholas County Superintendent, Randy Every Tuesday morning. "But as far as I'm concerned, it's a done deal."

Every said the board is looking for a place to house the dorm or students. They have been housed at Carlisle's National Guard Armory but the recent budget cutback out the staff there.

According to a Tuesday article in the Lexington Herald-Leader, Bourbon County Schools are expected to house alternative students in the church owned property.

The article said Pastor David Hatch said the school fits right in with the ministry focus of the church, which has been on children. He was quoted by the newspaper, "One of the problems with the church in this country is that very often it's used only one day and one night a week. It doesn't make any sense."

However, on the controversy side, a floor distributed in the Millersburg area has an ominous tone. The headline read

Are You Aware that up to 21 hard to handle teenagers are going to be housed into Millersburg for an alternative school?

In bold print in the bottom, the flyer stated, "Why doesn't the Bourbon/Nicholas school system find a place in one of these high schools for these teenagers instead of renting a house and part of a church for them in Millersburg?"

To voice your opinion or to find out more information, the flyer gave the names and telephone numbers of school board member Geraldine Summay. The Mercury left a message on Mrs. Summay's answering machine.

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## Mather's Fund has 60th anniversary

A helping hand still helps others

By Leigh Stone  
Managing Editor

The clothing fund the late Dr. Charles Mather set up in 1937 is still helping Nicholas County School children.

This past year, fund administrator Imogene Green said students received 1175 outfits.

That's still amazing to Ruth Hollar, administrator of the fund for 42 years from 1938 to 1980.

"It has been gratifying to experience what a little help at the right time can do," she was quoted in The Mercury's Sept. 15, 1995 edition. The statements still stands today, a little more than 60 years since Dr. Mather's death.

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## -In Brief-

**Youth Festival**  
A Community Youth Street Festival will be held beginning 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 7 on Chestnut Street behind the courthouse.

**NCHS Registration**  
Registration for Nicholas County High School classes, freshman through seniors, is 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Aug. 4 at the high school.

**Boys Basketball**  
The Boys Varsity Basketball meeting will be 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 4 at the Nicholas County High School gym. Be prepared to play.

**Hughes Reunion**  
Hughes Family Reunion will be held August 3, at Bluebell State Park, Shelter House in front of Museum. Lunch will be potluck.

**Bussell Reunion**  
The 1997 Annual Bussell Reunion be held August 24 at the Blue Licks State Park, Saturday, August 2, 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

**Myneer Reunion**  
Myneer Family Reunion will be held at the Lower Shelter at the Blue Licks State Park, Saturday, August 2, 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

**Aug. 19 Blood Drive**  
Blood drive will be held 2 to 1 p.m. Monday, Aug. 19 at Nicholas County Hospital. The drive is being sponsored by Johnson Mather's Health Care Inc. and Central Kentucky Blood Center.

**NCE Kindergarten**  
Nicholas County Elementary School Kindergarten having a presentation Thursday, August 7, 6 p.m. in the child's class room. The orientation is for parents and guardians, it provides a chance for the parent or guardian to meet the child's teacher and get information on the supplies they will need and learn what they have planned for the school year.

**Officers Elected**  
Directors for the Historical Society were selected at the June 13 mystery dinner theatre meeting. They are Ginny Kinschower, Wendell Kinschower, Eugene Neal, Dorothy Neal, Michelle Knapp, Jess W. Conley, Gerald Watkins, Eddie Carier, Dr. Robert S. Searle, Sherry Howard, Ruth Hollar, G. C. Myers, Josh Shepherd, Cornelia Tyer and Dr. Ann Rinaldin.

Officers were selected at the July 22 meeting. The terms end June 1998.

Joan Conley, president  
Cornelia Tyer, vice president  
Gerald Watkins, secretary  
Eugene Neal, treasurer



**Handicap ramp installed**  
The Nicholas County Senior Citizens Center handicap ramp was installed last Thursday. The milling lobby by area merchants. Shown are workers Wayne Smith, James Phillips, Raymond White, Bill Leforge, DOT, and foreman Jackie Hanson.