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# THE CARLISLE MERCURY

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## -In Brief- Parents invited to KIRIS Breakfast

The Nicholas County High School would like to invite the parents of the junior class to the KIRIS Send-Off Breakfast Monday, April 20, from 8:00-9:00 A.M. The school asks that parents come and show their support for the students who will be participating in KIRIS testing Tuesday, April 21, Thursday, April 30.

JMHC to host annual Awards Luncheon The Health Care Center Auxiliary will be hosting their annual Awards Luncheon for Volunteers Wednesday, April 22, at 11:30 A.M. at the Old Jail on Main Street in Carlisle. Past and present members are invited to attend as well as anyone who wishes to join the Auxiliary. Reservations are preferred and lunch will be served. Come out and support the volunteers who have worked so hard to bring health and happiness to this community.



## Fiscal Court says action to add culverts was legal

By Amy Rankin Managing Editor

The Nicholas County Fiscal Court met in regular session Tuesday, April 14. A large number of people crowded into the courtroom to discuss various issues of concern.

Session began with an opening of bids for the numerous services required by the county.

Only one bid was entered for road oil and was accepted unanimously by the Court.

Three bids were entered for tobacco and the Court voted to accept Denny Watkins' proposal.

The Court voted unanimously to accept both bids entered for asphalt.

Whitaker and Deposit Banks entered bids for the County's banking and entered discussion, the Court voted to accept Deposit Bank.

The last bids discussed were for ambulance services.

The Court voted unanimously to accept a bid of \$72,000 from the Nicholas County Ambulance Service.

A representative for Babe Ruth presented to the Court a plan for funding regarding the team.

Although the Court was not legally able to offer financial support to the team, a donation in the amount of \$150 was collected.

Carl Galbraith and Betty Crockett Pay, with the Senior Citizens' Center, discussed with the Court the various successes they have seen in the past year.

Galbraith stated that she hopes the County will continue to support the Center as it has for the past 18-20 years and presented a tentative budget schedule with no increases for the upcoming year.



Photo by Amy Rankin Representatives of the community discuss Nicholas County's future during a focus group with Community Action Council on Tuesday, April 14.



Photo by Amy Rankin Senator Denny Nunnelly discusses Nicholas County's economy during a focus group with Community Action Council and county representatives Tuesday, April 14.

The Court stated that they will carefully review the budget plan and contact Galbraith with a decision. Two concerned citizens of Nicholas County came out to dispute the addition of three culverts to a county-maintained road that crosses their property.

After a long and heated debate, the Court stated that the action was legal and no changes would be made regarding their decision.

Obviously distressed and angered, the two citizens left the Courthouse with answers they had not hoped to hear.

The Court continued with its regular business for the month by approving a number of bills and submissions.

County Attorney Jack Connelly reviewed a response from Frankfort to his earlier letter questioning the closing of a landfill in Nicholas County.

The Court must conduct a number of environmental tests before they can legally close the landfill, the letter informed.

Decisions were made to immediately begin taking the required steps to bring it to a close.

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## Locals discuss improvements with Community Action Council

By Amy Rankin Managing Editor

The Community Action Council held a focus group meeting during the meeting held at the Nicholas County Public Library Council held a special series of public meetings in March, which were intended to identify the needs of Nicholas County concerning issues of poverty.

Representatives of local businesses, churches, and organizations attended Tuesday's meeting, as well as State Senator Denny Nunnelly.

The group discussed various issues related to the advanced stage of poverty in the community and projected plans of action to begin correcting the problem.

In a somewhat heated discussion, locals expressed their opinions of how the town has been "left behind" and how Frankfort has not made any real efforts to contribute to the county.

Many of the people who voiced their concerns stated that a lack of involvement from local officials may contribute to the deteriorating effects from the State level of government.

The most obvious reason expressed by the group for the declined state of economy in Nicholas County is the lack of higher education, job skill training, and availability of work and child care.

The group also stated that parenting skills may be an issue that requires addressing, with Senator Nunnelly stating that this is a problem all over Kentucky.

The meeting was concluded after Court's approval of the financial report, Treasurer's monthly report and transfers, budget transfers, and acceptance of Raymond Roberts bid to assist proof the County Attorney's office.

Two injured in Bath County accident

Two people were injured in a single-vehicle crash just south of Sharpsburg in Bath County Wednesday, Kentucky State Police Post 8 in Morehead said.

Cathy L. McClure, 49, of Sharpsburg, was driving a north-bound 1997 Ford F250 pickup on KY 11 at 3:48 a.m. when the vehicle hydroplaned. The pickup then left the road, crossing a private drive and striking a culvert.

The pickup then came to rest on the passenger side. McClure and a passenger were taken by Bath County EMS to Mary Charles Hospital in Mt. Sterling, where they were treated and released.

Trooper Joe Verneaman is the investigating officer.

## Mayor, Judge-Executive officially declare April 19-25 as Johnson-Mathers Health Care Auxiliary Volunteers Week

By Amy Rankin Managing Editor

On Monday, April 13, Carlisle Mayor Bonnie Clark and Nicholas County Judge-Executive Charles Smith signed the official proclamation to declare the week of April 19-25 as Johnson-Mathers Health Care Auxiliary Volunteers Week in honor of National Volunteer Week, scheduled for the same dates.

The proclamation signing took place in the newly remodeled gift shop at JMHC, with Cassinda Beckman, Director

of Volunteers for the hospital, and officials for the Auxiliary presiding over the declaration.

Joah Shephard, Public Relations Director for JMHC, presided the proclamation for signing.

The proclamation states that the week recognized nationally as National Volunteer Week will be observed by both the City and County as a time of special recognition for the many dedicated volunteers that serve the hospital through the JMHC Auxiliary.

Also stated within the proclamation is a description of the many accomplishments realized by the Auxiliary Volunteers since they began

their work in 1978, including various donations of medical equipment and supplies distributed to the many health care organizations in Carlisle and Nicholas County.

CPA mannequins, pulley weights, ER curtains, and chairs for patient rooms are among the items donated by the Auxiliary in the past year alone.

The declaration of Johnson-Mathers Health Care Auxiliary Volunteers Week is intended as a special thank-you and salute from the hospital, City of Carlisle, and Nicholas County to all who give so much to their community.

Some of the issues the representatives hope to see the Council expand upon included child care, food and clothing banks, and parenting skills.

Margaret Hunter, with the Community Action Council, presented a number of ideas to help encourage and improve the lifestyles of the citizens, including classes on how to apply for a job and computer availability or training.

The meeting seemed to produce serious consideration of the community's situation and spawned a number of ideas that may prove to be extremely beneficial to Carlisle and Nicholas County citizens.

We need active people to come to Frankfort, Nunnelly stated at Tuesday's meeting. The overall opinion from the group concerning the services of the Community Action Council was very high praise.

Tom Osterman, of Deposit, Bank, and that his business continues its tradition of donating money to various areas of the community.

Senator Nunnelly informed the group that plans are currently being reviewed to build a new Health Center for Nicholas County and that we need to begin planning now for the expansion of US 88, which is scheduled for the next year.

He says that with improved access to the community, more industries may consider locating in Nicholas County.

Another issue the senator addressed was the lack of involvement from the community in response to officials in Frankfort.

Many of the people at Tuesday's meeting fear that the attitude of the community is too nonchalant towards advancement and improvement.

Other issues of concern addressed during the meeting related to health care and medical attention, with members of the group agreeing that Home Health is a wonderful service to the community that is simply in need of expansion.

Attendees were asked what each business or organization they represented was doing to improve or help the community on the various activities and donations their organizations and businesses have and are continuing to contribute to the community.

Pastor Darrell Sexton of the Assembly of God church, stated, "We are investigating the possibility of opening a day care center."

Plans and details for the center have not been completed however, and the church is still in the stage of considering the idea.

Bill Guthrie, of the Nicholas County Elementary School, says that they provide a wide range of services for students and families and are attempting to incorporate more technological studies into the school system, in addition to the many advancements they have already made.

Joyce Booth, a representative for the company provides employment for approximately 60% of Nicholas County and makes numerous donations to various youth organizations in the community.



Cassinda Beckman, Director of Volunteers for JMHC, far left, poses with Mayor Bonnie Clark, Judge-Executive Charles Smith, and members of the Hospital Auxiliary after signing the official proclamation Monday, April 13, to declare JMHC Auxiliary Volunteer Week.