

Back Country Briefs

Congratulations are extended to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bowen of Mount Zion, who observed their 35th wedding anniversary on Monday. Mrs. Bowen is the former Miss Ruth Derr, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. James Derr of Orange.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Davenport of Johnstown, N.Y. are spending the holiday week end with Harold's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Davenport of Orange.

Berean Class of Northmoreland Baptist Church enjoyed caroling at homes in the Noxen and Dallas areas Friday evening, and concluded the evening's activities with a party at the home of Michael and Barbara Rowlands of Centermoreland, teachers of the class.

Those attending were Nancy and Melissa Rowlands, Jamie May, Todd Rought, Tim Reeves, Linda Race, Beth Reeves, Gary Race, Sharon Statnik, Sherry 'Sheransky, Linda Newberry, Amy Campbell, Claude Button and Wendy Kaskus.

Flowers on the altar for Sunday morning's worship service at Mount Zion United Methodist Church were presented by Nelson and Mae Lewis of Mount Zion in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Lewis of Mount Zion, who will observe their 50th wedding anniversary tomorrow.

Mr. and Mrs. John Howe and son, John, Jr. of Pawtucket, R. I. will arrive Saturday to spend a week Mr. and Mrs. Hoe's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Kuderka, Sr. of

Orange. Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Kuderka, Jr. of Newark, Del. will come in on Tuesday to spend a week with Ray's parents after spending Christmas Day with Mrs. Raymond Kuderka, Jr.'s parents in Concordville, Pa.

Flowers on the altar for Sunday morning's worship serve in Carverton United Methodist Church were presented by Mrs. Velma Culver in memory of her late husband, Lawton Culver.

A candlelight service will be held Friday evening at 7:30 in Mt. Zion United Methodist Church.

Douglas Rudolph of Centermoreland came home Saturday after two weeks as a medical patient at Mercy Hospital, Wilkes-Barre. His condition at press time was reported as good.

Sincere sympathy is extended the family of the late Dorrance Headley of Centermoreland, who passed away last week end. Funeral services were held Monday morning from the Disque Funeral Home in Dallas.

Friends of Mrs. David (Norma) Corby of Centermoreland will be glad to learn she returned home on Friday after a stay at Geisinger Hospital in Danville.

Leonard Munoz, son of Rev. and Mrs. Carlos Munoz of Centermoreland, is expected home tomorrow to spend the Christmas holiday with his parents. Leonard has been a patient at Lankenau Hospital in Philadelphia since September, 1977, where he has undergone surgery 11 times.

An all Charge Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be held Sunday evening at 8 at East Dallas United Methodist Church for the three United Methodist Churches that comprise the Centermoreland UM Charge at Dymond Hollow, Centermoreland and East Dallas.

Birthdays calendars are available for members of East Dallas United Methodist Church from any member of the Ella Moore Class for \$1 each. At Centermoreland United Methodist Church, church plates for Christmas gifts are available at \$5 each from Mrs. Bea Beatty, Centermoreland.

Mrs. Alberta Judge of Centermoreland was reported as coming along slowly in Scranton Community Medical Center where she underwent surgery. Family members were hoping her condition improved to such an extent as to permit her to come home from the medical center for Christmas.

Her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Judge and their son, Charles, Jr. of Lake Mohawk, N.J., and another son, Richard Judge, Jr., also of Lake Mohawk, will come in for the Christmas weekend.

Stanley Thomas of Tunkhannock completed drilling of a well at the township owned plot in Franklin Township last week. The well was necessary for further work contemplated for the municipal building. RThomas was the lone bidder and reportedly had to drill more than 400 feet before hitting the water level.

Miss Kimberly Turner, a freshman biology student at St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y., is spending the Christmas holiday vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Turner, Jr. of Orange.

Christmas program of East Dallas Sunday School and United Methodist Youth Fellowship will be presented Saturday evening at 6:30 in East Dallas United Methodist Church.

Herb Brunges of Centermoreland shot a deer Friday while hunting in Centermoreland. His son, Harold, brought down a doe Saturday while hunting in the same general area in Centermoreland.

Mistletoe isn't just for kissing

To most people, mistletoe means an excuse to steal a kiss at Christmas time. But that's just one of many traditions that have been associated with this curious, parasitic plant, according to the current issue of National Wildlife magazine.

"For centuries, people all over the world have considered mistletoe to be a charm against disease, witchcraft, and infertility," says the bi-monthly publication of the National Wildlife Federation. Mistletoe superstitions probably came about because of the unusual and rather eerie way in which the plant grows.

Mistletoe flourishes in clumps on the trunks and branches of various hardwood trees, where it robs its host tree of water and nutrients. Often, the host tree is so weakened that it dies. But since mistletoe can produce its own food when necessary, the parasite remains green and moist.

Because they were unable to explain how mistletoe grew, ancient civilizations believed the plant had supernatural powers, says National Wildlife. Peasants in both England and Japan believed that barren women would be able to conceive after eating mistletoe. The Walos of Africa attached mistletoe leaves to their bodies, confident that they would then be protected from injury.

Swedes carved sword handles from mistletoe branches to ward off witches, while other Europeans wore mistletoe corsages to guarantee a successful hunt.

Mistletoe is not a very tasty plant. In fact, although there are more than a thousand varieties throughout the world, only one animal—the tiny Australian mistletoe bird—relies solely on mistletoe for food. But medical history reveals that despite its taste, mistletoe was often fed to ailing patients by physicians who thought it had curative powers.

French physicians used mistle as an antidote for poisons. And one 17th century British physician observed that the plant is "good for the grief of itch,

Jones, Trinisewski seek GOP courthouse control

Can the Republicans win control of the Luzerne County courthouse? They can if the enthusiasm and planning of Joseph "Red" Jones of Lehman Township and Frank Trinisewski of Wilkes-Barre mean anything.

The two longtime Republican partisans linked themselves together in a ticket announced this week for the county commissioner slots in 1979. All three positions will be contested in the election, with incumbent Republican Steve Yanoshak and his Democrat counterparts Frank Crossin and Ed Wideman still unannounced as to their intentions on reelection.

But Jones and Trinisewski have launched their combination ticket effort in an attempt to gain control of the courthouse for the Grand Old Party.

Jones was an apparent victor in the Republican primary for a commissioner post in 1975, despite attempts by the party hierarchy to avoid his vote-attracting skills by denying him the party endorsement and finding another candidate with the name Jones to confuse the balloting.

But shortly after the Tuesday unofficial count, the official count reversed the situation and Jones came in third behind Yanoshak and the other GOP candidate Robert Leonardi.

Trinisewski, on the other hand, has been an island of Republican hope on the Democrat tides of Wilkes-Barre, serving his eighth year as a Republican councilman in an area which is primarily Democrat in sympathy and registration.

What makes the two candidates ready to test the public sentiment in an area which is traditionally Democrat turf?

First of all they're heartened by the recent victory of GOP Gov.-Elect Richard Thornburgh in the state. "We've cleaned out Harrisburg, now let's clean out Luzerne County," is the way Trinisewski puts it.

"It's time for a change," they say.

The two candidates have also indicated they believe the electorate is tired of the personality conflict pitting commissioners Wideman and Crossin against each other, with Yanoshak, who they appear to consider a superficial Republican at best, an ineffectual representative of the minority view.

The two office-seekers also tout their ability to deal with the county government as fulltime commissioners, something they say none of the incumbents is willing to do. Jones and Trinisewski say they will provide a good example of a full workday for other courthouse workers.

They also say they believe they can

streamline county government, getting more effective work out of existing offices and budgets.

Jones and Trinisewski also said they believe the incumbents have "degraded Valley Crest" (the county home) by handpicking supervisory employees with inadequate qualifications.

Jones and Trinisewski have also marked the Luzerne County Human Resources program and the operations of Luzerne County Community College for improvement, proposing to put operations of both units on the basis of professional performance rather than "politics as usual."

Both Jones and Trinisewski said they welcome formal party backing for their ticket. But they are both pledged to making the run without the party's endorsement if it is denied to either of them.

The men characterize their effort as the ideal teamwork—Jones with his political base in the suburban Back Mountain and Trinisewski with the urban center in Wilkes-Barre.

Trinisewski is a successful self-employed real estate investor and apartment manager. Jones is essentially a public person, with credentials as the very successful

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Frank Trinisewski



Joseph "Red" Jones

Obituaries

FELIX WILKOSKI

Felix Wilkoski, RD 1, Sweet Valley, died Dec. 14 at the home of his daughter, Mrs. John Busch, Conyngham.

Born in Nanticoke, he was a retired miner and worked for Susquehanna Colliery. He was a member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Lake Silkworth, and its Holy Name Society.

Also surviving are his wife, the former Dorothy Kearney; daughters, Mrs. John Pall, Hunlock Creek; Mrs. Dorothy Flynn, West Hazleton; brother, Dr. Frank Wilkoski, Dickson City; sister, Mrs. Roselle Grozier, Nanticoke; eight grandchildren; four great-grandchildren.

Funeral was Monday with Mass of Christian Burial in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church. Interment was in the parish cemetery.

CHARLES S. LILLEY, SR.

Charles S. Lilley, Sr., of Ransom Road, Dallas, died Friday morning at Mercy Hospital following a lengthy illness.

Born in Towanda, he lived in Dallas the past 27

years. Prior to retiring, he was employed as an enforcement officer for the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board. He was a member of the East Dallas United Methodist Church. In 1975, he was awarded a 50-year membership in Union Lodge 108, Free and Accepted Masons, Towanda.

Surviving are his wife, the former Mary Ann B. Muka; daughters, Mrs. Doris Cyran, Fairfax, Va.; Mrs. Marilyn Kerkuff, Benton; Mrs. Sharon Obuhoski, Dallas; sons, Charles Lilley, Jr., Beaumont; Ronald Eovitch, Glen Lyon; seven grandchildren; sister, Mrs. Beth McKee, Mechanicsburg.

Funeral was Monday from Richard H. Disque Funeral Home, 672 Memorial Highway, Dallas, with Rev. Carlos Munoz, pastor of East Dallas United Methodist Church, officiating. Entombment was in Memorial Shrine Mausoleum, Carverton.

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