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10 years ago  
 Fair destroys home on  
 Crooked Creek Road.  
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Today!  
 Copies available on newsstands around Nicholas County

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 1999

# The Carlisle Mercury

PROUD TO BE SERVING NICHOLAS COUNTY SINCE 1867

VOL. 133, NO. 40 Thursday, October 7, 1999 - CARLISLE, KY

**-Briefs-**  
**JMHC Ladies Auxiliary Rummage Sale**  
 The JMHC Auxiliary will hold a rummage sale on Saturday, Oct. 9, starting at 7 a.m.  
 For more information contact Cassinda Buchanan at 289-7181.

**N.C. Fiscal Court monthly meeting set**  
 The Nicholas County Fiscal court will have its regular monthly meeting Tuesday, Oct. 12, at 4 p.m., at the Courthouse.

**Veterans Assistance**  
 Veterans and their families will be provided information, assistance, and counseling in filing claims for state and federal benefits by an American Legion Service Officer and a Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs Service Officer on Wednesday, October 13, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the American legion Post 22 home on Winchester Road, Mt. Sterling.  
 Please bring Service Discharge Certificate, DD214 and any other documents necessary to substantiate claims.

**Patton to visit Nicholas County**



Governor Paul Patton will be meeting with residents on Wednesday, Oct. 13, at 4-4:45 p.m., at the Nicholas County Courthouse. The public is invited to attend.

**Carlisle City Council monthly meeting set**  
 The Carlisle City Council will have its regular monthly meeting on Thursday night, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m., at the City Building.



Ryan Hunter #46, Daniel Bowles #50, Sky Lehman #52, and Jacob Broderick #68, run to protect the ball to give Nicholas County one of its first downs of the 67 to 6 victory over Millersburg Military Academy.

**The Bluejackets defeat Millersburg 67-6**

**The drive is still alive**

Nicholas County Bluejackets defeated Millersburg Military Academy last Friday. The Bluejackets who have had a undefeated season had no competition against Millersburg. Millersburg was unable to score against the Bluejackets until the second quarter to give Nicholas County a 39-0 lead at half time over Millersburg.

**Unemployment rates drop in 62 Kentucky counties including Nicholas County in August**

Unemployment rates fell in 62 Kentucky counties between July and August, rose in 53 and remained the same in five counties, according to the Department for Employment Services, a Cabinet for Workforce Development agency.  
 From August 1998 to August 1999, jobless rates fell in 61 counties, went up in 55, and stayed the same in Letcher, menifee, Rockcastle and Scott counties. In August 1999, 10 counties had jobless rates at or above 10 percent. Nine counties recorded double-digit rates in July 1999 and nine in August 1998.  
 Trimble County's 1.2 percent jobless rate was the lowest in the commonwealth. Magoffin County recorded the state's highest unemployment rate at 13.9 percent.  
 Nicholas County's 3.4 percent was slightly lower than July's 3.9.  
 Unemployment statistics are based on estimates and are compiled to measure trends rather than actually to count people working. Civilian labor force statistics include non-military workers and unemployed Kentuckians who are actively seeking work. They do not include unemployed Kentuckians who have not looked for employment within the past four weeks.

**14 year-old killed in accidental shooting**

The following news article by Ken Metz, Publisher appeared in the Bath County News- Outlook. Metz has granted us permission to run the article in this week's paper.

A tragic accident claimed the life of a Bath County youth this past weekend when a shotgun discharged and struck the boy in the head, just as he was walking through a door.  
 Craig Wesley Ritchie II, age 11, was killed when the gun went off at his best friend's home on First Avenue in Clay City.  
 Ritchie and a friend were planning to go squirrel hunting Friday and were out of school as the result of a professional development day. The incident took place around 10 a.m.  
 Sonja Puckett said her son and his best friend, had both undergone formal gun safety training. She also said the two were close like brothers and never hunted without adult supervision.  
 Puckett stated that the boys were not mishandling the gun, just that it fell and went off and  
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**Dixon found dead**

80 year old Nicholas County farmer Donnie Dixon was found dead in his field on Headquarters road by family members.  
 Kentucky State Police at Day Ridge are investigating the death of Donnie Ray Dixon of Carlisle as a homicide.  
 Dixon was found Monday morning and was pronounced dead by Nicholas County Deputy Coroner Brent Gaunce.  
 The body was sent to Frankfort on Tuesday for an autopsy.  
 State Police detectives Steve Auvershine and Robert Wilson have begun a homicide investigation.



Democrats come together to have fun at Fish Fry. Democrats from across Kentucky and Nicholas County who spoke at Saturday's Democratic Fish Fry. Pictured from left are State Representative Carolyn Belcher, Nicholas County dentist Dr. Robert Sparks, Senator Ed Miller, and former Lexington Mayor and U.S. House of Representative Scotty Beasler.

**New publisher has extensive background in newspapers**

Jack McNeely, an energetic West Virginian with an extensive background in newspaper design, editing, advertising composition, management and public affairs, has been named publisher of *The Morehead News* Group.  
 Robert R. Hammond, vice president and division manager for Community Newspapers Holding, Inc., introduced McNeely Monday to the bi-weekly *Morehead News*, *The Shopping News* and four sister weekly newspapers located in Frenenburg, Olive Hill, Grayson, Carlisle and Greenup.  
 "I am very excited to be associated with *The Morehead News* and its sister publications and their respective staffs," said the 32-year-old. "It is my ultimate goal to provide the leadership necessary to catapult *The Morehead News* Group into the next millennium."  
 McNeely is the former general manager of *The Logan Banner*, a daily newspaper located in the heart of the southern West Virginia coal fields. During his nine-year stint with *The Banner*, McNeely served in a kaleidoscope of positions, including sports editor, news editor and managing editor.  
 After graduating with honors from the U.S. Army's Defense Information School at Fort Benning Harrison, Ind. in 1986, McNeely began his newspaper career at *The Coal Valley News*, a weekly publication in Madison, W. Va.  
 In addition to his editorial background, McNeely spent the past 13 months as general manager, where his responsibilities included but were not limited to providing fiscal management, organizational and logistical support, setting general editor- al and advertising policies, spearheading advertising promotions and aiding in the update of the *Banner's* circulation and accounts receivable systems.  
 Perhaps his best leadership and management experience came in 1998 when McNeely served eight months as a public affairs specialist in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Not only were McNeely's soldier stories published in *The Talon*, a weekly magazine, he was honored with the United States Army Europe's Public Affairs Award of Excellence.  
 While in Bosnia, Staff Sgt. McNeely also served as a non-commissioned officer in charge (NCOIC) of two separate mobile public affairs teams located at different base camps.  
 "I will apply those leadership, organizational and logistical  
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Stephanie Davis photo  
 Jack McNeely has been named publisher of *The Morehead News* group. He will be spearheading the efforts of the bi-weekly *Morehead News*, *The Shopping News* and four sister weekly newspapers located in Frenenburg, Olive Hill, Grayson, Carlisle and Greenup.

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