

# Chatterbox



A Little Fact;  
A Little Fancy

from Mak

It appears the issue of a fulltime daytime police person for Jackson Township is almost at an end. Although Township fathers directed police chief Don Jones to produce recommendations for upgrading the police department within two months, Jones has admitted adding a full time day patrol to the force will be included in his suggestions.

He also noted he has other suggestions in mind, but declined to say what they are at this time. My problem with the entire issue is that it has dragged out as long as this. If the supervisors have the best interest of the citizens in mind, why haven't they given thought to the lack of daytime coverage? Whose responsibility is it, anyway? Why wait until just before primary elections—only three months away—to make a decision? Do they really believe that adding to the police force will give them leverage for the election?

It's possible the thought has occurred to the solon as the silent member of the group, Charles Cigarski is up for re-election in May.

Regardless of the motivation, Jones said resumes of interested persons may be directed by mail to the Jackson Township Police Department. He said there are no applications available but he will accept resumes. Another question—Who is going to do the hiring?

On a happier note, The Dallas Post telephone solicitation is doing very well, and for that, we thank you all. We're pleased to hear that you like the paper and find it fulfills your need for hometown news. Remember, we are working for you, it is your paper. Therefore, feel free to make suggestions and recommendations for further improvement.

A note to prospective candidates and voters. Don't forget Act 170. The legislation requires all candidates and incumbents to file a Statement of Financial Interests prior to filing petitions for candidacy. It is very important that this be done, and failure may result in removal of names from the ballot.

Citizens also should be aware that they have the right to see and copy any statements filed. Since March 8 is the deadline for filing petitions in the Luzerne County Courthouse, Financial Interests Statements must be completed prior to that date.

Pennsylvania's Commission for Women reports there is a tremendous need for more women in local political offices. Sadly, Pennsylvania ranks third from the bottom of all 50 states in the number of women in its state legislature. This low percentage (3.9) appears to filter down into county and municipal seats as well. Comparing 1982 female representation to that of 1966, there has been some conscience-raising, but it is hardly

impressive. For example, at the end of 1982, there were 15 female county commissioners, from a total of 219. This is a seven percent increase over 1966 when there were no women in the position. Presently, there also exists one county executive who is a woman.

Among the states first class townships, there are 560 commissioners. Five were female in 1966, and 37 in 1982. Among the 4,500 supervisors of second class townships, there were six women in 1966. By 1982, there were 115, up 2.5 percent.

We agree with Helen Seager, director of the Commission for Women, who says more women are needed as local candidates. A woman's experience is different from a man's and considering females make up 53 percent of the voting population, a decided under-representation is evident in areas where laws are made and cases determined.

In the judiciary, women are even less involved. In 1983 statewide voters will elect a Supreme Court justice and Superior and Commonwealth Court judges. The top court has no women. The Superior Court, which handles a significant caseload of family matters, has only one, Judge Phyllis Beck, an appointee whose term will end if she is not elected in 1983. Commonwealth Court has only Judge Genevieve Blatt, who is near retirement.

Does this commentary sound sexist? Possibly it does to some. I believe the facts speak for themselves. It is time the same women who have come out of the kitchen into the work force and the community, take a look at where they stand politically, and more important, what they can contribute.

Around our schools, Dave Harris has become enthusiastically caught up in MUG. While this may sound like a code name for some police or criminal activity, it is actually a very new concept of sharing knowledge on computer literacy and technology. MUG stands for Micro-computer Users Group and Dave, who teaches computer literacy at the Lake-Noxen Elementary School is quite excited about what such an organization can accomplish. He is already booked to give presentations at the Luzerne Intermediate Unit, Feb. 17, and Wilkes-Barre's Leadership Conference (sponsored by the Greater Chamber of Commerce), March 1. Dave will be presenting his ideas Feb. 18 to the staff at Lake-Lehman.

Also, in conjunction with the widespread and overwhelming interest in teaching computer use in our schools, a Computer Literacy-Competency Course will be offered at Lake-Lehman March 1, 3, 4, 7 and 8 from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. The course is approved by the Luzerne Intermediate Unit and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.



What a way to spend the summer!

## Comment

### Officials could use some tact

Who is kidding whom in Jackson Township? Is the community governed by a board of three supervisors, or are there only two who make the decisions?

After sitting through the February meeting of the solon, it became evident that the minority commissioner, Bob Hazeltine, is sometimes left out in the cold when it comes to township business. Example: Who invited whom to a meeting in the solicitor's office and why wasn't Hazeltine informed of it?

Furthermore, the body obviously **Only Yesterday**

chooses what communications it will read before the public and ignores any it deems unimportant. Example: A letter requesting additional police protection and a siren system for the township, written by Pat Rusiloski of the SCID Citizen's Advisory Committee. The letter was not read into the minutes of the meeting, nor was it mentioned in discussion of the police issue.

We believe every citizen interested enough to come out on a cold winter night to witness democracy in action has the right to be heard. It

is not only a breach of public trust but also rude to treat taxpayers as second class.

It is a well known fact that one gets further with sugar than with salt. The indication here being an agreeable, pleasant attitude is far more effective in dealing with the public than defensive name calling.

There is no denying the township is fraught with its rabble rousers, who never learned proper public manners, choosing instead to point fingers and shout obscenities. Elected officials should find a way

to control the mob element and maintain dignity in the public forum. It is an injustice to the remainder of the citizenry to allow such disruptions on a regular basis. It is also counter-productive to carrying on the business at hand.

If the present body of supervisors is unable to face the public in an open honest manner and can not effectively deal with those who only look for trouble, perhaps those same elected officials should find themselves another business (before the electorate makes that decision for them).

## Mysterious noises in Dallas

50 Years Ago - Feb. 24, 1933

B.F. Stroh, manager of the local office of Commonwealth Telephone Company, and his family were vacationing in Mimia, Fla. when Guisepe Zangara took several shots at President Roosevelt. Stroh reported that he stood about 15 feet from the gunman when the first shot was fired.

Investigation failed to disclose the source of three concussions that startled Dallas and the vicinity. The detonation was heard most distinctly in Shavertown and Dallas and reports were received that persons residing in Wyoming Valley also heard the mysterious noises.

Birthdays--Sarah Woolbert, 89 years old.

You could get--Hot cross buns 10c doz.; red pitted sour pie cherries 2 cans 25c; Ivory Flakes lg. pkg. 20c;

honey 10c jar.

40 Years Ago - Feb. 26, 1943

Newell Wood, Harveys Lake, lost a valuable mare, Flaxen Lady, when she was frightened by a car and dashed toward the lake throwing Wood and his son, Michael, free from the buggy she was pulling. Flaxen Lady drowned in the icy water, weighted down by the harness and buggy. She was valued at \$1,500.

Married--Virginia Bartle to Nathaniel Casterline; Margaret Glahn to Stephen Sanders, Jr.; Goldie Belles to Carlton B. Hadsall.

Deaths--Amandus Searfoss, Beaumont; Luther Hand, Alderson; William Besteder, Centermoreland.

You could get--Sausage 35c lb.; eggs 42c doz.; spinach 10c lb.; rutabagas 3 lb. 10c; 24 lb. bag flour \$1.22.

30 Years Ago - Feb. 27, 1953

Bernard Graham, a member of the Jenks Baseball team of the Bi-County League was honored at a going-away and good luck party by his team mates. Graham had signed a contract with the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Kyle Gene Cundiff, son of Mr. and

Mrs. Kyle E. Cundiff, Maplewood Avenue, Dallas was named Dallas Borough "Boy Scout of the Month".

Engaged--Leona Mae Lord to Phillip L. Walter.

Anniversaries--Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dungey, 34 years.

Deaths--Warren Dennis, Alderson.

You could get--Rib roast 49c lb.; smoked picnic hams 35c lb.; red salmon tall can 69c; Baby Ruth candy bars 6 for 25c; orange juice 2-6 oz. cans 25c.

20 Years Ago - Feb. 28, 1963

Sen. Andrew J. Sordoni, 75, dynamic founder of Commonwealth Telephone Company and owner of Sterling Farms died while vacationing at his home in Miami, Florida. Other companies organized by Sordoni were the Hotel Sterling, Harveys Lake Light Companies, and construction company. Sordoni was vice president of Wilkes College Board of Trustees.

Married--Mildred Devens and Harold LaBar.

Anniversaries--Mr. and Mrs. John Anuskiewicz, Shavertown.

Deaths--Arthur Davis, Shaver-

## Library News

### Library adds new magazines

BY NANCY KOZEMCHAK

Back Mountain Memorial Library Association's annual meeting was held on the last Thursday in January in the library annex. Members reelected for another three year term were Dr. Craig Aicher, James Eason, Atty. Merton Jones, and Pauline Kutz. Dr. Lester Jordan has retired from the board of directors after many dedicated years to the library and the annual auction. A new member elected to the board for a three year term is Joanne Runner of Shavertown. Officers for 1983 are President, Ernest Ashbridge; Vice President, Barbara Lemmond; Treasurer, Glenn Eyet; and Secretary, Corrine Pawling.

The library is currently receiving 132 magazines to be added to the collection and they are available for circulation. Some of the newer titles recently added are Americana,

Animals, Astronomy, Atlantic Monthly, Audubon, Bicycling, Changing Times, Creative Computing, Current Health, Flower & Garden, Gentlemen's Quarterly, Gourmet and Mechanix Illustrated. The current issue of magazines does not circulate and others may be borrowed for two weeks.

The Collector's Group will meet in the library annex Wednesday, Feb. 23 at 7:30.

New books at the library: "The Black Tide" by Hammond Innes is an adult adventure racing from the Arabian Sea to the waters of the North Atlantic and finally into the shipping lanes of the English Channel. A mysterious ship carrying a cargo of danger—and death.

"Emerald" by Phyllis Whitney takes the heroine Carol Hamilton to the intriguing, subtly shadowed world of Palm Springs, California.

## Letters to the Editor

The Dallas Post welcomes letters to the editor. We do request, however, that each letter include the writer's signature, address and telephone number for verification purposes. If you do not wish your name published include that request with your letter. Letters should be addressed to 'The Dallas Post', P.O. Box 366, Dallas, PA 18612.

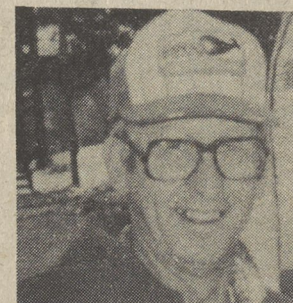
where a secret reaching back into history is about to explode with consequences menacing many lives. Unexpected danger and love.

"Dear Stranger" by Catherine Kidwell is a love story, yes, but it is far more than that. It is the story of three decades of living as a woman in America. It is a message of hope. A story of the domestic tranquility of the 50's which includes a challenge.

How long has it been since you've been to the library? Honestly now, has it been a week, a month, a year, or 10 years or longer? Let's put it another way. How long has it been since you've read a good book—or any kind of book for that matter? Well, what's your excuse? You don't have the time? That's sort of ridiculous, you know. They tell us that in 15 minutes a day you can read up to two books a month, 24 books a year. And, what's 15 minutes out of your life—one coffee break a day, the time you spend staring out of the bus window, the time you're waiting for your wife to get dressed or for your husband to shave? Your library has thousands of books on just about every subject. Your library card costs you nothing, yet it is a free passport to adventure. Use your library often!

## Askin' & Tellin'

With the independent truckers' strike winding down, your neighbors tell what they think the striking truckers gained by the walkout.



**Albert Ashton, RD 5, Shavertown:** "I don't think they gained a thing, except lost wages."



**John Mulhern, Dallas:** "They may realize some gains in the future if they can continue talks with the Congressmen."



**Tim LaBar:** "I don't think they gained anything, but they didn't lose anything either."



**Dave Kitchen, Demunds:** "Nobody gains anything in a strike, and I doubt they can say they did either."

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