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The Carlisle Mercury

PROUD TO BE SERVING NICHOLAS COUNTY SINCE 1867

Mercury to be closed for holidays

The Carlisle Mercury offices will be closed on Thursday, October 25th & Friday, October 26th, so that we may spend the Thanksgiving Holidays with our families.

We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause you but will see you Monday morning at 8:30 p.m. Thank you and have a nice Thanksgiving Dinner.



Briefs

Bicentennial Committee to meet

The Bicentennial Committee will be meeting on November 30, at 7:00 p.m., at the old jail. This will be the last meeting before the big event on December 18th.

Nicholas County Bookmobile fall schedule

The Nicholas County Public Library will be at Myers Road, Myers Station, Cassidy Creek Road and Moorefield on Tuesday, November 30th.

Nicholas County Conservation District Board to meet

The Nicholas County Conservation District Board of Supervisors will meet on Wednesday, December 1, 1999 at 7:00 p.m., at the old armory in Carlisle.

Fiscal Court meeting is set

The regular monthly meeting of the Nicholas County Fiscal Court will be held on Tuesday, December 14, at the Fiscal Courtroom located at the Nicholas County Courthouse. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Give Thanks

Obits

Deaths, Page 4
 • Mary McClellan Robinson Briefly
 • Raymond Paul "Fats" Garrett
 • Frank O. Ritchie

Bluejackets make their mark on EKC Banquet

The Nicholas County Bluejackets have made their mark in Nicholas County, not only by winning the District Championship, but by receiving top honors at last Thursday evening Eastern Kentucky Conference Banquet.

Coach Greg Letcher who has been at Nicholas County for 17 years and led the Bluejackets to a 9-1 record in regular season play walked away with Coach of the Year. In an interview earlier this week, EKC Commissioner Gary Kidwell told **The Carlisle Mercury** that "Coach Letcher is one of the great coaches in High School Football today. He was an outstanding athlete when he was in high school and continues to carry the tradition in his coaching profession. He is a caring person and it couldn't have happened to a nicer person."

EKC
PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Weston Amos

EKC
LANDSMAN OF THE YEAR
Timmy Crump

EKC
COACH OF THE YEAR
Greg Letcher

See EKC on Page 2

Governor signs emergency declaration banning all outdoor burning

Governor Paul Patton signed an Emergency Declaration on November 18, 1999, included in the declaration is a ban on all outdoor burning in the state unless first approved by the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet. The severe forest fire season and the drought conditions statewide prompted this action.

The declaration also states, "All state law enforcement personnel in the Commonwealth shall enforce this Executive Order. All local governments are also requested to direct their law enforcement personnel to aid in the enforcement of this order."

The declaration authorizes the Kentucky Division of Forestry to request federal assistance to minimize human suffering, restore public services, and alleviate unanticipated financial obligations resulting from this emergency. "The total cost of this emergency may not be known for several months but the current estimate is well over four million dollars," said Mark Matuzewski, Director of the Kentucky Division of Forestry.

The short-term forecast of rainfall is dismal. "It will take a substantial rainfall to improve forest fire conditions. Several inches of slow, steady rainfall are needed," said Matuzewski. Firefighters continue to battle fires occurring throughout the state, primarily in eastern and southeastern Kentucky. The National Guard continues to provide air and ground support, and several prison crews are also providing fire crews.

Anyone caught violating this order shall be subject to fines and/or imprisonment as provided in KRS 39A.990 and other fines, penalties, or imprisonment provided by other state laws. To report violations of this order, please call the state police or your local law enforcement officials.

LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT GIFT... This Afghan and Christmas Ornaments are just a few of the many Nicholas County Memorabilia that is available for sale.

Former Nicholas County Coach inducted into Martin College Sports Hall of Fame

Karlton Jordan
 Managing Editor

On Saturday, November 13 during the Homecoming ceremonies at Martin Methodist College former Nicholas County Basketball and Baseball Coach Don Burton was inducted into the Martin's Sports Hall of Fame along with William C. Johnson and Harold D. Murrell.

Burton who began his coaching career in 1957 at Bell County High School then went on to teach at several high schools in Kentucky, including Nicholas County (1962-66). During his high school coaching career Burton's high school basketball teams compiled a 459-234 record and won four district championships, three county championships, and one conference championship. Burton was the Eastern Kentucky Mountain Conference Basketball Coach of the Year in 1967 and 1968. He was commissioned a Kentucky Colonel in 1962 for outstanding and dedicated service to the youth of Kentucky.

Burton, who coached five years at Martin beginning in 1969 had the best overall season record in the school's history at present. He led the basketball teams to 10-12 and the football teams were 45-18. The Martin basketball team was nationally ranked in 1970-1971 and 1974. Burton was inducted into the Martin's Association of Champions in 1975 and National Junior College Athletic Association in 1976. Burton was an All-American basketball player and a two-time baseball pitcher. He was EKC's Basketball Coach of the Year in 1970 and 1971 and NEAA Region VII Basketball Coach of the Year in 1971.

Burton is now retired and lives with his wife Betty Kers Burton on the Beecher Farm area.

Information needed for missing service members

Based on notifications by Kentucky's 8th and South Kentucky governments, the Department of Defense has been prompted to send home 54 missing in action and 65 unaccounted for South Korean soldiers from World War II.

See Missing on Page 2



A SONG OF THANKS... Members of the Carlisle Christian Church perform the song "Strong and Take Courage" during the Nicholas County Community Thanksgiving Service. Pictured are from left Denise Gulliland, Donna Gial Mattos, Mary France Terrell, Jeanette Hughes, Linda Gallagher, Mary Stewart and Lois Gattis.

Nicholas County to be formed from Bourbon and Mason Counties

Karlton Jordan
 Managing Editor

An Act for forming a new County out of the Counties of Bourbon and Mason as Approved December 18, 1799.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the general assembly That all that part of the counties of Bourbon and Mason which lie within the following boundaries, to wit: Beginning at the mouth of Fleming creek, and to run thence along the Fleming county line to the mouth of the Flat fork of Johnson's fork of Licking, thence on a straight line to a beech tree marked, six miles from the Lower Blue Licks, at near the middle trace, thence a straight line to where the Bracken line crosses the said North fork, thence with the said Bracken line to Licking river, thence up said river to the Bourbon and Harrison line, thence with the said line so far that a line run parallel with the general course of that part of Licking river, which is included between the Upper Blue Licks and the point where the Bourbon and Harrison line strikes the said river, shall cross the Limestone road at an ash stump, near the Irish Station, the beginning place of certain surveys made for Hawes and others, the said line to continue the same course to the Montgomery line, thence with the said line to Licking river, and thence down the said river to the place of beginning, shall be one distinct county, called and known by the name of Nicholas; that the said county of Nicholas, shall not be entitled to a separate representation until the number of free male inhabitants therein is increased above the age of twenty-one years, shall entitle them to one representative, agreeable to the ratio established by law.

(NOTION 1799 ANNO, CLIPPER CUM LIB. Pina 266)

This year, 1999, Nicholas County is celebrating its 200th Anniversary. It was formed in 1799, to become effective June 1, 1800. Nicholas is the 2nd county in order of creation, named in honor of Col. George Nicholas, a soldier in the Revolutionary War who later took a prominent part in the convention which formed the first constitution of Kentucky. A portion of Nicholas County was taken to form Robertson County in 1807.

In 1774 what is now known as Kentucky was first settled at Fort Harrodsburg. A Virginia law passed that same year donating 100 acres of land in Kentucky to every person who made an improvement, built a cabin, cleared a piece of ground and raised a crop of Indian Corn. This law brought many adventurous people into Kentucky in the first couple of years.

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