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The Carlisle Mercury

Vol. 143 No. 46 | The Nicholas County News Since 1867 | Wednesday, ... 2009

In keeping with a tradition of nearly 100 years The Carlisle Mercury welcomes back the Sooty Santa to our young readers who are interested in sending a letter to the editor. Warren R. Fisher, Sr., welcomed Sooty Santa home just after the turn of the last century.

Santa Letters

If you want to send a letter to the grand old man of the Christmas season, Santa Claus, The Mercury will be glad to publish those letters and send the word on to Santa.

The deadline for letters will be Dec. 12, but we'd like to get an early start on spreading the word for those Christmas lists.

Please mail your letters to The Carlisle Mercury, PO Box 272, Carlisle, Ky. 40311 or drop the letters by The Mercury office at 218 N. Locust St., in Carlisle. Our fax number is 859-289-4000.

If mommy and daddy have to help out you may email them to editor@thecarlislemercury.com.

We'll get your letters forwarded to Santa as soon as possible.

If you would like to include a picture with the letter to Santa the cost is $5.00 and should be brought to The Mercury's office along with your letter.

Happy Holidays and we look forward to your letters!

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Regional jail gains momentum with fiscal court

By Charles Mattox
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Nicholas County officials decided last week to negotiate a regional jail facility contract between Nicholas County and Bourbon County.

The decision was formalized in a 4-2 vote held Nov. 10 during the court's regularly scheduled monthly meeting.

"I understand how General Custer felt," Nicholas County Judge-Executive Larry Tincher said with a grin as the court came to order and began.

Judge Tincher sat the head of the table and was flanked on all sides by various officials from Bourbon County who were present in force to show their support for a regional jail with Nicholas County.

The "meeting started with the same routine and rhythm as all other Nicholas Fiscal Court meetings before it; with a word of prayer, which is quickly followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the approval of the minutes of the past meeting and the approval of having the Relay for Life festivities to be held in and around the courthouse yard (see related story in this week's Carlisle Mercury), the discussion involving the previously discussed topic of entering into a regional jail contract with neighboring Bourbon County.

Judge Tincher welcomed the Bourbon County officials and recommended the court start negotiations with Bourbon officials.

"I'm definitely in favor of proceeding," Tincher said but made clear he would only be in favor of a contract if negotiations would ultimately be "in the best interest" of Nicholas County.

Magistrate Jeff Randolph said he would be in favor of a six-year contract with Nicholas County paying Bourbon County $27 per inmate per day for the 2011 fiscal year and the same for 2012; with the price per inmate per day increasing one dollar each year for the next three years and staying at $30 for the final year of 2016.

Nicholas County pays Montgomery county $35 per inmate per day, a

See JAIL Page 5

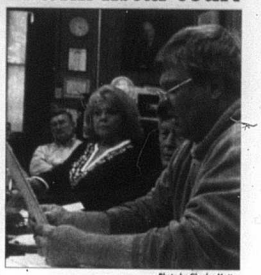

Photo by Charles Mattox

Magistrate Jeff Randolph, right, discusses the proposed regional jail contract during last week's fiscal court meeting as Bourbon Judge-Executive Donnie Foley, far left, Nicholas Treasurer Wanda Dotson, and Nicholas Magistrate Avery Thornsburg look on.

Downtown location sought for Relay for Life celebration

By Charles Mattox
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Relay for Life organizer Georgia Gilvin wants to bring next year's Relay for Life celebration downtown.

The members of the Nicholas County Fiscal Court quickly decided to let her use the courthouse yard moments after she asked.

Gilvin is a 12-year survivor of cancer and has been very active in organizing the five previous Relays for Life events in Nicholas County.

Gilvin said she hoped to help others organize the 6th Relay for Life celebration downtown to a more visual location. She said the move was also desired due to ongoing construction at the Nicholas County High School, which had been the site of previous Relay for Life celebrations.

Nicholas County judge-Executive Larry Tincher told Gilvin that if the celebration extended into the streets around the courthouse, she would need to seek permission from Carlisle Mayor Ronnie Clark and also to shut the streets down she would need to file an application with Kentucky Transportation Cabinet District 9 officials.

On a motion by Magistrate Avery Thornsburg, seconded by Magistrate Steve Hamilton the court members unanimously voted in support of allowing the next Relay for Life celebration to be held around the courthouse.

Photo by Charles Mattox

Georgia Gilvin and Kay Bussell enjoy a light moment with fiscal court members prior to the meeting in which the court approved moving the Relay for Life celebration around the courtyard.

Photo by Charles Mattox

Nicholas County All EKC Football first Team members are l-R, Ray Shrout, Anthony Kiskaden, Cody Barnett and Wes Hopkins.

Four Blue Jackets named to All-EKC

By Charles Mattox
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Four Nicholas County High School football players were recently named to the All Eastern Kentucky Conference Team.

Ray Shrout, a senior at NCHS and the son of John and Joy Beth Shrout, joined fellow senior, Anthony Kiskaden, son of Anthony and Tammy Kiskaden, senior Cody Barnett, son of Donnie and Vicky Barnett and junior Wes Hopkins, son of Robert and Charlotte Hopkins and Billy and Cindy Florence.

Wes Hopkins was also named as the EKC Defensive Player of the Year and was spotlighted on the front page of the Nov. 11 edition of the Carlisle Mercury.

Head Football Coach Robert Hopkins praised the four young men.

"To be selected as part of the all conference team... well... it takes more than just your actions on the field during a particular game," Coach Hopkins said while praising the four and explaining the selection process, which includes being selected by a majority of the ten coaches who lead the ten EKC teams.

Coach Hopkins called Kiskaden a strong running back and safety, with Shrout likewise being a strong running back and safety. Barnett was a full back and part of the defensive line. With Wes Hopkins being a full back and linebacker.

Shrout, who suffered a broken collarbone after a successful 70-yard run, said his favorite memory of all year was "beating Bath County."

Barnett said the high point of his season was "Making the play-offs."

Kiskaden said he enjoyed having fun and felt fortunate to have such "good teammates."

Three seniors not named to the elite team were also highly praised by Coach Hopkins. Zach Lemmons, Pat Fryman and Ben Lane complimented the trio of seniors named to the All-EKC Team. Coach Hopkins said the senior team had "won the play-offs two of the past four years."

"They are one of the better senior classes I have had in the recent past," he said. "They are right up there with class of 99-2000."

The Carlisle Mercury congratulates the four BlueJackets named to the All-EKC and to the senior members of the Nicholas County Football Team for once again representing your school and community admirably.

Incident at school leads to arrest

By Charles Mattox
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A disturbance at the Nicholas County High School on Nov. 12 led to a local man being arrested.

Richard C. Morris, 19, of Green Valley Apartments, Carlisle, was charged with disorderly conduct, second degree, and terroristic threatening, third degree, following his arrest by Carlisle Police Officer Mark Snedegar at NCHS.

"Mr. Morris went to the school to cause bodily harm to another student," Officer Snedegar wrote on Morris's arrest citation. "He advised all parties he would be waiting on (the) bus the next day to cause harm to a student."

Several of the staff and administration at NCHS intervened when Morris arrived on the campus at approximately 8 a.m. and instantly became "very loud and cussing teachers," according to the arrest citation.

There is no indication that Morris was ever armed with a weapon.

Community sources indicate Morris was upset regarding a misunderstanding or miscommunication a female student he knows had with another student on a school bus.

Witnesses to the incident included NCHS Principal Marty Feltner, Assistant Principal Barbara Allison, NCHS Teacher and Athletics Director Robert Hopkins and Counselor Cassie Miller, along with Nicholas County Deputy Sheriff Joe Herrington.

Photo submitted

NCMS Cheerleaders named Grand Champions

The Nicholas County Middle School Cheerleaders competed in the "Cheers for the Holiday" Competition on Saturday, November 14th. They were named the Grand Champions. The girls' families would like to thank Becca Stacey and Jordan Letcher for coaching and supporting this great group.

The cheerleaders are (not in order): Cheyenne Adams, Maribeth Browning, Sydney Fryman, Kasey Campbell, Katie Goldson, Cara George, Brooke Hampton, Jesse Howard, Dani Johnson, Alex Linville, Beth McCord, Jessica Mattox, Olivia Mattox, Katie Myers, Katie Stamper, Sydney Stone, Sedona Sweet, Jonna Watkins, Samantha Villaflor and Hannah Zornes.

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