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Grim Reaper comes calling



Friday morning, May 4, a guest dressed as the Grim Reaper stalked the hallways of Nicholas County High School.

The Reaper selected 15 "victims." These "victims" represent the average number of people killed in alcohol or drug related crashes during a school day and are declared dead.

In an afternoon assembly students gathered in the middle school gymnasium for a program presented by the Kentucky Department of Transportation.

A Ghost Out is an impaired driving, alcohol and drug awareness/prevention program sponsored by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Department of Transportation Safety's "Drive Smart" program.

Typically, a student organization, local highway safety and law enforcement agencies join together with school staff in coordinating the event and distributing literature concerning teenage drivers.

These brochures include information on the hazards and consequences of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence and the importance of wearing safety belts.

Facts concerning alcohol

and drug related crashes are usually read in school. There can be trivia quizzes and other student interaction.

The core of the program comes the day a guest dressed as the Grim Reaper stalks the hallways of the school and selects "victims."

The climax is an assembly during the last hour of school, at which guest speakers address the dangers of driving while impaired, and a memorial service is conducted for the "victims" selected by the Grim Reaper. This is a very emotional and powerful program with a strong impact on the students.

Facts to Remember ...

The Ghost Out program is aimed at teenagers because traffic crashes are the number one killer of teens and over one-third of teen traffic deaths are alcohol-related, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Other facts include:

- Two million drinking and driving crashes occur every year.
- Someone is killed in an alcohol-related traffic crash every 30 minutes. Translated, that means about 450 al-

Reviving History: Bridge restoration to begin

By Charles Mattox
News Editor
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Work to restore Robertson County's 150-year-old Johnson Creek Covered Bridge will soon begin.

"Kentucky's covered bridges are very special reminders of the deeply rooted culture and heritage that exists in this great commonwealth," Governor Ernie Fletcher said in a May 2 press release of the pending restoration project.

This project will help ensure that future generations of Kentuckians can share in the rich history of the Blue-

grass state.

Fletcher and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet officials have authorized \$600,000 for the first phase of the restoration project with the restoration contract being awarded to the same team of experts that supervised the \$1 million restoration project on the Goddard Covered Bridge in Fleming County last year.

Master Bridgewright Arnold Graton and the equally talented engineer David Fischetti will again join forces. This time to restore the crumbling 110-foot



Photo by Charles Mattox
This is an inside view of the Robertson County covered bridge at Johnson Creek.

Rotary Exchange Group visits Carlisle



Photo by Hank Bond
Members of the Rotary Group Exchange from the Philippines visited the Carlisle Club and several area sites. Above, Bob Garvin serves as tour guide.

Carlisle put its best foot forward for visitors last week when the Carlisle Rotary Club entertained some special visitors, a Rotary Exchange group from the Philippines, brought a very distinguished group of young professionals learning about culture and teaching us about theirs.

Over the past several years, this yearly exchange has brought such groups from India, Italy, Germany, and other foreign countries. Local Rotarians agreed the Filipino group was unusually interesting, and interested in us.

A highlight for the guests was a visit with Dr. and Mrs. Osain Villamor, fellow Filipinos who received the group in their home and ex-

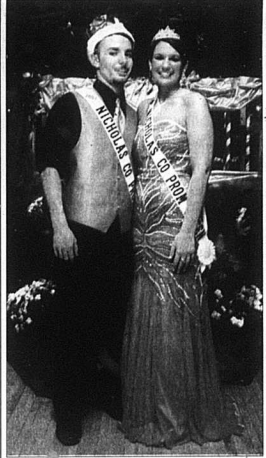


Photo Courtesy NCHS
Prom Royalty
Travis Shields and Amanda Hamilton were crowned King and Queen of the NCHS 2007 Prom. Others in the prom court included: Laci Allison, Tiffany Wilson, Tara Wilson, Cadie Dunn, David Little, and Jon Kelley.

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