

After 40 years of service

Junior Women's Club votes to disband

BY JOAN KINGSBURY

The Dallas Junior Women's Club voted to disband its organization at last Tuesday's meeting due to declining membership and failure to obtain a president for the organization.

Scheduled to officially disband on April 1 of this year, the Junior Women's Club will close the door on an era that spanned 40 years of service to the Back Mountain

community.

Another reason cited for the disbanding vote was the fact that several projects, such as the Easter Egg Hunt and Christmas Shopping Store, previously conducted solely by the club have been taken over by local school and civic groups.

Any funds in the club's treasury at the time of the disbanding will be dispersed to various organiza-

tions throughout the community.

The Dallas Junior Women's Club is affiliated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the largest international women's organization. Its current officers are Kathy Oravitz, president; Carol Kristen, first vice president; Pat Pieffer, second vice-president; Elaine Hudak, treasurer; Valerie Gianella, corresponding secretary; and

Mary Ann Storz, recording secretary.

In the past, the Dallas Junior Women's Club has sponsored a candy booth at the annual Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction and has presented an annual scholarship to a deserving Dallas High School senior. The club was instrumental in establishing the Meaks on Wheels program in the Back Mountain-at

one time coordinating the program and most recently serving as drivers.

Additional service projects of the club included raising money for a Back Mountain girl needing a kidney operation and helping with financing for a dialysis machine at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Social events sponsored by the club included speakers "Chef Tell" and Dr. Linden Smith, "Up

With People" concerts and presentation of the play, "Annie Oakley and Buffalo Bill."

The 40th anniversary cookbook comprised by the Dallas Junior Women's Club, which may become a collector's item, will still be available through the month of March from any club members and at the Back Mountain Memorial Library after the club disbands.

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Jill Solinski and Ray Iwanowski, athletes from Lake-Lehman High School, are shown here as they raise an Olympic flag at the Shavertown McDonald's. The flag

will fly at the local McDonald's until the conclusion of the summer Olympics. The flag was raised on the same day the Olympic Flame was lit in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia.

signifying the opening of the Winter Games. Owners of the Shavertown McDonald's are Albert and Carol Mueller. Manager is Rosemarie Midgett. (Photo by Glenn S. Bodish)

Charney speaks of his harrowing experience

BY JANE C. BOLGER

A week in an American hospital has done wonders for Jack Charney of Dallas who was injured last month when sideswiped by an Egyptian Army truck and then subjected to various Islamic forms of primitive medicine. Jack's normal enthusiasm has returned - he is writing poetry, hobbling around on crutches and planning his next trip which he laughingly admits "might include travelers insurance."

From the moment Jack was knocked down by the military vehicle while standing in front of a train station purchasing a return ticket to Cairo, it was "a horrendous experience." "I was lying there covered with dung," he said, "while all this press of people kept moving in on me pointing and screaming."

"The whole crowd came right into the hospital...into the filthy operating room with me," he said relating how "the doctor was smoking" while he treated him and "a little girl was sitting on the table playing with the surgical instruments." After his initial treatment, Jack was placed in a room with 10 other patients.

Transferred to another hospital which Jack says, "was billed as an International Hospital" he fared little better "under the care of Islamic nurses for whom it is taboo to see a naked body." There was also a language barrier whereby Jack said if he asked for water he would get a bedpan and vice versa.

As infection set in and his fever rose to 104 degrees, Jack consumed 12 to 15 pitchers of water daily which was usually provided by Irish, Swiss or Filipino nurses who also serviced a section of the hospital. Jack's first inclination that his condition was worsening came when he turned over during the night and accidentally broke open "the gruesome, rough stitches" in his groin area.

The Egyptian doctors, however, refused to treat the wound and simply resealed it with what Jack described as "a ball of plastic



Jack Charney is shown here relaxing in his private room at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. After being injured in Egypt, Charney was transferred to the local hospital for additional

medical treatment. In the foreground on the hospital tray are a bowl and a mug which Jack made himself as well as chopped beets and a bouquet of fresh parsley. (Photo by Bill Savage)

bandages." On the advice of Dallas naturopath, Gerry Reisinger who was reached by phone, Jack removed the bandages with the help of a visitor, who was also a nurse and "pressed, yellow, green pus out all day."

"I bit into my pillow, tears streaming down my face," Jack said "I worked on it all day...I became frightened of gangrene...so much came out...then the fever started going down." Through all this time Jack was not given antibiotics, but rather morphine.

When his father, John Charney Sr. arrived in Egypt, the doctors reluctantly gave Jack permission to be transferred back to the U.S.A. even though they still preferred their original plan that an Egyptian doctor accompany him. The doctor's round trip flight

would have been at Jack's expense along with the amazingly expensive hospital bills that had to be paid before Jack was allowed to return to America.

Both Jack and his father have taken out loans to cover all his medical expenses as well as their airplane flights. Jack was charged "the price of five First Class seats - \$5,000 by T.W.A. for the space the stretcher took up in the plane" despite the fact that "there were lots of extra seats."

Jack is tremendously grateful for all the financial support both from individual local people and the various fund raising projects presently underway.

"I want to thank all the people from the valley," Jack said, "They've been incredibly kind...it's great to be loved...amazing...people are there when you need them."

Area's elderly residents not offended by TV commercial

BY WALLY KOCHER

A television commercial for Wendy's Restaurant, depicting three elderly women analyzing a fast food hamburger, has recently come under some controversy.

The commercial, which shows

two elderly women commenting on how big the bun is while the third asks repeatedly, "Where's the beef?" has evidently offended the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging. A commission from that office voted unanimously on Jan.

20 to ask Wendy's International, Inc. to remove the commercial, claiming it feels the advertisement is "demeaning to senior citizens."

Few people from the Back Mountain area support the view of the Michigan agency as Tom Sweeney, administrator of the Meadows Nursing Home, Dallas, feels the commercial is done in good taste.

"I guess television, in general, tends to stereotype the elderly, but as of yet, I haven't heard anyone say they resent this particular commercial," Sweeney said.

Marian Slutzker, public relations director for the Dallas nursing home, took an unscientific survey at the home with approximately 30 people, including staff, family members and volunteers, responding. No one thought the commercial is demeaning in any way.

Frank Collier, press secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of the Aging, agrees with the Back Mountain consensus. Collier said, in a telephone interview, he feels there is nothing inappropriate with the commercial.

'Where's the beef?'

Only once in a great while does a television commercial gain as much popularity as the Wendy's ad which asks, "Where's the beef?" People from all walks of life and all ages have committed the now famous quote to memory. Leicha Cilvik of Harveys Lake classifies the commercial as one of her favorites. "I love it," she said. "My seven month old son even seems to brighten up when he sees it."

Debbie Kocher of Dallas claims one of the children in her kindergarten Sunday School class repeats the saying over and over. "If he asks someone, 'Where's the beef?' and no one answers him, he yells, 'I don't think anybody's back there!'", she said.

The commercial doesn't only appeal to younger children, but to teens and adults alike.

The entire Billy Giberson family of Edwardsville admits to being fans of the commercial. Nancy, a younger daughter, says she especially likes it when the woman on the ad gives up and assumes that no one's back there. Both Mr. and Mrs. Giberson agree with their children's delight over the commercial.

It's quite obvious from the public's opinion, that if there was such a thing as a Commercial Hall of Fame, "Where's the beef?" would echo through its halls for sure.

-WALLY KOCHER



Shown here is a display done by Cub Scout Pack 281 of the Dallas United Methodist Church. The

display, which appeared in the window of Besecker Real Estate, Main Street, Dallas, was done in

observance of Boy Scout Week. (Photo by Ed Campbell)



The Mercy Medical Offices, located at Lake Street, Dallas, adjacent to the College Misericordia campus, officially opened on Monday. The new building will house the offices of three local physicians and will

offer the following ancillary services to citizens and physicians of the Back Mountain Area: Radiological procedures, laboratory studies and physical therapy treatments. The physicians relocating their private

practices to the new facilities include Clinton J. Lehman, M.D., Internal Medicine; Harry G. Gallagher, M.D., General Practice; and Vincent A. Carbone, M.D., Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine-Adult and Pediatric Allergy.