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The Carlisle Mercury

"Proud to be serving Nicholas County since 1867"

50¢

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Across Nicholas County

Veterans rep to be in Carlisle

A Veterans Benefits Field Representative with the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs will be at the Nicholas County Courthouse in Carlisle on the third Wednesday of each month, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Veterans and their families may receive counseling and assistance in applying for state or federal veterans benefits.

This is a free service, provided by the state department of veterans affairs. Bring appropriate documents at visit.

For details or to answer questions, call 1-866-376-0305. Leave a message if office staff are unable to answer.

Free higher ed guide for seniors

The 2001-2002 edition of "Getting In," a free guide to postsecondary education in Kentucky, is now being sent to guidance counselors for distribution to all high school seniors.

The booklet is published by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority and is available online at www.kheaa.com, as well. It offers information on financial aid.

For more information, call 1-800-928-8926.

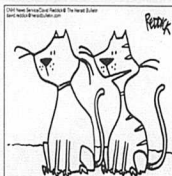
Assistance for adults returning to school online

Adults interested in returning to school have an online guide to help them plan and pay for college or technical training. The 2001-2002 edition of Adults Returning to School can be accessed at www.kheaa.com, the website of Kentucky's Higher Education Assistance Authority.

It is the state agency that administers grants, scholarships, work-study, savings, federal family education loans and related information for Kentucky students.

For more information about programs and services, write to the Kentucky Higher Assistance Authority, 1050 U.S. Highway 127 S, Frankfort, KY, 40601-4323 or call 1-800-928-8926, extension 7391.

Reddick's Rhetoric



"The bad news is, I just found out I have fleas. The good news is, that would explain the little voices I've been hearing in my head."

Local residents make New Year's resolutions

By RON MIDDLETON
Staff Writer

With the beginning of a new year comes the most dreaded of traditions - the New Year's Resolution - and Nicholas County residents are no exception.

The beginning of a new year has always been a time for both looking back at the past year and also looking forward into the next.

Resolutions are those little promises we make to ourselves either to improve ourselves (losing weight, stopping smoking or erase other negative habits) or improve the way we interact with our fellow man.

Whether or not we stick to them is another story.

When asked, most people around Nicholas County had something to say on the subject, such as:

"I've got lots of them - probably too many to mention," Becky

"I'm afraid to make any. Last year's flopped."

--Linda Crain
Main Event Video



"A better diet... and to spend more time with my family"

-- Juanita Hunt
Carlisle Variety

Garrett told *The Carlisle Mercury*. New Year's resolutions have been made and broken for over 4,000 years, dating back to the early Babylonians, who celebrated their new year in March to coincide with the planting of their crops. It was their belief that what we do on the first day of the year will have an effect on the rest of the year.

Here's what local residents had to tell *The Carlisle Mercury* about their New Year's resolutions:

• **Kim Blake**, who was shopping at Carlisle Gifts and Collectibles: "I don't do it because I'm just going to break it anyway."

• **Connie Howard**, Main Event Video: "I'm afraid to make any. Last year's flopped."

• **Juanita Hunt**, Carlisle Variety: "Maybe to eat better - a better diet, in other words - and spend more time with my family."

• **Brenna Fraser**, Carlisle Variety: "To not complain so much."

• **Linda Soper**, Hopkins Drug: "I can't think of any right now, but there ought to be some though. I should be a better troubleshooter."

And remember, there are only 362 days left to think about next year's resolutions!

"To not complain so much."

--Brenna Fraser
Carlisle Variety



"I don't do it because I'm just going to break it anyway."

-- Kim Blake
Gifts and Collectibles patron

Register for Gas prices still dropping

Register for spring MSU classes

By RON MIDDLETON
Staff Writer

The beginning of a new year also marks the time for a new semester at Morehead State University.

Registration for the MSU spring semester will be conducted Thursday and Friday, Jan. 10 and 11, from 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. each day. Registration will also be held in Mt. Sterling, Thursday, Jan. 10, from 4 to 6 p.m.

See REGISTRATION on 2

Local poets invited for contest

The International Library of Poetry has announced that \$25,000 in prizes will be awarded this year in the International Open Poetry Contest. Poets from the Carlisle area, particularly beginners, are welcome

See CONTEST on 2

Gasoline prices across Kentucky continue to drop, heading down to the magic average price of \$1 per gallon or lower, according to AAA.

Heading toward Christmas, the statewide average for a gallon of unleaded regular is \$1.03, down 14 cents from last month and down 30 cents from one year ago. Kentucky has the 12th cheapest gas prices in the United States.

Average prices for key cities include Lexington, 98 cents; Louisville,



\$1.07; Ashland, 98 cents; Covington, \$1.08; and Owensboro, 97 cents.

The nationwide average price of gasoline moved lower in

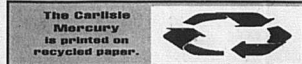
advance of the Christmas holiday and now averages \$1.07 per gallon.

"Prices could drop even further after the holidays when the demand for gasoline normally slows anyway - so a nationwide average gasoline price of under \$1 per gallon is becoming a real possibility for the new year," said Dan Dickson, Public Relations Manager for AAA Blue Grass/Kentucky. "Refiners see

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Weather

See the forecast on page 2!



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