

FEATURE AT SIX

Guard has rich history

By Josh Shepherd
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff
 For the last 40 years, and especially in the last ten, the National Guard has altered its role somewhat and strives to remove its reputation as a weekend warrior.

The guard itself pre-dates the United States by nearly 150 years, celebrating over 250 years of devoted service to the people of this land before this land was a country.

Historians agree the guard's earliest roots in the United States can be traced as far back as 1620 when Captain Miles Standish headed a small band of armed volunteers in Massachusetts to defend early colonial homesteads against French and Indian attack and to watch over the settlements.

However, the Guard, then referred to as the Massachusetts volunteer militia, were loyal to the English throne, participating avidly in the French and Indian War.

Several branches served the English during many of their struggles, the most notable of which were Robert's Rangers, which, among many of their exploits, successfully traversed the early northwestern terrain of the Northeast Passage.

However, the militia banded itself to the United States peacefully when the Revolution broke out and the volunteer militia, along with several rebels and those loyal to the British crown, gathered together and formed the nucleus of the American resistance, the Minute Men.

However, since its lofty days as the sole protectors of the early colonies, the guard became known as the citizens volunteer army and their importance to defense waned as the United States began to form a standing Army and Navy.

During World War II, however, the guard proved its necessity. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, it was apparent to the government that the standing army was not enough and the volunteers rolling in from the guard supplied the early start of the United States involvement in both the European and Japanese theaters.

Over the span of 200 years, the Guard has changed many times and even from the war years beginning in 1940, the guard is different.

Three years in National Guard service Army in Nicholas County is First Lieutenant Steven Powell.

According to Powell, it wasn't long ago when the National Guard had a lax reputation which grew in to the "Weekend Warrior" cliché. Guard members had about two hours a week and for the most part, their role was taken seriously, Powell said.

There were particular companies and battalions

given training for special types of combat, but for most Guard outfits, at least in the past, the main reason for their existence was not being of great service to the country.

However, since 1971, Powell said, the guard has made a strong effort and changed its public role.

Units have become more diversified, with less actually serving arms.

Instead, the idea is to turn the guard around, making it more service oriented towards its community.

The history of the Nicholas County army concerns more than one outpost.

Previous to 1956, the National Guard armory, stationed close to town, was an area outpost.

However, Powell said, the unit in place was moved and revamped in the late 1950's.

"Carlisle is now supplied with an Engineering Unit to perform more civil duties," Powell said.

It serves the town as it always has, Powell said; but they offer more than just military assistance.

In the back of the Nicholas County armory, camouflage vests have been replaced with camouflage gear, moving and construction equipment loaded in the north.

The guard is moving toward community service operations, Powell said.

"Money is being spent to supply armories with first rate equipment. Even the military outfits, including one in Kentucky, are getting the latest F-16 Blackhawk helicopters."

Fort Knox itself has been equipped with multi-terrain tanks, Powell said.

The engineering unit in Carlisle is the Delta unit of citizens volunteer army and their importance to defense waned as the United States began to form a standing Army and Navy.

However, the National Guard have not discarded their primary reason of being. They are all still trained for military combat, Powell said, and they are the rapid deployment soldiers.

If things were to come to war, we and the army will go side by side," Powell said.

Though three years in, Powell said he found the demanding but, he said, rewarding both very sobering and me it has been a blessing.



The Carlisle Merchants' Shepherd Photo. Equipment stands at the ready for use by the Carlisle detachment of the Kentucky National Guard. The Guard meets once a month at the new armory in Carlisle.

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GENERAL NEWS

In Nicholas Gun season opens Nov. 11 for taking deer

By Josh Shepherd
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff
 Gun deer season officially opens November 11 this year. Game Warden Herbert Booth said. But with the new season come a few changes in regulations hunters must understand before heading out this year.

On the last day of the season, hunters may track deer as well as hunt.

Booth said this is the first time deer have been legal game in the state, but he stresses severe penalties will result if deer are hunted at any time previous to the last day of the season.

"Hunters have from the 11th to the 19th to hunt back the minimum legal kill for bucks, however, are those with at least a four inch antler. Hunters, however, are unlimited," Booth said.

Any center fire and rim shot rifle is legal during gun season. Bow hunters will also be allowed to continue their hunting during the season.

Oral or written permission must be obtained for hunters to use private property for their hunting, Booth said.

One of the most important changes in the regulations, Booth said, concerns hunting gear.

All hunters must have 500 square inches of hunter orange, or more simply, a vest and cap in hunter orange. But all sides of a hunter must be covered in order to satisfy the requirement, Booth said.

In the hunt itself, deer may not be taken with the use of dogs, nor may they be shot in traps, or used if they have been by a car.

Deer legally taken in a hunt must be tagged immediately before the carcass is moved, Booth said.

Fines for non-compliance with regulations range from a minimum \$27.90 to \$1,000 and a possible one year jail sentence and possibly confinement at all hunting equipment.



The Fryman vehicle



The Banta vehicle

One injured

Nicholas County firemen, Nicholas County Ambulance personnel and the Nicholas County Sheriff responded to a one vehicle, injury accident, near the traffic lights on U.S. 68 west at about 10:20 p.m. Monday night. One man, apparently the driver, was injured and taken to Nicholas County Hospital. A report on the accident was unavailable at press time.

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Deer overtaking highways

By Josh Shepherd
Of The Carlisle Mercury Staff
 Two Nicholas County people have experienced accidents involving deer this past October, two occurring on Lake Road and another occurring near the Bardtown exit on the Bluegrass Parkway.

Robert Banta said he was headed from a motorcycle rally in Clarksville, Tennessee late one evening when he said, approximately a seven point buck bounded in the freeway in front of him.

"I had no time to brake at all before it got in front of me. All I saw was head, horns, then boom," he said.

Banta's truck had to be towed to Bardtown with bent frame and the grill above in. Mary Lou Fryman, however, had her experience much closer to Carlisle on Lake Road.

It was early Tuesday morning, about 7:45 near the 4th camp when Fryman was driving in to work.

"I saw him coming over the hill but I knew he was going to come right into in front of me. I hit my brake and clutch and started sliding right into the back of him. It took no time at all. The car hit like a brick and stopped moving."

The deer, wounded badly from the crash, had to be shot. The car sustained nearly \$700 worth of damage, Fryman said.

Gun Season Opens Nov. 11

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