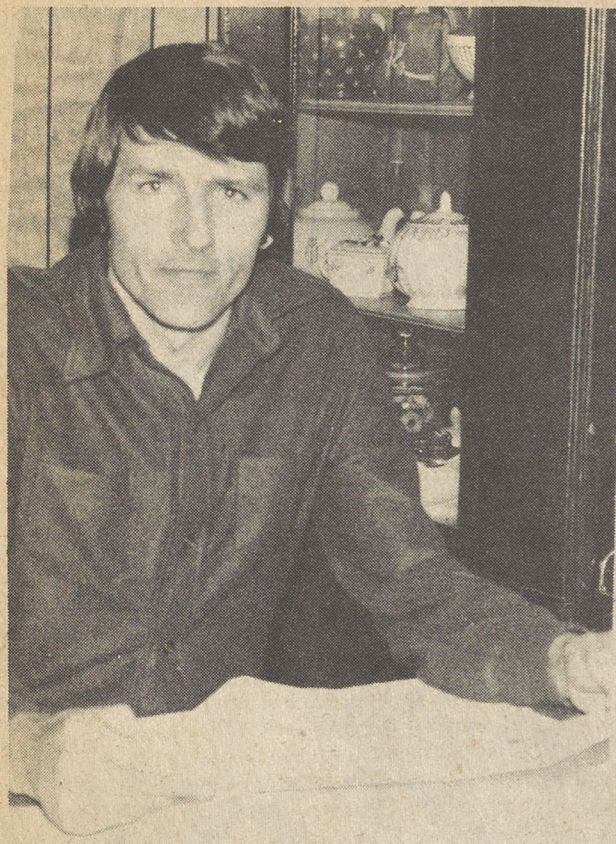


**KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR**

**Local man authors 'The Great American Ripoff'**



Jim Ross

by Charlot Denmon  
Spring is the time of year many persons decide "that old car has had it", and start shopping around for a new one. And little do many of them realize that they are starting out to be "taken".  
"The Great American Ripoff", that's what Jim Ross of Dallas calls it, and if only the book he has recently completed was published and on the market, many of these car shoppers could avoid headaches and save money.  
Jim Ross should know for he was once associated with the automobile business and is well aware of what goes on behind the scenes.  
He tells all this in his 17-chapter book which has not

yet been accepted by a publisher because of its specialized nature.  
Choosing the car, decision-making, shopping, time of year, factory order, dealer cost, trade-in, trade or sell it, handling the salesman, the used car, closing the sale, negotiating, extra money, group purchase, financing, service, external recourse, terminology, and a 10-step program to buy a car—it's all there in Ross' "The Great American Ripoff", and his ambition is to have it published for the benefit of all car buyers.  
But this is not the only book Jim Ross has written. He has written stories since he was 10 years of age and still has the first manuscript he wrote "Tommy Goes to Alaska",

the story of a young boy's adventures when he wins a trip to Alaska.  
He has written three children's books and is presently writing an occult mystery novel. Only one of the books, "Magical Trip to the Tooth Fairy", is completed with illustrations done by his neighbor, Donna Ritinski. Jim plans to have the other two books illustrated before submitting them.  
A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, he graduated from high school, then attended University of Cincinnati where he studied psychology and logic. It was while at college, he met his wife, the former Linda Brague of Orange. Jim's room mate was dating a girl who taught with Linda in Pottsville.  
They moved to Dallas from Akron, Ohio, with their son, Jonathan, four years ago when Jim accepted a position with a local car dealer. Later, he went to work for the Inter-Faith Construction Company.  
He has always been involved in some kind of writing. While in the military service, he wrote a number of manuals for the service. He is accustomed to the disciplines of writing and rejection.  
He spends his evenings and weekends writing and, unlike some, he finds it a chore rather than relaxing. However, he derives great satisfaction and believes it is all worthwhile when he looks at the finished product.  
"I have a love-hate attitude toward it at times,"

he said, "but my desire to become famous keeps me going."  
Jim and Linda help each other. Jim edits her copy which she writes as a news correspondent and she corrects his for grammar and punctuation. Linda is a French major with a political science and education minor.  
When submitting his work to publishers, Jim uses outlines for their evaluation. If they request the manuscript, he then sends it. The closest he came to having "The Great American Ripoff" published was with Lippincott. It made it through all the editors to the editor-in-chief, who rejected it because of its "specialized nature".  
Jim isn't sure whether it had any influence on the decision but at the time Harper and Row were bidding on the purchase of Lippincott. He is now looking for a publisher who handles diversified subjects.  
His favorite type of writing is investigative expose.  
Jim goes on a physical fitness "kick" about once a year. He enjoys playing golf and gardening. He does a lot of woodworking crafts. He also "dabbles" in karate. He is interested in the Oriental mind and philosophy.  
The motivation behind his writing the Tooth Fairy book which is in rhyme was to assist parents and dentists in educating children about dental care.  
"The Leprechaun's Secret Treasure" is also

written in rhyme and although amusing has a moral "happiness is treasure, not gold or silver".  
"Winfred the Witch" is in prose and is a story about the actions of the witch when no one shows up for her birthday party, but in the end she turns out to be a good witch and everyone goes to her birthday party in her cabin in the woods.  
Jim's writing is strictly his, Linda recommends

once in a while, not often but the creativity is Jim's. She is not interested in creative writing, strictly news.  
Jim Ross has some short but good advice to would-be writers...  
"Determination and patience-revision, revision; revision; rewrite, rewrite, rewrite-persevere."  
Jim Ross will continue to persevere until he achieves success.

**Over the Back Fence**



Mr. and Mrs. James Durkin, Jr., W. 42nd St. Idetown, have returned from spending the Easter holiday in Del Ray Beach, Fla.  
Pamela and Steven Tarnecki, daughter and son of S-S Raymond Tarnecki, will celebrate their birthdays in Athens, Greece, where their father is stationed with the U. S. Army. Pamela will be three on April 7, and Steven will be five on April 12. Mrs. Tarnecki is the former Alice Parsons, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Parsons, Main Street, Dallas.  
Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Myers, 35 S. Pioneer Ave., Trucksville, announce the birth of a son born March 20 in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.  
Marguerite Eckert, Shavertown, has been a patient in Nesbitt Hospital suffering from a broken hip received in a fall at her

home. She is a former resident of Huntsville.  
Carl Miers, Dallas Township police chief, was awarded the "Daniel J. Orlowski Award," presented to him as the outstanding law enforcement officer by the Back Mountain Jaycees. Miers joined the township police force in 1969 and was named police chief in 1974. He placed second in state competition for outstanding police officer, for his accomplishments in the line of duty and community involvement.  
Mrs. Thomas Kane, Lehman, is a medical patient in Nesbitt Memorial Hospital. Her husband is the assistant police chief of Lehman Township.  
Mrs. Charles Riegel, Trucksville, has returned home from Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.  
Gus Shuleski, W. Center Hill Road, Dallas, has returned home from

Wilkes-Barre General Hospital where he was a surgical patient.  
Mrs. William Weigel, Trucksville, has returned home from Wilkes-Barre General Hospital where she was a surgical patient.  
Mrs. Rose Stanley, Pioneer Avenue, has returned home from Nesbitt Memorial Hospital.  
Chris Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Matt Evans, Church Street, Dallas, visited her sister, Jeanne, at the University of Frebaug, Switzerland where she is an exchange student from LaSalle College, Philadelphia. The girls toured Europe spending the Easter weekend in Rome.  
Mr. and Mrs. David Germick, 91 Shaver Ave., Shavertown, announce the birth of a son, March 21, at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.  
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Skopic, Lehman, announce the birth of a daughter, March 20, at Wyoming Valley Hospital.  
Midshipman Kevin Duerimit, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Duermit, is in the Wyoming Valley area this week as part of the naval academy's annual "operation information." He will appear before high school groups, civic organizations and

other clubs to discuss life at Annapolis, and acquaint young men and women with the advantages of a naval academy education and a career as a professional officer in the Navy and Marine Corps.  
Kathy Stefanowicz, Lake-Lehman student and Rebecca Bestwick, Dallas student, were among the senior girls of local high schools honored at the Wyoming Valley Chapter, DAR, Good Citizens Tea last Saturday at the Hotel Sterling. The girls each received a gold good citizens pin and a merit certificate. They are now eligible for state awards which include U.S. Savings Bonds and a \$10,000 scholarship presented by the National Society of DAR, based on the results of a written examination on U.S. history and government.  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Womer, RD 1, Noxen, announce the birth of a daughter, March 20, at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

**Trio Sonata to perform Fri.**

The Back Mountain Cultural Center will present Trio Sonata, a unique ensemble of flute, oboe, and classical guitar, in concert in the Dallas Junior High School Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. on March 31.  
Members of the Trio Sonata, which has a repertoire consisting of works of 20th Century composers in addition to baroque and classical trio sonatas, are shown above. From the left, they are Gary Kessler, guitar; Donald Bender, oboe; and Anton Kuskin, flute.  
The trio was obtained by BMCC through the Northeastern Pennsylvania Arts Alliance which got the group through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council of Arts. Since its beginning

the University of Connecticut, Western Connecticut State College and Rutgers University, and toured with the Rulian Trio, the Robert Shaw Chorale and the American Ballet.  
Donald Bender, on oboe, is impresario of the concert series at LIFE, 13th Street Studio, N.Y.C. He has a master of music degree from Syracuse University and was director of music in the Wilton, Conn., public schools. He taught at Rutgers and is now on the music faculty of Friends Seminary, N.Y.C.  
Gary Kessler, on guitar, has a bachelor of music degree from the Mannes College of Music, and his background includes the music faculty of Blair Academy, Friends



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**Back Mt. Democrats to hold election**

The Back Mountain Democratic Committee men and women will hold a meeting for election of officers at the Dallas American Legion, March 30, 7:30 p.m.

**Classified Deadline Friday, 5 P.M.**

in 1975, Trio Sonata has performed in over 100 concerts, and has recently recorded its first LP for S.E.P. International Record Company.  
On the flute is Anton Kuskin, who has a master of music degree from the Manhattan School of Music. He taught flute at Seminary of New York City, White Mountain Music Festival, and classical guitar recitals in New York City.  
The trio has appeared in concerts at Rutgers University, Western Connecticut State College,

the Frick Collection, Museum of the City of New York, Brooklyn Museum, Queens Museum, Lincoln Center Library of the Performing Arts, White Mountain Music Festival, Scranton Philharmonic Society, L.I.F.E. Institute, Blair Academy in New Jersey, and on radio.  
The public is invited to attend the concert. Free tickets will be available at the door.

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