



# Nicholas County Historical Society

Vol. 36 No 4

*Building Our Future By Preserving Our Past*

October 2012

## Mozart Hall partially completed

We are pleased to report that the major portion of Mozart Hall restoration has been completed on the second floor of the Neal Building and is now available for use. All necessary work for safe and comfortable occupancy including heating & cooling, lighting, and reinforced sub-floor to meet current building codes have been completed.

Prior work on the building had restored the original stairs from the front sidewalk, and installed an emergency rear exit, an elevator from the first floor and a fire alarm and sprinkler system. This spacious area (about 4,000 sq.ft.) can accommodate 200 to

400 people, depending on table and seating arrangements.

It was inaugurated on the evening of October 13 with over 100 guests and an Irish band assembling for a surprise birthday party for Joseph (Jock) Conley.

At a time to be announced the restored area will be dedicated to the late Carol Walker Garvin, President of the Nicholas County Historical Society whose vision for the historic Neal Building and love for Carlisle inspired us all.

This work cost about \$125,000 and pretty well depleted our reserve of memorial funds and donations received over the past several years. There is still

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## Thank you to Mozart Hall donors

Thank you to the following members for their contributions to the Mozart Hall. The area still needs a new floor, so if you have not contributed please consider our cause!

Dr. & Mrs. Taylor Asbury

Elizabeth Clay Bradley

Carlisle Rotary Club

Silas & Judy Cleaver

Betsy Davenport

Mr. & Mrs. Bill Harney

(in memory of Frances and  
Brunker Harney)

Delores Harper

Charles & Linda House

Mr. & Mrs. Don Hovermale

David & Kathy Johnson

Dr. Ann Kingsolver

Dr. & Mrs. Wendell Kingsolver

Mr. & Mrs. Ken Knapke

Doug & Mary Susan McCord

Tom & Bonnie Metcalfe

William & Adeline Muir

NCAWS

Estill Noffsinger

Bob Pitman

Mrs. R.E. Pittman

Jimmy & Megan Shaw

Ann Sharp

Patsy Smoot

Jan Taylor

Jewell & Wanda Vice

Emily Wolf

Louise Zachary

*By Michelle McDonald*

## Material donations add to NCHS collection

Over the past three months, quite a few historic items have been donated to NCHS.

August 16, Doris Ecton donated a collection of Linville family papers that included state and county tax receipts for 1892-1902, a 1918 War Department notice, an 1890 autograph book, receipts from Carlisle businesses 1899-1911, and the 1906 Carlisle Democrat listing of people from out of state attending an "Old Settlers reunion in Carlisle.

September 6 several donations were made.

Amanda Kelly donated a book of poetry by Jim Lally, a former Nicholas County High School teacher.

Sally Watkins donated a framed picture of Ron Scotts **Neal Building open For Christmas Parade**

Please join us at the Neal Building during the Carlisle Christmas Parade on December 1. The building will be open to "sit a spell" and warm up before and after the parade!

### **Mozart Hall partially completed**

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more decorative work to be done so please continue those donations and memorial gifts. As noted above we now only have a plywood sub-floor until we can install a proper hardwood floor at a cost of about \$35,000. Also the walls and 20 ft. ceiling still have their 19<sup>th</sup> century charm of fading paint and crumbling plaster.

*By Bob Garvin*

grandfather, Robert Burns, in his World War II uniform, and Rose Scotts Nicholas County Clerk plaque.

Jerry Neal brought in a Neal family Bible. A copy of the birth page is on display in the genealogy library.

Rolla Cavanaugh donated a framed 1923 Carlisle High School photograph.

Bill Crawford donated his mother's World War II era scrapbooks. One contains pictures of servicemen published in the Lexington Herald between 1941 and 1945; while the second contains numerous Carlisle and Nicholas County newspaper articles.

Other items have appeared without documentation. Donors are encouraged to fill out a Contributor Form, or to call during hours in which the Neal Center is open so that items may be properly listed and credit for the donations noted.

*By Everett Earl Pfanstiel.*

### **Historical Society, Arts Guild form Partnership**

The Historical Society and the local Arts Guild have recently joined forces. The Arts Guild was looking for a new home and the Neal Building was looking for tenants, so the Arts Guild will now hold their monthly meetings as well as their upcoming classes at the Neal Building. The Mozart Hall will be a great space for the different classes the Arts Guild offers – lots of room and plenty of good light. We look forward to a long partnership!

## Poignant Historic Letter

Bob Garvin has found a very interesting and sad historic letter in the attic of the old Tureman Drug Store at 222 North Locust Street:

*Monday Morning August 3, 1863*

*Dear Tom,*

*Mary Coburn was very unwell yesterday morning so much so at one time that we thought she would die. She was racked with pain for half an hour, after that she became quiet and remained so during the day and rested very well through the night, and sleeping quietly this morning. I hope she is better but the changes are so frequent it is hard to tell whether she is better or not. I hope however she is better. She prispired (sic) some yesterday evening, the first time since I have been here. Which I think is a good symptom.*

*Write often. Goodby,*

*J.L. Arnold*

Research by Julie Garvin and Gladys ShROUT indicate that the letter was written by James L. Arnold, the father of ten-year-old Mary Coburn Arnold, to his brother in law, Thomas P. Tureman. James Arnold was married to Mary Ann Tureman, a sister of Thomas. Thomas and Mary Ann's parents were Joseph F. and Virginia Coburn Tureman.

Mary Coburn Arnold is listed in the 1860 as being born in 1853. By the 1870 census, the James L. Arnold family was living in Trimble County, Ky.

Mary Coburn is not listed in the Arnold family in the 1870 census so she probably died of the illness referred to in the letter; possibly one of the many summer fevers and maladies that afflicted this area in the mid-nineteenth century.

However, no reference of her death or grave site can be

found in family or cemetery records so hopefully, 17 year old Mary Coburn could have been married and no longer living in her fathers household by 1870.

Perhaps some of our readers may have information about the fate of little Mary Coburn Arnold.

If you have information to add to this mystery, Email your information to:

[garvinr@bellsouth.net](mailto:garvinr@bellsouth.net)

### Thank You

On behalf of my family I would like to say thank you for all the wonderful contributions made to the Neal Building in memory of my mother, Mary Catherine Knapke. Nearly \$3,500 was given in her name. I am overwhelmed by the generosity of our friends.

Thank you again.

Michelle Knapke McDonald