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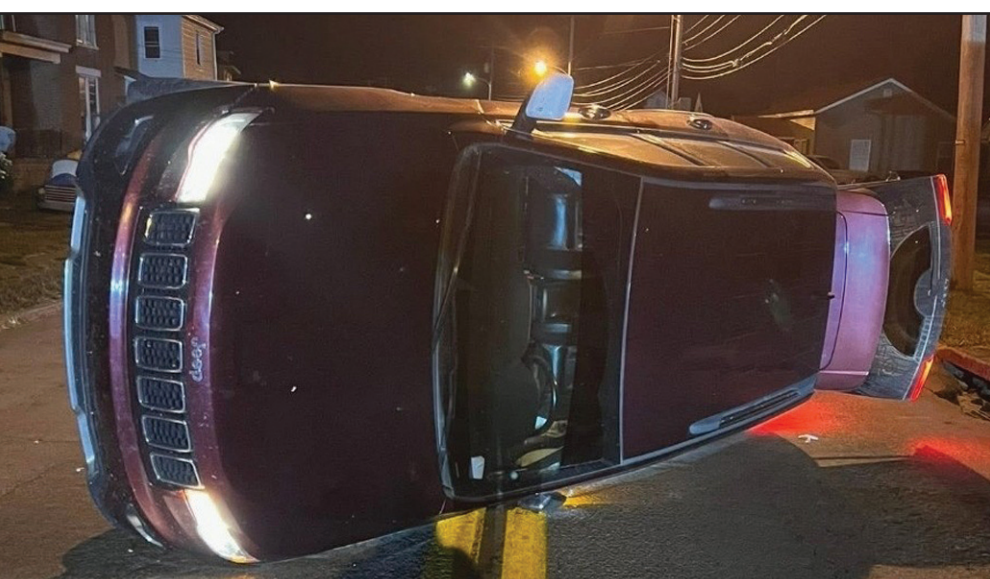
The Carlisle Mercury

Wednesday, September 24, 2025

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Early morning collision leaves one vehicle on its side



By Michael A. Clary
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(photos submitted)



A two-vehicle collision on East Main Street in Carlisle, Ky., during the early morning hours of Friday, Sept. 19, 2025, ended up with one of the vehicles turned upon its side in the middle of Main Street. Carlisle PD responded on scene until the scene was cleared, and no injuries were reported.

Nicholas County School Board adds Archery Head and Asst. Coach positions at Sept. meeting

By Michael A. Clary
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Members of the Nicholas County Board of Education, including Superintendent Doug Bechanan, met on Monday, Sept. 15, 2025, at 6:00pm, at the Nicholas County Board of Education office, for their regularly scheduled monthly meeting. Board Chair Cheryl Rawlings called the meeting to order with roll call, with all board members present, sans one; approval of the

Consent Agenda; and acknowledged receipt of the required report from the Superintendent regarding personnel actions, which include... Employment: Susan Carr and Stephanie Hawkins – ESS Daytime Tutors – Intervention Teachers; Tina Caswell – NCMHS Cross Country Head Coach; Trena Tincher – NCHS Asst. Athletic Director; Kevin Miller, Kimberly Myers, Becca Stacy, Jonathan Collins, Gabriella Harris, Sarah Schanding, Tawnya Livingood Witt, Michelle Oertner – Substitute Teachers; Christine Carpenter – NCES

Special ED Instructional Assistant; Laurel McDaniel – NCHS Math Teacher; Barry Bretz – NCMS Athletic Director; Andrew Fugitt – NC Bus Driver (Sub); Allison Buckler – Substitute Teacher and Instructional Asst. Sub; Bryan Warburton, Devon Williams, and Katherine McNabb

School Board
cont. on pg. 2



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Coming Home: Willowbrook Healthcare Opens Its Doors in Nicholas County

THE RETURN OF A LOCAL NURSING HOME IS MORE THAN JUST A MILESTONE - IT'S A HOMECOMING OUR COMMUNITY HAS LONG DESERVED.

By Judge Executive Steve Hamilton

For years, families in Nicholas County have had to make an impossible choice: either travel long distances to visit loved ones in care, or move them far from the people and places they know best. That chapter is finally closed.

With the opening of Willowbrook Healthcare right here in Carlisle, our community is celebrating not just a new building — but the return of compassionate, local care that keeps families together and honors our elders with dignity. This is a day we've long worked toward. And now, the doors are open.

On October 7, I invite every member of the public to join us for Willowbrook's grand opening celebration at 1pm – 3pm, located at 2323 Concrete Road. You'll meet the dedicated team, tour the beautiful new facility, and see firsthand what so many in our community have worked years to bring to life.

Willowbrook is now accepting residents and will serve up to 71 residents with services ranging from skilled nursing and rehabilitation-to-home care, to a secure memory care unit for individuals living with dementia or Alzheimer's. This is the only nursing home in Nicholas County, and it is already making an impact — not just on health outcomes, but on everyday lives.

Over the past several years, County Attorney Dawn Curran Letcher and I have worked hand-in-hand with the new own-



ers, Jay and Molly Frances, to make this dream a reality. From the earliest planning meetings to the final touches, our goal was always the same: to bring high-quality, locally accessible care back to Nicholas County — and do it right.

I want to thank the Frances family for their vision and commitment to our people. They listened to the needs of the community, partnered with local professionals, and invested in a facility that reflects both medical excellence and heartfelt compassion.

In addition to improving quality of life, Willowbrook is also creating about 75 new jobs, helping to strengthen our lo-

cal economy. But perhaps even more important than the numbers is what this means emotionally to our community. It's the recognition that this place of care is giving the ability for a grandmother to remain close to her family, for a husband to visit his wife without hours of travel, for neighbors to grow old with the support and familiarity of their hometown.

We are not just opening a building. We are opening a promise kept. Nicholas County has always taken care of its own. Now, with Willowbrook Healthcare, we can do that even better — right here, close to home. Join us on October 7. Come see the future of care in Nicholas County.

Steve Hamilton - Nicholas County Judge Executive

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