

Philharmonic presents family holiday sampler

Music by Mozart, Richard Strauss, Tchaikovsky and Schuller are on the program for Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic's "Family Symphony Sampler," featuring the gifted conductor-pianist John Covelli, Nov. 28 at the Irem Temple, Wilkes-Barre, and Nov. 29 at the Masonic Temple in Scranton. Concert-time is 8:30 p.m. both evenings. John Covelli, whose

extraordinary talents have been lauded by critics here and abroad, is a frequent guest conductor of the Boston Pops and Cleveland Orchestra and is currently music director of the Flint, Mich., Symphony Orchestra. Maestro Covelli is the second of five finalists for music director of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic to conduct here. He is an award-

winning pianist and has been an Exxon-National Endowment for the Arts Conducting Fellow. With the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic, he will not only be guest maestro, but also guest soloist for a performance of the Mozart Piano Concerto No. 20.

The other program selections—Tchaikovsky's Hamlet Overture, A suite from Strauss's comic opera, Der Rosenkavalier, and Schuller's "Seven Studies on Paul Klee"—offer a wide variety of music which, in the words of Philharmonic general manager Sally Preate, "is perfect for introducing the family to the orchestra during a family holiday weekend." There is also a wide range of ticket prices, including the Philharmonic's popular "Family Circle" section.

Tickets are available through the Philharmonic hotline, 654-4788 or 342-0920, and at the following regular outlets: Spruce Record Shop and Paperback Booksmith, Scranton; Piano Shoppe, Pittston; Gallery of Sound stores and Book and Record Mart, Wilkes-Barre; and Dempsey's Jewelry, Tunkhannock. Concert hall box offices will open at 5:30 p.m. prior to the performance for ticket sales, but early reservations are advisable due to the popularity of the program.



THANKSGIVING BASKETS—Dallas Women of Kiwanis spent Monday packing Thanksgiving baskets for families in the Back Mountain. Busy packing the boxes are, left to

right, Mrs. Andre Billinge, Mrs. Martin Moore, co-chairman; Mrs. Peter George, Mrs. Leonard Harvey, Mrs. Robert Dolbear, Mrs. Fred Anderson, president; Mrs. Bernard Banks, co-chairman. (Mark Moran Photo)

Residents await Downs successor

The appointment of a successor to fill the post of late Magistrate Herbert Downs of Beaumont by Governor Richard Thornburgh is being awaited by residents of the Monroe-Noxen-Northmoreland and Eaton Townships areas.

Five candidates have tossed their hats in for the appointment including the late magistrate's daughter, Mrs. Susan Downs Kehrli, presently residing in Cortland, N.Y., but who maintains a residency in Monroe Township. Mrs. Kehrli is completing a four-week course for magistrates in Chambersburg.

Mrs. Kehrli is the fifth person who has sent an application to the governor for the post. She was formerly employed by the United Services Agency in Tunkhannock. Governor Thornburgh has not as yet made known who he intends to appoint to the post, which requires confirmation by the state Senate.

Others, who have announced for the magisterial post are Mrs. Leslie (Turrell) Bullock of Noxen; Robert Rosengrant of Eaton Township; Mrs. Gladys Crispell, a notary public in Monroe Township, and Mickey LeMardy, Eaton Township constable.

Twins Mother Club meets

The Luzerne County Mothers' of Twins Club held its annual membership meeting at St. John's Lutheran Church, Wilkes-Barre.

Mrs. Vivian Cardell hosted a smorgasbord dinner during which guests were introduced and presented with corsages made by the committee. Bruce Brown, Wilkes College Professor, spoke on the responsibility of parenting.

A general meeting followed conducted by President Mrs. Marie Heckman.

Transportation projects in jeopardy

The failure of the Pennsylvania Legislature to enact Governor Thornburgh's proposed SWAP tax will indefinitely delay several local road projects.

John F. Sheehan, Jr., executive director of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce, commented, "It is a serious matter. This crucial piece of legislation never left committee. People don't realize that the future of the North Cross Valley Expressway ramp to Conyngham Avenue and Wilkes-Barre Boulevard are closely tied to available funding. Projects throughout the county will be affected including the proposed North Street extension from Wilkes-Barre Boulevard to I-81 and the Middle Road Interchange

in Hanover. Possibly the only transportation project in Luzerne County that will be completed is the Berwick-Nescopeck bridge."

Recognizing the importance of a first-rate highway system, the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce has supported the SWAP program since its inception.

"Pennsylvania's state maintained road system, with nearly 45,000 miles of highway and 27,000 bridges, is the fourth largest in the nation. It has the same amount of miles as New York, New Jersey, and all the New England states yet the Department of Transportation is expected to operate on less than half of their combined

budgets," Sheehan stated.

"While we certainly don't like the introduction of any new taxes, we recognize the fact that the department cannot be expected to operate without predictable funding," he added.

The SWAP proposal would provide a percentage gas tax, as opposed to a flat rate. In that way, increased gas prices and the accompanying drops in consumption would not cause state transportation revenues to spiral downward. This tax would effect those individuals who use the Commonwealth's roads and highways. Every driver who is concerned with the quality of road maintenance should be aware of the implications of funding cutbacks.

"Additionally, we must consider the impact of the Middle Road Interchange," Sheehan continued. "If the construction is delayed, it is certainly going to effect the long-term development of Hanover Industrial Estates as well as Luzerne County Community College. It is ironic that this should coincide with the opening of Section I of the North Cross Valley Expressway."

"Finally, because of the lack of predictable funding, job losses relating to the necessary consolidation of maintenance and engineering district staffs poses a very real problem. Hopefully, the next session of the legislature will tackle this crisis."

Wilkes installs computer phone system

Wilkes College entered the age of telephone computer technology with the recent installation of a new electronic digital telephone system provided by Commonwealth Telephone Technologies Corporation (CTTC), a subsidiary of Commonwealth Telephone Enterprises, Inc.

Approximately 350 push button telephones were installed in the college's 45 buildings in Wilkes-Barre and remote lines were installed at Ralston Field in Kingston.

The decision to purchase the new system will result in substantial savings for the college

over the next several years. The system's flexibility allows the college to program individual telephones to accommodate specific user's communications needs. The system can be easily expanded to meet future communications requirements. The use of digital technology in the design of the system will permit the college to utilize future state-of-the-art advancements in communications without costly system modifications and retrofits.

In addition to substantially increased flexibility, the new

system provided by CTTC offers a number of advantages over the previous cord board operation. Many of the functions provided by the operator in the past can now be performed by each telephone user. Electronic features include automatic station call back which allows calls to busy extensions to be automatically re-rung

when that extension becomes free; call forwarding which means incoming calls to a telephone can be automatically forwarded to another extension; and conferencing which permits the telephone user to establish a conference call with up to 10 parties—without operator involvement.

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SECRETARIES MEET—Members of the secretarial association of the area's schools were hosted by Dallas District members last week at The Castle Inn. Seated, left to right, are association officers, Gean Elko, treasurer; Shirley Frederici, vice president; Irene Transue, president; Judy Heller, West Side Tech; standing, Jane Hackling, Phyllis Sappe, Mary Shaver, Peggy Boyes, Ruth Young, and Loretta Thomas, Dallas District hostesses. (Mark Moran Photo)

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To a father waxing old nothing is dearer than a daughter.—Sons have spirits of higher pitch, but less inclined to sweet, endearing fondness.—Euripides.

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