

The Carlisle Mercury

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1500 view C of C Christmas parade

By John Burke
If last Saturday night seemed a little livelier than usual to folks around town, it was. All of the commotion was caused by the 1980 Carlisle/Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce Christmas parade.

Christmas play is this Saturday Dec. 13, 8 p.m.

"Mr. Scrooge," a musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' "Christmas Carol" is part of our Christmas 1980. Tiny Tim, "Humbug Scrooge," the Ghosts, the Cratchit family and many others appear in Carlisle on Dec. 13.

The curtain goes up at 8 p.m. at the Nicholas County Elementary School. A limited number of seats will be available. Advance tickets are being sold at Abraham's, Carlisle Drug, Carlisle 5 & 10, Carter's, and Hopkins Drug. Tickets also will be available at the door. Box office opens at 7:15 p.m. Admission is \$2.50 for adults and \$1 for young people (high school and younger).

"Mr. Scrooge" is being sponsored by the Nicholas County Historical Society. The performers are selected members of The Little Theatre of Mt. Sterling. "Mr. Scrooge" promises to be an enjoyable evening for all. Be sure it is part of your Christmas 1980.

Motorists cautioned to watch peak hours for school bus stops

Nicholas County School Supt. Donald G. Elder cautioned motorists this week to please exercise extreme caution when traveling county roads during the peak hours for school bus travel. These peak hours are 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

All school buses are equipped with red flashing lights and stop signs which signal that the school bus is stopped and the children are exiting or entering the vehicle. Kentucky Revised Statute 189.730 states that it is unlawful to pass a school bus while it is loading or unloading children.

Supt. Elder has instructed all bus drivers to make note of the license numbers of all vehicles illegally passing their buses. Because of the extreme danger that exists when buses are passed during the loading or unloading process, violators must be prosecuted.

This year's parade was held under ideal weather conditions, especially when you consider the last couple of years. Shirt-sleeve weather brought out a crowd estimated at 1,000 to 1,500 people to witness the procession led by the Nicholas County Junior ROTC color guard.

Our own color guard was followed by the Millersburg Military Institute's color guard, just in front of the Nicholas County band.

Those six beautiful young ladies riding in the convertibles were Tammy Roser, the 1979 Snow Queen and the five

1980 Snow Queen candidates. Sandy Caswell, Ramona Randolph, Sharro Smoot, Lorna Turpin and Jackie Estel were in a close election at the high school to determine the 1980 Snow Queen.

Miss Ramona Randolph won the honors and was crowned the new reigning Queen by John Burke, Chamber of Commerce president, and Miss Roser.

The Queen candidates were followed by the Methodist Youth Group float, Carlisle Cub Scout Den, the Head Start/Day Care float, Girl Scouts dressed as Christmas presents and Brownie Scouts that looked like candy canes.

A guest float, winner of the Paris parade competition, was shown off by the Bedford Acres Christian Church

Youth Group, and preceded the 4-H Teen Club float.

After a tough decision, the judges awarded the Head Start/Day Care float first prize and the 4-H Teen Club second.

The guest of honor, St. Nick, arrived riding atop the Carlisle fire engine, escorted by the Nicholas County fire truck and rescue squad.

When he finished scattering candy and good cheer down Main Street, Santa visited with the youngsters in the courthouse yard. He soon departed for a colder climate, but not before making several hats and giving out even more candy. Mayor William Power, who announced the parade, didn't get a chance to talk to Santa, but said he was still looking forward to Santa's return trip to Nicholas County on Dec. 25.



Winning Float

The Nicholas County Community Head Start/Day Care Center float won first place at the Christmas Parade Saturday night. The 4-H Teen Club float placed second. — Bill Campbell photo.



Snow Queen

Miss Ramona Randolph was crowned queen at the annual Christmas parade Saturday night, Dec. 6, by John Burke, president of the Carlisle-Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce. — Bill Campbell photo.

Carlisle man arrested on several charges

The grandson of the mayor of Carlisle was arrested in Paris last Thursday and charged with trafficking in schedule 4 drugs and receiving stolen property.

William Michael Power, 21, of Carlisle, was arrested after allegedly selling an undisclosed amount of drugs

to an undercover agent. After obtaining a warrant to search Power's car, police reported discovering items taken in a burglary of a Mt. Sterling home owned by Chas Ferguson.

Further investigation revealed additional coins and items, believed to be

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Fiscal Court declares Dec. 9

'Miss Annabel Gill Day' in Nicholas County



Miss Annabel Gill, who was 103 Dec. 9, was honored Sunday, Dec. 7, with a Kentucky Colonel certificate presented to

A Kentucky Colonel at 103

her by State Representative Adrian Arnold at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lovell (Bob) Livingston. — Mercury photo.

By Janie Duncan
Miss Annabel Gill of Milltown, known to many as "Aunt Cochie", observed her 113th birthday Tuesday, Dec. 9, on Sunday, Dec. 7, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lovell (Bob) Livingston, with whom she lives, she was presented a framed Kentucky Colonel certificate by State Representative Adrian Arnold.

Also County Judge/Executive Reese Smoot gave her a copy of a resolution proclaiming Dec. 9 as "Miss Annabel Gill Day" in Nicholas County. Magistrate Orville Atkinson, who proposed the honoring of Miss Gill to the Fiscal Court, and Melvin Fryman were also present representing the Fiscal Court. Mr. Fryman brought an old fashion jam cake which his wife had made for the occasion. I went along to photographically record the presentations for The Mercury.

How did she take all this? A bit confused by all the fuss, stating she was "sorry to be so foolish" about not understanding at first, but thanking everyone as they left.

Miss Gill has made her home with the Livingoods for the past four years. Before that, for eight years, Mr. Livingston (who is also a Magistrate) stated her at her home daily, taking meals and seeing that she was dressed. Her home was close to the old general goods store that she ran for 50 years at Milltown.

Her store, which is a few miles from the Livingston home, is still standing. Her home, located on the old Willie Vaughn farm, is behind the store, close to the Lacking River.

Miss Gill's parents were the late John W. and Mollie Spencer Gill. She was born near the Little Flat Creek which borders Nicholas and Bath Counties. She had one brother, Alvin "Cap" Gill, and one sister, Mrs. Mollie Kay Gill. She is a member of the

ing County. One of her nephews, Pearl Gill, helped her in the store for many years. Shortly after his death Miss Gill closed her business.

Her business, as all county general stores, was run on a year-to-year credit basis. When the farmers in that section sold their tobacco they would pay the year's account they had run up. Many remember the disastrous tobacco crop of 1929, when several families could not pay Miss Gill. She simply credited them for another year, and the crop that year proved successful.

The yard goods in her store were a delight for the women of Milltown and surrounding areas, as she had excellent taste in selecting materials which she picked out herself at a wholesale dry goods store in Lexington.

Miss Gill remembers as a young girl living with and working for Miss Carrie Mann, who operated a sewing and millinery business in Carlisle. With the money she made working for Miss Mann, she bought merchandise and started her store at Milltown.

In an interview I did with Miss Gill on her 103th birthday in November 1977, when asked to comment on her long life, she said "being good to people. I never allowed anyone to suffer if I had anything."

Mrs. Livingston stated that Miss Annabel eats heartily, and doesn't like to lie down during the day. Also that she enjoys television occasionally, looking out the window at the comings and goings of the family, and is especially fond of Robbie and Bobby, the three-year-old twin grandsons of Mr. and Mrs. John Caswell. In fact, as we were leaving, the twins came in the house, and Miss Gill said, "I want you to see my twins!" She is truly a remarkable lady with a quick wit and a determination to enjoy each day she lives. — Mercury photo.