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**Opinion**

*Opinion*  
DVD review: Orange County

*Opinion*  
On the Record

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**GARRY BARKER**



Cough, sputter, choke - tiller trouble

"Mostly I am reminded that, for about the same money, I could have bought a real tiller."

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# The Carlisle Mercury

Proud to be serving Nicholas County since 1867

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## Across ■ Happy campers

### Nicholas County

**Blackberry Festival set**  
The Annual Blackberry Festival begins Monday, July 1, until Saturday, July 6, on the courthouse lawn.

The will be rides, food and games for all ages.

### Library closed next week

The Nicholas County Public Library will be closed July 1 through July 6 in honor of the Annual Blackberry Festival.

### 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 1-866-376-0308. 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.kheas.com, as well. It offers information on financial aid.

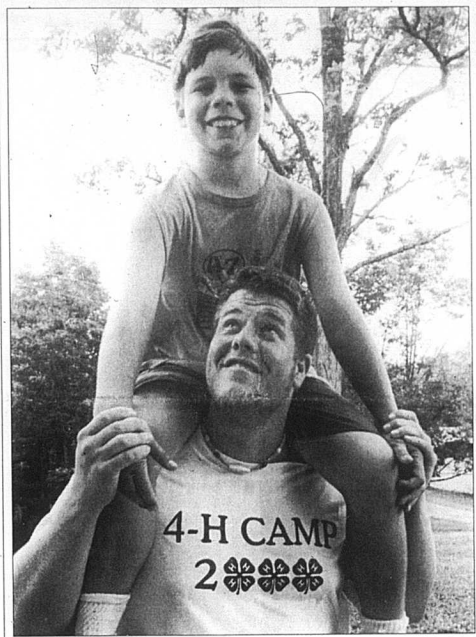
For more information, call 1-800-928-8926.

### 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.

For more information about programs and services, write to the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, 1050 U.S. Highway 127 S., Frankfort, KY, 40601-4223 or call 1-800-928-8926, extension 7381.

*Newsroom*  
1-800-247-6142



Denver Brown photo

Local 4-H camp manager Eric Comley gives a lift to Zach Lemons, 6, of Nicholas County. The North Central Center houses nearly 3,500 campers a summer during 10 weeks of camp.

### Plenty keeps campers busy at Carlisle 4-H

North Central Center sees 3,500 a summer

By DENVER BROWN, Sports Editor

With a couple hundred kids coming over to play, there better be a schedule full of activities and tons of food - the North Central 4-H Center in Nicholas County has that order filled, and then some. Nearly 3,500 campers will visit the Carlisle 4-H Camp this summer, including 350 this week. About 70 of this week's attendees are from right here in Nicholas County.

The local camp, one of five sites the state of Kentucky uses to serve the 120 Bluegrass counties, sits on 350 acres of forest land and has two lakes and several streams. It's the largest of the Kentucky camps in terms of accommodations



Denver Brown photo

With more than 350 kids at the local 4-H camp this week, there's always something going on. This bunch is off to listen to a presentation on bees Tuesday afternoon.

housing as many as 370 campers and instructors. The Carlisle camp serves 33 counties and boasts a brand new swimming pool, bath houses, a dining hall large

See CAMPERS on 2

## Paris man found dead in Nicholas pond

From STAFF REPORTS

A Paris man was found dead in a Nicholas County pond early Tuesday morning, according to police.

Officials said Clay Bertz, 25, of Paris, was found face down in a farm pond, located at 848 Snodgrass Road after a night of fishing and frog-guzzing.

Bertz was at the pond camping with three others and was last seen alive around 4 a.m. When the other campers awoke, they found Bertz in the pond, police said.

Police said Bertz was pronounced dead at the scene at around 9:21 a.m. by Nicholas County coroner Roy Gaunce Jr. and was transported to Mathers-Gaunce Funeral Home. Funeral arrangements are being handled by Lusk-McFarland Funeral Home in Paris.

No foul play is suspected at this point in the investigation, police said. The incident is still under investigation of Detective Tim Lane of the Kentucky State Police.



Lt. Governor Steffenry, right, presents Graves with the Trooper of the Year award, along with Colonel Linda Mabry

## Graves named "Trooper of the Year"

From STAFF REPORTS

Paris resident Clinton A. Graves has been named "Trooper of the Year" for Kentucky State Police Post 6 in Dry Ridge. The honor is awarded annually to the officer who best embodies the highest standards of professionalism and dedication to duty at the post.

A 14-year veteran of the Kentucky State Police, Graves graduated from Rockcastle County High School in 1982.

"The Kentucky State Police have long held a tradition of honor, valor and bravery," remarked Patrick N. Simpson, commissioner of the Kentucky State Police. "Trooper Graves has furthered these traditions and well served the citizens of the Commonwealth."

### Weather

See the forecast on page 2!

The Carlisle Mercury is printed on recycled paper.

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