

Focus

A Story For All Time



The Crucifixion

The overpowering Crucifixion Scene at Christus Gardens, Gallitree, Tennessee, shows Christ on the cross between the two thieves, as Roman soldiers cast for Christ's garments while Mary grieves.

Luke 23, 1-5

Then the entire Council took Jesus over to Pilate, the governor. They began at once accusing him. This fellow has been leading our people to ruin by telling them not to pay their taxes to the Roman government and by claiming he is our Messiah - a King.

So Pilate asked him, "Are you their Messiah - their King?" "Yes," Jesus replied, "it is as you say."

Luke 23, 24-26

So Pilate sent Jesus to prison for arraignment and held hearings at their request. But he delivered Jesus over to them to do with as they would.

At the crowd led Jesus away to his death, Simon of Cyrene, who was just coming into Jerusalem from the country, was forced to follow, carrying Jesus' cross.

Two others, criminals, were led out to be executed with him at a place called, "The Skull." There all three were crucified - Jesus on the center cross, and the two criminals on either side.

"Father, forgive these people," Jesus said, "for they don't know what they are doing."

And the soldiers gambled for his clothing, throwing dice for each piece. The crowd watched. And the Jewish leaders laughed and scoffed. "He was so good at helping others," they said. "Let's see him save himself if he is really God's Chosen One, the Messiah."

The soldiers mocked him, too, by offering him a drink of sour wine. And they called to him, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

A signboard was nailed to the cross above him with these words: "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, "So the other criminal, Jesus, was a sinner just like you."

But the other criminal protested, "Don't you even fear God who you are dying?"

We deserve to die for our evil deeds, but this man hasn't done one thing wrong."

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom."

And Jesus replied, "Today you will be with me in Paradise. This is a solemn promise."

By now it was noon, and darkness fell across the whole land for three hours, until three o'clock. The light from the sun was gone - and suddenly the thick veil hanging in the Temple split apart.

Then Jesus shouted, "Father, I commit my spirit to you," and with those words he died.

When the captain of the Roman military unit handing the executions saw what had happened, he was struck with awe before God and said, "Surely this man was innocent."

And when the crowd that came to see the crucifixion saw that Jesus was dead, they went home in deep sorrow. Meanwhile, Jesus' friends, including the women who had followed him down from Galilee, stood in the distance watching.

Then a man named Joseph, a member of the Jewish Supreme Court, from the city of Arimathea in Judea, went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. He was a holy man who had been expecting the Messiah's coming and had not agreed with the actions and edicts of the other Jewish leaders. So he took down Jesus' body and wrapped it in a long linen cloth and laid it in a new, unused tomb hewn into the rock (at the side of a hill). This was done late on Friday afternoon, the day of preparation for the Sabbath.

As the body was taken away, the women from Galilee followed and saw it carried into the tomb. Then they went home and prepared spices and ointments. But when they came back at the time they were finished it was the Sabbath, so they rested all that day as required by the Jewish law.

Luke 24, 1-11

BUT VERY EARLY on Sunday morning they took the ointments to the tomb - and found that the huge stone covering the entrance had been rolled aside. So they went in - but the Lord

BOND'S BROADCAST

By HANK BOND

Letters to the editor; the whys and why nots

I have had several calls and inquiries about letters to the editor and the policy of The Carlisle Mercury about accepting and printing them.

There's no simple rule about letters to the editor, except it is a public forum offered by most newspapers to residents.

Almost every newspaper I have ever seen has a policy of not running unsigned letters. It is impossible to begin this policy, since the potential for litigation for the writer is so great if it is signed; . . . and for the newspaper if the letters are not signed.

Along the same lines, if letters put the writer in jeopardy for litigation most newspapers will either not run the letter at all, and return it, or edit the portions of the letter submitted which cause the concern.

This is generally the way The Mercury has always handled the letters to the editor we receive.

It's not something which we take lightly. I would be much simpler to eliminate the running of these letters at all, than to get phone calls about the paper's policy, but that simply not only conforms to normal journalistic standards.

However, letters which are of a personal nature, attack other individuals such a way that may cause litigation or defamation to such an extent it could be harmful we opt not to publish them.

There appears to be some belief that the newspaper has an obligation to print anything which is brought into the office, no matter how trivial.

We print these as a service to the writers to have a public forum for their beliefs, ideas, and yes, comments about almost anything - as long as it doesn't cross that fine line for potential litigation.

So many times we have received letters with the comment to "print this exactly like I wrote it."

When we have a question about a letter here we contact an attorney, which has some special knowledge of laws affecting newspapers and yield to that decision - to publish or not publish.

While there will probably be those who disagree about what we have printed, we have done everything possible to print what is submitted when it is handled in a proper manner.

It is not the policy of this newspaper to enter into personal disputes, which would be far better settled in a court of law or maybe by a simple conversation.

Certainly, there are times when it isn't all that talk, but sometimes it can be.

With the same thoughts in mind, we need to talk about stories people believe the newspaper should run. While we have always been most concerned things a newspaper cannot do.

We are not a regulating agency with some power to make things happen. It is our role to report on what you do in your community - and it will remain that way. Becoming part of the news is something which most newspapers avoid - as does The Carlisle Mercury.

When you allow the newspaper to become part of the news, past a passive participation, then no one gets the benefit of a free and open press.

We'll try and not debate public issues - that is left for the citizens of the community to do.

We will publish letters and stories critical of the newspaper, but it is a perpetuation of the belief that opinions vary.

We cannot, and will not, move from the belief that this participation will violate the trust placed in the newspaper by those who read it each week.

We don't agree with everything, and at times try to put this into words. We have heard and argued things in a public manner for 124 years.

We want everyone who uses this newspaper to feel free to write a letter or comment a story or point out a problem - we can even stand the critical remarks because that usually makes a us little better.

But, for those who cannot allow things to be known by printed that will defame individuals in the community. Public officials are a little more open to this than are business owners and private citizens, but if you have read this, maybe you'll understand a little better why we do what we do.

If you don't want to be sorry you don't, I would try to explain this in person to anyone who wants to discuss it - not argue about it.

And so, for another week, thanks and thank.

Congratulations To Newly Elected Spud Marshall, President Dan Miller, Vice President of the Carlisle - Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce

GENERAL NEWS

50 Years Ago

Continued from Page 1 Allied bombers and heavy armor left the German fortifications in shambles, and the 103rd rolled into Ocken, Germany on October 22, 1944.

At Ocken, intense fighting was still present between German and Allied troops.

Rawlings and several other members of the 103rd volunteered to circle the city and set up positions to keep German planes from dropping supplies into Ocken.

"Boy, was that scary," Rawlings said about the fighting in Ocken.

We followed the infantry around the city with mortars and bombs dropping everywhere.

"You could hear the bullets whining right over your head."

Even though the fighting remained heavy in Ocken's inner city for a few days, the 103rd shut down the German's supply runs to the city in a matter of hours.

After moving on to the Hartlin Forest, Rawlings made history.

The Germans introduced the jet-propelled airplane into the war. Rawlings was the first to fire at one, but he doesn't think he hit it.

"They were just too dang fast."

The 103rd again set up positions to stop the air supplies before crossing the Rhine River just below the city of Bonn.

Rawlings remembers the troops spending Thanksgiving in Germany.

"We had a really big dinner, and we were all thankful because it looked like the war was coming to an end."

Several days later, while standing guard duty, Rawlings was caught in the middle of a German mortar barrage.

A mortar hit near Rawlings as he dove for cover. He received minor shrapnel wounds from the mortar.

"That's where I got my purple heart. It's the only medal I got, and I'm proud of it. It wasn't that bad though. They fired me up and I went right back on guard duty."

The unit went on to Czechoslovakia as the fighting in Germany began to wind down.

Rawlings recalled the Czechs pleading with the Americans to stay.

They were wanted to stay because they were afraid to let the Russian troops into their country. I felt sorry for them when we pulled out. Because of the settlement, we had to let the Russian forces into Czechoslovakia."

The unit pulled back into Bavaria where they were responsible for checking in enemy soldiers that were being repatriated.

Finally, on November 20, 1945, the unit headed for the port of Marseilles, France.

On November 30, 1945, after more than 57 months of active duty, the Carlisle unit arrived in New York City, and one day later, was mustered.

Rawlings said the unit served its country proudly. "We were poorly equipped, and a lot of us went from the big cities, we were just a bunch of hillbillies. We went over there, did what we had to do for our country, and came home."

It was really nice to come home."

POLICE LOG

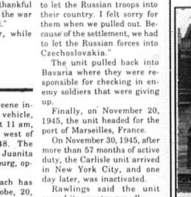
City of Carlisle Police Officer Brent Wade charged Marvin B. Johnson, Millersburg, with alcohol intoxication.

The arrest occurred March 18 in the limits of Carlisle on West Main Street.

City of Carlisle Police Officer Brent Wade has charged Perlin Thomas Watkins, Carlisle, with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

Deposit Bank of Carlisle

Now, More Than Ever, You Need To Know You Can Trust Your Bank. For over 125 years we've kept the money of Nicholas Countians safe. Dependability. Trust. Security. FROM A BANK YOU CAN COUNT ON.



Two Convenient Locations To Serve You Main Branch Office West Side Location Phone 289-2205 Phone 289-3400 Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender

Find The Fleeting Mercury Contest

When you find the hidden Fleeting Mercury, somewhere on the pages of this issue, simply cut it out, and mail or bring to The Carlisle Mercury Office. The prize for April will be a MAN'S OR WOMAN'S WATCH. The contest will run through the month of April, with final deadline for entries, April 29 at 5 p.m.

Name Address Phone Number

Porter Joints Interior - Exterior Basement - Roof Easy To Use Goes further with half the paint Good scrubability to last longer Custom mixing over 1,000 beautiful colors

Garrett's Furniture Interior Flat-Wall Latex As Low As \$1,295 With minimum of 3 or more gallons purchase at retail price, receive 7 1/2" step stool, FREE

Easter Dinner Special Turkey & Dressing Market Prices Branded Casseroles Dishes included all for \$53

Eddie's Family Restaurant West Main Street Carlisle, KY 289 - 2864