

Local church to send eight members to Russia Page 11

Graduate Salute to be published May 28

wards page 13

THE CARLISLE MERCURY

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-In Brief- 4-H Council to meet in May

The Nicholas County 4-H Council is inviting ALL citizens of Nicholas County to come join us at our next 4-H Council Meeting on Monday, May 18, 1998, at 6:30 in the Extension Office.

Bike-A-Thon scheduled for May

St. Charles's Research Hospital Bike-A-Thon will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Nicholas County Elementary School Parking Lot, Hardsgate, May 23. Contact: Debbie Worland, 289-2682 to sign up or donate.

Russell to visit Nicholas County

Democratic Congressional candidate Bob Russell will be in Nicholas County Thursday, May 14, 1998, at the Courthouse square, to begin his last tour of the Sixth Congressional district.

Mt. Sterling to host "Spring for the Arts"

The Montgomery County Council for the Arts presents the 7th Annual "Spring for the Arts" festival in downtown Mt. Sterling.

Featuring Homer Ledford and the Collin Cray Band, The Samples Brothers Band, and Woody Woods and His Orchestra, performing on the lawn in front of the Courthouse.

There will be artists from the region and several states with over 50 arts and crafts booths featuring a variety of work from pottery to candle making.

Also featured will be Square Dancing demonstrations and participation, quilt sales, children's activities, the Woman's Club "Lunch on the Lawn", a 4-H King and Queen Contest, Appalachian Fiber Guild demonstrations, British Car Club exhibit of antique cars, and much, much more!

Activities begin at 10:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

So join us on the brick streets in beautiful downtown Mt. Sterling for fun, food, and the Arts!

Graduate Salute to be published

The Carlisle Mercury will publish a special supplement honoring the Nicholas County High School 1998 graduates on May 28.

Included in this section are the senior photographs, honor students, messages to seniors, and other class activities/programs.

Parents, relatives and friends may include a message with photograph, to their graduate.

Any senior who did not submit a photograph to the yearbook staff may bring their photo to The Carlisle Mercury office.

Businesses are encouraged to sponsor this salute. For more information contact Erica Brierley or Amy Rankin at The Carlisle Mercury office, 224 N. Locust St., Carlisle, 606-289-2464.

Deadline for all submissions: May 20, by 5 p.m.

The Nicholas County Fiscal Court discusses lease with Homemakers

By Amy Rankin Managing Editor

The Nicholas County Fiscal Court met in regular session on Tuesday, May 12, to hear various proposals and discuss general business.

The first item on the agenda was a budget hearing from Mike Phillips, regarding the Nicholas County Extension Service for the upcoming fiscal year.

Phillips explained to the court that the increases reflected in the proposed budget plan concerned various matters such as a county tax increase, a larger allowance for mileage, phone service costs, the purchase of new equipment and postage needs.

After consideration, the court voted to tentatively approve the budget.

Absolute approval will not be given until the court meets in a special called session on Wednesday, May 20.

The Homemakers presented the court with their request to lease the first floor area of county representative out of the Armory building where they currently conduct various activities related to the organization.

The group asked that they be given access to the kitchen and office areas on the first floor to use for Extension purposes, as well.

Another request made by the Homemakers regarding the building concerned the demolition of roof repairs.

The court has promised to see that these repairs are made in the near future and will vote on the request for a lease of the building at their next regular meeting.

Representatives for the Nursing Home Ombudsman Agency of the Bluegrass presented a request to the court for financial assistance in the sum of \$2,000 to help continue their progress in working with elderly people and their families in 17 Kentucky counties, including Nicholas.

Carin Ostrander, Ombudsman for the Agency, discussed with the court the various types of assistance offered by the organization, explaining that there is an Ombudsman for every 145 residents of nursing homes in the Bluegrass region.

The court stated that they will review their last budget for the year and make a decision in their next regular session.

Insurance matters were discussed with the court by a county representative out of the Armory building where Mt. Sterling.

After beginning in detail the various benefits and secured coverage of the policy, the spokesperson referred the court to the overall premium of this plan, a number much lower than the current premium they now pay.

On the legal advice of County Attorney Jack Colley, the court decided to hold their decision until the special called meeting on May 20.

The last presentation made before the court involved a letter addressed to the court from Gladys Shroat of the Tourism Department.

Shroat expressed her thanks for the various donations and monetary support the Tourism Department for Nicholas County has received from the court.

The letter was followed by a further request for support in printing a brochure for the county.

The court decided to first review their budget before making a decision.

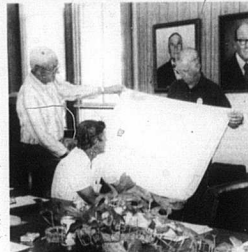
The next item discussed was the rededication of the Courthouse, scheduled for Sunday, May 24, at 2:00 p.m.

The American Legion made a request for a new building to be constructed on the area of land behind the Armory.

The Legion would then lease the building from the county for the purpose of conducting meetings and hosting community events.

The court decided to wait for a decision until the legality of the situation is examined thoroughly.

After discussions were completed, the court conducted general business and dismissed the session.



Judge-Executive Chuck Smith reviews blueprints of the proposed building plan for the American Legion on Tuesday, May 12.



Carol Ostrander, Ombudsman for the Nursing Home Ombudsman Agency of the Bluegrass, addresses Fiscal Court Tuesday, May 12.

Chamber of Commerce hosts "Meet the Local Candidates"

By Amy Rankin Managing Editor

The Carlisle-Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce sponsored "Meet the Local Candidates" on Thursday, May 7, at the Nicholas County Elementary School Cafeteria.

This meeting was open to candidates running for office in Nicholas County, both Republican and Democratic.

A large crowd of people filled the school lunch room to take part in this special event.

Each candidate was allotted three minutes to address the audience and to answer questions and plans for the community if elected to serve in their respective offices.

There was a total of twenty-six candidates present for the discussion, including candidates for Magistrate in District 15, PVA, Sheriff, County Attorney and Judge-Executive.

Some of the candidates for clerk and other law offices were also present: Ed Miller, candidate for State Senator; Jim Lovell, State Representative; and State Senator, Carolyn Richer, candidate for State Representative and Roy Gausner, candidate for Coroner.

Others receiving an honorable mention for their attendance at the meeting included Jack Colley, County Attorney, and Greg Row, Superintendent-elect.

Each of the candidates used their three minutes to relay their hopes and plans for the future of Nicholas County, as well as discuss taxes with the citizens in attendance.

After the candidates made their brief presentations, the group mingled together for a short time, giving everyone an opportunity to meet those running for election.

The audience was given the chance to present their questions and statements after the determination by submitting them in writing.

Jean Morris, the Master of Ceremonies for the evening, stated that two of the seven questions she received were too personal and proceeded to read the remaining five.

Four of the five questions were directed to the candidates for Nicholas County Judge-Executive.

The candidates were given the opportunity to confront the questions personally and make a brief statement concerning their position on the issues at hand.

The final question related to the candidates for PVA, asking where each of them lived and if they personally owned any property in Nicholas County.

They, too, were given a few moments to address their statements to address their situation concerning current issues after the questions had been answered.

Thinking everyone who had attended the special event, especially the candidates for office in Nicholas County.

Tri-County Homeschoolers host First Annual Field Day

By Amy Rankin Managing Editor

The Tri-County Homeschoolers held their First Annual Field Day and Picnic Celebration on Friday, May 8, at Little Switzerland Park, in Cynthiana.

The event marks the end of the 1997-1998 school year for the many students and participants who dedicate their time and energy to education.

Students who attended the field day participated in a number of outdoor physical training routines, including relay races, ladder jumping and basketball shooting, among other activities designed to challenge the children's stamina and reflex skills.

Students were divided into teams according to their ages and the top three winners of each game won ribbons for their efforts.

There was a total of forty students/athletes who competed in the day's events and each of them received a special ribbon in recognition of their participation.

After sporting activities were completed, the children were given a brief time to talk to one another and catch up on the details of their friends' lives.

Parents prepared a dinner of hot dogs, potato chips, baked beans and desserts for the students and the following between the group continued long after the food had been served.

Tri-County Homeschoolers began their organization during the 1991-1994 school year and have since grown in the number of counties that participate in the various events, field days and trips taken by the group.

Nicholas County has become one of the many counties represented by the Tri-County Homeschoolers, as well as Harrison, Bourbon, Pendleton and Scott, to name a few.

Current officers for the organization are as follows: Lauren Moore, President; Ina Blackburn, Vice President; and Laura Arms, Newsletter Coordinator.



Students with the Tri-County Homeschoolers enjoy a time of games, food and activities at their annual picnic on Friday, May 8. Additional photo on page 13.