



**Where the Fuel Goes**  
A HEAVY BOMBER  
cruising at a speed of 250  
m.p.h. may use 200 gal-  
lons of gasoline an hour.

# The Centre Democrat

**WHERE THE FUEL GOES**  
An Army Trans-  
port burns 33,000  
gallons of fuel oil  
a day.

VOLUME 63, NUMBER 15.

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1944.

SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.50 PER YEAR.

## Board Lists 116 Men For Physicals

**April Contingent Divided into Two Groups; 60 Scheduled for April 13; 56 to Go on April 28.**

Local Board No. 2, of Bellefonte, examined on Friday, April 21. The second group, containing 56 men, will go for examination on Friday, April 28.

Following are the lists:

For examination April 21:  
Michael Lucas, Philipsburg.  
John P. Lambert, Millsburg.  
John W. Coble, Bellefonte.  
Glenn S. Fravel, Howard.  
Walter M. Butler, Orviston.  
Jack H. Yeager, Bellefonte.  
Paul M. Dubbs, Bellefonte.  
Henry C. Gardner, Howard.  
John J. Beres, Philipsburg, RD 1.  
Clayde W. House, Jr., S. Renovo, (Bellefonte).  
John A. Summers, Bellefonte, RD 3.  
Cloyd M. Price, Bellefonte.  
Philip B. Cross, Bellefonte.  
Frank W. Richards, York (Pawletton).  
Joe Parada, Osceola Mills.  
Orvis C. Holt, Williamsport (Moshannon).  
Willis E. Lucas, Bellefonte.  
Steve Marinak, Lakewood, Ohio (Clarence).  
Albert L. Young, Howard, RD 2.  
Albert E. Packer, Orviston.  
Philip H. Auman, Bellefonte.  
Charles W. Hanley, Monument.  
Alvin T. Daugenbaugh, Detroit, Mich. (Howard).

Harold W. Coble, Millsburg.  
Melvin L. McCloskey, Orviston.  
James E. Sente, Millsburg.  
Elmer F. Swartz, Bellefonte.  
Earl O. Carver, Julian, Rd. 1.

### Receives Air Medal



Staff Sergeant George A. Wagner Bellefonte relative this week received word that Staff Sergeant Wagner, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Y. Wagner, of Willowbank street, Bellefonte, on March 25 was awarded the Air Medal by Lieut. General Millard F. Harman, commanding the U. S. Army Forces in the South Pacific area, for outstanding service as a aerial bomber from August 12 to September 1943, with the 13th AAF in the South Pacific.

Sgt. Wagner is a waist gunner on a B-25 Liberator bomber.

He entered the service May 1942 and underwent preliminary training at Fort Custer, Mich., and Jefferson Barracks, Mo. Subsequently he was transferred to Las Vegas, Nev., where he served as instructor in a gunnery school before being assigned to overseas duty.

Sgt. Wagner is a graduate of the Bellefonte High School and studied at the Academy here before entering Lehigh University, Bethlehem. Upon his return to Bellefonte he became a student at the Academy aviation school, and at the time of entering the Air Forces was employed at the C. Y. Wagner mill in Bellefonte.

## TONER INSTALLED AS ELKS RULER

**Altoona Degree Team Here for Ceremony; To Elect Club Officers**

Ralph L. Toner was installed as exalted ruler of the Bellefonte Elks Lodge at a meeting held Monday night at the club home on West High street, with a degree team from Altoona lodge, headed by William Yates, Sr. in charge of the installation ceremony.

Toner, well known Bellefonte post-office employee, succeeds T. R. Rush as head of the Elks Club.

Other officers installed were: esteemed leading knight, Edward R. Miller; esteemed loyal knight, Richard L. Heverly; esteemed lecturing knight, W. Fred Clevenger; secretary, Richard P. Noll; treasurer, William H. Brouse; delegate to national convention, Ralph L. Toner; tiler, John Pottor; chaplain, Christian Harman, Jr.; esquire, Grover C. Corman; inner guard, Malcolm W. Yeager, and trustee for three years, T. R. Rush.

Elks Club officers are scheduled to be chosen at a regular meeting Monday night, April 17.

Following the installation ceremony a hot lunch was served and a social hour enjoyed.

### Smulton Soldier Missing In Italy

Mrs. Ellen Wolfe, of Smulton, Monday night received a message from the War Department informing her that her son, Pfc. Lester Wolfe, is missing in action in Italy.

Pfc. Wolfe is believed to have been on duty as an infantry scout when last accounted for.

The missing soldier is about 25 years old. He has three brothers in the service. They are: Roy, Clarence and Cloyd. Their father, the late George Wolfe, died some weeks ago, and it is believed that word of his death had not reached Lester before he became lost in action.

## WOUND FATAL TO MILLHEIM MAN IN ITALY

**War Department Reports Death of Pvt. Robert W. Schriver, 24**

### HAD BEEN SERVING IN INFANTRY UNIT

### Was Former Employee of Piper Aircraft Co. at Lock Haven

Pvt. Robert W. Schriver, aged about 24 years, died March 15 in Italy as the result of wounds received in action, according to a War Department telegram received Tuesday noon by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Schriver, of Millheim, R. D.

No further details were given in the message, but it is known that Pvt. Schriver was serving in the infantry in the Italian area.

The county soldier entered the service in April 1943 and underwent training in Alabama and Maryland before being sent overseas last October. His last visit home was in September 1943 when he spent a furlough with relatives in the Millheim area before going to an embarkation port. The last letter received from him was dated about six weeks ago and at that time he reported that he was in good health.

Prior to his induction, Pvt. Schriver had been employed for two or three years at the Piper Aircraft Company plant in Lock Haven. He is survived by a number of brothers and sisters, but he was the only member of the family in the armed forces.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. McAllister of West Lamb street, Bellefonte, have been friends of the Schriver family over a period of many years, and during his furlough in September, Pvt. Schriver spent part of the time with the McAllister family here.

## Aged Man's Body Found In Stream

**Discovery Solves Strange Absence of Ezra C. Ripka, 72, of Spring Mills; Investigation Reveals No Evidence of Foul Play.**

The mystery of the three weeks' absence of Ezra Clayton Ripka, 72-year-old Spring Mills resident, was solved about noon Friday when the man's lifeless body was found in Ripka's Creek in Spring Mills.

State Police at Rockview barracks and Centre County Coroner Charles Shekier, of Millsburg, after conducting an investigation, were unanimous in the belief that the man apparently had fallen into the stream and drowned. There were no marks on the body to indicate foul play, and the man's silver watch, and nearly \$10 in currency and cash were found intact in his clothing.

Ripka, employed as a farmhand in that area, disappeared on March 16, but no great alarm was felt by relatives since it had been his custom occasionally to visit among friends in Penn's Valley without informing anyone of his intentions. He frequently was absent for as much as two weeks at a time.

Discovery of the body came Friday after his prolonged absence alarmed relatives. Friday morning a search was organized by his brother, Jared B. Ripka, of George Valley, and Charles J. Ripka, of Spring Mills, with a number of townspeople, including Boyd Musser, Lee Musser and Paul Conroy, assisting.

About noon the searchers found the body in the stream, about five feet from the bank, opposite the home of Arch Heckman and the IOOF hall in Spring Mills. The body was face down, headed downstream, and the clothing was covered with a thin layer of silt which had settled out of the muddy water of the stream.

A small portion of the torso protruded above the water line, and the body was clearly visible in the slightly cloudy water. Searchers at once notified the Coroner and State Police and the body was not disturbed until after officers had rechecked the scene. The remains were taken to the E. V. Goodhart funeral home in Centre Hall where officers conducted an examination to determine whether there were any evidences of foul play.

Investigators, tracing the man's actions the day of his disappearance, learned that he had left the home of his sister, Mrs. W. B. Mus- (Continued on page four)

## REVAMPING OF TAX RECORDS IS PLANNED

**School Board Moves For Complete Study of Recording System**

### LOCAL LEGION BUYS FOOTBALL DUMMIES

### PTA to Hold Annual Pre-School Clinic This Spring

Another effort to simplify and clarify the record-keeping connected with the collection of Bellefonte borough school taxes was launched at a regular meeting of the school board Monday night when the board approved a list of recommendations made by a special committee named some weeks ago to study the matter.

The recommendations were submitted by board member Samuel D. Rhinesmith, who is chairman of the special committee.

Recommendations approved by the board and which are scheduled to go into effect with the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1, are as follows:

The school tax office is to be merged with the school board office and the office of the Supervising Principal.

A tax calendar is to be prepared for the use of board members. This calendar will show the dates when penalties are added, interest is added, and the other pertinent steps made in the collection of taxes.

A new report form for the tax collector is to be prepared so that reports will give more complete information regarding the condition of the duplicate.

All exonerations are to be revised by the finance committee of the board, and must be finally acted upon at a regular meeting of the board.

The tax record office at the school is to discontinue the practice of making wage attachment reports, as this operation is considered to be the duty of the tax collector.

A review of the tax record office at the school is to be made to eliminate all possible duplication in the keeping of records.

The committee said the recommendations are designed to put tax records in such condition that the board may determine at any time the exact status of any taxpayer's account as well as the over-all picture of tax collections.

The resignation of Mrs. W. Harter (Continued on page four)

## Celebration Is Planned In 1945

**Local Historian Launches Move For Sesqui-Centennial Observance of Bellefonte's Founding.**

Observance next year of the 150th anniversary of the founding of Bellefonte was suggested this week by J. Thomas Mitchell, Bellefonte attorney and historian, in his capacity as secretary of the Centre County Historical Society.

In his statement suggesting the Sesqui-Centennial celebration, Mr. Mitchell said: "In these days of war and turmoil it is well for us to consider what we have to fight for. The history of Bellefonte shows tremendous activity in its early days. It shows that its citizens always fought for their rights and straggled to make the best of their environment."

The historian commented that arrangements should be begun at once so that the anniversary is fittingly observed and so that every citizen and every business enterprise in town has ample opportunity to participate.

Mr. Mitchell reviewed briefly the events leading up to the formal founding of Bellefonte, and named some of the men who figured prominently in this community's early (Continued on page four)

## RED CROSS FUND IS NEARING GOAL

**Contributions in Bellefonte Area Only \$1,770 Under Quota**

Mrs. William Kline, treasurer of the local chapter of the American Red Cross, announced today that \$11,000.00 had been contributed towards the 1944 American Red Cross War Fund drive.

The quota for the year is \$12,000, which leaves approximately \$1,000 to be subscribed. Any solicitors who have not turned in their receipts are urged to do so as soon as possible so a complete report can be made. Contributions may be mailed to Mrs. William Kline, East Bishop street.

A great deal of credit is due to the following chairmen and workers in the outlying districts for their splendid efforts in soliciting for the 1944 War Fund drive.

Julian and Martha, Mrs. J. T. Henry, chairman, \$127.49.

Willowbank and Bush Addition, Mrs. Fred Brown, chairman, \$76.35.

Axemann, Mrs. Don Ray, chairman, \$84.51.

Unionville, Mrs. Louise Stone, chairman, \$148.60.

Pleasant Gap, Mrs. Margaret Shreffler, \$550.

Zion, Mrs. William D. Shaffer, \$563.94.

Hubberson, Mrs. F. E. Vonada, \$95.

Moeshamon, Mrs. Elizabeth Watson, \$103.40.

Shnydertown, Mrs. Strasser, \$425.50.

Mingoville, Mrs. Cyril Moerschbacher, \$100.

Central City, Mrs. Ella Wagener and Mrs. McClellan, \$167.60.

Snow Shoe, Mrs. Harvey Smith, \$216.50.

Wingate, Mrs. Glen Mitchell, \$57.75.

(Continued on page three)

## Milesburg Service Station Is Robbed

The burglary of the Andrew Dubbs service station just east of Milesburg between noon Sunday and 8 a. m. Monday is being investigated by State Police at Rockview sub-station.

The home, rooms which received awards of \$5 each for the best-class showing in the campaign were: Room 308, senior high school, prize accepted on behalf of class by Mary Lou Barrackough, room 216, junior high school, accepted by James Covey; Bishop street school, sixth grade, accepted by William Auman, teacher Franklin Roy; Spring street school, fourth grade, Miss Mary Underwood teacher; and Dale building, second grade, Mrs. Carl Delfrich teacher.

In addition, certificates and medals were given to the five individuals who sold the most bonds in the drive. They were: Mary Lou Barrackough, Jacqueline Wolf, Robert (Continued on page six)

## SCHOOL PUPILS RECEIVE AWARDS

**Legion and VFW Present Medals and Prizes for War Loan Work**

Members of Bellefonte's two service organizations, the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, appeared at a general assembly at the Bellefonte High School yesterday morning to award medals and cash prizes to pupils and classes who excelled in the sales of war bonds during the recent Fourth War Loan campaign.

The Legion was represented by Charles Eckeroth, commander, and Willis H. Geisinger, adjutant. The VFW representatives were: John Bayan, commander; William Sieff, commander-elect, and William Garst, past commander.

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## V. F. W. AUXILIARY INSTALLS OFFICERS

**President-Elect Mrs. Rella Jones Appoints Committees for Year**

Installation of officers was a highlight of a meeting of the Auxiliary to Jackson-Crisman-Saylor Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, held on Monday night in the post home on South Spring street with Mrs. Lena Curtis, president, in charge.

Deputy Chief of Staff Mrs. Elizabeth S. Marshall was the installing officer and presented a pin to Mrs. Emma Garris, retiring president.

Officers installed were: president, Mrs. Rella Jones; senior vice president, Mrs. Mary Sager; junior vice president, Mrs. Ruth Butler; secretary, Miss Betty Edmiston; treasurer, Mrs. Mabel Stine; chaplain, Mrs. Clair McMurtrie; conductress, Mrs. Barbara L. Kline; guard, Mrs. Gertrude Young; trustee, three years, Mrs. Elizabeth S. Marshall; trustee, two years, Mrs. Helen Neff; trustee, one year, Mrs. Florence Haupt.

Also: color bearer No. 1, Mrs. Byly Houtz; bearer No. 2, Mrs. Evelyn Cain; bearer No. 3, Mrs. Beverly Batagiate; bearer No. 4, Mrs. Mary Louise Campana; historian, Mrs. Lillian Nighthart; patriotic instructor, Mrs. Dorothy Gross; musician. (Continued on page four)

## To Be Named for Centre County



A flying ambulance like the one shown in the photo is to carry Centre county's name because the county's American Legion Auxiliaries not only reached but exceeded their quotas in the Fourth War Loan campaign in March.

In photo above Mrs. Arthur Beaver, American Legion Auxiliary war activities chairman, presents certificates of authority to Major Joel Y. Ledbetter, deputy commanding officer, Second Ferrying Command, New Castle Air Base, in the presence of Mrs. Harry W. Piper, of Altoona, Auxiliary President, and J. W. Marvin, of the War Finance Committee community division.

Fifty ambulance planes will be purchased with the \$5,665,417 in E bonds sold by the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Pennsylvania in the Fourth War Loan campaign.

Other neighboring counties for which planes will be named include Clearfield, Huntingdon, Lycoming, Milford, Union, and Blair.

## Oak Hall Couple Married 50 Years

Mr. and Mrs. William A. Ferre, of Oak Hall, Sunday celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at an "open house" for friends and neighbors at their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ferre were married in Camden, N. J., in April 1894, and spent the early years of their married life in Clinton county. They moved to Oak Hall on March 17, 1906 and have resided there ever since.

They have the following children: Laven E. Ferre, teacher in Chester; Margaret Ferre, a teacher at Marcus Hook; Walter L. Ferre, teacher in Ridley Park, and William C. Ferre, manager of the Kestinger Auto Supply store in Bellefonte.

## Red Cross to Hold Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Bellefonte chapter of the American Red Cross will be held April 20 in the Centre County court room, at 8 p. m.

At this meeting the officers of the chapter for the ensuing year will be elected, with John Sommerville as chairman of the nominating committee. All division chairmen at this time will present a report on their work for the past year. The public is invited to attend.

## Mothers Club to Hear Address on Reading

An address "Challenging Days in Reading," by Miss Dorothy Holbert of the reading clinic laboratory, Penn State, will be a feature of a regular meeting of the Bellefonte Mothers' Club at the home of Mrs. Leif A. Olsen, on West Curtin street, Thursday evening, April 13. The program will begin at 8 o'clock.

The entertainment program under the direction of Mrs. Neal Kohler and Mrs. Martin Kaufman, will include narration by members of embarrassing moments caused by their children. Each member is asked to bring a baby photograph of herself to be used in another part of the entertainment program.

## Two Milesburg Brothers in Army - Two in Navy



Pfc. Bruce Shekier



James C. Shekier, Pfc. 2/c



Lt. Charles L. Shekier



Linn Shekier, Pfc. 2/c

Honors between the two major armed forces are divided equally in the family of Centre County Coroner Charles Shekier and Mrs. Shekier of Millsburg, who have two sons in the Army and two in the Navy. All but one of them is now overseas.

Linn Shekier, Pfc. 2/c, enlisted in the Navy January 19, 1942, at Baltimore, Md. He was on active duty on a P. C. boat on the east coast for six months and then was transferred to the Pacific area where he has been on active duty since.

Before entering the service he was employed by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

Pfc. Bruce W. Shekier was inducted into the U. S. Army October 14, 1942, at Baltimore. He was sent to Camp Blanding, Fla., where he trained with the 120th Infantry. After eight months of training there he was on maneuvers in Tennessee until November, 1943. He then moved to Camp Atterbury, Ind. His present address is c/o Postmaster, New York City, and he is believed to be in England.

Lt. Charles L. Shekier was a member of the family of James C. Shekier, Pfc. 2/c. He is James C. Shekier, Pfc. 2/c. He is enlisted in the Navy on December 23, 1941, at Boston, Mass. He trained (Continued on page four)

## Newman to Direct Music at Society

George Newman, well known vocalist of Millsburg, frequently appearing in chorus work in the Kiwanis Club and Titan Metal Malt Chorus, will direct the music and choir in evangelistic meetings at the Millsburg Presbyterian church, April 23 to May 5.

Mr. Newman's understanding and enthusiasm qualify him for these important features of the services and the objects to be attained in this union effort sponsored by the six churches in this area.

The committee in charge is gratified by his willing acceptance of the past with its attending responsibilities. Mr. Newman's experience as a churchman enables him to coordinate his department of effort with that of the visiting messenger, Dr. Joseph A. Speer, who has been engaged to preach each evening.

## Furey Takes Special Course at Pittsburgh

Gray Furey, of Mechanicburg, newly elected football coach of the Bellefonte High School, took advantage of the Easter holidays to attend Clark Shaughnessy's coaching school at the University of Pittsburgh, Thursday to Saturday inclusive.

Shaughnessy is the originator of the "T offense," a somewhat complicated football tactic used with great success by the Chicago Bears professional team, and Furey was initiated into the inner secrets of the play at the school.

The new BHS coach, son of George Furey, of East Linn street, Bellefonte, will assume his duties here late in the summer.

## RED CROSS DISASTER GROUP TO MEET

Readiness for disasters resulting from natural causes, expanding war industry or enemy action will keynote a Red Cross disaster prepared-