

# Steve's Report



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By Steve Sealf

Behavioral psychologists will tell you that a child's "formative years" are from birth to around age 6. After that, kids are pretty much set in their ways. Think of it: We only have six years to screw up our kids, and then they don't have to deal with it for the next 70 years or so.

And really, when you think about it, you really don't get the full six years. You know, babies' heads go through quite a bit of trauma during the birth process. God knows this, so to protect the brains during "shipping and handling," he packed babies' heads with extra water. That's why babies drool all the time during their first year - it's all that packing fluid leak-

acceptable behavior. If they don't get their way, the still fly into an uncontrolled rage - something their parents should have nipped in the bud when they still had a chance.

Parents are in a tough spot, though. Small children tend to come unglued in public places, like grocery stores, when they see something they want and can't have it. We all know what that child needs, and it's not a "good talking to." We know it, and the mother knows it. You can see it in her eyes. But we all know what's holding her back. If you spank your child in public, someone will probably think, "Wow, if they treat their kids like that in public, they must really abuse

them at home." Next thing you know, someone makes a phone call and Child Protective Services get involved.

I think Hillary Clinton had it right back when she was First Lady and said, "It takes a village to raise a child." To keep parents out of trouble, we need to all come together and lend a hand. The government should license people as "public disciplinarians." You go to a few training sessions and the mother is afraid to spank her child. We all know what that badge that gives you the authority to deal with those situations.

Imagine how nice that would be. You see a child acting like a brat in the grocery store, throwing a major tantrum, and the mother is afraid to do anything about it in public. A kindly person steps over, flashes their badge and says, "Public disciplinarian. Don't worry, ma'am. I've got the situation under control." They lift the child out of the shopping cart, swat it little behind and say, "Listen to me, we don't behave that way. Your mommy loves you and you need to do what she tells you." And then they hand the child back to the parent, no worse for the wear.

When you really think about it, it's not a half-bad idea. First of all, the person disciplining the child is detached from the situation and isn't embarrassed or angry with the child, which could lead to excessive punishment and abuse. And the parent doesn't come off as the "bad guy." Instead of being the one who gives the spanking, the mother can dry the child's tears and say, "Mommy loves you, but they're right. We can't throw tantrums when we don't get what we want. OK, sweetie!"

Of course, we could never take my plan seriously. I don't think anyone really wants the government that involved in our lives, regulating discipline to that extreme. Still, if we had something like that in place, I'm pretty sure certain physical alterations in our schools could have been avoided entirely. And that's my two cents. Steve Sealf

Michelle County Board of Education approved a tentative schedule for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year at its regular meeting, Mar. 16. Under the plan graduation will be held May 21. The plan will be submitted to the Commissioner of Education for approval.

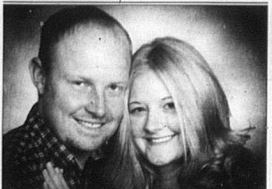
The Commissioner has 10 days to review the plan and notify the district of his decision.

There will be no spring break for students or school staff, the next regularly scheduled day off for children will be Memorial Day.

The tentative plan is as follows:

Spring Break - Students, teachers, and staff attend all week  
May 23 - Memorial Day - teachers and staff report  
May 24 - LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS  
May 29 - Teachers and staff report  
May 31 - GRADUATION!  
June 1-4 - Teachers and staff report  
June 9 - Closing Day - Teacher

## Engagement



Ms. and Mrs. Chuck Smith are proud to announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Jeni Danielle to William Barkley Caswell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Caswell.

Jeni is a 2003 graduate of Nicholas County High School and is currently enrolled in college courses. She is employed at Licking Valley Internal Medicine and Pediatrics in Carlisle.

Barkley is a 2006 graduate of Nicholas County High School. He is employed at Middle Contracting, operating Caswell Excavating and in his spare time works on the farm. Jeni is a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas George and Mrs. Patsy Smith and the late Charles Smith.

Barkley is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Caswell and the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Danziger.

The wedding will take place at the Moorefield United Methodist Church on May 16, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. A reception will follow at Vicki's Community Center in Moorefield. All friends and relatives are invited.

family during this difficult time.

Although Ben is able to speak and sit up in bed, doctors believe it will be at least two weeks before he is released and he will then undergo rigorous physical therapy.

"We are grateful for the prayers and ask that people continue to pray for our best recovery," Tammy said.

A fund has been established at The Deposit Bank of Carlisle for everyone who wishes to assist the

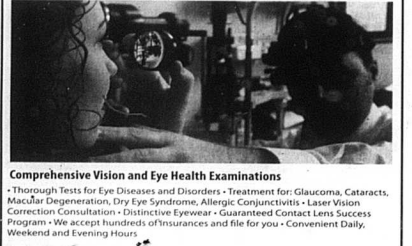
## Correction

Michael Pryor that was stated in the Court news in the March 11 edition of The Carlisle Mercury was incorrect. It read Bank of New York Mellon vs. Michael Pryor. It was supposed to be Michael Purvis. The Carlisle Mercury gives its sincere apology to Michael Pryor.

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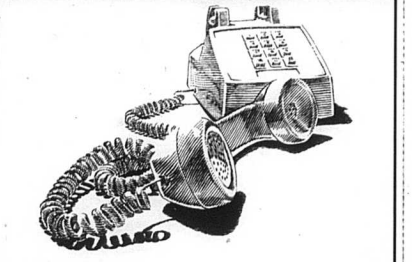
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## Please Don't Hang Up



**Tobacco use/ community Attitude/ Telephone Survey/ sponsored by**

**Nicholas County Alcohol/Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition**

**Calls will be received during the last week of March**

**Survey done by Opinion Research Associates, Inc.**

# Senior Spotlight



**Jessica Gilkerson**  
Jessica is the 17 year old daughter of Chris and Peggy Gilkerson. Her favorite subject is Science. She plans to attend Northern Kentucky University with a major in Biology, transfer to University of Kentucky for Pharmacy school and become a Pharmacist. Her hobbies and interests are Basketball, softball, swimming, camping, fishing and spending time with family and friends. Her most memorable moment is when she was crowned 2009 basketball homecoming queen.

**Jennifer Marcum**  
Jen is the 17 year old daughter of Billy Marcum and Betty Jo Booth. Her favorite subject is being an Office Aide. She plans to attend Morehead State University and pursue a career in communications. Her hobbies are working at tracks, spending with friends and family. Her most memorable moment is being crowned 2008 Football Homecoming Queen.

**Ashley Feaback**  
Ashley is the 17 year old daughter of Billy and Ruby Feaback. Her favorite subject is English. She plans to attend Maysville College and pursue a career in Nursing. Her hobbies and interests are making memories with friends and family to last a life time. Her most memorable moment is becoming a senior and goofing off with Dream and Sarah.

**Aaron Stitt**  
Aaron Stitt is the 18 year old son of Donna and Lennie Stitt. His favorite subject is Independent Study. Aaron plans to attend Maysville College and major in business. He enjoys four wheeling, and mudding.

**Heather Wright**  
Heather Wright is the 17 year old daughter of Wendy and Trampus Porter. Her favorite subject is Agriscience. She plans to attend Maysville College with a degree in Pediatrics. She enjoys singing and dancing and her most memorable moment is hanging out with friends.

**Garrett Young**  
Garrett is the 18 year old son of Gary and Vicki Young. His favorite subject is Gym. Garrett plans to attend Eastern Kentucky and pursue a career in Criminal Justice. His hobbies and interests are playing golf, baseball, and hanging out with friends.

Got School News? Let us know. Call 859-289-6425 or send us a fax at 859-289-4000

### ATTENTION HALL OF FAME

All former Nicholas County and Carlisle football players that are currently or would like to become members of the Nicholas football alumni association there will be a planning and organizational meeting Monday April 1 at 6:30 at Nicholas County High School. Come help begin to plan for the first Fall of Fame game that will be played this upcoming season at NCHS

In loving Memory of Edward O'Neal 6/26/1922-3/21/2008

We've known lots of pleasure. At times endured pain. We lived in the sunshine and walked in the rain. Now we are separated and for a time apart. But I'm not alone. I'll be forever in my heart. There may be times you miss me. I sort of hope you do. But smile when you think of me, for I'll be waiting for you. Now there's many things for you to do and lots of ways to grow, so get busy, be happy and live your life, miss me, but let me go. I'll love and miss you.

Phillip, Rita, & Brandon

### Happy 30th Birthday CHARLES

3-15-09

We Love You, Mom, Dad, & Grandma

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<b>'08 HHR LT</b> sunroof, pwr all, 17k, blow out price <b>\$14,995.00</b> or 4.8% WAC	<b>'07 Mazda 6</b> 6 speed, pwr everything, 28k blow out price <b>\$14,995.00</b>
<b>'08 Impala LT</b> power all, 6-pass, 19k blow out price <b>\$14,995.00</b> or 2.8% WAC	<b>'08 VW Beetle</b> pwr all, auto, 8k leather, blow out price <b>\$16,995.00</b>
<b>'05 Colorado Ext. Cab</b> 4wd, pwr all, 25k, LS pkg blow out price <b>\$14,995.00</b> or 6.8% WAC	<b>'03 Cavalier Coupe</b> auto, sunroof, very nice, 97k blow out price <b>\$5,995.00</b>

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## Celebrate Ag Day

Did you know?

- Each American farmer feeds 120+ people?
- Agriculture is America's #1 export?
- New technology means farmers are more environmentally friendly than ever before?

The fact is, we should all take pride in American Agriculture! The industry is providing every American - as well as millions more around the world - with the essentials of life, food, fiber and even clothing.

Join Farm Credit Services in celebrating National Ag Day on March 20, 2009!

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