

Crowders capture the spirit of Christmas

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Crowders' home and lawn are festively decorated for the holidays.

On the lawn are lighted, moving animal sculptures — a true spectacle.

Icicle lights, two arches; beautiful Christmas trees; Merry Xmas and Happy Holiday sculptures; and window, banister, railing and fence decorations enhance the scene. Red bows adorn the lighted lamp poles.

Some people have referred to the scenery as "Little Tanglewood," or "the Crowders' Festival of Lights." There have been so many admirers; even strangers have taken the time to stop and compliment the outdoor scenery. Adults and children have been fascinated with the festive holiday display, which seems to bring on much joy and excitement.

The Crowders have created sparkling splendor with their intricately detailed indoor and outdoor decorations. Indoors, every room is decorated.

The millennial ethnic Santa Claus is still displayed in the home. Certain ornaments that have been in the family for generations grace the Christmas tree.

The Crowders truly do celebrate the traditions of Christmas past and present.

The kitchen table place mats are designed in red and green accented with candles and coordinated with matching coasters and table napkins. Angels accent the mantel in the living area; oversized candles accent the fireplace mantel in the lower level.

Kwanzaa candles are also in the house.

Couples can share holiday kisses under "the talking mistletoe."

A wintry snow scene is displayed. Doormats in specif-



The Crowders' lawn is decorated with lighted, moving animal sculptures.

ic areas welcome visitors in Jesus' name. A clock plays Christmas music on every hour. The doorbell chimes Christmas music. A singing Christmas tree, the Baby Jesus in a manger and dancing Santa Claus round out the Christmas decorations.

Stringing lights, lighting candles, trimming the tree, hanging stockings, placing wreaths and poinsettias, celebrating with family, remembering friends, buying gifts, giving and receiving Christmas joy and celebrating the

most important "reason for the season" (the birth of Jesus Christ) have always been parts of the Crowder family Christmas.

In December 2002, the Crowder family was the unexpected recipient of the annual award given by the city of Winston-Salem. This certificate of recognition was presented to the Crowders for displaying a beautiful yard and contributing to the beauty of their home and neighborhood. Alderman Jocelyn Johnson and members of the East

Winston Restoration Association presented the award and sang "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

The house won one of a handful of certificates recognizing the most beautifully decorated homes in the East Ward. Family members were surprised when the group showed up on their doorstep to present them with the award.

The Raymond Crowder family would like to extend holiday greetings to all of you. Merry Christmas and happy Kwanzaa!



A Christmas table in the Crowders' home.

Plaintiffs

from page C3

L. Koller of Dover Township and his wife, Joanne, who was pregnant when the TMI radiation plume drifted across the Susquehanna River. Their daughter, Abigail, was born with deformed feet on Aug. 12,

1979, and they filed suit in 1986.

Koller said he and his wife have known that the case was "dead in the water." Their daughter, who underwent two operations as a child, played basketball in high school and college and now does mission work.

"We have moved on with our life," he said. "She has moved

on with hers. We're not thinking about the past. The Lord gave her abilities in other ways."

GPU and its insurers settled the first round of lawsuits in 1985 for \$25 million. At the time, the company was seeking permission from the NRC and the courts to restart the undamaged TMI Unit 1 reactor.

Swartz, who was not

involved in the first round of litigation, said a 1993 U.S. Supreme Court decision was one factor keeping the case going for so long. The ruling put new limits on expert witness testimony in civil litigation, and much of the post-1993 TMI litigation dealt with the admissibility of expert testimony.

U.S. District Chief Judge

Sylvia H. Rambo heard 10 test cases picked from the lawsuits and ruled in 1996 that the plaintiffs' expert testimony, including the Wing study, did not meet the 1993 standard. She dismissed all of the lawsuits.

In November 1999, the 3rd Circuit upheld her ruling on the expert testimony on the 10 test cases but revived the rest of the

lawsuits, citing those plaintiffs' constitutional right to have their cases heard by a jury.

Rambo, however, later ruled that the appeals court ruling precluded any further discovery of "new theories, new studies, medical causation theories and opinions, and dose information." The appeals court this year agreed.



Photo by Courtney Gaillard
Left to right: Willie King and Donald Benson are both members of the Social Promoters. King's wife, Gloria King, also attended.

Social

from page C1

home," said Daniel Andrews, who has been a member of the Social Promoters for six years. Andrews considers the annual dance to be a "special occasion" that he and his fellow promoters "take great pride" in coordinating.

A live band performed and kept the dance floor packed throughout the entire evening as guests danced and fellowshiped into the wee hours of the night to celebrate 80 years of social gatherings.

Robert Brower has been the financial secretary for the Social Promoters for almost 50 years, and he was joined by his wife, Marian Brower, at the event.

"(The 80th anniversary of the Social Promoters" really means a whole lot more than I can express because I've seen, in these 49 years, a whole lot happen, from the very beginning to the present. I have enjoyed being a Social Promoter, and I've seen a lot of them come through, and I hope a see a few more," Robert Brower said.

Marian Brower is delighted by the fact that she and her husband have "lived long enough to watch our children become old enough to attend these events with us...We make it a family affair

now." The Browers were joined by several of their children and their spouses at the dance.

Marian Brower describes being the wife of a Social Promoter as being "rewarding" because "it has afforded me the opportunity to meet so many interesting people" and broaden her circle of friends.

Curtis Brown is one of several new members to join the Social Promoters. With just a few months of membership under his

belt, Brown says he's already developed a deep appreciation for the camaraderie that exists among the Promoters.

"I've known all of the members for a number of years, and it's just a wonderful group of guys, and I'm really enthused to be a part of their organization...We just want (future members) to follow in our footsteps. We're really trying to set an example of good citizenship," Brown said.

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Student

from page C3

the women's health award. She worked with Eric Moses, Ph.D., and Shaun Brennecke, Ph.D., M.B.S.S., of the Royal Women's Hospital, department of perinatal medicine, University of Melbourne, Australia, on a project on preeclampsia (pregnancy related high blood pressure or swelling of the face or hands).

Get HeartSmart

Cooking Demonstrations

- ♥ **More Flavor, Less Fat**
Tuesday, Jan. 7, 5 p.m.
BestHealth at Hanes Mall
Start off the New Year right with heart smart cooking tips from WFUBMC nutritionist Donna Ziobro and Chef Michael Johnson of Adelia's Natural Gourmet and Convenient Cuisine. Recipes and samples provided.
- ♥ **Healthy Comfort Foods**
Tuesday, Jan. 28, 6 p.m.
BestHealth at Hanes Mall
Chef Garren Brannon prepares healthy versions of comfort foods using recipes from the American Heart Association.
- ♥ **Take the Terror Out of Tofu**
Friday, Jan. 31, 4 p.m.
BestHealth at Hanes Mall
Chef Garren Brannon prepares dishes using tofu and other soy products. Recipes and samples provided.

Seminars & Screening

- ♥ **Take It To Heart**
Monday, Jan. 13, 5:30 p.m.
BestHealth at Hanes Mall
Learn ways to be heart healthier during this two-hour program that features a cardiac nurse, nutritionist, exercise physiologist and pharmacist.
- ♥ **CPR Class**
Tuesday, Jan. 14, 10 a.m.
BestHealth at Hanes Mall
Save a life by learning cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). This free four-hour class, taught by WFUBMC Life Support Education, includes CPR for adults, children and infants. Class cannot be taken for professional certification.
- ♥ **Healthy, Wealthy & Wise: A Celebration of Possibilities**
Saturday, Jan. 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Belk Court at Hanes Mall
Stop by the Heart Center's booth for free information and cholesterol screenings at this expo featuring over 50 exhibitors, door prizes and entertainment.

Call the Heartline at 1-800-716-7730
to register for these free programs.

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