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# The Carlisle Mercury

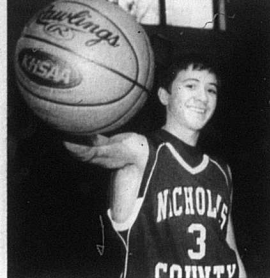
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The Nicholas County News Since

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November 26, 2008

**Nov  
26  
2008**



## Winter Sports Special

See pages 8 - 11 for

Team photos and Senior Highlights

Photo by Charles Mattox

Basketball Blue Jacket Senior D.R. Purvis is ready for the season to begin and promises to make this an exciting season for all basketball fans.

## Nicholas School Board conducts brief session

Nicholas County Board of Education members spent only 15 minutes to conduct the board's business acting on personnel matters.

The meeting was held, Mon., Nov. 17.

Members heard the personnel report from the Supt. Greg Reid, which contained several hirings.

Employed as bus drivers were Jessica Wallace and Jon Sparks.

Two substitute teachers, Jane Ellen Grimes and Michele Hawkins were also approved in the supt.'s report.

Mandi Gates was hired as a substitute food service assistant - custodian - bus monitor.

Crystal Metcalfe was employed as an instructional assistant for the 21st Century Grant and Joy Story was hired as an instructor in the same program.

Lead teachers were hired for the 2008-2009 school year including Rhonda Murrell, Joy Story, Melissa Miles, Nikki Orazan, Ashley Vice, Stephanie Duncan, Sara Kiskaden, Benita Curran, Sharon Wilson,

Kim Martin, Becca Stacy, Elizabeth Johnson, Virginia Lane, Barbara Allison and Melanie Sanders.

Maternity leaves were approved for Kim Simons, Virginia Lane, and Nikki Orazan.

Board approved the application to Hidden Valley Ranch for the "Love Your Veggies Grant" in the amount of \$15,000.

The December board meeting is scheduled for Dec. 15 beginning at 7 p.m. in the Nicholas County Board of Education conference room.

## Council results remain same after recount

By Charles Mattox  
News Reporter  
charles@thecarlislemercury.com

A recount of the vote for Carlisle City Council seats was conducted with no new tallies at the Nicholas County Clerk's office last week.

Incumbent council member Doug Garrett missed becoming the sixth member of the council after being bested by Betty Jo Booth for

that position by a margin of one vote.

Booth garnered 485 votes to Garrett's 484.

Garrett asked for the recount the following day and the results were tabulated again with the same results.

Booth 485 and Garrett 484. State law requires the state's chief law-enforcement official, Attorney General Jack Conway, to conduct a

post-election audit investigation in no fewer than 5 percent of Kentucky's 120 counties after each primary and general election. Selected were Cumberland, Pendleton, Edmonson, Monroe, Montgomery and Union counties.

The counties are selected in a random drawing, which was done within the required period of 20 days of the election.



Photo by Sandy Hamilton

## Warner's gas pumps removed

Gas tanks were removed from Warner's BP last week along Concrete Road.

## Barton mobile home saga continues

By Charles Mattox  
News Reporter  
charles@thecarlislemercury.com

German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche said, "Out of chaos comes order," and,

"There are no facts, only interpretations."

An incident two weeks ago, when a family lost their home and many of their belongings during the transportation of their mobile home, which also resulted in one lane of US 68 being closed for nearly nine hours, meets the criteria for Nietzsche's philosophy.

What happened during that ill-fated move and what has happened since, has left those involved, along with many members of the community, weeping, shaking their heads in disbelief and reeling from a negative perception portrayed in a series of articles and interviews that were broadcast across the state and nation.

That extended media coverage began with a colorful, but according to those involved, "so insensitive" article appearing Nov. 19 in the Lexington Herald-Leader newspaper, as it was, and I'm surprised at the level of animosity it has engendered.

Meehan was asked if she had it to do over again, knowing what kind of reaction her story generated, if she would write the story the same or if she would change anything?

"I don't think I would change anything," she said. "People seem to be genuinely hurt and I am sorry that people are upset, but that was not my intent I just wrote what I saw in front of me and I had to beat a deadline."

Barton said she wanted to move the mobile home from Headquarters' trailer park to property on Cassidy Creek, which she had purchased through a land contract.

When she checked on transport companies that move mobile homes, she said she was shocked to find out the move would cost at least \$2,200.

"I didn't have that kind of money," she said.

A mutual acquaintance suggested she talk to Chris "Fancake" Myers, who said he had moved homes before and would help her out as cheaply as he could, according to Barton.

Myers said he would help with the move, but she said she was surprised at the level of animosity it has engendered.

Everyone agrees they would rather have not had.

"The article in the Lexington Herald was horrible and very insensitive," Francis Barton said Sunday while describing the pain that it has brought her family members, some of whom have read many of the comments related to the story and which have been posted on the Herald's website. "They (L.H.) just wanted to make everybody look bad. That story would make anybody mad. I don't want people to be mad. I love Nicholas County. I have lived here for the past four years and I want to continue to live here. People are saying we want handouts. All we wanted to do was move our home. That's all."

Herald reporter Mary Meehan said there were no "cheap shots" in her Nov. 19 article.

"A cheap shot involves some intent, but there was no intent to harm anyone on my part. I was just writing what happened in front of me," she said. "I am surprised the story was as far-reaching as it was, and I'm surprised at the level of animosity it has engendered."

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See BARTON Page 3



Photo by Charles Mattox

All the debris has been cleaned from along US 68 near the front yard of Jim Gaunce, but the stain of unwanted publicity has left its mark on the extended Nicholas County community.

## Animal welfare group meets with fiscal court

By Charles Mattox  
News Reporter  
charles@thecarlislemercury.com

Members of the newly formed Nicholas County Animal Welfare Society (NCAWS) met with members of the Nicholas County Animal Control Officer and have been going to the building, which houses stray and unwanted dogs.

The kennels need some heat and ventilation," Chase said. "The temperature this past Sunday night was about 34 degrees."

Chase noted that vermin had access to the animal shelter and previously housed dogs that suffered from Parvo Virus had contaminated the building with the potentially deadly disease.

"That virus is still in the building," he said. "It's a potential threat to healthy animals that are housed there."

Chase's discussion was met with approval by court members who said they would work hand-in-hand with members of the organization to continue to move forward with the needs of the community regarding the animal shelter.

"I appreciate the efforts you've put forth and we look forward to working together on this," Nicholas County Judge-Executive Larry Tinscher said.

Tinscher said he has

team and we don't want any of you to think we are taking an adversarial role here.

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