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SEPTEMBER 12

50 years ago ...
Moorefield Christian Church holds homecoming services.
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The Carlisle Mercury

PROUD TO BE SERVING NICHOLAS COUNTY SINCE 1867

Vol. 133, No. 36 Thursday, September 9, 1999 - CARLISLE, KY

- Briefs -

Deaths, Page 3
• Mae Ashcraft
• Gletha Creech
• Harriet Hamon
• Charles Rose
• Franklin Watkins
• Linda Worthington

City Council regular monthly meeting set

The Carlisle City Council will have its regular monthly meeting Monday, September 13, at 7:00 p.m., at the City Building.

N.C. Fiscal Court meeting set

The Nicholas County Fiscal Court will have its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 14, at 4:00 p.m., at the Nicholas County Court House.

N.C.H.S. Site Based Council to hold meeting

The Nicholas County High School Site Based Council will have its regular monthly meeting Wednesday, September 15, at 6:00 p.m. The location for the meeting has not yet been decided.

City Council regular monthly meeting

The Carlisle City Council will have its regular monthly meeting Monday, September 13, at 7:00 p.m., at the City Building.

N.C. Board of Education to have meeting

The Nicholas County Board of Education will have its regular monthly meeting on Monday, September 20, at 7 p.m., at the Nicholas County Board of Education Office.



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Teachers voice concern over City's proposal to annex school system ... City Council and School Board Members host special called meeting

KARI JORDAN
Managing Editor

On Tuesday evening a crowd of about 40 teachers and concerned residents of Nicholas County attended a special called meeting by the City of Carlisle and the Nicholas County School Board.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the city's decision to annex the Nicholas County School System along with other residents in the area. The City council voted at the last council meeting to table the action until a public meeting could be held.

At the opening of the meeting Mayor Ronnie Clark spoke to the city would offer the school system and those annexed.

Clark informed board members that the school system would save \$2,764,666 a year in utility bills and the residents would be offered water and sewerage as well as police protection.

The Carlisle Police Department presently reports to the school property anytime an incident is reported through 911. Although it is not their responsibility, by law, it sometimes offers the school system a faster response than the Sheriff's Department and the Kentucky State Police, according to Clark.

"No one likes to pay taxes. I know I don't, but I do it anyway, cause I see that it's bettering the community that I live in," said Clark.

Sharon Wilson addressed city council members by telling a story of a 22 year old teacher who has a small family, and is faced with the small income a new teacher receives.

The teacher is trying her best to provide their family with a living while trying to pay monthly bills, payback student loans, and fork out more money for a masters degree that they must earn in just 10 years, while trying to work at the same time.

Fayette County teachers pay a 2.5% city tax, but receive 10 percent more income than those in Nicholas County, as well as surrounding counties.

"I will gladly pay 2.5 percent in city taxes in exchange for 10 percent more income," said Sharon Wilson.

Nicholas County superintendent Greg Reid stated that if employees are faced with a one percent city tax, that the employees would probably request a raise in salary.

"We are already faced with a shortage of teachers. School systems in nearby counties are offering more money, and now with a one percent city tax, who could possibly lose more employees," said Reid.

Anne Baird addressed Reid and board members about the possibility of raising school taxes if the annexation is passed, and what their intent was.

"If a raise is necessary to employ teachers, the additional revenue would be through the school tax and everyone in the county will be faced with the higher tax," said Reid.

Board Member Josh Shepherd brought up the idea of not imposing the city tax to school employees until the next fiscal year. To allow school officials time to prepare for how they will be affected.

Clark told Shepherd that the decision was up to council members, but that he saw no problem with something like that happening.

The conversation increased public awareness by submitting photos and news articles to the community's newspapers and continue to provide the producers with a copy of the Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality Workbook free of charge.

Bulletin Boards list postings of lease-in and lease out of burley tobacco quotas.

An elementary awards program was held for winners of the annual writing and art contest with around 80 in attendance.

The Nicholas County Bluejackets will host the Fleming County Panthers Friday evening at home starting at 7 p.m.

The Bluejackets will try to hold on to their undefeated season Friday evening as they take on the Panthers.

The game is the first home game of a two-week home schedule.



Mayor Ronnie Clark addressed the Nicholas County School Board at a special called meeting Tuesday evening. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the city's proposed annexing of the School System and surrounding area.

Nicholas County Conservation District releases annual report

The Nicholas County Conservation District has released its annual report for the year ending June 30, 1999.

Some of the services and activities, during the past fiscal year of the District included:

A Soil and Water stewardship breakfast for the Carlisle-Nicholas County Ministerial Association and Representatives from churches in Nicholas County with 21 guest present.

They provided literature for soil and water stewardship week to churches in Carlisle and Nicholas County, distributed posters and provided place mats to community restaurants to be used during the week.

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Incentive payments of \$250 for heavy use area live stock feeding was promoted. Seven applications completed and five have been approved but not yet completed.

North Central 4-H Camp was provided with 20 observation plants pocket ID guides to be used with camps.

Material was funded for picnic tables at the Nicholas County

Elementary School out-door classroom.

Lovell Hollar received a Honor of Award Certificate from the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts for 45 years of service to the Nicholas County Conservation Board.

A complete report may be obtained by stopping by the District Office at 328 East Main Street. The office is open Tuesday - Thursday each week.

Unemployment rates drop in 88 Kentucky counties in July

Unemployment rates fell in 88 Kentucky counties between June and July and rose in 32, according to the Department of Employment Services, a Cabinet for Workforce Development agency.

From July 1998 to July 1999, jobless rates fell in 65 counties, went up in 47, and stayed the same in Bourbon, Greenup, Grayson, Harrison, Jefferson, Maitland, Powell and Washington counties. In July 1999, nine counties had jobless rates at or above 10 percent. Thirteen counties recorded double-digit rates in June 1999 and nine in July 1999.

Jessamine County's 1.5 percent jobless rate was the lowest in the commonwealth. Other low rates were recorded in Fayette County, 1.9 percent; Trimble County, 2 percent; Boone, Garrard and Oldham counties, 2.1 percent; Madison County, 2.2 percent; Mercer County, 2.3 percent; Franklin County, 2.4 percent; Campbell, Grant, Kenton and Todd counties, 2.5 percent each.

Monroe County recorded the states highest unemployment rate of 12.5 percent. It was followed by Taylor County, 12.3 percent; Carter and Martin counties, 11.8 percent; Elliott and Green counties, 11.5 per-

cent; Fulton County, 11.2 percent; Magoffin County, 11.1 percent; Lewis County, 10.6 percent; and Hancock County, 9.9 percent.

For Nicholas County the employment rate rose from 3.3 percent in June 1999 to 3.8 percent in July 1999. He ever July 1998 it was a high 14.6 percent.

Gospel Festival to support Cancer

The Nicholas County Cancer Coalition and Whitaker Bank of Carlisle, will be hosting the annual Nicholas County Gospel Festival on Saturday, September 18.

The event will be held at the Nicholas County Elementary School, starting at 11:00 a.m.

There will be a health fair during the event that will provide "goers" the opportunity to give blood for Central KY Blood Center.

The concert will feature six different performances, all with a wide variety of music. There is no admission charge. Door prizes will be awarded and their will be a variety of food. Come out and have a good time for a good cause.