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Renaissance Reading Committee to be appointed for high school

By Amy Rankin
Managing Editor

The Nicholas County High School Site Based Decision Making Council met at the Nicholas County High School on Wednesday, March 18, to discuss various events and decisions to be made concerning the school. A motion was made and reached by a consensus to appoint a Renaissance Reading Committee. This committee would determine the best program with the Accelerated Reading Plan for Nicholas County High School and would be assigned to analyze the current system, predict the success of the new system and decide where, when and how to implement their program. The committee would consist of Phyllis Gubser as chairperson and Karly Allison, Kathy Green, Jarred Wills, Jim

Lally, Iria Combs, Bobby Storey, Doug Bechman, and Bonnie Metcalfe as members. A motion to approve a trip to see the movie Titanic was approved for Business Board class with the stipulation that parental consent forms were signed. The council approved a trip for FFA and gave permission for the Basketball Banquet to be held April 8, 1998 in the school cafeteria. A donation of \$300 was also received to help with the costs of the banquet. The council decided to take no action on a request that a concession/storage building be built by the baseball field. Due to needed approval from the school board regarding building regulations, the council recommended that it be taken before the board. Council approved the request made by Tracie Goss and Jarred Wills to close the high school baseball field Anderson Field. A consensus was reached by the council to purchase and pay for half the cost of a pitching machine for the girls softball team, with the price not to exceed \$700. The council reached a consensus to approve Jim Lally as the Interim Guidance Counselor for the remainder of the year. An automated library system was approved by the council and funds will be taken from the 1997-1998 allocations and the general fund. Council voted to implement a new discipline rule to prevent students who attend Alternative school from participating in or attending school functions, activities or practice scheduled for the day they attend the school. The measure also calls for students who attend Alternative school on Friday to be barred from school functions, activities or practices for the week-end that follows.



Clean Community Campaign Kick-off
Carlisle Mayor Ronnie Clark and Nicholas County Judge-Executive Charles Smith sign the proclamation to begin the Clean Community Campaign on Tuesday, March 24. The Campaign is scheduled to begin Monday, March 30.

Chamber of Commerce meets to discuss Planners for a Better Community

By Amy Rankin
Managing Editor

The Carlisle-Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce hosted a Planners for a Better Community meeting on Monday evening, March 23, in the basement of the public library in Carlisle. Michael Hall and Brenda Bissett, representatives with The Center for Rural Development, conducted the meeting with Hall as the general speaker.

Hall discussed the various issues from the last meeting conducted in Carlisle and offered statistics on Nicholas County, released from the Economic Development Cabinet in Frankfurt. The statistics show that the population has been steadily decreasing in the past 40 years in the county and that employment opportunities with non-manufacturing facilities are not as competitive as those in other counties in the state.

The report of statistics also stated that there are currently 81 businesses in Carlisle and Nicholas county, a number that the attendees of last night's meeting would like to see increase. Hall discussed the possible actions the community could take to improve job availability in the county, which included more opportunities for higher education and high-level training for skilled labor.

Fish Fry to be held
Fish Fry by Budget Committee Saturday, March 28, 1998 at Wesley Chapel C.M.E. Church, 114 North Broadway. Fish Dinners Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Chili, Dogs or Hotdogs, Pie whole or slices. Reasonable prices. Pop. 11:00 am-1:00 pm.

Jockey gives knitting attendance awards Inside on Page 6

A sign-up sheet containing the names of specific civic organizations in the county was distributed through-out the group to delegate volunteers. The volunteers will be responsible for the promotion of community meetings like the one held last night that the Planners are currently attempting to schedule to gain input from the expanded areas of the county.

School board discusses high school renovation

By Amy Rankin
Managing Editor

The plan as presented allows for additions to the building as well as improvements to the existing structure. The board plans to appoint a committee to advise on the changes to be made during redevelopment and does not expect any construction to begin before all information is collected and processed to assess the definite needs of the school, it's students, and it's faculty.

Some of the possible inclusions to the renovation may be an elevator to assist students and teachers who are unable to maneuver the current series of stairs and corridors in the building and a new boiler, as well as other improvements with classroom situations.



The Nicholas County School Board discussed potential plans for school renovation at Monday's meeting on March 23.

Marsh seeks new trial

A Cynthiana attorney, Mark Marsh, was found guilty last Thursday, March 12, of tampering with evidence in the shooting of his former client, Edly Whitaker.

Whitaker was found dead outside Marsh's office Sept. 2, 1997. The charge was a felony and recommended sentencing was three years. End of story, right? Wrong. Douglas Wright, Marsh's defense attorney filed a motion Tuesday, March 17, for a new trial.

Wright said in his motion that Marsh's right to a fair trial had been prejudiced by testimony. He also cited that new evidence, notes written by Marsh from an interview with Whitaker and Starke Hill on Sept. 2, were found after sentencing.

By Amy Rankin
Managing Editor

Margaret Hunter and Linda Keling coordinated a special community dialogue on poverty Thursday evening, March 19, held in the basement of the Nicholas County Library.

The meeting was held as an open forum discussion to allow concerned citizens, representatives of Community Action, and local City and County officials to voice concerns and projected plans for the future of Carlisle and Nicholas County. Community Action plays an important role in the City by providing such services as the Head Start program for young children, a clothing bank, Shepherd's Place and the CAFE van service for the elderly and the energy program, as well as many others.

Many issues concerning the various problems in the county were discussed at the meeting. Some of the biggest problems the community face are transportation, lack of sufficient child care, the unavailability of jobs, housing needs and better education opportunities and job-skill training.

Wright included in his motion that the Commonwealth requested that no evidence or testimony concerning the cause or nature of Marsh's client's death be discussed. An agreement was made by the court that the case would focus on the charge of tampering with evidence, not murder. An objection was reportedly stated by Marsh's attorney saying that tampering with evidence and cause of death were "virtually impossible to separate."

Wright also included in his motion, "the charged offense required (Marsh's) specific intent to impair the availability of evidence in an official proceeding. Specific intent would suggest motive. Absent a motive, a jury could reasonably infer intent. For this reason, (Marsh) asserted the evidence regarding the manner in which Edward Whitaker died was relevant."

The defense attorney claims further prejudice in his motion by noting FBI Mark Barden's testimony during the trial in which he stated that Marsh had expressed his relief in not being charged with murder.

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Education and information: The ticket out of poverty?

Another major issue is insufficient housing in the County.

An increased shortage of rental property for both bonded housing and single-dwelling homes has plagued the community for some time now according to Mayor Clark. "It's sad that many people in the County still live without bathrooms and running water," the Mayor said. "I would like to see that change."

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Margaret Hunter spoke to Carlisle citizens about city's poverty situation at a special meeting on Thursday, March 19.