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The Carlisle Mercury

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Thursday, January 18, 2001

Heat assistance program returns

By Elicha Insko
Staff Writer

Cold weather, high fuel costs, limited resources. That's what thousands of Central Kentucky households are facing this winter, right now.

Although two weeks ago, it was announced that federal funding for energy assistance had been increased, staff members at Community Action Council in Lexington have witnessed that federal resources alone will not solve the crisis facing the community in the coming months.

Low income working families and fixed income seniors are already looking for help from organizations such as Community Action by the dozens as they struggle to find the resources to pay heating bills that are as much as double from last year. These and many more households will again be faced with dilemma as they receive January, February and March bills.

Restrictions in the amount and type of funds available threaten to leave some households "in the cold." Federal funds are limited by strict income eligibility guidelines, and limited fixed amounts allowed per household per year, which do

not cover the cost of their heating bills.

Further, federal funds are rapidly being depleted. WinterCare funds in the Lexington area reached such a low level in early January that the program was temporarily shut down.

Community Action Council held a press conference on Thursday morning January 11. The press conference was to announce that the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, Local Businesses and Community Organizations pulled together to help low income residents pay for winter energy bills.

Funds are currently available at Community Action Council for Fayette, Bourbon, Harrison and Nicholas Counties. The funds will go to those residents who have not received funding already this year. Federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Crisis funds and Federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) subsidy funds are currently available at the Community Action Council for Fayette, Bourbon, Harrison and Nicholas Counties for households faced with a disconnection service and that meet the program's income guidelines. WinterCare funds are also available.

Bluegrass Dance & Cheer...



Members of the Nicholas County Middle School Cheerleading Squad are Britany Baird, Leslie Gilvin, Danielle Evans, Kara Wells and Samantha Bassett. The squad captured fourth place Saturday at the Bluegrass Cheer & Dance Competition at Lexington Catholic.
Elicha Insko photo

NCMS cheerleaders bring home trophy

By Elicha Insko
Staff Writer

On Saturday, January 13, 2001, the Nicholas County Middle School Cheerleaders participated in the Middle School State Cheer and Dance Bluegrass Classic held at Lexington Catholic School.

The girls met at the elementary school at 6:30 a.m. on Saturday morning to travel to Lexington for the event.

They competed in Cheer 2 1/2 Minute Division I of the competition. There were four divisions for cheerleading teams, based on school enrollment, and three divisions for dancers, based on dancing style.

The girls have spent numerous weeks and long, hard hours preparing for this event.

There are fifteen girls on the squad and they are coached by Becca Johnson.

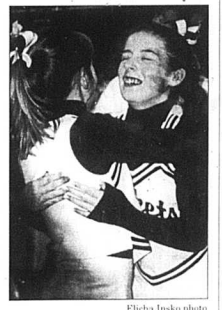
The Nicholas County Middle School cheerleading squad placed fourth in their division and will compete in the state competition on March 3, 2001.

"I am very proud of these girls, they have worked hard to get where they are. I could not ask for a better group of girls," says Coach Becca Johnson.

Tiffany Ruser and Leslie Gilvin were among several girls who received door prizes that were given away just before the award ceremony.

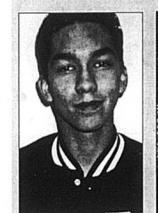
Numerous parents, friends and family attended the all day event to support the girls.

The Middle School Cheerleaders will not only be participating in State Competition in March, they are scheduled to compete on January 27 in State Cheer and Dance and on February 10 in the Bluegrass Conference Competition.



Elicha Insko photo
Chrissy White, right, celebrates with a teammate the squad's fourth place finish and berth in the state meet.

Students of the Week



NCHS student of the week
Chris Shumway

This week *The Carlisle Mercury* is proud to recognize the student of the week at the Nicholas County High School.
Chris is a senior at the Nicholas County High School and the son of Teresa Lynn Shumway.
His interests include academic and governor's cup teams, track and football.
Chris attends Blue Licks Christian Church and assists in their SOS Program for children.
He was nominated by Mrs. Cornelius because he is a self-motivator and a hard worker.



NCES student of the week
Daniel Fugitt

This week *The Carlisle Mercury* is proud to recognize the student of the week at the Nicholas County Elementary School.
Daniel is in the eighth grade at Nicholas County Elementary and the son of Margy and Roy Fugitt.
His interests include history, computers, junior honor society, and a member of Mt. Zion Christian Church.
Daniel was nominated by Mr. Manise because he is an excellent student who excels in Social Studies.

New columnist debuts on Op-Ed page today

The Carlisle Mercury is proud to announce the addition of a new syndicated columnist Jim Davidson. With almost 200 newspapers in 35 states running this column, it is believed to be the fastest growing self-syndicated column in America.
Mr. Davidson is a Christian businessman and a native of Arkansas. He is down-to-earth and a strong believer in traditional family values, the merits of hard work and high moral standards. His career as a public speaker and motivational

consultant has spanned more than 30 years and much of this time has been spent working with administrators, teachers and students in our nation's public schools. He is a NEWS PAPER IN EDUCATION sponsor in his local community and many of his columns deal with issues facing parents and students in today's society.
In addition to his involvement in education, Jim brings a broad base of practical, business and community service experience to his column. He is the author of

two books, "YOU CAN BE THE BEST" and "HOW TO PLAN YOUR LIFE" along with a cassette series titled, "AMERICA: A Brief Glimpse Of All 50 States."
But more importantly he lives what he believes and espouses. Some of his many awards and achievements include: Arkansas Salesman of the Year, Chairman of the membership sales organization of the Little Rock Chamber Of Commerce.
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Jim Davidson



Newspaper Holdings, Inc.
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• Frank Jackson

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