

### He's Back!

Local and state officials have reported Santa Claus sightings as far away as the East China Sea. Residents of Headquarters have said they can already see his red suit and white beard. And low flying planes have been reported at several airports. The on the lookout.



### Christmas Masses

St. Joseph's Catholic Church will hold a Vigil Mass on Friday, December 18, at 8 p.m. A Mass Program and Midnight Mass will be held at 11:30 p.m.



### Retirement Breakfast planned for Judge Smoot

A Retirement Breakfast is planned for Judge Smoot on December 22 from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. According to Dana Price, Judge's secretary and occupational tax administrator, the breakfast will be held in the hallway of the courthouse and all residents of the community are invited to attend.

### Area Weather Forecast

Thursday & Friday - Partly sunny highs in the upper twenties, lows dip down in the teens.  
Saturday & Sunday - Mostly cloudy, increased chance of snow. Highs in the lower twenties, lows in the lower teens. Look for travel advisories.

# THE CARLISLE MERCURY

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## The story of the beginning; the true meaning of Christmas

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

2 And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.

3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David.)

5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that the child should be delivered.

7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not, for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the City of David, the Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying:

14 Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16 And they came with haste and found Mary, and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

17 And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

18 And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

19 But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

21 And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was named of the Angel before He was conceived in the womb.

22 And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought Him to Jerusalem, to present Him to the Lord.

23 (As it is written in the law of the Lord, every male that openeth the womb shall be called Holy to the Lord.)

24 And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves,

or two young pigeons.

25 And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simon and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

27 And he came by the Spirit unto the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law.

28 Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

29 Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word:

30 For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

31 Which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

32 A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

33 And Joseph and his Mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of Him.

34 And Simon blessed them, and said unto Mary His Mother, Behold, this Child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;

35 (Yea, a sword shall pierce through Thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.

36 And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phineas of the tribe of Aser; she was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity.

37 And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day.

38 And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of Him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

39 And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth.

40 And the Child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the Grace of God was upon Him.

41 Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover.

42 And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.

43 And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the Child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it.

44 But they, supposing Him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought Him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance.

45 And when they found Him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking Him.

46 And it came to pass, that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them and asking them questions.

47 And all that heard Him were amazed at His wisdom and at the answers which He gave unto them.

48 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

The Holy Bible

King James Version



The Carlisle Mayor Heather Mathes Harris from Horner Clark, new Carlisle Mayor was sworn into office by Judge John McGinnis on Tuesday, December 21. He will assume Mayoral duties on January 3.



The Carlisle Mayor Heather Mathes Harris Photo Judge John McGinnis also swore in the new members of the Carlisle City Council. Left to right are: Doug Garrett, Gary Hiche, Torrence Vaughn, Charles Fay, Sharon Falconer and Loby Earlywine. The newly elected members of the City Council will officially take their seats on January 3.



The Carlisle Mayor Heather Mathes Harris Photo "Away in a manger, no crib for His bed, The Little Lord Jesus..." These little stars from the Carlisle Christian Church's Nursery Sunday School played a part in the Wednesday evening program after a church potluck dinner. Every child had a part to play in the program, depicting every character in the Nativity from angels and shepherds to wise men and animals who surrounded the manger.

### Rotary Celebrates 50th anniversary

By Heather Mathes-Harris  
OF THE Carlisle Mercury Staff  
CARLISLE - The Carlisle Rotary Club, organized on December 16, 1943, celebrated its 50th Anniversary on December 16, 1993.

The Carlisle Mercury recorded the Carlisle Rotary Clubs first beginnings in 1943.

"Group of Carlisle Business and Professional Men to Complete Organization Tonight: The final organization of a Rotary Club for Carlisle will take place tonight (Thursday) at 7:30 o'clock at the court house.

The Mercury takes no credit for this move, but for several months the Mercury has urged that Carlisle needed a service club of some kind, Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Optimists, or what have you. Discussions have been heard on the streets and in business places for several weeks of the kind or type of club desired or best suited for Carlisle.

"Ashland Rotarians became interested and District Governor John Shaw, of the Ashland Rotary District, met with 32 interested persons last Thursday night at the court house. M.C. Shaver was named temporary

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### Members discuss resident concerns

By Jason Hart  
OF THE Carlisle Mercury Staff  
CARLISLE - The Nicholas County Water District Board met Thursday, and addressed concerns of several customers.

Lucian Workman, of Mayeville Road asked members of the board why his bill is so high.

"We haven't ever had a water bill over \$30 since we've had water," Workman said. "Now it's gone way up, and I'd like to know why."

Mark Hobbs also expressed concern over the increase to what

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### Students named top sales people

County Extension Agents Mike Phillips and Melba Burch awarded personal cassette players to four students from Nicholas County Elementary last week for being the top sales people of 4-H calendars in their respective classes.

From the 4th grade, Lacy Evans; 5th grade, Jeremy Waggoner; 6th grade, Francis Truesell; and from the 8th grade, Wes Livingston.