

**AUG  
19  
1999**

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**Mercury  
Memories**  
50 years ago . . .  
Lighting struck and killed a cow,  
while heavy rains damage corn  
and tobacco crops  
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**THE CARLISLE MERCURY**  
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**BRIEFS**

**Deaths . . . Page 3**  
- Nettie Barnett

**School law  
work session**

The Nicholas County Board of Education will be offering a work session at the Nicholas County Board office for Board members and school administrators on August 19, from 9:00 until noon. The subject will be school law.

**Congressman  
Fletcher to host  
town meeting**

Congressman Ernie Fletcher will be having a town hall meeting at Carlisle, on August 19, at the National Guard Armory, located on Concrete Road, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

**Nicholas County  
Minor League  
Baseball Banquet**

The Nicholas County Minor League Baseball Banquet will be held on Friday, August 20, at 6:30 p.m., at the Nicholas County Elementary School Cafeteria. For details contact William Lemons at 289-7036.

**N.C.M.S.  
Football Practice**

The Nicholas County Middle School Football practice will be on August 23, at 4:30 p.m. at the Nicholas County High School.

**All players must have  
completed physical examinations  
in order to practice**

**N.C.E.S.  
Kindergarten  
Parent  
Orientation**

The Nicholas County Elementary School will be hosting a Kindergarten Parent Orientation on Tuesday, August 24, at 6:00 p.m.

**This is an opportunity for  
parents to meet their child's  
teacher, learn about classroom  
supplies that are needed and  
rules and guidelines**

**KSP Officer  
Finley to speak**

Curtis Finley, Public Affairs Officer for the Kentucky State Police will be speaking at the Healthy Seniors. A community service project of Johnson Mathers Health Care, Inc., on Thursday, August 26, at 7 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public.

**East Union  
Alumni dinner**

The East Union Alumni Association will be having a Pot Luck Dinner at the Nicholas County Elementary School Cafeteria on August 28 at 3:00 p.m.

**N.C.E.S.  
Open House  
for Parents**

Nicholas County Elementary School will be having a Open House for Parents on Monday, August 30, at 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.  
Meet with your children's teachers and learn more about what is expected from your child.  
Childcare will be provided. They will also be free food, door prizes and information tables.  
Every parent of a Nicholas County Elementary student is encouraged to attend.



Angie Hall photo  
Macy Casperson, AAA Travel Agent presented Carlisle Police officer Greg Turner a poster for the "School's open - Drive Carefully" campaign.

**Carlisle Police and AAA reminds us  
that "School's open - Drive Carefully"**

As school starts on September 1, The City of Carlisle and Police Chief Earl Finch would like to remind everyone that school has stops and reads will again be filled with children walking and biking their way to school. With this comes the increased risk of a deadly collision between a child and a motor vehicle, says the Blue Grass Auto Club Safety Foundation.  
"During the summer, drivers forget about school kids, bus stops and crossing zones," said James Stanley, Communications Coordinator for the Foundation. "We urge people, especially parents who are dropping their kids off at school, to pay extra attention during the first few weeks of school to avoid serious incident."  
To help make drivers aware of the dangers, the AAA Foundation has launched its annual "School's Open - Drive Carefully" campaign. "Kids are particularly vulnerable to being struck by a vehicle because their actions are unpredictable and they are smaller, making them harder to see," said Stanley.

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**Expansion plans for the future . . .  
Fleming County Water  
Association Project '98**

Several local, state and federal dignitaries from the Fleming County Water Association gathered recently at Blue Licks State Park to celebrate Project '98.

The project will supply practically all the households in the association's service area which includes sections of Nicholas, Bath, Fleming, Mason, and Lewis Counties with city water.  
A 185 acre well field with nine wells is a \$14 million project that will be located in the north western portion of Lewis County, known as Wilson Bottoms. A 1,000,000 gallon storage tank will be constructed.  
Tom Fern, State Director for USDA's Rural Development presented the association a grant of \$394,000 and loan of \$267,980 for another water line extension project which will be used for the installation of about 17 miles of water lines to serve users in Fleming, Mason, and Lewis Counties. The association will be providing \$16,800 for the project.

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**From 606 to "UKY"  
Nicholas County included in new area code change**

One reason that Lexington and its surrounding counties were chosen for the change was that they can more easily afford the costs inherited in changing an area code.

The new 859 area code that takes affect in April will have a six month grace period. During that time the old 606 code and the new code 859 will be used to dial telephones in the affected area.  
On December 1, 2000 the only dialing code that will be accepted will be the new 859.  
Counties that will be affected by the change will include Nicholas County.

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**Communications improve to ensure completion  
of Nicholas County High School renovations**

**KARI JORDAN  
Managing Editor**

The Nicholas County Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, August 16, at the School Board Offices in Carlisle.  
Ron Murrell Architect with Ross + Tarrant Architects, Inc. gave board members an update on the Nicholas County High School Addition and Renovation project.

Murrell informed board members that the second floor and administration suite would be completed in time for an occupancy certificate in time for school on September 1.

Phase V of the project which was scheduled to be completed in February was moved up to allow the district complete use of the second floor and administrative suite. The second floor offers more classrooms than the first floor.

The art, stage, and exterior areas consisting of the bus loop, walk way, is set to be completed by October 1. Temporary fencing will be put up to keep students out.

Some concerns with board members has been a lack of communication between Ross + Tarrant and D.W. Wilburn, the

contractor for the project. Ross + Tarrant has had some personnel changes while D.W. Wilburn has had to face broken contracts with sub contractors and lack of material available.

Murrell assured board members that a better communication line between himself, D.W. Wilburn and Board Representatives like Superintendent Greg Reid, and Director of Buildings and Grounds Gerald Hammans would take place in the future.

Superintendent Reid stated that since the personnel changes at Ross + Tarrant communication with Murrell has improved.

The board approved 13 change orders in the project, with some concern over the Hi/Li water coolers.

The Hi/Li water coolers were to be originally placed next to the elevator shaft on the second floor, but due to D.W. Wilburn's contract with Dover, the elevator manufacturer, failing Wilburn had to obtain another elevator which altered the preliminary elevator shaft. The Hi/Li coolers had to be separated into two different areas to allow for the new elevator opening.

Several board members expressed concern over additional changes for the change over, since

the change order was for a lack of contract with Dover and Wilburn.

Most of the other change orders dealt with issues that were structural and no one knew they had to be done until demolition began on the old high school.

"Things like this are anticipated on a project of this size," said Murrell.

On the brighter side of things Murrell said that the air conditioning units would be installed for use when school started instead of the December 1999 scheduled date.

The board also approved a \$431,292.60 payment to D.W. Wilburn, with understanding that Wilburn would make sure the building was being secured properly. Reid told Murrell that on several occasions the building had been vacant of construction crews, but doors had been left unsecured and unauthorized people had been found touring the build-

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**Man charged with murders  
near Blue Lick State Park**

**KARI JORDAN  
Managing Editor**

Three loggers, two from Lewis County and one from Mason County, were shot to death, then found in Fleming County on July 30, after being reported missing by family members.

The decomposed bodies of Charlie Highfield, 30, of Reeterville, Jack Highfield, 28, and Curtis Lee Tackett, 23, of Tolleboro, were found on Snow Hill, less than a mile from U.S. 68 and about 1.5 miles north of Blue Lick State Park, covered with brush and debris.

The men had been working near the Robertson County line cutting cedar trees on a farm owned by Boyd Sexton of Tolleboro.

Keith Bradley Malone, 20 of Oak Hill off Big Cabin Creek in Lewis County has been charged with three counts of murder and is being lodged in the Mason County Detention Center.

Malone who is also facing misdemeanor charges in Mason County and on probation for stealing tobacco from a Lewis County barn in December 1998, had been working with the three men on the day of the murders.

Kentucky State Police, Fleming County Sheriff's Department and Lewis County Sheriff's Department investigated the case along with forensic medical examiners and other specialists.

A truck belonging to one of the men was located in Paris and was sent to the State Police Crime Lab in Frankfort where it is being checked for evidence.

Malone had been interviewed by officials shortly after the bodies were discovered, but authorities apparently believed more evidence was needed before making an arrest.

Malone knew all of the victims and also reported owning some of the logging equipment the loggers had been using near their bodies, said a spokesman.

Members of the Nicholas County Board of Education voted at Monday evenings regular monthly meeting to hold a special meeting with the City of Carlisle.

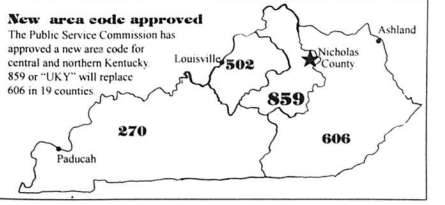
The meeting will be held within the next few weeks to discuss the City's desire to annex the School System into the City.

Board officials and City Council members will hold the meeting to discuss the purpose of the annex and to see what each other has to offer.

The meeting will be open to the public. Nicholas County Superintendent has assured the Carlisle Mercury that those wishing to speak at the meeting will have to sign up ahead of time, and that it will be a civilized meeting.

Mayor Ronnie Clark has stated that everyone is welcome to speak, however to keep the meeting at a minimum, spokespersons should be appointed by people with the same concerns to speak for the whole group.

Pick up next weeks Carlisle Mercury for more details on the meeting date and information on signing up to speak.



**New area code approved**

The Public Service Commission has approved a new area code for central and northern Kentucky. 859 or "UKY" will replace 606 in 19 counties.