

OBITUARIES/COMMUNITY

JUDY LOU EVANS



husband Jimmie Evans, her children Debbie Evans and Matt Evans, four grandchildren Sam Smith, Ella Martin, Kenley Evans and Laytin Evans, 1 great grandchild, Ja'Nova, 1 sister Beverly Blakeman and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a son Mike Evans, two sisters Faye Vincent and Bernice Vice, one brother David Biddle.

A Celebration of Life service was held at 7 pm on Monday April 20, 2026, at Carlisle-Clark Funeral Home. Visitation Monday 5 - 7 pm. Carlisle-Clark Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Judy Lou Evans 79 passed away April 16, 2026. She was born in Fleming County on June 19, 1946, to the late Clarence and Hazel Campbell Biddle. She was a Housewife. She is survived by her

PHIL BOONE MITCHELL



years and loved to collect guns and knives.

He is survived by his partner of twenty-five years, Bobbie Harris, a son, Robbie Mitchell, two daughters Tiffany, Kayla, he is also survived by six grandchildren Austin Mitchell, Phillip Mitchell, Rebecca (Austin) Vivian, Sophia Mitchell, Natalie Mitchell and Kaylee Mitchell, plus his wife's extended family and his best friend for twelve years, his fur baby Allie. A Celebration of Life will be determined later.

Carlisle-Clark Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Phil Boone Mitchell, 80, passed away April 20, 2026. He was born in Fleming County on July 6, 1945, to the late Boone and Addie Mae Hawkins Mitchell. He was a farmer for

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(Backpack Program); Mike and Vicky Mitchell - \$50 to NC Athletics (donation from Jan.-Feb. 2026); Nicholas County Fiscal Court (Mathers Fund) - \$5,000 to NC Cheer (20 students @ \$250 per) (donation from Jan.-Feb. 2026); Nicholas County Fiscal Court (Mathers Fund) - \$4,000 to NC Softball (16 players @ \$250 per); Nicholas County Fiscal Court (ASAP) - \$1,000 to NCMHS FRYSC (Gen. Assist. - Project Gen.); Anonymous - \$500 to NC Softball; David Rankin American Legion Post #257 - \$500 to NC Baseball; Ron Allison - Clothing for NCMHS FRYSC Center; Anonymous - \$100 to NCMHS FRYSC Backpack Program; Nicholas County Public Library - Backpack food to NCMHS FRYSC; Martha Holbrook - Hygiene products for NCMHS FRYSC Center; Anonymous - \$50 to NCMHS FRYSC for tux rental; Terry Rothwell - Shoes and Hygiene products for NCMHS FRYSC Center; Regina McCall - Dunkin Donuts gift cards for Project Grad to NCMHS FRYSC; Becky Garrett - Plastic bags to NCMHS FRYSC Backpack Program; Julie Allison - Prom dresses for

NCMHS FRYSC Center; Nicholas County Fiscal Court (Mathers Fund) - \$1,875 to NC Schools for 4th grade Environmental Camp (75 students @ \$25 per).

Donations to NCMHS Baseball: Dan and Sandra Abner - \$100; Martha Moss - \$100; Marilyn and Shirley Moss - \$100; David Loney and Rebecca Croft - \$100; Jewel Riley - \$100; Tracks LLC (Mike and Amy Bowles) - \$150; Anonymous - \$1,000; Anonymous - \$250Mike

Craig G. Aosse from G. Scott & Associates presented to the board the final specifications for the new Central Board Office, and the board approved to accept the final construction documents and authorize permission to advertise for bids. The estimated cost is around \$1.85 million, with a ground breaking scheduled before June 30, 2026.

Mr. Aosse also spoke with the board regarding the construction of two tennis courts, which initially was supposed to be located near the track, but that location was not feasible. So, Mr. Aosse showed the board some other locations to place the new tennis courts, both on campus and at the East End park near the softball field. The discussion was tabled

until further the board received further details regarding the several options discussed.

The board approved to declare one two behind hydraulic sweeper as surplus, and to donate this surplus to the Nicholas County Road Department; approved to solicit Request for Proposals for banking services for Nicholas County Schools, to approve to advertise for said proposals by newspaper, and to be submitted by sealed bids, which is done every two years; and approved to acknowledge receipt and review of the 2025-2026 Annual Wellness Report, which is done every year.

The board approved to participate in Access to Algebra, professional development program, in agreement with the KY Science & Technology Corporation, to increase Access to Algebra 1 for 8th graders at NCMHS. This program will help to improve students math scores and to help teachers teach Algebra.

The board approved the Travel Requests by NCHS FBLA to attend the FBLA State Conference in Louisville, Ky., April 27-29, 2026, as approved by NCMHS SBDM in March 2026; and approved the request by NCES Choir (Blue-jacket Singers) to attend a trip to King's Island on

May, 16, 2026, in Mason, Ohio.

The board approved the Facility Use Request by Alpha Baseball to use the NCMHS Baseball Facilities (high school baseball field and hitting facilities) during the Summer of 2026 for practice only, with dates ranging from approximately May 23, 2026, through August 2, 2026, primarily on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. The dates of June 25, 2026, thru July 9, 2026, will not be available.

The board approved Facility Use Requests by the Nicholas County Class of 1971 to use NCMHS for their 55th class reunion on Aug. 1, 2026, starting at 5pm; and the Nicholas County Class of 1966 to use NCMHS for their 60th year class reunion on Aug. 8, 2026, starting at 5pm, as well.

Before adjournment, NCES Principal Nikki Orazen and NCMHS Principal Stacey Allison spoke about how both schools are busy wrapping up the end of the school year and also focusing on attendance and testing.

Supt. Bechanan also spoke about end of the school year activities that were coming up as well, including prom and graduation.

The meeting was subsequently adjourned.

Kentucky State Parks announce completed Preservation and Enhancement efforts at Eight Historic Sites

IMPROVEMENTS WERE COMPLETED USING \$75,000 IN GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE AMERICA250KY INITIATIVE

Today, the Kentucky Department of Parks announced it has completed preservation and improvement projects at eight state park historic sites across the commonwealth using \$75,000 in grant funding through the America250KY initiative.

"These efforts have allowed our state historic sites and parks to preserve and restore the places where Kentucky's story was made," said Kentucky State Parks Commissioner Mark Kellen. "Thanks to these completed projects, more visitors will get to learn about our parks and the important history behind them."

The completed projects which help preserve and enhance the visitor experience at sites across the commonwealth include:

- Big Bone Lick State Historic Site Replica megafauna bones, including mastodon and mammoth remains, were purchased to enhance hands-on educational programming and provide visitors with a connection to Kentucky's prehistoric past.

- Blue Licks Battlefield State Park New shelving and archival supplies were purchased to protect and preserve historical artifacts. A smartboard was secured to enhance educational efforts, enabling the use of videos and presentations.

- Thomas Walker State Historic Site The expansion of the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) through the purchase of bows, arrows, targets and racks will allow more children to participate. Additionally, kayaks and life jackets were also purchased to increase access to guided trips along the

- Fort Boonesborough State Park Artifacts from the original Fort Boonesborough site underwent conservation assessment and treatment.
- Isaac Shelby Cemetery State Historic Site Using specialized conservation supplies, the gravestone-cleaning project allowed staff to clean gravestones and prevent further deterioration.

- John James Audubon State Park New cabinetry was installed to ensure safe artifact storage, conserve historic clothing and improve the preservation of sensitive collections. Trail cameras were installed to monitor wildlife activity, and

- Wickliffe Mounds State Historic Site Outdated storage boxes were replaced with 500 archival boxes, and archival plastic bags replaced paper field bags, improving the protection of archaeological collections.

- Old Mulkey Meetinghouse State Historic Site New shelving, lighting and display case materials were installed to showcase historic items such as a saddlebag, horn spoon, clay pipe and eyeglasses.

- Wickliffe Mounds State Historic Site Outdated storage boxes were replaced with 500 archival boxes, and archival plastic bags replaced paper field bags, improving the protection of archaeological collections.

- The grants, administered by the Kentucky Historical Society and the Kentucky Sestercentennial Commission, ensure Kentucky's diverse history is recognized and preserved for future generations.

- The Kentucky Sestercentennial Commission was established to plan and implement events leading up to the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. For more information on America250KY and the America250KY grant program and eligibility criteria, visit history.ky.gov/america250ky.

- Kentucky is home to 44 state parks, including 17 resort parks and 13 golf courses. For more information about Kentucky State Parks, visit parks.kv.gov.

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The Carlisle Mercury welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be signed and include a daytime phone number for confirmation. Unconfirmed letters and unsigned letters will not be published. Phone numbers are not published. We reserve the right to deny publication of letters and to edit letters for content.

The deadline for letters to the editor is 5 p.m. Friday.

Send letters to:
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Mailing address: P.O. Box 272, Carlisle, KY 40311
Phone: 859-289-6425 • Fax: 859-289-4000
Email for news: melissa@kynewsgroup.com
Email for advertising: petrea@kynewsgroup.com
melissa@kynewsgroup.com

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