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THE JACKETS ARE BACK!

BLUEJACKETS HIT THE FIELD AGAINST HARRISON COUNTY
IN PRESEASON SCRIMMAGE ACTION



Photos courtesy of Alisha Dunn

The JV and Varsity Nicholas County High School Bluejackets football teams hosted the Harrison County Thoroughbreds on Friday night, Aug. 7, 2026, at Ben H. Pumphrey Field at NCMHS, for some pre-season scrimmage high school football action.

The Jackets and the Thoroughbreds got in some good reps before their regular season.

The Jackets 2026 football season will begin on Friday, Aug. 21, 2026, at home, against the Pendleton County Wildcats!

Go Jackets!!!

More pictures from the scrimmage on page 2



Carlisle City Council approves 1st readings of 2026-2027 tax rates

By Michael A. Clary
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Members of the Carlisle City Council, along with Mayor Ronnie Clark and City Attorney Henry "Skip" Watson, met on Monday, Aug. 10, 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, roll call, approval of the minutes from the July council meeting, approval of the payroll transfers, and approval of the August bills.

The council approved the 1st reading of the 2026-2027 tax rates for motor vehicles and watercraft at .42cents per \$100 of assessed value; approved the 1st reading of the 2026-2027 tax rate for personal property at .42cents per \$100 of assessed value; and approved the 2nd reading of these rates on Friday, Aug. 14, 2026, at 9:00am.

Mayor Clark spoke

about a new software program regarding newly formatted utility bills; changed the October City Council meeting from Oct. 12th to Oct. 5th, 2026; gave some updates regarding construction of the new fire department building, which he admits is not going as quickly as he'd like, but that it was coming along; talked about finishing up patching potholes for the year and continuing to remove the spur train tracks on Market Street; said that he hopes to have the bid for the waterline project by the end of the year with construction ready to begin in Spring 2027; and talked about construction on new houses



in the city, and dilapidated houses as well.

Before adjournment the mayor said that salt had been ordered for the upcoming winter season and reminded everyone to be safe and extra cautious as the new school year begins this coming Thursday morning, Aug. 13, 2026.

The meeting was subsequently adjourned.

Readifest 2026 brings out a large crowd to NCES and NCMHS



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The annual NCES and NCMHS Back to School Readifest and Open House was held on Monday, August 11, 2025, from 4:30 to 7:30pm at the elementary school and 5:00 to 7:00pm at the middle and high school.

Families with children of all ages participated in the yearly event, and the parking lots were packed, with lines going in the front door of the elementary school and back door by the elementary school gymnasium, and going into the high school gymnasium, as well.

The families, along with their boys and girls of all ages ready to start the new school year, were there to meet their

teachers and staff, pay Chromebook fees, pick up school supplies, and so much more.

Community partners filled both the elementary school and high school gymnasiums, including the Nicholas County Sheriff's Office, Meadowview Regional/Fleming County Hospital, Traditional Bank, New Vista, Edward Jones, WEDCO District Health Department, Blue Licks Christian Church, 4-H, Passport by Molina Healthcare, Nicholas County Public Library, and so many more.

There were also a number of shoes of all sizes available that were donated by area churches (Shoes in the Pews) that

Readifest cont. on pg. 3



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