

Merry Christmas

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BRIGHTON, IA

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DALLAS POST

Vol. 96, No. 50

Monday, December 23, 1985

25 Cents

Given second chance

Restored dolls make for one beautiful tree

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

Christmas is a joyous time of the year. It is the time for Christmas Carols, sending Christmas greetings, decorating homes with holly and mistletoe and the Christmas trees brightly decorated.

There are blue spruce trees sparkling with blue satin ornaments and silver garland, pines or balsam brilliant with red and gold reflecting shimmering icicles in the tiny lights, and the Old Fashioned tree decorated with candy canes, strings of popcorn and gingerbread men.

Caroljean Yeust of Dallas has a gayly decorated tree in her Dallas Beauty Shop, but it is a tree decorated in a beautiful, yet unique manner. Caroljean's Christmas tree is a colorful "Tree of Dolls", dolls Caroljean has repaired, restored or touched-up after rescuing them from flea markets, the Salvation Army or from persons ready to discard them. She also has some soft sculpture dolls, dolls she has made herself, and some crocheted dolls — their bodies, faces, and clothes crocheted by Caroljean.

The young hair stylist began her collection of dolls only several years ago but, to date, she has about 100, including bisque and figurine dolls kept under lock and key in a safe.

Caroljean has approximately 40 dolls in a variety of sizes. At least 24 to 30 of these adorn a Christmas tree in the corner of the foyer.

There is an original "Betsy Wetsy" doll (many should remember her) made by the original Horsman Company now out of business. In a prominent place on the tree is a replica of Prince William as well as an antique doll which has been in the family for years. One tiny doll is dressed as a rabbit and there are Cabbage Patch look-alikes, made by Caroljean.

The Christmas tree does not begin to hold all of Caroljean's dolls so she has them beautifully arranged in her shop. Her place is a doll lover's heaven and young and old alike come to admire the dolls.

One doll, completely restored by Caroljean, is 33 years old and took third prize at last year's Luzerne County Fall Fair. Another doll, rescued by Caroljean from a flea market, had its body restored and a wig made by her owner from human hair. Caroljean changed the doll's hair color from blond to brunette.

A Cabbage Patch look-alike made by Caroljean resembles the popular "preemie" and has a single lock of hair on its head. The newest doll in Caroljean's collection is the Gerber

doll which hopefully one day will become a collector's item and another doll, 20 years old, came from Caroljean's niece.

Twins, brother and sister, dressed in blue corduroy outfits, stand at the entrance to the shop ready to greet customers along with Caroljean's tiny black poodle "Nikki".

A plantation doll fascinates everyone — it is a doll made for children in the south during the Civil War when parents couldn't afford to buy toys. Made from a man's handkerchief, it was given to Caroljean by a friend who made it.

A handmade leprechaun, which changes costumes according to the season, is decked out for the Christmas holiday and one waits for him to say "Merry Christmas" he is so life-like.

The tiniest dolls in the shop are a baby boy, only two inches in length, and two kewpie dolls, a large and small one catch the eye of most customers. There is no such thing as segregation among Caroljean's dolls — two babies, a black doll and a white doll, sleep side by side in a single bassinet, and Raggedy Ann and Raggedy Andy are nearby in another room, babysitting some soft sculpture dolls. A large soft sculpture doll stands watch over a younger sister doll sleeping in a crib.

Caroljean has some imported dolls, one more 150 years old, all very valuable but these are never in the shop.

She has always been fond of dolls and finds working with them fascinating. She enjoys taking old, shop-worn dolls, cleaning them, restoring or repairing them, giving them new clothes and, many times, new year.

"My profession makes it easy to cope with the dolls hair and cosmetic problems," said Caroljean. "I like to crochet so it is easy to make clothes for the dolls in my collection."

The dolls kept in the shop by Caroljean have costumes for every season. Visit them Valentine's Day, Easter, graduation, Christmas, or special seasons of the year, you will find Caroljean's dolls dressed for the occasion. But don't expect to find all of them on Caroljean's "Tree of Dolls" — there just isn't enough room for them all. Look around the rooms — you'll find them sitting on chairs, davenport, sleeping in cribs or bassinets, or standing at a door waiting to greet you. Caroljean's collection of dolls are not only fascinating but beautiful. No child was better cared for that is evident by their appearance.

At Caroljean's house, it is a "Doll's Christmas."



A doll's Christmas

These restored dolls have been given a second chance by Dallas resident Caroljean Yeust. Caroljean, proprietor of Dallas Beauty Shop off Church Street, has resurrected these dolls

from flea markets, garage sales, etc. and given them a second chance. The dolls, shown here in their Christmas positions, make for an absolutely beautiful Christmas at Caroljean's shop.

Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Two Misericordia students to make trip to Nicaragua

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

Two College Misericordia students will leave Dec. 29 for a trip to Nicaragua to show their opposition to the United States foreign policy in that country.

Beth Cummings of Dunmore and Nancy Naughton of Scranton, will travel with 18 students from 13 schools under Witness for Peace, an experiment in non-violent action in areas of conflict within Nicaragua where an escalating war is causing great human suffering.

The local students will stop over for two days in Miami where they will receive training and indoctrination. Then they will leave for Managua and join other Witness for Peace groups and students from the University of Managua. They will return Jan. 11, 1986, to the United States.

Maria Pallante of New Jersey, president of College Misericordia's student government, initiated local

involvement last February through the discussion of United States foreign policy with other students, and the role they (the students) should have in their country's foreign policy. The result of their discussions was that the United States should use its foreign aid program for what is best for all people, the country, and the world instead of selfish or economic interests.

With Pallante acting as coordinator, the students began seeking sponsors for delivering their messages in person to Nicaragua. After being rejected by many groups, Witness for Peace finally agreed to sanction providing the students raised the money for their own expenses.

College Misericordia, its faculty and student government supported the plan to send Cummings and Naughton to Nicaragua and funds were made available. Soon the girls, aided by the student government

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Misericordia cites four area teachers

Four Back Mountain area teachers were cited recently as "outstanding teachers" by College Misericordia's Department of Education.

Florence Sherwood and Doris McCain of the Dallas Area School District and Jeanne Purcell and Julie Iwanowski representing Lake-Lehman School District were presented with plaques for "Excellence in Teaching" at a reception held in their honor.

College Misericordia began honoring classroom teachers three years ago in an effort to draw attention to the many excellent teachers who work in the area's public and private schools. "Our aim is to make sure that the fine contributions made by these people receive the attention they deserve," said Dr.

Joseph Rogan, education chairman. "The award winners represent the excellence which abounds in our schools. By honoring them, we honor all teachers."

Florence Sherwood is the chairperson of the music department at Dallas Area School District, where she has been employed for nearly 35 years. A resident of Shavertown, Mrs. Sherwood graduated from College Misericordia. She studied in England through a cooperative program arranged between Misericordia and Trinity College, London, England. She earned a master's degree through Misericordia and the University of Scranton and did additional graduate work at Penn State, Wilkes College, Marywood and Susquehanna University. She is an active member and officer in the

Pennsylvania Music Educators Association and a member of numerous other professional organizations.

Doris McCain, Dallas, has been teaching kindergarten and transition level classes for 28 years, 21 years spent at the Dallas Area School District. She is currently a kindergarten teacher at the Dallas Township School. She is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and did graduate work in early childhood education at Pittsburgh. She is listed in "Outstanding Elementary Teachers of America", is a member of Delta Kappa Gamma International, and several other professional organizations.

Julie Iwanowski of Lehman is currently a fifth grade teacher for the Lake-Lehman School District.

She was previously employed in the Prince George's County School System, Maryland. Mrs. Iwanowski graduated from College Misericordia with both secondary and elementary teaching certificates. She is a member of numerous professional organizations.

Jeanne Purcell, Dallas, graduated from College Misericordia and did graduate work at Seton Hall University. She is currently an Elementary Music teacher for the Lake-Lehman School District. She also teaches ninth grade English.

College Misericordia has trained teachers since its inception in 1924. The college currently offers programs in elementary education, early childhood education, special education, music education and school nursing.