

The Carlisle Mercury

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The Nicholas County News Since

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Oct
22
2008



Workers with Adams Roofing and Flashing and Helton Roofing, both of Lexington have been working on the Carlisle United Methodist Church all week.

Grant received by CAC

By Charles Mattox
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The Nicholas County Community Action Council (CAC) will share in the funding of a \$1.2 million grant to assist with improving treatment for citizens who suffer from substance abuse, have mental disorders or are homeless.

The grant is from the substance abuse and mental health services administration.

Nicholas will share in the funding with Bourbon and Harrison Counties, according to CAC officials.

"We are excited about the opportunity we have to impact the lives of so many people," said Jack Burck, Executive Director of the CAC for Fayette-Bourbon, Harrison and Nicholas County.

Nicholas County CAC Director Angie Schalch said the funding would be put to good use and encouraged all Nicholas counties to seek assistance through the CAC if they, their loved ones or friends, needed assistance.

The grant also seeks to assist homeless individuals in the three counties.

"We do have homeless people in Nicholas County,"



Photo by Charles Mattox
 The Nicholas County Community Action Council, located at 149 Scrub Grass Road, received funding last week to assist families with mental health needs, substance abuse and to help the homeless. If you, your family members or friends have any needs the staff of CAC recommends you stop in and discuss your needs with them. If they can't help they will refer you to an entity or agency that can help.

Schalch said citing recent data collected and stating that two homeless people were helped to find lodging through direct and indirect help from the CAC within the last year.

The CAC helps thousands of individuals through a number of programs based out of the Center's office at 149 Scrub Grass Road. The center also acts as a guiding

entity for all families and individuals that need help of any kind.

"If we can't help directly we can refer individuals or family members to organizations that can provide assistance," Schalch said.

Schalch said the grant was one of just many avenues of assistance the CAC was striving to meet in helping local citizens.

Middleton enters guilty plea

By Charles Mattox
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A Nicholas County woman entered a plea of guilty earlier this month to a felony charge of theft by unlawful taking, over \$300.

Joyl Rose Middleton, 33, appeared with her attorney Public Defender Jennifer Wittmeyer in Nicholas Circuit Court on Oct. 6, before Honorable Circuit Court Judge J. Robert McGinnis and changed her plea from not guilty to guilty.

In exchange for her guilty plea, Commonwealth Attorney Doug Wright and Assistant Michael Laws dismissed an additional

charge of burglary, first degree.

Middleton's charges came in December of 2007 when, according to her indictment and other court documents, on Dec. 22, she allegedly committed the offense.

Middleton waived her right to a preliminary hearing in January and was indicted on the charges of burglary, first degree, and theft by unlawful taking, over \$300, in March.

According to the indictment, Kentucky State Police Detective Clinton Graves was called to testify to the grand jury.

According to the Commonwealth's Offer On A Plea Of Guilty, the Commonwealth recommended a sentence of 30 months imprisonment and for Middleton to pay restitution charges totaling \$1,725 to Charles Fryman.

Judge McGinnis ruled on Oct. 13 that Middleton's charge of burglary, first degree, would be dismissed. He further postponed formal sentencing against Middleton until Nov. 3 pending the completion of a presentence investigation to determine if imprisonment, discharge, probation or another judgment should be considered.

Arsonists strike

By Charles Mattox
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An arsonist struck the northern edge of the county Sunday setting five fires, which destroying two unoccupied buildings along Old Mexico Road.

"I'm sure these fires were deliberately set and we do have a suspect," said Nicholas County Fire Chief Mark Hughes Monday morning after an exhausting night, during which he and 12 other Nicholas County firefighters contained the blaze.

The agreement for the OneCall system with Way-Way Communications is for a three-year period and offers an interactive system in reaching the entire Nicholas County Schools family.

"I have been interested in providing this type of system for the district for several years," said Nicholas County Supt. Greg Reid following the board's adoption.

"This is a vital link for our district and what it offers those who are part of it. We will be able to communicate in an immediate matter, where before we had to rely on notes and local media, which we do appreciate as sources, but by nature they are not immediate forms."

In addition, the system, once activated with the district's database will have the ability to service small and cluster groups with call messages etc.

Classroom teachers can do a daily blast to students and parents as necessary.

This can all be done via phone and email with several numbers and emails at the rate of 2,000 calls per minute.

to limited sections along the secluded road.

"We called on the Ewing Volunteer Fire Department and they assisted with six firefighters. Together we were able to contain the blaze," Hughes said.

The arsonist set five separate fires destroying a house, a barn and setting three different fires in the woods near the structures within a two-mile radius.

Hughes praised the assistance of the Ewing firefighters.

"They put two separate loads of water on the fires

and I'd say we used about 5,000 gallons ourselves in containing the fires," he said. "As dry as the woods have been this could have been much, much worse. I'm just glad it wasn't."

Firefighters were on the scene from approximately 9:30 p.m. Sunday night to 1 a.m. Monday morning.

None of the firefighters were injured as a result of their efforts, which prevented massive destruction to the woods surrounding the Clay Wildlife Management area.



Photo by Charles Mattox
 An arsonist destroyed two buildings along Old Mexico Road Sunday evening. Officials continue to investigate.

Nicholas Schools to have immediate contact

Nicholas County Schools' administrators will be able to have nearly immediate communication with students, parents and employees of the district.

The program allows use of the existing telephone system.

No hardware, software, or phone lines to purchase or maintain.

Use existing Internet service.

In addition, it has an attendance/absentee element which allows parents to be contacted via phone and email each time a student is absent.

The program allows use of the existing telephone system.

Simple as dialing a toll-free number and recording a message to send to all in a database.

Dials approximately 2,000 or more calls per minute.

Unanswered call and busy calls are re-dialed multiple times.

Can have sub-groups such as grade levels, band, sports teams, class of students, school council, and many more.

A call can be made to everyone at school level or to a single group such as band members or basketball team members.

Automatic attendance calling.

Each school is permitted up to 99 sub-groups.

Each student and staff member may have up to 6

See SCHOOL Page 2

Announcements

The time for Trick-or-Treating in Carlisle is October 31, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Wanda O. Shroat of 214 Morgan Street is NOT the Wanda Shroat whose name appeared in the Court News.

In last week's birth announcements, the O'Connor's daughter's name was misspelled. It should have been: Tamra Renee O'Connor

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