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No murder trial scheduled: *juvenile pleads guilty in shooting death of mother*

By Leigh Stone
Managing Editor

There will be no murder trial in the case of the shooting death of Sharon Young.

A plea agreement was reached Wednesday, Nov. 19 at Nicholas County Circuit Court. The trial was to have been Dec. 1.

"It's over and done with. There won't be a trial," confirmed Commonwealth Attorney Jack Keith Monday.

Mark A. Young, 16, pleaded guilty to the charge of murder during his pre-sentence appearance.

Young is accused of shooting his mother, Sharon, of East Union Road, in the back of the head Tuesday, May 6.

Young, 16, was a student at Nicholas County High School. He's now lodged at the Mason County Detention Center.

He was to have been tried as an adult.

"The logic behind the agreement, and I worked closely with two of his sisters, was to get it over. Put it behind them. And, in this, there's no appeal, either," Keith explained.

To Keith's knowledge, both his psychiatrist and the psychiatrist obtained by Young's attorney, James Brannon, found Young mentally competent.

Young's family conveyed to Keith their concern for how long Young would remain incarcerated.

"We looked at the facts. We looked at what could happen in a trial. Naturally, the one question they had, was, how long before he'd get out? Kentucky statutes state murder is 20 years to life. Under Kentucky

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The meaning of Thanksgiving

Indians in Mrs. Vice's class included, kneeling, from left, Chris Jolly, Sebastian Pursiful, Nate Walton, Haley Blakeman, Colton Thornsburg, John Hall, Daniel Collins and Dean Vaughn. Standing (l-r): Lucas Myers, Jimmy Hunt, Chase Ruark, Carl Whitson, Shelby Brown and Tyler Hamilton.

Pilgrims in Mrs. Vice's class, kneeling, from left, included Justin Branham, Justin Hobbs, Steven White, Adrian Lea, and Kyle Campbell. Standing, (l-r): Linsey Kimes, Ashley Sexton, Kassi Gilvin and Shelby Sosby. Photos courtesy of Patty Ockerman.

Kendall Wills and Shanna Davis dressed as a Pilgrim and Native American in Mrs. Vice's kindergarten class last week as part of a lesson about Thanksgiving.

New Nicholas County Elementary principal excels with positive attitude

By Leigh Stone
Managing Editor

He's a "principal of the year" with a positive attitude and an open door policy.

Nicholas County Elementary School welcomed Marvin Moore of Rowan County to his new position as principal Monday, Nov. 24.

As of Tuesday morning, he'd already talked with individual classes in the fifth through eighth grades and was working on talking with teachers one-on-one. "I think it's better to discuss expectations in small groups," says Moore, the 1996 Kentucky Middle School Principal of the Year, an educator with a Rank I and 27 years of experience.

"This door's always open. I say, if you have a problem, lets work through it. I've always had that policy. I think it's better to preserve order. I also want to say I don't have all the answers. But let's look at situations and talk."

Moore, one of 10 children, was only four when his father was killed. He and his wife, a supervisor of the Rowan County Schools, are the parents of three grown children.

Already, Moore says he's happy being at NCE.

> "This door's always open. I say, if you have a problem, let's work through it."
>
> Marvin Moore
> NCE Principal

Marvin Moore

"I've been impressed with the faculty and the staff and the students. When I talked with them for the first time and let them know where I come from, they were supportive and reacted in a positive way."

Moore, a retired educator, is on contract with the Nicholas County Schools for 100 days. He commended site based council for hiring someone in an interim period. "You have to get someone you're happy with for the duration. After my 100 days, I'll re-evaluate. My wife has six years to go in the Rowan County Schools."

Some changes the community may see right away are improvements Moore hopes to make in the outside of the building, particular shrubs, and he will continue to strive for cleanliness on the outside of the building. "A clean atmosphere is conducive to learning. Give an atmosphere of cleanliness and the children will treat it with respect. When there's dirt and trash, they show they have no respect for the facility. I'm a fanatic about cleanliness."

Moore hopes parents will pitch in with the right spirit.

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Background on Marvin Moore

- He is a graduate of Morehead State University with Rank I.
- He is the 1996 Kentucky Department of Education Middle School Principal of the Year.
- He served 18 years as a high school principal, two years as middle school principal, and one year at the central office in an advisory capacity.
- He holds a superintendent's certificate.
- His most recent employment was principal of Rowan County Middle School 1994-96.

NCHS Marching Band on TV Dec. 20

By Leigh Stone
Managing Editor

The Nicholas County High School Marching Band will be on television Dec. 20.

The band will be a part of KET's pageantry of theatre, musicianship of a symphony orchestra and excitement of championship sports as it covers the high energy of marching band competitions 2/1 p.m. CT on consecutive Saturday's beginning Dec. 6.

Nicholas County will be featured Dec. 6.

The 1997 Kentucky Music Educator's Association Marching Band Championships features the final rounds of competition from the annual event held Nov. 2 at the University of Kentucky's Commonwealth Stadium.

This year's competition showcased bands from 65 Kentucky high schools competing in class groupings based on the number of playing members in each group. To participate in the state championships, a band must receive a "superior" rating at two KMEA sanctioned marching competitions around the state.

The KET broadcast include footage from the performances of 16 bands, the four finalists in each class size.

First place winners in each of the four classes are Lafayette High School, Lexington; Class 4A; Elizabethtown High School, Elizabethtown, Class 3A; Adair County High School, Columbia, Class AA; and **Nicholas County High School Carlisle, Class A.**

Other marching bands appearing in the program are:

- Class 4A; North Hardin, 2nd; Dunbar, 3rd; and Madisonville North Hopkins, 4th;
- Class 3A; Daviess County, 2nd; Harrison County, 3rd; George Rogers Clark, 4th;
- Class AA; Grant County, 2nd; Mercer County, 3rd; Madison Central, 4th;
- Class A; Murray, 2nd; and Breckinridge County, 3rd; and Campbellsville, 4th.

The 1997 KMEA Marching Band Championship is produced by WKYT/Lexington.

-In Brief-

Conservation Board

The Nicholas County Conservation District Board of Supervisors will meet 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3 at the old armory in Carlisle.

Open House

Cor-Alice Antiques, Main Street, Carlisle, will host a Christmas Open House 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 6 and from 1 to 5 p.m. Dec. 7.

Alternative School

There will be a public forum to discuss the Alternative School Calendar 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10 at the Nicholas County Elementary School cafeteria.

Retired Teachers

The Nicholas County Retired Teachers will meet 11:45 a.m. Wednesday Dec. 3 at The Old Jailer's Home in Carlisle. If planning to attend, please call Lucille Feeback at 289-5037.

Christmas Parade

The Annual Carlisle Christmas Parade is 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6 on Main Street, downtown Carlisle.

Calvin Denton, Lion's Club spokesperson, said the parade and annual Snow Queen competition will be highlights.

Angie Bowles, director of the Nicholas County Senior Citizens Center, said the center will open at 5 p.m. with a food fund-raiser.

Hot chili, cornbread, bean soup, coffee, and possibly baked goods will be for sale.

Political Candidates

Nicholas County Court Clerk Doug Fryman said as of Nov. 25, only three candidates have signed papers to run in the upcoming May26, 1998 election.

To date, only Property Valuation Administrator Rose Brady, Sheriff Charles Ring and Magistrate, 2nd District, Daryl Stacy, have signed the forms and paid the $50 fee.

All other county offices are up for election for a four-year term except for the Nicholas County Circuit Clerk, said Fryman. That office isn't up for election since the terms were staggered, making it last another year.

Candidates have until 4 p.m. Jan. 27, 1998 to file and pay the fee.