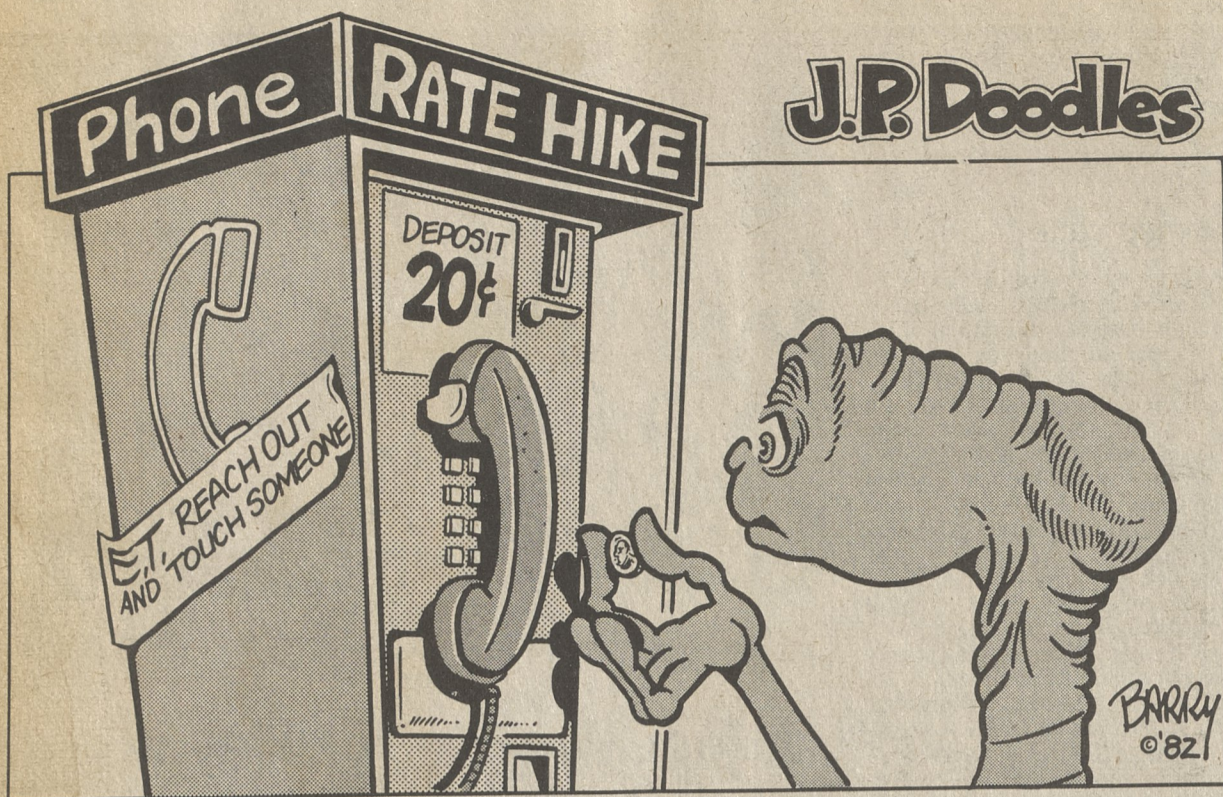


# Perspective



## Phoning home costly

ET seems to be out of luck here as he attempts to make a phone call with a single dime. While Bell of Pennsylvania has announced its pay phone rates will be raised from 10 cents to 25 cents, Commonwealth Telephone Company is not planning rate hikes on its pay phones - at least not in the immediate future.

## Only yesterday

# Taxpayers felt new school too costly for township

50 YEARS AGO - JANUARY 12, 1934

While school directors of Kingston Township proceeded with plans for construction of a new school building, taxpayers of the township took definite steps to block the directors' plans, charging the cost of the proposed building would burden taxpayers unfairly.

Dallas Borough Council conducted its reorganization meeting and installed newly elected councilmen, Peter D. Clark and Wesley Himmler. All borough officers and employees were re-elected.

C.A. Frantz was re-elected president of the First National Bank of Dallas when the institution held its annual meeting of stockholders and directors.

The necessity for prompt reports from parents in whose homes symptoms of any contagious disease were evident was stressed by Elmer Kerr of Harveys Lake, district health officer, as cases of diphtheria, whooping cough and scarlet fever continued to appear throughout the Back Mountain region.

You could get - Fancy selected eggs, 25c doz.; cherries, 19c can; peas, two No. 2 cans, 25c; rice, lb. pkg., 8c; toilet soap, 4 bars, 19c; Angel Food cake, 33c ea.

40 YEARS AGO - JANUARY 14, 1944

In order to meet an increasing burden of debt brought about primarily by the reconstruction of three miles of streets, Dallas Borough adopted a budget that increases the tax millage from 18 to 22 mills - the highest since 1932.

Many taxpayers in the Back Mountain region were unaware of a new penalty of 1/2 to 1 percent per month had been placed on all delinquent school taxes, starting Jan. 1.

A chimney fire which had apparently smoldered for several hours before it was discovered threatened the home of former school director C.J. Brown of Lehman.

Deaths - Mrs. Sarah Jane Shupp, East Dallas; Mrs. Susie Jennings Rogers, Lehman; Mrs. Ida Hawke, Dallas; Mrs. Ella Mae Space, Noxon.

Married - Alice May Kaufman to Petty Officer Third Class F. Sherman Mead, Dallas; Second Lieutenant Arvilla Mae Swan, Shavertown to Lieutenant Warren Dale Blakney, Plainview, Texas.

You could get - Celery, 1g. bunch, 10c; carrots, 2 lg. bunchs, 19c; ready-to-eat hams, 38c lb.; shrimp, 37c lb.; bread, 2 lg. lvs., 17c.

30 YEARS AGO - JANUARY 8, 1954

Lake Township and Lehman Township offices, deciding the time was ripe for action, laid down the law to tavern keepers. Licenses promised to cooperate in maintaining legal closing hours and serving no liquor to minors.

A large crowd gathered to inspect the new Ross

Township Elementary School and to listen to dedication address.

Dallas Borough-Kingston Township Joint Board laid plans for the coming evaluation by the Middle States Association on Secondary schools.

Married - Sally Ann Lasher, Dallas, to Airman 3-C Frank E. Wagner Jr., Dallas; Patricia Ann Nieman, Kansas City, Missouri, to Charles Bigelow, Beaumont; Mary Patricia Wilson, Dallas, to Robert Ralph Harris, Dallas; Bernice Ethel Ramsbottom, Collingswood, N.J., to Robert J. Stephenson, Dallas; Ruth L. MacMillan, Nosen, to George Jurista, Tunkhannock.

Deaths - Herbert R. Williams, Trucksville; Lt. Col. John M. Robinson, Dallas; Frederick C. Crispell, Harveys Lake; James Crispell, Noxon; Charles A. Hilbert, Beaumont; Earl Lamoreux, Idetown; Mrs. Louise Van Norman, Oaklawn.

You could get - Lobster tails, 89c lb.; prune juice, qt., 25c; apple butter, 28 oz. jar, 25c; cherries, 16 oz. can, 25c; apricots, 16 oz. can, 25c.

20 YEARS AGO - JANUARY 16, 1964

Dismantling operations were scheduled to put an end to a rare week in Dallas history, after Treasury agents and State Police raided and impounded a 600-gallon can alcohol distillery in Kunkle.

A near-blizzard immobilized not only the Back Mountain, but the whole Wyoming Valley.

Members of Teamsters Union, Local 401, picketed at the Natona Mills plant, Route 415, Dallas.

Deaths - Harry Ell, Jr., Shavertown.

You could get - Peanut butter, 18 oz. jar, 53c; margarine, 2-1 lb. pkgs., 53c; Colgate dental cream, family size, 69c; orange juice, 3-6 oz. cans, 83c.

10 YEARS AGO - JANUARY 10, 1974

Area police and road supervisors were in agreement that the state road department deserved no congratulations for their maintenance of Back Mountain secondary roads during the winter.

The new board of supervisors of Jackson Township appointed Don Jones the new police chief at a salary of \$211 per month.

Nancy Kingsbury, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Kingsbury, of Dallas, was the first baby born in the new year.

Deaths - Leo Wisnewski, Fernbrook; Morgan Rowlands, Shavertown; Samuel Pritchard, Hunlock Creek; Mary Palchanis, Dallas; Margaret Bigger, Dallas; Alice Crispell, Ruggles; Gertrude Behee, Chase; Anna Grietzer, Shavertown.

Married - Janice Diane Akers, Indiana, to David Joseph Johns, Lehman.

You could get - Ice cream, gal. 58c; king size bread, 3 lvs., 79c; Campbell's soups, 3-10 1/2 oz. cans, 49c; Lipton tea bags, 100, 69c; Close-up toothpaste, 6.4 oz., 64c.

## Buying gasoline means making many decision

In the old days it could be very simple. When you needed gasoline, you pulled into the corner station where the attendant cleaned your windshield, checked under the hood and "filled 'er up" with regular.

Today, there are decisions. Should you buy regular leaded gasoline or regular unleaded? Or maybe premium unleaded? Are you paying with cash or using a credit card? Will you pump the gas yourself or have an attendant do it?

The prices you see in large numbers on service station signs almost always reflect regular, leaded gasoline prices. If your car, like most, uses unleaded, you'll probably find the price is higher. In some cases, the posted price may be a "come-on." Read the signs closely so you won't have any surprises when it comes time to pay.

It's useful to remember that some stations will almost always advertise the lowest price they offer on any product. Leaded gasoline is usually the least expensive type of gasoline sold so that price is posted to encourage customers to use that station. When you pull up to the pump, you'll often find that the unleaded price is generally a few cents higher.

If a gas station has competitively priced leaded gasoline, its price for unleaded may not follow. That leaded gas price may be a "draw."

# OPINION

## Giardiasis!

### We want some answers - now

Looks like giardiasis is the thing to have these days - at least in parts of the Valley other than the Back Mountain. Fortunately, the germ hasn't made it way into local residences, forcing our neighbors to either boil or buy.

Back Mountain people, however, cannot completely avoid the giardiasis craze, as they must travel into the infected areas to go to work, or maybe to a health club, or possibly to a doctor. The problem, though not in our immediate area or in our water faucets for that matter, has affected all of our lives.

Who's to blame? PG&W? DER? Who knows? Neither one of those organizations wanted to blame each other - and they certainly didn't want to blame themselves. So, what did they do? They blamed the poor, defenseless beavers who made their homes near the reservoirs.

It's quite difficult to believe the beavers just moved into the Springbrook Reservoir area and caused this giardiasis problem all of a sudden. That isn't the way it happened, though. The beavers have been there for a long time and nobody ever complained about them until

now. No, it wasn't the beavers. Somebody, somewhere along the line, made a mistake and the poor, innocent beavers had to pay the price - the very heavy price of death.

The latest reports are telling turned-off tap owners the problem is due to human sewage - human sewage that has made its way into the reservoir that carries their drinking water. Can you think of anything more disgusting? That's enough to make anybody boil or buy.

So, here we sit in the Back Mountain - away from the giardiasis and all its complications. Here we sit, free to turn on the tap and grab ourselves a glass of water, or fill our dog's water dish, or brush our teeth.

None of us, however, has been able to steer completely clear of the contaminated water as the whole creepy mess has touched all of our lives in one or another.

Fortunately, there are those who have done everything they can to make life easier for the people living in the affected areas. The Burger King in Shavertown has opened it well to the public while most boroughs are offering spring water

free of charge. Thank God, there are still a few good people left in this world.

The people involved with this problem, however, had better get their act together and get it together soon. Innocent people are suffering and innocent animals have died because of a situation that could have been avoided.

Giardiasis, a household word of late, has turned our lives topsy-turvy and no one is happy about it. We'll wait a certain amount of time for those who are responsible to clear up the problem - or at least give us some idea of how long the problem will last - but we won't wait forever.

We want answers and we want drinking water at the push of a button or the turn of a handle. We want some order restored here.

God forbid should Bill Thopson's (The Times Leader) "Looking into the future" column of Jan. 6 ever become reality. Can you imagine living during an era when you have only fond memories of something as simple as running water in your home? Watch out! Such an era may be right around the corner.

- DOTTY MARTIN

# Orwell's '1984' may not be here, but the computer revolution is

By HOWARD J. GROSSMAN

The long awaited year is here. The George Orwellian Society, portrayed in his famous book may not be upon us, however, a revolution in like kind has spread its wing across the nation. For better or for worse, the computer revolution has struck with a thundering clash and clang as bold as the Industrial Revolution of a century or more ago.

What all of this means to Northeastern Pennsylvania remains to be determined in the next 16 years, when the pages of history turn to the 21st century.

The dawn of a new era always brings with it problems and opportunities. Technology in Northeastern Pennsylvania is undergoing rapid transformation as it is throughout the nation. More and more firms are speeding into the computer age as are non-profit organizations and governments. In Pennsylvania, this is being accelerated through the Ben Franklin Partnership, a state administered program through the Pennsylvania Department of Commerce wherein four technology centers have been established across the state. Lehigh University is the primary technology center servicing the seven counties of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

What this portends for the future of Northeastern Pennsylvania in 1984 and the years beyond is a question being addressed by several organizations, including the Economic Development Council Northeastern Pennsylvania. It is easy to discern that in 1984, the technology changes which started in the years just preceding 1984, will continue throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania. The focus on technology, however, is not the only trend which will mark 1984 in this region.

The economy should improve as far as employment rates and con-

sumer investments are concerned, as has been dramatized by the holiday season retail market.

The basic problem which marks Northeastern Pennsylvania's economy still remains to be resolved. The region's economic posture needs to be stabilized in an upward direction, rather than the stabilization which has taken place in a downward direction. This means that while Northeastern Pennsylvania did not suffer as much as could have been the case during the height of the recession of the early 1980's, it nevertheless found itself with double digit unemployment. Most new jobs came about as a result of expansion of existing businesses and industries rather than new industrial development.

A remarkable number of investments have been made throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania, even during the height of the recession, especially in the Pocono Mountains with resorts expanding, time share units being developed and land transactions occurring at a rapid pace.

Much of this activity revolves around the 1984 controversy as to types of gambling which may or may not be permitted in Northeastern Pennsylvania or, in fact, the entire state. If 1984 proves nothing else in this region, there may be a revolution in how the region views this issue, depending upon what the State legislature and the Administration does in Harrisburg, relative to permissive forms of gambling.

Problem areas which remain to be resolved in 1984 include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Completion of the Railroad Preservation Program to stabilize rail transportation and utilize its potential for economic growth.

2. Selection of one or more sites for disposal of non-hazardous, industrial residual waste in order to protect thousands of jobs which

otherwise might be threatened throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania.

3. Expansion of the major runway at the Wilkes-Barre Scranton International Airport to approximately 7,500 feet. This is a project which has been in the planning stages for many years and may well reach final decision, if not in 1985, then in the years shortly following.

4. Further development of the growth corridor along Interstate 81 between Wilkes-Barre and Scranton. This includes the development of the Montage Project and the potential development of the 1,150 acres recently acquired by a private entrepreneur in an area formerly proposed for a regional correctional facility.

5. The development of attract tourism and vacation expenditure dollars. This is a continuation of trends in the early 80's but on an accelerated basis in light of the expected continuation of the national economic recovery.

6. Expansion of existing businesses and industries throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania as the keystone of economic growth. Various tools are now available to encourage this including Revolving Loan Funds, Small Business Administration corporate structures for fixed asset financing and much more.

While these conditions will affect the overall economic growth of the region, they are by no means the only activities which are forecast for 1984. Each year the Economic Development Council publishes a State of the Region document. The latest edition should be issued sometime before the end of January 1984. That document will provide much more focused information on how and what Northeastern Pennsylvania will be like during the Orwellian era which is now thrust upon us.

## Library news

### Need a book? Try Interlibrary Loan

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK  
Library Correspondent

The Back Mountain Memorial Library is involved in a service to the public called Interlibrary Loan. If one of our patrons needs a certain book that we do not have in our collection, we can request it through the Osterhout Library in Wilkes-Barre and if they don't have it, they will try to find it.

During the past year we have received books for our patrons from Tennessee, Florida, New Jersey and Texas along with many from college libraries out of the district. A new service is the fiction round, locating fiction in local areas before sending out of town. The Osterhout van delivers and picks up from Back Mountain on Monday, Wednesday and Friday each week. One of our

special trademarks - if you need a particular book and we don't have it here, we will try to get it for you from another library. If you need something special, try Interlibrary loan.

Your library tells you how! Whatever your interest, you can find a book that shows you how to accomplish a task, how to travel to a foreign country, how to repair a leaky faucet, how to play bridge. In fact...hundreds of books in the library's card catalog begin with the phrase "How to..." Use your library and find out, 'how to'!

New books at the library: "Winds of Blame" by Jane Gilmore Rushing is a novel that recreates a time and place as a setting for a family whose members have reached the end of endurance and take the ultimate, awesome step beyond it. They encounter the community's

vengeance and their neighbors' well-intentioned falsehood. A tale of murder and tragedy!

"Berlin Game" by Len Deighton is a new Book Club purchase and is a superb, strong and compelling thriller. It has unflinching excitement in its creation of atmosphere and character. 'Brahms Four Wants out' is the alarming signal - which means one of Britain's reliable and valuable agents behind the Iron Curtain needs safe passage to the West.

"Shame" by Salman Rushdie is a novel which takes us back to the world of the East, giving us a colorful, complex fantasy at once comic and serious - a mixture of history, myth, art, language, politics, religion, but all at a slight angle to reality! It is a saga of rivalry, passion, brotherhood, betrayal, sexual obsession, violence and revenge.

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