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**Nov
19
2008**



In keeping with a tradition of nearly 100 years, The Carlisle Mercury welcomes back the Sooty Santa to our young readers who are interested in sending a letter to the editor. Warren R. Fisher, Sr., welcomed Sooty Santa home just after the turn of the last century.

Santa Letters are welcome

For those interested in sending a letter to the grand old man of the Christmas season, Santa Claus, The Mercury will be glad to publish those letters and send the word on to Santa.

The deadline for letters is Dec. 12, but we'd like to get an early start on spreading the word for those Christmas letters.

Please mail your letters to The Carlisle Mercury, PO Box 272, Carlisle, Ky., 40311 or drop the letters by The Mercury office at 218 N. Locust St., in Carlisle. Our fax number is 859-289-4000.

If necessary and if they can, we'll get your letters forwarded to Santa as soon as possible.

If you would like to include a picture with the letter to Santa the cost is \$5.00 and should be brought to The Mercury's office along with your letter.

Happy Holidays and we look forward to your letters!



Whitaker Bank is sponsoring an angel tree again this year. Come by during normal lobby hours beginning Nov. 20, select an angel, and then provide a Christmas gift for the child. If you prefer, you can make a cash donation and Whitaker employees will do the shopping for you. Gifts must be returned to the bank by Dec. 12th. Above, Lisa Beatty

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Home lost during transport

By Charles Mattox News Reporter
charles@thecarlislemercury.com

A family lost their home and all of their belongings during the transportation of a mobile home last week, which also resulted in one lane of US 68 being closed for nearly approximately nine hours.

According to Nicholas County Sheriff Dick Garrett, Allen Gaunce and Francis Barton, who resided at the Headquarters trailer park with their children, were moving their mobile home to Cassidy Creek Road with their belongings inside when the wheels fell off of one side of the mobile home as the structure was being transported along Maysville Road, US 68.

The accident occurred at approximately 4:45 p.m. Friday night just as rain began falling at dusk.

When the transporters attempted to move the mobile off the road to make the necessary repairs, the tongue on the mobile home came off.

Things went from bad to worse after that. As Garrett and deputy Bennie Buckler directed traffic and ensured there were no secondary accidents due to the lane closure, other attempts were made to repair the home for continued transport, but to no avail.

Garrett called a friend, Leo Roberts, of Roberts Wrecker Service from Lexington. Roberts showed up with two wreckers, but all attempts to move the structure proved futile.

"It just kept coming apart," Buckler said. "Everyone tried for about nine hours but it just didn't happen."

Witnesses on the scene say some involved in helping the couple move the nearly 30-year-old structure simply gave up and left.

"It was a pretty sad situation," Garrett said. The accident occurred on a dangerous section of US 68 where an elevated hill blocks the vision of approaching motorists as they

approached the scene of the accident, which was near the home of James and Phyllis Gaunce at 3472 Maysville Road.

Finally, due to increasing safety concerns for oncoming motorists in the closed lane, the decision was made to bring in tractors and forcibly move the mobile home from the roadway after several vehicles were almost rear-ended by vehicles approaching in the closed lane.

"Bobby Price and Chris Meyers helped move the structure off the road, which overturned in the process," Buckler said. "We tried everything we could, but nothing worked."

The family had all of their possessions inside the home, which made the loss more devastating.

Attempts to contact the couple as The Mercury went to press was unsuccessful but all individuals who would like to assist the couple are encouraged to contact Sheriff Garrett at 289-3740.

National Guard monument dedicated

By Charles Mattox News Reporter
charles@thecarlislemercury.com

A monument was dedicated Sunday, which honors members of the local National Guard unit, and memorializes two members of that unit who paid the supreme sacrifice during the unit's deployment to Iraq in 2007.

Staff Sgt. Delmar White, 37, of Lexington, and Private First Class Sammie E. Phillips, 19, of Vine Grove, both members of Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery Kentucky National Guard Unit, based in Carlisle, were killed in two separate instances inside Iraq during the first weeks of September 2007.

White was killed instantly September 2nd when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle while

on a convoy security mission near Baghdad. Phillips was killed Sept. 10 when an Iraqi vehicle swerved at the vehicle he was in, causing the vehicle to take evasive action, during which Phillips was killed as a result of the vehicle rolling over.

Both soldiers were married. White was a former corrections officer with Lexington Fayette Urban County Government who deployed with his unit in August 2007 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

A member of the Kentucky Army National Guard since 1998, White was a former Marine who served honorably during the first Iraqi War.

According to the leading non-commissioned officer of Battery B, White and Phillips had left the streets looking green.

Clark added that he believed the incidents associated with teens being in town after midnight would decrease in the near future.

"I think they'll take a notion that it's warmer at their home than it is outside," he said.

Crawford also expressed concern for the problem as he has done in the past, inquiring if there might be some way to get parents or legal guardians more involved in the late night actions of their children.

No one had any answers, but the possible of a curfew remains an option with Mayor Clark expressing reluctance.

Council member Sandy Ritchie raised concerns about stray cats multiplying in the city.

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A monument honoring the sacrifices of members of the local National Guard unit was dedicated Sunday. The monument honors all soldiers who deployed to Iraq with the unit and honors the memory of two soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice for their fellow soldiers, their families and their country.

City Council: Curfews and Cats

By Charles Mattox News Reporter
charles@thecarlislemercury.com

City officials voiced concern over stray children and stray animals during the Nov. 10 meeting of the Carlisle City Council.

Council member Betty Jo Booth raised concerns about comments made to her by residents who were concerned with the late night activity of city teenagers.

"It's pretty bad when you've got 12 and 13-year-old girls staying out until 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning," she said while discussing the topic that has been a point of concern among city leaders for several meetings.

Some have connected late night juvenile activity with some acts of vandalism in recent meetings.

"Everyone suffers for the actions of a few," mayor Ronnie Clark said while addressing Booth's concerns and adding that a recent rash of A&E bottle smashing activ-



A mobile home belonging to Allen Gaunce and Francis Barton was destroyed during a transportation accident along US 68 Friday evening.

The ARC Program
originally scheduled for
Wednesday, Nov. 19th
has been cancelled.

Watch for the schedule for a new date

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