Steve's Report

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By Steve Scalf

I recently celebrated my 48th birthday; and while some dear readers may still consider that "youthful," I have noticed some signs of aging slowly chipping away at the resilience of youth.

And to be completely honest with you, I have to admit that I have been a little worried lately. My memory isn't what it used to be. I used to be so good with names. All I had to do was look at someone's face when they told me their name and it would be locked in my memory. I don't know, maybe it still gets locked in my memory and these days it's just harder to find the key.

I joke about it, but it really does have me a little worried. Is I'm showing signs of memory loss at age 48, what will I be like by the time I turn 65? And it's not just names. I think what had me worried the most is that lately, I haven't been able to finish a sentence. Everything is fine when I start talking, but the longer the sentence, the more confusing it gets. Anything longer than about 10 words, I start stammering so bad, you can hardly understand me.

I'll be at work, for instance, and someone will ask where the extra staples are. I'll reply, "Oh, those are in the top drawer of that two-drawer... uh thing-a-ma-jig over there next to that other thing with the flip top... umm... you know... over by the... door... open... hmm... right."

Or if I'm looking for something, it may come out sounding like: "Hey, does anybody know where that thing is... you know, it's round with a hole in it? You know that thing we use when those other things... not right size... have to make fit?"

It's very frustrating when I know what I am trying to say but it just won't come out right and nobody can understand me. And like I said, I was worried that my mind would be slipping so badly at such a relatively young age.

And so it was, amidst these worries, that our family was gathered around the table for dinner. I needed to refill my glass so I asked, "Sarah, could you please pass the..." Before I could finish my sentence, Cindy reached over, picked up the pitcher and handed it to Sarah.

A little while later, I was ready for another biscuit so I asked, "Max, please pass the..." Once again, before the words were out of my mouth, Cindy picked up the basket of biscuits and the butter dish and handed them to Max. That meal, we had both honey and jam on the table. I looked at them for a second, deciding which I wanted. No sooner had I settled on honey than Cindy reached over and handed it to Max to pass my way.

The more I paid attention, the more I realized how often Cindy reads my mind. For instance, I have a tendency to set things down and forget where I left them. I'll be looking for a book and say, "Where'd I leave that..." and Cindy will say, "It's over on the coffee table." Or I'll be looking for a pen, scissors, or batteries and won't even say anything. Cindy will walk over, open a drawer and hand it to me. I'll be searching for my car keys and Cindy will say, "You left them on you night stand." Of course, that isn't quite as impressive as the others since it is practically a daily ritual. Still, it illustrates my point.

Eventually I realized that my inability to clearly communicate my thoughts had nothing to do with getting older. It's not that I'm experiencing the early stages of Alzheimer's, it's just that after more than 25 years of marriage, Cindy has me figured out so well that she knows what I'm thinking before I even speak. And since I rarely have to finish my sentences when I'm around her, over the years my mind has grown lazy. After all, if the first half of the sentence does the trick, why waste all that time and energy trying to figure out how to say the rest of it? Cindy knows what I mean...

Except when Cindy isn't around me, like when I'm at work, that half-sentence trick doesn't work so well. My brain doesn't like having to do all that extra thinking and gets easily frustrated, like a spoiled child when it doesn't get its way.

But now that I know the cause of my frustration, it's much easier to deal with it. Instead of getting frustrated when others don't understand me the way Cindy does, I can laugh about it. All I have to do is re-train my mind to complete my thoughts before I open my mouth and start speaking.

Of course, that's easier said than done. I may need your patience and understanding while I'm... try to make brain work... put words... end sentence.

And that's my two cents,
Steve Scalf

Look out Bluejackets
Here Dalton Lee
just turned
Five on May 17th!!
Happy
Birthday Bub!
Love,
Mommy,
Daddy & Dakota

Happy 1st Birthday
Jaycee Brooke Sebastian
Love,
Mommy,
Daddy, Mene,
Pappy, Mam-moo,
Momaw, Aunt Shasta,
Aunt Hannah,
Uncle Jared, Alyssa,
Paige, and Kylie

Happy 16th Birthday
Nathan
Love,
Mom,
Dad & Jake

CRIT LUALLEN
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

To the People of Kentucky
Honorable Steven L. Beshear, Governor
Jonathan Miller, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
Honorable Larry Tincher, Nicholas County Judge/Executive
Members of the Nicholas County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate discretely presented component unit and remaining fund information of Nicholas County, Kentucky, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Nicholas County Fiscal Court. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of the Nicholas County Senior Citizens Center, a discretely presented component unit, which represents 100 percent of the assets and revenues of the discretely presented component unit. Those financial statements were audited by other auditors whose report thereon has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the Nicholas County Senior Citizens Center, is based on the report of the other auditors.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for Fiscal Court Audits issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit and the report of other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

As described in Note 1, Nicholas County, Kentucky, prepares its financial statements on a prescribed basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the modified cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate discretely presented component unit and remaining fund information of Nicholas County, Kentucky, as of June 30, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in conformity with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

The County has not presented the management's discussion and analysis that the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the basic financial statements. The budgetary comparison schedules are not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by GASB. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Nicholas County, Kentucky's basic financial statements. The accompanying supplementary information, combining fund financial statements, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The combining fund financial statements have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated March 12, 2009 on our consideration of Nicholas County, Kentucky's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Based on the results of our audit, we have presented the accompanying comments and recommendations, included herein, which discusses the following report comments:

2008-01	The County Did Not Maintain Adequate Time Records For All Employees
2008-02	The County's Annual Financial Statement Did Not Meet Statutory Requirements
2008-03	The County Did Not Prepare An Accurate And Complete Fourth Quarter Financial Statement
2008-04	The County Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over The Accounting Function
2008-05	The County Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties Over The Payroll Function

Respectfully submitted,

Crit Luallen
Auditor of Public Accounts

March 12, 2009

State law requires the Auditor of Public Accounts to annually audit fiscal courts, county clerks, and sheriffs, and print the results in a newspaper having general circulation in the county. The complete audit and any other audit of state agencies, fiscal courts, county clerks, sheriffs, property valuation administrators may be viewed in the reports section of the Auditor of Public Accounts' website at www.auditor.ky.gov or upon request by calling 1-800-247-9126.

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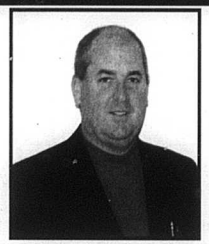

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COMMUNITY CALENDER

May 13
Day Time Red Hatters

The Day Time Red Hatters will meet Wednesday, May 13, at 11:30 at Forest Retreat for a barbecue and potluck. Let another member know if you have any questions or need a ride

May 16
Nicholas County Cancer Coalition's Celebration of Life

May 16th, 2009, 11am-1pm. United Methodist Church of Carlisle, Carlisle Kentucky.
Speaker: Dia Davidson WLEX-TV. Especially for Cancer Survivors & families, however, everyone is welcome. FREE BRUNCH & GIFT BAGS!!

May 19
Democratic Women's Club

Democrat Women's Club will meet Tuesday May 19th at 6:30 p.m. in the small courtroom. Democratic Exec. Comm. meet at 7:00 p.m. May 19th at small courtroom. Guest Speaker

May 22
NC Fish & Game Club

Nichols Co. Fish and Game Club will have a fish fry on May 22, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. Members are asked to bring deserts, music of weather permits. Seating will be limited please bring chairs.

May 31
Gospel Travelers

Gospel travelers to Perform at Millersburg Unithed Methodist Church

The Gospel Travelers group, will be featured as the Fifth Sunday Night Hymn Program, May 31st at 6:00 p.m. Rev. Ray Hanke, Pastor and the congregation invite everyone to this inspirational program. The group consists of Dave Biddle, Sam Clark, Jim Howard and Wilbur and Lee White and have been performing for some time at many functions, churches and nursing homes in Lexington and this area.
Plan to come Sunday evening May 31st at 6:00 p.m and hear this entertaining group.

June 6
1953 Class Reunion

NCHS graduating class of 1953 will have its 56th class reunion. June 6, 2009 at Blue Licks State Park Lodge beginning at 11:00 a.m. Please contact Opal McCarty Kelley at 859-289-2565.

Project Graduation to meet on Mondays

Project Graduation will be having a meeting every Monday at the High School Library at 6:00 p.m. For more information contact Paula Hunter at 859-289-3702.

Old Jailers Home Luncheons

Held the Second Thursday of each Month
Reservation necessary. Call Gladys Shrout 289-5174 or 749-7986 or Martha Taylor 289-5592 or 749-1948. Sponsered by Tourism Inc.

Dogs available for adoption

Nicholas County Animal Welfare Society has dogs available for adoption. 473-2714 or www.ncaws.org.

Dougherty Lodge #65 F.A.M.

Dougherty Lodge #65 meets the second Friday at 7:30 p.m. above the Mathers Gaunce Funeral Home. All masters mason are welcomed to attend.

Blue Lick Lodge #495 F.& A.M. to hold meeting

The Blue Lick Lodge #495 F.& A.M. meets the Last Saturday of each Month at 7:30 P.M. All Master Masons are welcome to attend.

Orient Lodge #500 to hold meeting

The Orient Lodge #500 meets the second Thursday night of each month at 7:30 p.m. All Master Masons are welcomed.

N.C. Adult Learning Center News

The Adult Learning Center offers a flexible schedule and personalized instruction to help students successfully complete their GED. The center offers students the opportunity to study at their own pace and on their own schedule. Interested persons may stop by anytime, between the hours 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Johnson Mathers Health Care Auxiliary meets second Tuesday

The Johnson Mathers Health Care Auxiliary meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. in the hospital dining room. Anyone interested in joining the auxiliary is welcome.

Diabetes self-management classes

The WEDCO District Health Department will be hosting Diabetes Self-Management education classes, each month. They will be held at the Nicholas County Health Center, Dr. Robert Sparks Community Room. For more information and to register contact Crissy Culberson, 866-75WEDCO, or 859-298-4899.

Kiwanis Club to meet

Kiwanis Club will meet the third Thursday of every month at the Carnico Country Club. For more information call Mike Warner at 859-749-4680.

AA meetings held

AA meetings are held every Tuesday at 8 p.m., except the third Tuesday of the month is at 7 p.m. in the Sparks Room of the Nicholas County Health Department.

If you have a community announcement, please bring it to The Carlisle Mercury at 218 North Locust. You can mail it to POB 272, Carlisle, KY 40311. You can email it to editor@thecarlislemercury.com You can fax it to 859-289-4000.

Part Time Reporter
The Newspaper Office is seeking applicants for a part time news reporter. Send resume to melissa@thecarlislemercury.com or mail it to P.O. Box 272, Carlisle, KY 40311

Thank You

The family of Lucian Workman would like to thank everyone for the food, cards, visits, phone calls, money and prayers during this difficult time. A special thanks to Gaylord Gillispie, Julian McKee, & Mathers & Gaunce Funeral Home for the special service. Also the Nicholas County Ambulance, & the staff at IMHC ER & St. Joseph Hospital. Everyones Kindness will never be forgotten.

Betty Workman & Family

Bread of Life

Matthew 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

The word of God is to your spirit as bread is to your body. When you feed your body it produces physical strength. When you feed on God's word it produces spiritual strength, called faith.

Proverbs 4:20-23 My Son attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes. Keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are Life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

This is God's prescription for an abundant Life upon Earth.

Psalm 91:1-3 He that dwelleth in the Secret Place of the most high shall abide under the shadow of the almighty. I will say of the Lord, he is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in Him will I trust. Surely He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

But it is not a promise that's offered to just anyone. It is promised to those who abide in the Lord. To abide means to dwell, to remain, to continue. To abide in the shadow of the almighty is to live in continual union with Him, keeping his word and obeying His voice. Continually feast on God's word. Read, believe and obey the Living Word. Go to church and hear it preached.

Romans 10:17 So then Faith cometh by Hearing and Hearing by the word of God.

May God Richly Bless You,
Bro. Phillip Mattox

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