



NCHS Graduation
7 PM, Sunday, June 1
Senior Messages
See Pages 6-9

The escapades of the
Page
Tamara Tipton and Hannan runt honored
Page 12

6 99/99/99
LEXINGTON LIBRARY
MICROFILM CENTER
LEXINGTON KY 40506

MAY
29
1997

THE CARLISLE MERCURY

SERVING NICHOLAS COUNTY SINCE 1867

© 1997, Media General Newspapers, Inc. All rights reserved.
131st Year, No. 22 Carlisle, KY 40311-0272 Thursday, May 29, 1997 50¢ per copy

School board feels tension, embarrassment

Former member urges plan to finally be approved

By Leigh Stone
Managing Editor

The board chairman felt tension amongst board members that didn't exist six weeks earlier while a board member says he's embarrassed by the thought of not having a balanced budget by June 30.

Monte Vee, chairman of the Nicholas County Board of Education said during Tuesday night's regular meeting, "I think in the last six weeks the relationship between board members and me has been tense. There's less communication. More hating back and forth and I've never seen it like this. I'll be honest. Are we doing all these things we set forth? Number one was, Are we doing the best for the students of Nicholas County? It takes all of us. I think a lot of disagreeing is



Vee's firing talks about the PTA supported playground on Page 3

Senior citizens question court action

By Leigh Stone
Managing Editor

Nicholas County Fiscal Court's special called meeting of Thursday, May 22, is being questioned by senior citizens. One of the 16 members of the senior citizens advisory board said senior citizens would have come to a number of meetings if they had known about last Thursday's court action.

Fiscal Court cut the senior citizens program by \$10,000 last year. It awarded \$26,000 but this year only managed \$16,000. The city's portion this year will be \$10,000, same as last year.

David Thompson, Kentucky Press Association director, said it looked like if it was mentioned in the meeting, members probably thought they'd met the meaning of the open meeting law, but said it should have probably been put in the minutes of the regular meeting.

KPA Attorney Kim Greene said Tuesday evening, "I think you can very legitimately say what happened was questionable. The statute requires 24 hours notice in writing. They are supposed to give you notice and they didn't. It's such a fine line."

"I think you can very legitimately say what happened was questionable."

KPA Attorney Kim Greene

Judge Smith said the meeting was mentioned in the regular May 13 meeting. "Not to say anything against you, Leigh, Mercury managing editor. I know you have to get your paper out, but if you can't stay for the whole meeting, you should get somebody who can be there."

Magistrate Juanita Smith is also the senior citizens advisory board. "They mentioned it at the regular meeting because I wrote it down. That's how I knew to be there."

We need them. The very last thing this says is, did we accomplish the best for our kids? We need to. I feel we're not working as a board. I know several times I've got upset. We've got to work together. We can't work on our own."

Vee concluded her four-minute comment by stating about received telephone calls and letters, even from students, wanting discussions about the teacher lay-off and academic and athletic courses. "I don't work together," she implored her fellow board members, "we won't get anything done. Maybe I'm wrong. I don't think I am."

After a few moments of silence the meeting carried on without further comment from anyone at the meeting. About 30 community members were present.

Board member Ricky Hicks read a letter in part he received from a Kentucky Department of

Education official. "It is impossible to ascertain whether your budget will be balanced by June 30, 1997."

"Tome, that's embarrassing. Hicks quietly commented.

Former Board Chairman John Chaver asked the board by phone support facilities plan and sent it to Frankfort to be the largest high school building as soon as possible. A board member for 12 years, Chaver's last official meeting was December 1995. He told board members that oversteering in the district was a problem since the early to mid 1990s.

Community member Billy Dixon also approached the board and asked them to recall a petition signed by more than 200 community members in support of affixing the current 40-year-old high school. The petition was given to the board by Betty Poe at a public hearing last fall about the school facilities plan. It was



John Chaver said oversteering began in the early to mid 1990s.

held just after he lost the election for school board to Donna Gail Mattas, now board vice chairman.

Mattas was vocal at Tuesday's meeting but she said she was not a donor. There is no way we could look at it," she said.

Pete Robinson, district treasurer, had just informed the board some state officials came by the board office last Friday and indicated the district's budget was balanced.

Hicks commented, "The lack of financial information and lack of budget information we get to the board is a problem. We get the 11th hour all the time. We need this information to have an idea of what action to take."

Mattas also mentioned that Mark Ryle of BSE informed her the Local Planning Commission would meet with the board again because a two-

Continued on Page 5

In Brief

Dawn Letcher is graduation speaker

Attorney Dawn Letcher will be the guest speaker at commencement for the Class of 1997 at Nicholas County High School 7 p.m. Sunday, June 1 at the ball field.

Letcher is a 1985 graduate of Nicholas County High School and was the class valedictorian. She was graduated from Morehead State University and the University of Kentucky School of Law. She is the daughter of Howard and Louise Curran.

She is employed at Richardson, Smith & Hughes Attorneys At Law.

Letcher and her husband, Pat, reside in Carlisle and are the parents of three daughters.

Wedco offers smoker's classes

Wedco District Health Department is now offering smoking cessation classes using the Cooper/Clayton Method. Classes start June 2, 11 a.m. at Scott County Courthouse, 1200 p.m. Harrison Memorial Hospital and 3:30 p.m. at the Nicholas County Library. If you really want to quit, I can help. For more information contact Peggy Sathers, RN, Health Educator (606) 224-8700 ext. 606, 285-7234.

No registration is required. Just attend the first meeting.



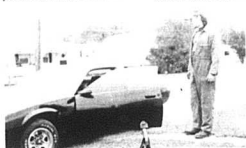
KSP Trooper Sean Stephens, right, gives NCE sixth grade D A R E graduates a pop-tak after the ceremony Tuesday night with the help of some models and NCHS senior John Sparks. See Page 12

Car falls on Carlisle man

By Leigh Stone
Managing Editor

A Carlisle man says he will put his car on a rack the next time.

A Nicholasville resident putting underpinning on the



Philp Hurt looks at the Camara he was trapped under for two minutes Tuesday afternoon and is glad he wasn't injured.

Student of the Week

Amber Sparks is this week's Student of the Week.

Sparks will be a sophomore at Nicholas County High School.

She is the daughter of Ricky and Billy Jo Sparks.

She likes being in the Pep Club and being a Girls Junior Varsity Cheerleader. She likes studying foreign languages and listening to music of all types.

Upon high school graduation, Amber plans to go to the University of Kentucky and study psychology.

Amber was nominated for this honor by Assistant Principal Ron Baker. "She is a good worker, helpful in class and is a good citizen in our school."

The Carlisle Mercury will profile one student each week, chosen by the faculty of their respective school. Watch this space in future issues.



Amber Sparks

MEL

FIVE
Thurwell
Nicholas
Kathall Coac
Kekley offic
Chobla Count
day morning
Carla H. H
27 students
equiment sta
in Nursing P
22 who finish
Science in
Morehead St
partment of
Health Scie
L. Jaffer
recently as
Achievemen
professional
superior per
while servin
the Navy Sea
Athens, Geo
DEATHS
Spencer, 77,
26.

TEN
Thurda
Stevan
and Lewist
Kentucky St
Meat, last w
Christie B.
second app
meeting, fle
meter hard
longjump, M
sixth in the
Steve Cl
pointed for
Conservation
by the Sall
Chapin will
left vacant
Clanton
Layland S
placed on the
University of
System ter,
1987 in
scholastic a
MARRI
and Scott D
DEATH
McElfresh,
Willoughby,
Marie Fair,
Russell Br
Robbins, M.
20
Thurs
Mayor B
Bob Paul an
surveyed th
an explosio
Life
Continued
mobile hom
Hanks' mo
grass Trail
life. Phil
Phillip H
Camara can
day at ab
pinned Hun
for about t
Tim Me
an undery
street and
help. He g
pickpocket.

E. C.
return
E. C. Fla
from St.
several day
Foster, Le
No w
fatali
Trooper
investigat
at 4:45
Jacktown
South of
was Aaron
driving a
Pat 40
the Hollid
is no fatal
Robe
veter
assis
set J
John M
veterans
Veterans
Robertson
Mt. Olive
June 6.
Vetera
will be pr
assistance
state and
is a free s
state.