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The Nicholas County News Since 1867

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

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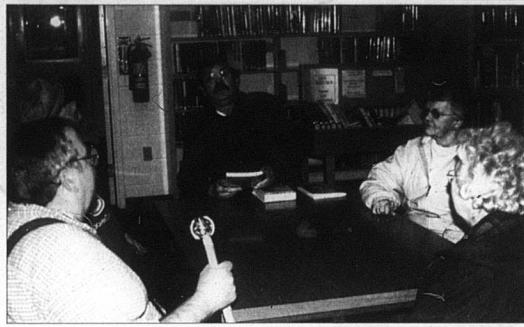


Photo by Wade Holland

Author Sam Bevard, who recently had his first book published, reads to a group of people gathered at the Nicholas County Public Library on Monday. Bevard's book is a collection of stories with outdoor and rural themes. You can check out a copy of Bevard's book at the Nicholas County Public Library.

Bevard signs book at library

Sam Bevard has found many ways to relax since his retirement from the stressful job he held for 20 years as a State Probation and Parole Officer, including fishing and hunting, and writing short stories and novels about his fishing and hunting experiences.

Bevard, a life-long Mason County resident, was in Carlisle on Monday at the Nicholas County Public Library to promote his first book, *Beginning Again: Opening Day and Other Tales*, a collection of stories with rural and outdoor themes.

"Though people often catch fish or shoot wild game in my stories, they are not

strictly about catching fish and killing game," he said. "I strive to capture the ambience of the land and to celebrate our relationship with it, to look at the outdoor experience in context of history, culture, and faith."

Bevard notes that two of the stories in his book are not outdoor related at all. One is set in the Civil War and the other is about a homicide and its outcome. The book also has three fictional pieces about turkey hunting.

A graduate of Morehead

State University, Bevard has lived his entire life as a resident of Cabin Creek in Mason County. He grew up in the former Ohio River village of Springdale, at the mouth of Cabin Creek, and one of his passions is to keep alive the memory of that lost hamlet.

A life-long outdoorsman, Bevard also writes a weekly column for the *Maysville Ledger-Independent* and has published over 300 essays, features and stories since 2001. His story "A Special Incident" appeared in *Of Woods and Waters*, an anthology of Kentucky outdoor literature, which was edited by Ron Ellis and published by The University Press of Kentucky in 2005.

He has also had poetry published in *Kentucky Harvest*, *The Disciple*, *Iskopt*, *Iscape*, and *Approaches*.

You can view a copy of Bevard's book at the Nicholas County Library or may order one at www.iUniverse.com.

Flu, virus sweeps area

If you're experiencing body aches and pains as well as fatigue and maybe a runny nose or cough, beware. You may be in the early stages of being bitten by the flu bug.

Attendance at both Nicholas County high school and elementary school took a hit in recent days due to various illnesses, including the flu. According to Pam Randolph, director of Pupil Personnel for the Nicholas County school system, it all started about 10 days ago when attendance dropped to below 85 percent.

"It was different things. Flu. Stomach viruses. Strep throat. Just various upper

respiratory illnesses," she said. "Last week we were down to about 86 to 88 percent attendance. The Friday before that we were below 85 percent."

"But things have returned to normal this week," added Randolph. "The high school has been really good. The elementary school is still not back to normal, but it is much, much better."

There has also been an increase in the number of patients at Johnson Mathers Health Care with flu-like symptoms. But it isn't turning out to be the flu in all cases, said Registered Nurse Holly Caldwell, who also

serves as Infection Control RN and Employee Health RN for Johnson Mathers.

"We've had several come in with flu symptoms, but people actually testing positive for the flu, no, we've not seen a great increase," she said.

"But we are actually seeing more of a trend with infants and toddlers having the flu more often than adults," added Caldwell. "Of course we still have adults who test positive, but it's more kids testing positive this year."

It's been business as usual at the Nicholas County

School Board declares an emergency

Nicholas County Board of Education members declared an emergency in that no certified teachers are available for two preschool instructor positions with the Nicholas County Preschool program.

Board members also approved the revised 2006-2007 school calendar as recommended by the Superintendent and Director of Pupil Personnel.

Board members approved the request of Maysville Community College to use the Nicholas County High School for Kids' College June 11-15.

The board voted to approve the fiscal year 2008 continuation proposal for the Family Resource and Youth Services Center Grant as recommended by the FRVSC Director.

The board voted to accept grant funds in the amount of \$300 from Community Action Partnership to provide hygiene education to elementary school students.

Members of the Nicholas County Middle School National Junior Honor Society will travel to Chicago, June 6-7.

The board also approved the recommendation of Superintendent Greg Reid to appoint Benita Curran chairperson of the district certified evaluation appeals committee and Connie Willis as alternative chairperson.

In other action the board approved the treasurer's report and payment of bills for February 2007.

Board members acknowledged the receipt of the required report from Supt. Reid regarding personnel actions.

David Flowers has resigned as high school boys varsity assistant coach and Kim Blake has resigned as high school girls softball assistant coach.

In employment action, Jane Whalen was hired as concessions coordinator at Nicholas County High School. James D. Goy, Charity Nichole Ritchie and Roger Cole Trussell were all approved as certified substitute teachers.

Sick leave transfers included, Pat Hamm and Patty Ockerman one day to Joan Cartmill and Ethel McCall three days to Cartmill. Sara Kinkaden two days to Stephanie Duncan.



Photo by Wade Holland

Nicholas Deputy Sheriff Bennie Buckler investigated a two-vehicle injury accident on US 68 at Headquarters Road. Lisa Brumback of Carlisle was injured when Calvin Snow of Indiana rear ended her vehicle. Brumback, according to Buckler, was taken to the hospital with neck and back injuries.

Survey is now online

The community survey for the upcoming Nicholas County Community Assessment is available online at www.kaedonline.org.

Simply click on the "Nicholas County Community Survey" link and make sure to hit the "Submit" button at the end of the survey.

The survey will be available until March 23. The results of the survey will be presented to the community during our Community Assessment visit on Tuesday, April 10.

Once the survey period ends there will be a community gathering open to the general public to discuss the results and to make plans for the future.

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Welcome and review of survey results
10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Break
10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Discussion and identification of areas of emphasis
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Team breakout and discussion. List of priorities and focus.
3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Team Reports and discussion
4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Next steps and wrap up

One injured

Nicholas Deputy Sheriff Bennie Buckler investigated a two-vehicle injury accident on US 68 at Headquarters Road. Lisa Brumback of Carlisle was injured when Calvin Snow of Indiana rear ended her vehicle. Brumback, according to Buckler, was taken to the hospital with neck and back injuries.

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