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Send us your  
**Letters to Santa Claus**  
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# THE CARLISLE MERCURY

A Media General Newspaper  
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## 1997 NCHS Snow Queen candidates

The Annual Christmas Parade is 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6. Snow Queen candidates are Nicholas County High School seniors (l-r): Kari Gifford, Tonya Plank and Ashley Van Meter. Not pictured is Kasei Tubbs. Elementary candidates not available.

## Fire Department becomes Santa's helpers once again

Names of Nicholas County children, elderly needed

By Leigh Stone  
Mishawing Editor

Once again all Nicholas County residents will have the opportunity to receive a Christmas gift this year. Nicholas County Fire Chief Mark Hughes said Monday the department had begun taking requests from those who are helping Santa.

"Please stress that we want to see children 12 and under. Also, we are giving food baskets, but we want to keep them in the deductible," Hughes said. "New toys or toys not in need of repair are also welcome. Drop them off at Woolly's Auto Repair on Elm Street. The telephone number is 259-7226. We'll deliver the items Christmas Eve day and night," Hughes said.

The community support each year has been paying "It seems like every year it gets bigger. Last year we served over 100 kids and gave away 50 or 60 food boxes," Hughes admitted. The chief asks citizens to

## Make checks payable to the Nicholas County Fire Department

Like this gets bigger every year. Each time we think we don't have enough for everybody, somebody always comes through. Last year, Joyce Con- tributed and a bank I hope they come through again this year."



## School Breakfast Week shared with parents

Brent and Kay Mann shared breakfast at Nicholas County Elementary School Tuesday morning. Brent's a second grader in Mrs. Spickler's class. More breakfast photos are on pages 5 and 10.

## Just where is Shake Rag?

The following article was written by Bonnie Saunders and researched by her father, Carlisle resident, Charles Gates Saunders and Gates are interested in writing about Nicholas County history.

The Village area of Nicholas County known as Shake Rag is located between Oakland Mills and Ellenville on the old Buffalo Trail U. S. 68, is basically a Folklore Village, with many stories. The true Folklore carries accordingly to how many individuals answer the question of just where was Shake Rag and how did it get there?

The most likely story will be that this family of farmers were so poor that they couldn't afford a Dinner Bell and the wife would stand on her front porch and wave a rag to call her husband to dinner, thus the name Shake Rag.

The area of Shake Rag Village likewise has many boundaries and again the boundaries are according to who answers. There is one official document which identifies the location of Toll Gate House Number 4 of the Lexington-Mayesville Toll Road. The Toll Gate House was the most violent in the late 1800s. It was burning the Toll Gates and Houses as well as the bar being burned down. Act by the General Assembly of Ky. in 1867 that counties would buy up all Toll Roads

"The most likely story is farmers were so poor they couldn't afford a dinner bell..."

over a five year period beginning in 1867.

The first Toll Road in Nicholas County Fiscal Court bought was the Lexington-Mayesville Toll Road in 1867 and recorded in Court Orders, Minutes and Deed Books. The Lexington-Mayesville Toll Road bought by the Nicholas County Fiscal Court was 14 miles and 50 rods in length with four Toll Gates and one Suspension Bridge. The two Toll Gate Houses bought of the number 5 was located at the Lower Blue Licks Bridge and Toll Gate Number 6, was located in Shake Rag, between the Rankins and King Farms.

Deed Book, Number 14, Pages 544-565 records this action of the Nicholas County Fiscal Court, it states that also this deed that the County also purchased the Suspension Bridge across the River at Lower Blue Licks. This entire tract was sold to Nicholas County Fiscal Court \$24,000.

The big question about the Village of Shake Rag is just where its boundaries were and just who established them.

This Deed document was not determined but only by Folklor and this little village and this little village and this little village of Shake Rag according to these stories had many areas of boundaries. For sure by documentation this Village existed between the Old Stone Tavern and Oakland Mills and the Old Toll Gate House was located halfway between Oakland Mills and the Suggs Toll Gate Road at Ellenville being one-half mile from either direction to the Toll Gate House. The exact location of the Toll Gate House was about 500 feet in a U. S. 68 from the Old City Cavalry Farm owned by Dr. Freeman and 500 feet from the Hiram Holcomb Farm up U. S. 68 toward Oakland Mills. The Holcomb Farm was owned by King in later years and would have been bought by Michael Deeds.

Many Folklore stories relate that the Village of Shake Rag was at Ellenville itself but due to the recorded Deeds that each is entirely true since its Toll Gate location as established in Deed Book 565. He believed that by comparing all Folklore and deed information that the Village of Shake Rag was between Oakland Mills and the Suggs Toll Gate Road at Ellenville up to Oakland Mills. The Old Toll Gate House remains as a living quarters as established in Deed Book 565. He believed that by comparing all Folklore and deed information that the Village of Shake Rag was between Oakland Mills and the Suggs Toll Gate Road at Ellenville up to Oakland Mills. The Old Toll Gate House remains as a living quarters as established in Deed Book 565. He believed that by comparing all Folklore and deed information that the Village of Shake Rag was between Oakland Mills and the Suggs Toll Gate Road at Ellenville up to Oakland Mills. The Old Toll Gate House remains as a living quarters as established in Deed Book 565.

## Nicholas County students earn status in Who's Who

A total of 34 Nicholas County High School students are included in the 31st Annual Edition of Who's Who Among American High School Students, 1996-97.

Who's Who, published by Educational Communications, Inc., Lake Forest, Illinois, is the largest high school recognition publication in the country.

Students are nominated by high school principals and guidance counselors, national youth groups, churches and educational organizations based upon student academic achievement and involvement in extra-curricular activities. Traditionally, 99 percent of the Who's Who students have a grade point average of B or better and 97 percent are college bound.

The NCHS students included in this edition are: Adam B. Anderson, Leah K. Berry, Jennifer R. Brewer, Jennifer Caswell, Christy E. Emmons, Kyle E. Galbraith;

Amanda J. Gaunce, Amber L. Higgs, Katie Hopkins, Rebecca A. Hopkins, Bethany L. Millon, Nicole M. Sams, Kirby Schaeffer, Kami Smith, Tamara S. Sturgeon, Brian K. Wagener, Lydia Wilson, Mandy D. Ashmon, Julie A. Bourne, Edgar A. Carson, Rachel A. Eaton, Melissa A. Florence, Wendy S. Garmon, Allison L. Grant, Lashana K. Hallie, Hannah Hunt, Catherine J. Mathes, Brian Rogers, Sarah M. Saunders, Melissa Seay, Jarrett S. Stull, Ashley VanMeter, Eric Wilson and Martha Yarell.

The 31st Annual Edition of Who's Who Among American High School Students, 1996-97, published in 18 regional volumes, features more than 700,000 students or just five percent of the nation's 14,000,000 high school students. They represent approx-

## NCHS hosts college night December 11

Financial information presented

On Dec. 11th, Thursday night at 7:00 PM the Nicholas County Scholarship Committee will be holding a COLLEGE NIGHT for junior and senior parents and students. This opportunity to gain important information on financial and area colleges and universities will be held in the NCHS CAFETERIA.

Mr. Jerome T. Greiner, Dean of Student Affairs at Mayesville Community College will present a program concerning the completion of the Free Applications for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. He will be able to provide a general financial aid overview and a detailed review of the FAFSA.

Also, as press time, representatives from two local colleges and universities have agreed to attend the NCHS COLLEGE NIGHT. They will give a brief description of their schools then set up individual tables where parents and students can get information regarding applications, hos-

ing, scholarships and financial aid. The following schools will be represented:

BEREA COLLEGE  
EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY  
GEORGETOWN COLLEGE  
KY. TECH LEXINGTON CAMPUS  
LEXINGTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MAYESVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MORHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY  
SULLIVAN COLLEGE  
NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY  
PENNSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY  
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE

All junior and senior parents of students who plan on going to college, business school, technical school or vocational school are urged to attend. For further information contact Jim Lally at NCHS at 259-3780.

## -In Brief- Christmas Parade

The Annual Carlisle Christmas Parade is 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, on Main Street downtown Carlisle. Carlsile Senior Lions Club will sponsor and the parade and annual Snow Queen competition will be highlighted by the Nicholas County Senior Citizens Center and the center will open at 5 p.m. with a food fund raiser, beer, wine, coffee, and punch will be for sale.

## Open House

For Also Activities, Main Street Carlisle, will host a Christmas Open House from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 6 and from 11:55 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 7.

## Alternative School

There will be a public forum to discuss the Alternative School schedule for the Winter. This is at the Nicholas County Elementary School.

## Hospital Auxiliary

The Hospital Auxiliary will meet at the conference center in the Nicholas County Hospital 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9. This will be a potluck lunch meeting.

## Christmas Luncheon

The "Folksy" Home Christmas Luncheon, Main Street, Carlisle, will be Dec. 11. Please make reservations by calling 258-5174.