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The Carlisle
 Vol. 143 No. 49 The Nicholas County News Since 1867
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Dec

9

2009

Community encouraged to participate in Mercury angel tree project

By Charles Mattox
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Be an angel this Christmas season and help create a wonderful holiday memory for a young person by participating in a special Angel Tree in the Mercury Office.

The Mercury office is partnering with officials at the Nicholas County School to help provide presents for those listed on the Angel tree. Members of the community are encouraged to stop in the Mercury office and select one of 12 angels posted on the front door. No names or personal information is listed on the angels, simply their age and if the child is a boy or girl. Those who select an angel need to have their presents in the Mercury office no later than Dec. 18, so the presents can be taken to the school for distribution. "We're very happy to participate in the program and are glad we were contacted by Louise Curran from the school to be part of this wonderful project," said Melissa Mitchell, office manager for the Carlisle Mercury and MCI Publications LLC. "Christmas is a very special time of the year for children of all ages. To learn more about selecting an angel contact Mitchell at 289-6425. Give the gift of giving (and be blessed with the knowledge that you've helped a local child have an exceptionally Merry Christmas."

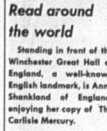


Photo submitted
Read around the world
 Standing in front of the Winchester Great Hall of England, a well-known English landmark, is Anne Shenkland of England, enjoying her copy of The Carlisle Mercury.

"Shop with a Cop" program

On Saturday, Dec. 19, 2009, The Kentucky State Police will participate in the "Shop with a Trooper" program this year. The kids will range between 7-11 years of age and have been selected from various venues such as social service agencies, recommendations from KSP Troopers and from the surrounding schools. With the 10 counties in the Post 6 service area, the day will begin at 8:30 a.m. with breakfast at the Dry Ridge Fishhouse (with Sorento), shopping at Wal-Mart from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and conclude with lunch at Edwards's Pizzeria. The program allows impressionable kids to spend quality time with a Kentucky State Trooper while shopping at the Dry Ridge Wal-Mart. The amount of donations will determine the number of kids that will be participating. This year, last year, donations allowed us to provide 25 kids with \$200.00 in assorted Christmas gifts. Our goal is to increase the participation to 30, or a minimum. This program also helps families, as the kids will be sent home with a box of needed household essentials. If you wish to donate to this program, please contact Trooper Rick Saint-Stancard or Detective Fred Spongite at the KSP Post 6 at 859-428-1212.

Historical ships in Kentucky

Replicas of the Columbus sailing ships, Nina and Pinta, sailed up the Ohio River and docked at Limestone Landing in Maysville. These floating museums provided a rare opportunity to "discover" more about Columbus and our nation's history. The ships set sail again on Saturday, Dec. 5, working their way to Florida, and then on to their winter home in the Cayman Islands.



Photo by Stephen Scott

Regional Jail Committee members announced

By Charles Mattox
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Nicholas and Bourbon County officials continue to work closely together to enter into a regional jail contract and committee members from both county's will hammer out the details in upcoming meetings.

Judge Foley and I have had some very good discussions and we are very close to naming the members of the committee," Nicholas County Judge-Executive Larry Tinchler said two weeks ago. This week, Judge Tinchler named his committee members. They are magistrates Jeff Randolph and Mike Webb, Nicholas County Jailer Jeff Stiles and County Attorney Dawn Letcher. Judge Tinchler will lead the committee, which they will work with a similarly constructed committee of Bourbon County officials. Nicholas officials decided in recent months to negotiate a regional jail facility contract with Bourbon, and the decision was formalized in a 4-2 vote held Nov. 10 during the fiscal court's regularly scheduled monthly meeting. On a motion by Magistrate Jeff Randolph, on Nov. 10, Magistrates Mike Webb and Steve Hamilton joined Judge-Executive Larry Tinchler in voting in favor of the motion, as did Randolph Magistrates Daryl Stacy and Avery Thurnburg voted against it. Bourbon County Fiscal Court members were present in force during the two meetings when the regional jail was discussed. Nicholas County currently has a contract to house prisoners at the Montgomery County Jail for \$35 per inmate, per day, which is a four-dollar per inmate, per day increase from last year. Bourbon County is proposing that Nicholas County enter a contract with them at a cost of \$30 per inmate, per day, perhaps even cheaper. The committee members will establish a price per inmate per day, and other specifics of the agreement before any contract is signed. The concept of a committee was strongly urged on behalf of Nicholas County by Nicholas County Attorney Dawn Letcher.

Reminder
 Letter to Santa are due by Dec. 11

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Photo by Melissa Mitchell
Snow Queen and Snowflake crowned
 Margen Kelley was crowned as this year's Snow Queen and Hannah Pope as the Snowflake at the conclusion of Carlisle's Christmas Parade on Saturday, Dec. 5. See page 15 for additional photos of the parade.

Sexton trial delayed

By Charles Mattox
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A Nicholas County man accused of receiving stolen property, Dick Garrett, and who is also charged with being a persistent in possession of a stolen felony offender will have his trial delayed until next month.

Sexton allegedly was in possession of a stolen ATV belonging to Wayne Roy D. Sexton, 24, who was scheduled to go to Milton's ATV driving on Casidy Creek Road, according to Garrett and his indictments issued against Sexton. A Nicholas County Grand Jury issued indictments earlier this year against Sexton on Robert McGinnis charges of receiving stolen property and persistent felony offender until Jan. 7, 2010. A pre-trial conference is currently scheduled for on the charges of receiving stolen property. All persons are innocent until proven guilty, pre-trial conference is currently scheduled for on the charges of receiving stolen property, or admitting guilt.



Photo by Charles Mattox
Slick roads lead to accident
 Daniel Johnson, 18, holds the front bumper to his 2005 Jaguar after it slid off of the wet and slippery road Dec. 7, on Myers Road. Johnson was the lone occupant of the vehicle, which received only minor damage. Johnson was not injured during the accident. Nicholas County Sheriff Dick Garrett and members of the Nicholas County EMS and Fire Department responded quickly to the scene of the accident.

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