

Know Your Neighbor — Evelyn Eck

by Charlot Denmon

Blend a "bit of beauty, a large measure of charm, portion of personality, mix well with efficiency, add a dash of humor and lots of love" and you have—Evelyn Eck.

A more appropriate way to describe her would be difficult for she has all of the above qualities plus the willingness to become "involved."

One has only to enter her modern, white home on Lehigh Street, Shavertown, to feel warmth and love. The soft-colored rooms, attractive drapes and slipcovers, made by Evelyn, and creative appointments throughout reflect her interest in interior decorating.

Evelyn Eck, the former Evelyn Templin, daughter of the late Richard and Edith Templin, is well known throughout the area for her active participation in all community and church affairs. She has actually carved a career for herself in these fields. But before everything else, she is a homemaker.

The mother of four children—Beverly, in medical research, University of Colorado; Marilyn, chemical research, American Cyanamid, Bound Brook, N.J.; Dorothy Strauch, nurse and secretary in a doctor's office in California; and Jack, recently returned from Vietnam, and a doctor in the Vail Clinic, Vail, Colo. He will begin his residency at Temple University in September. Evelyn does her own canning, baking, and other household chores including gardening. Her beautifully landscaped yard with numerous flower beds is the result of her labor. Her latest project outdoors has been a rose garden which she has developed over the past several seasons.

Since the time she married Fred Eck and left her position as registered nurse in a local hospital, she has been continuously involved in service work.

Her love of music prompted her to become a member of the first choir at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in which she still takes part. When her children asked, "Why can't we sing in the choir?" she was instrumental in organizing a junior choir still in existence today. Her children followed in her musical footsteps and for many years they played in public at one piano. Their music teacher had to obtain special arrangements for their eight hands.

Always interested in her church, she is a charter member and past president of the Dorcas Society. She is also a member of Lutheran Church Women and served as the second president of that organization. Until recently she taught Sunday School at various age levels.

Evelyn acted as a Den Mother for Cub Scouts and was a Girl Scout leader for 10 years. She was awarded the highest adult award by the local Girl Scout council—the Thanks badge. Most rewarding to her, however, are the invitations she has received from former members of her Senior Girl Scout troop. "It is heart-warming" she told the Post, "to realize these girls remember me over such a long period of time."

When she completed her service as Girl Scout leader, she became leader of the Hi-Y girls and also became an active board member of the Back Mountain YMCA. She was also an active member of Westmoreland High School PTA and Back Mountain Council of PTA.

She refused the office of president in both of these organizations because she felt "the president should be a man."

In 1956, Evelyn Eck was named "Mrs. Wyoming Valley" as a tribute to her community service work.

Every year she works in the refreshment stand at the library auction. She has also served as a volunteer in every fund drive in the Back Mountain area and most recently was Back Mountain chairman for the United Fund and West Side chairman of the same organization. This marks the sixth year she has served as a member of the Fund's allocation committee.

Church work and social agency service are just the beginning. Evelyn is also a member of Dallas Senior Women's Club. She is a past president of both the Junior and Senior Woman's Clubs, and is presently chairman of the Educational Fund Committee she helped organize eight years ago.

Perhaps she is best known to many residents for her work with the Nesbitt Hospital Auxiliary, an organization in which she has been active for many years. She is a past president of the Shavertown Branch and immediate past president of the overall auxiliary. She is now editor of their newsletter and chairman of the Educational Fund. She also works as a volunteer in the hospitality shop. For two years she was chairman of the auxiliary's annual spring festival. Twice a month for the past 15 years she has made puppets for the hospital.

This year, Evelyn was chairman of baked goods committee for their "Holiday Fair." As chairman, she made all the dough for 50 pies and most of the batter for 50 dozen cookies which she distributed to other members of her committee for baking. In addition she made six pies and seven fruitcakes which she donated to the baked goods booth.

Music is one of her first loves and for 10 years the Women's Club Glee Club met at her home for rehearsals. In this way she could be a member of the group and still take care of her children. She also wrote and took part in a musical "Memories" presented by the Woman's Club. There was a time when the local firemen presented plays and musicals and her love of music prompted her to take part in them.

Two of her daughters were exchange students—Marilyn, in Rhodesia, and Beverly in South Africa—and she hosted two exchange students—Ross Walker, from Australia, who met and later married Marjorie Davis and now resides in Shavertown; and Brigetta

Vigborg, Sweden, who continues to correspond regularly. The Ecks plan to visit her in Sweden in the near future.

Evelyn is currently corresponding secretary and chairman of clinic and personnel of Planned Parenthood organization and a volunteer for "FISH."

When we remarked that she seemed to have exchanged one career for another, "nursing for volunteer service," she corrected us. "No," she said, "I exchanged a career for home-making. My husband, children and home have always been my primary concern. In fact, most of the things that I have done, I have been drawn into because of them. I feel that it has been well worth it for today they are well-adjusted individuals quite willing to assume a role of in-

volvement. Their interest and consideration for others, their willingness to communicate with us, is my most self-satisfying reward."

We asked this remarkable wife and mother if she had any leisure time activities. Her answer—refinishing furniture, sewing, interior decorating, and for the past three years—golf. In the future, she would like to do oil painting.

As the mother of three Mariner Girl Scouts and one Eagle Scout, we asked her opinion of youth of today. "I think the majority of them are tremendous," she said. "They know what needs to be done and they are trying to do it. And I feel every young person is the product of our generation. Success or failure has been initiated by parents."



by J. Kozemchak Evelyn Eck



Jackie Houser

Lake-Lehman Girl Has Role in Revue

Jackie Houser, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Houser, Lehman, will appear in "Holiday Revue" Nov. 26, 27, and 28, presented by the Little Theatre of Wilkes-Barre and directed by Miss Linda Sipple.

The "revue" is an introduction to the Christmas holiday season and will be held, matinees only, at the Little Theatre on North Main Street in Wilkes Barre.

Jackie is an eighth grade student at Lake Lehman High School and has studied tap dancing and jazz interpretation.

Wyoming Seminary Lists Honor Students

Ten Back Mountain area youths have been named to honor rolls by Wyoming Seminary for the first marking period of the school year.

Named with high honors were Holly Dieterick, RD 1, Dallas, and Daniel Hughes, Huntsville Road, Dallas.

Other students listed for honors were Brian Davis, 80 Midland Drive, Dallas; Sandra Kabeschat, 9 Birch Hill Lane, Dallas; Judith Lewis, RD 5, Shavertown; Yvonne Pearsall, RD 4, Dallas; Mary Pillarella, Haddonfield Hills, Dallas; Jenni Rodda, 316 Pioneer Ave., Dallas; and John Siegal Jr., Box 47, Harveys Lake.

The 10 were among 65 students at Seminary distinguished for their academic achievements by being named to the honor rolls.

Library Receives Check From Dallas School District

A check in the amount of \$1,000 was presented by the Dallas School District to the general library fund at the monthly meeting of the Back Mountain Memorial Library Association. Homer Moyer presided at the meeting.

Clarke Bittner, 1972 auction chairman, announced his co-chairman will be Frank Bevevino of High Point Acres. Atty. Merton E. Jones was elected as a new board member. The nominating committee consists of Dr. D. C. Aicher, Granville Miller, and Robert Richardson.

Sue Davern, librarian, reported that there was an increase in circulation in October of 400 books over the previous

First Honor Roll At West Side Tech

Thomas F. Feeney, principal, West Side Tech for the first marking period.

To attain high honors a student must have a 3.75 average in all courses. To be considered for honors a student must have an average of 3.0 provided that no grade is lower than a 2 in all courses.

David F. Kachensky, Kingston, has attained a perfect 4.0 average.

Highest honors were awarded to: Joe Charney, Gerald Cousin,

David F. Kachensky, Pauline Koslosky, Michele Lach, Michael F. Nauroth, Patricia Newell, Joyce A. Rosencrans, Patrick Smith, Stanley E. Spencer, Joseph Kukosky.

Tenth grade students receiving honors were: Marg D. Anzalone, Mark J. Bagdon, Bruce E. Bandish, Judy C. Bidgood, Deborah L. Campbell, Cheryl Gardzalla, Michele M. Goryl, Susan Kocher, Frances A. Murach, John M. Sikora, Lydia E. Smith, Michael J. Stredny, Richard G. Tressa, Cathy M. Wesley.

Eleventh grade students receiving honors were: Rose Ambrose, Gerri Lee Berish, Teresa A. Bogart, Ann Marie Cavanaugh, Frank Drost, Paul A. Grendzinski, Richard D. Haughwout, Steve A. Janiga, David Judge, Mary Ann Lapore, William D. Lynch, Judith A. Murach, Cynthia L. Pino, Thomas J. Rayeski, Thomas R. Urban, Robert J. Yonick, Bruce Briggs, Martha Krufka.

Twelfth grade students receiving honors were: Richard H. Bennett, Dianne Demphosky, Anita Fisher, Yvonne Grady, Richard W. Hardiman, John J. Gajozinski, Dale D. Jayne, Susan Karavis, Ray Kruk, Marian L. Kruzlik, Lawrence P. Milunic, Lou Ann Pazdzioro, Joe Pinkowski, Wendy L. Scott, Karen A. Selicki, Peter Sellani, Ronald Shaw, Jean F. Sheloski, Donald Sikora, Richard J. Sokolowski.

October. A group of Girl Scouts visited the library and were instructed in its use by Mrs. Davern.

Mrs. David Joseph, library story lady, hosted a group of 40 children from Ross Township and acquainted them with the library facilities. The children, none of whom had ever been in a public library before, were given registration cards to take home to their parents.

The late Chief Herbert Updyke left to the library, his collection of books on criminal law, with the provision that they be kept intact for use by members of the police force.

The next board meeting will be held Dec. 21.

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Money Orders Class Offers Movie

Effective Nov. 27, the Dallas Post Office will again issue money orders on Saturdays, a service which had been discontinued for some time. There will be no postal service Thanksgiving day. The lobby will also be closed all day.

The junior class of the Dallas Senior High School will sponsor a full-length movie, "The Fall of the House of Usher," at the high school auditorium Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door. The film is a money-raising project of the class.

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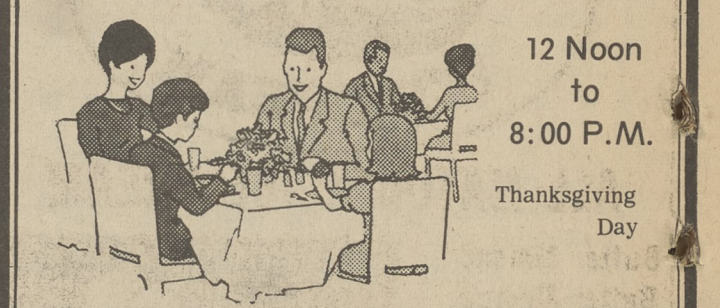
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