



Bright-Eyed Youngsters View Parade With Mixed Expressions

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Former Local Woman First Single Parent To Adopt Child In Decade

Miss Jean Bumgarner, formerly of Louisburg and now a social worker with the Roanoke, Va. welfare department's child placement service, is the subject of a recent feature story published in the Roanoke (Va.) Times. Miss Bumgarner adopted a one-year-old boy and is the first single person to do so through the Roanoke department in a decade according to the story.

According to the article, written by Times Staff Writer Mary Small, Miss Bumgarner says the adoption idea was "something that's been kind of hanging in the back of my mind for a long time." Until 1957 single person-with rare exception-seeking to adopt children were told that it was impossible, the article says.

In 1967, however, the Child Welfare League of America made a study and announced its approval of single-parent adoptions "if all efforts to find a two-parent family had failed." Miss Bumgarner reportedly said that it is easy to understand why prospective parents desire the smallest babies. "They are so sweet when they are just tiny infants and they depend on you so much," she said.

But she knew the older children can be just as sweet and can need parents just as much, the article says.

The fact that Miss Bumgarner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bumgarner, 120 Church Street, here, was a staff member, she was still required to go through the forms, interviews and various other steps required in adoptions, including the usual waiting period.

Then just little over a year ago, the waiting ended and the Louisburg native adopted a one-year-old boy. The happy, healthy two-year-old cheerfully says he's "Monny's 'dopted baby boy". His name is Scott and he and his mother were visitors here during the Thanksgiving holidays. The article reports that it has been hard for Miss Bumgarner, working and supervising the youngster. She has the aid of a

babysitter during the day and she takes over the duties after work. The article says Miss Bumgarner reports there are disadvantages to being a solo parent but that the same disadvantages are faced every day by widows and divorcees with small children. She visits here in Louisburg regularly every other weekend and says she eventually hopes to move back here so that Scott will "have more people to associate with."

She doesn't mind giving up her bachelor-girl independence, she says, because "the closeness of being together, of sharing and watching him grow... mean more than any material possessions or spur-of-the-moment trips ever could."

If she could offer one piece of advice to single prospective adoptive parents, Miss Bumgarner says, "It would be to go ahead, not to be too hesitant."

Historical Society To Hear Edwards

The Franklin County Historical Society will hold its monthly meeting here Thursday night, December 4, at 8 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Community Room of the First Citizens Bank Building on Bickett Blvd.

Conrad Sturgess, a local attorney, will give a program on gold mining in Franklin County. Mr. Sturgess is a descendant of one of the early owners of Portis Gold Mine, the mine that made the county one of the leading producers of gold prior to the 1849 gold strike in California. Robert Edwards, a local geologist, will also participate in the program.

The meeting is open to the public and any one interested in county history is cordially invited to attend.

Thousands Brave Bitter Cold To View Santa Claus Arrival

Thousands of persons—including hundreds of bright-eyed youngsters—braved bitter cold night here Monday to witness the arrival of Santa Claus. The Franklin Business Association's annual Christmas Parade brought out the largest crowd ever to see a parade here as the thermometer dipped inside the twenties and the wind added to the chill.

Main Street was lined several persons deep from the courthouse to the post office and thinner lines reached to Louisburg College. Along East Nash Street another huge crowd gathered to view the forty-entry parade.

The Louisburg's Woman's Club won first prize of \$25 for the best non-commercial entry. Corinth Baptist Church captured second place and \$15 and Farmer's Tractor and Truck Co. placed third winning \$10 in prize money.

The Louisburg High School Band and the South Granville High School Band from Creedmoor supplied the music. The Rescue Service, the Fire Department, the CAP and the National Guard added colorful units.

Traffic was at a standstill during the parade and traffic jams were the order of the day as the parade ended. Traffic was tied up at several points as motorists tried to get onto busy Bickett Blvd.

The Louisburg Police Department, aided by the Franklin County Sheriff's Department controlled the crowd and the traffic. For the first time, the sidewalks were roped off and the crowd control was the best in years.

Louisburg Police Chief Earl Tharrington expressed his appreciation to the crowd and estimated the gathering at "several thousands."

The parade itself was typical and one of the best seen here in many years. There were small animals,

horses, sirens, pretty girls, pretty cars, some outstanding floats, commercial and non-commercial and several marching and dancing groups.

It was, of course, the old man with

the whiskers that stole the show. All the glitter failed to brighten the eyes of the youngsters as much as the arrival of Santa did.

And while there was much conver-

sation about it, few really were sorry they braved the cold. If they looked into the eyes of any of the hundreds of small children, they knew it was worth it.



Santa Claus Arrives In Style

The Late Liz To Speak At LJC

Mrs. Gertrude Behanna, sometimes called "The Late Liz", will speak in the Louisburg College Auditorium Wednesday, December 3, at 7:30 p.m. and Thursday, December 4, at 11:00 a.m. The public is invited.

Mrs. Behanna was raised by her

millionaire father in the Waldorf Astoria, grew up to become an alcoholic, a divorcee, and a would-be suicide. She says that she "descended into hell," using benzedrine "to get me up, liq-



BEHANNA

uor to keep me up, and sleeping pills to knock me out again."

Gert, as her friends call her, has spoken in numbers of places in North Carolina, including Raleigh, Rocky Mount, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Davidson College. One agnostic student said of her, "She has reality!"

Copies of her books and records will be on sale and she will be available for autographing.

To Entertain "100" Banquet

Dr. James Cobb, chairman of the music department at Atlantic Christian College, will provide the entertainment at the fifth annual Louisburg College "100" banquet. The event will be held Friday, December 5, in the B. N. Duke College cafeteria.

Dr. Cobb studied at Southwestern University of Memphis, Boston University and the University of Illinois, where he completed his Doctoral studies in 1966. His career as a singer has included a solo spot on the Ed Sullivan Show, recording sessions with Columbia Records, guest appearance with the Charlotte Symphony, the Atlanta Pops, the University of Illinois Symphony and the North Carolina Symphony, as well as numerous concert and oratorio appear-



COBB

Franklinton Parade Thursday Night

The Franklinton Township Chamber of Commerce will stage its annual Christmas Parade at Franklinton Thursday night, December 4, at 7 P.M.

The annual Franklinton event has grown to be one of the more popular Christmas Parades in the area and a large crowd is expected.

Williamson Joins Local Law Firm

John Perry Williamson, Jr., who passed the North Carolina Bar examination last August, and who was admitted to practice law in North Carolina before Judge Clarence W. Hall at the September Session of the Franklin County Superior Court, has begun the practice of law in Louisburg with E. F. Yarbrough and W. M. Jolly.

Williamson is a native of Louisburg and a graduate of Louisburg High School and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He received his Doctorate of Jurisprudence Degree from the University of Tennessee in June, 1969. He is the son of Mrs. Evelyn J. Williamson, of Louisburg, and the late John P. Williamson, and is the grandson of Mrs. W. H. M. Jenkins of Franklinton and of Mrs. B. N. Williamson, Sr. of Louisburg.

Mr. Williamson is married to the former Hope McCroskey of Knoxville, Tennessee. While a student at Louisburg High School, he was an outstanding member of the football, basketball and baseball teams. He is a member of the Louisburg Methodist Church.



WILLIAMSON



Wreck-Prone Intersection Strikes Again

Scene above shows accident at intersection of US-401 and NC-98 eleven miles south of Louisburg last Friday around noon. One person was injured. Mrs. Myrtle D. Dozier of Rocky Mount, a passenger in the Ford, was transported to Franklin Memorial Hospital with head injuries, by the Louisburg Rescue Service. Her husband and the unidentified Negro driver of the Cadillac, extreme right, were uninjured. The intersection has been the scene of a large number of accidents in recent years.

Staff photo by Clint Fuller.