

**Dream Big!**  
We'll handle the financing.

**pb PeoplesBank**  
OF KENTUCKY

Member  
FDIC



(USPS 023-152)  
**50 Cents**

Nicholas County News Since 1867

A member of **Ky NEWS GROUP**



# The Carlisle Mercury

Wednesday, May 13, 2026

605 Moorefield Road • 859-289-6425

Vol. 161 No. 20

## Two Bluejackets sign with Midway University

By **Michael A. Clary**  
KyNewsGroup  
michael@kynewsgroup.com

Two standout NCHS Senior basketball players, Braxton Martin and Caiden Smith, signed their commitment letters to continue their education and athletic career with Midway University on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at 6:00pm, in the lobby of the Nicholas County High School gymnasium. Braxton and Caiden's



families and friends were present to watch the boys sign their commitment letters, while Midway Uni-

versity's Head Basketball Coach Scott and Nicholas County's Head Basketball Coach looked on.

Nicholas County Athletic Director Sara Kiskaden read off both boys tremendous achievements while playing basketball for Nicholas County, and Coach Morris spoke highly of both of these talented young men and thanked them for making the Nicholas County Bluejackets a winning team. "Once a Bluejacket, always a Bluejacket." Congratulations Braxton and Caiden... you're Eagles now!!!

## Nicholas County Fiscal Court approves 1st reading of 26-27 budget during May meeting

By **Michael A. Clary**  
KyNewsGroup  
michael@kynewsgroup.com

Members of the Nicholas County Fiscal Court, along with Judge-Executive Steve Hamilton and County Attorney Dawn Letcher, met on Friday,

May 8, 2026, at 9:00am, at the Nicholas County Courthouse, for their regularly scheduled monthly meeting, which was broadcast live on the Carlisle Mercury Facebook page.

Judge-Exec. Hamilton called the meeting to or-

der with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call with all magistrates present, approval of the minutes from the last regular meeting and special called meeting, and acknowledgment that the monthly department reports had been received.

Members of the Nicholas County High School Bluejackets baseball team were present to thank the Fiscal Court for the Mathers Fund donation, which they used for their yearly trip to Destin, Florida. The boys said that it was fun, as well as educational.

The court approved the monthly bills, and then were presented with a presentation from Martha Taylor, who spoke about the Liberty Tree Project. She and members of the local DAR chapter are planning a dedication ceremony for the two Liberty trees planted at the Carlisle Cemetery. This is part of a statewide initiative by the Kentucky Historical Society to celebrate the 250th anniversary of our country's founding. The ceremony will feature local students and others and will take place at the Carlisle Cemetery on May 31, 2026 at 2:00pm.

The court opened and accepted any and all bids for asphalt, fuel, coal mix,

**Fiscal Court**  
cont. on pg. 2



## Carlisle City Council talks water leaks, speed bumps, and more at May meeting

By **Michael A. Clary**  
KyNewsGroup  
michael@kynewsgroup.com

Members of the Carlisle City Council, along with Mayor Ronnie Clark and City Attorney Henry "Skip" Watson, met on Monday, May 11, 2026, at 7:00pm, at City Hall, for their regularly scheduled monthly meeting, which was broadcast live on the Carlisle Mercury Facebook page.

Mayor Clark called the meeting to order with a moment of silence and roll call with all council members present.

Under New Business, the council approved the minutes of the April council meeting, approved the payroll transfers, and approved the May bills.

Under Old Business, Mayor Clark said the annexation of the old trailer park, located on Concrete Road, had been surveyed, but that the annexation would take place during next

month's council meeting. Mayor Clark said the city had been busy fixing water leaks and a gas leak and said that the boundary lines for the

new Carlisle Fire Department had been put

**City Council**  
cont. on pg. 2

## Vote Josh Rigdon - Board Member District 4 for Fleming Mason Energy Cooperative, Inc.



**Josh Rigdon**

To the Fleming Mason Energy members who reside in the City of Flemingsburg, Western Flem-

ing County, and Nicholas County, I would greatly appreciate your vote.

My name is Josh Rigdon. My wife Brandy and I reside in the Johnson Junction area where we are raising our three children- Kane, Ella, and Colt. Brandy and I own and operate our business in Fleming County, Rigdon Retrievers and The Retreat, a luxury dog boarding kennel and grooming facility.

As Brandy is the face most seen at The Retreat, I am a Journeyman Lineman by trade. With 15 plus years in the trade, I started at Fleming Mason Energy in 2010. In 2019 I successfully tested and joined the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. For the last seven years I have worked in many states and Puerto Rico serving in roles from Lineman, Crew Foreman, General Foreman, and currently a safety coordinator.

To the members of District 4, I would like to tell you to expect a mail in ballot in the coming days

**Rigdon**  
cont. on pg. 2

## Elect Dina Gooding - Board Member District 4 for Fleming Mason Energy Cooperative, Inc.

Hi everyone! I wanted to share that I, Dina Gooding, am running for re-election to the Fleming-Mason Energy Board for District 4.

Serving our community over the past 12 years has meant so much to me. I've worked hard to stay informed and make the best decisions for our members, always keeping reliability and affordability a top priority.

Many of you may know me from Peoples Bank of Kentucky, where I've worked for 39 years. I'm currently a Vice President and Senior Operations Officer, and that experience has helped



**Dina Gooding**

guide my work on the FME board.

**Gooding**  
cont. on pg. 2

## Eastern KY Vinyl Windows

We build and replace vinyl window



- New construction windows
  - Replacement windows
- We also replace fogged up glass

Amos L. Stoltzfus  
312 Chandler Road  
Sharpsburg Ky 40374

Try calling between 8:00-9:00am  
**606-247-3315**

LIVING ROOM FURNITURE • ROLL TOP DESKS • BEDROOM SETS • SWING SETS • DINING ROOM SETS • PATIO FURNITURE

**PLEASANT VIEW AMISH FURNITURE**

**SHOP OUR INDOOR AND OUTDOOR FURNITURE!**

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM  
U.S. 68 Mayslick, KY.  
www.amishheritagefurniture.com  
606-763-9048

Scan the QR Code to see all of our Indoor and Outdoor Furniture!

HOURS: MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY, & SATURDAY 9AM TO 5PM • FINANCING AVAILABLE