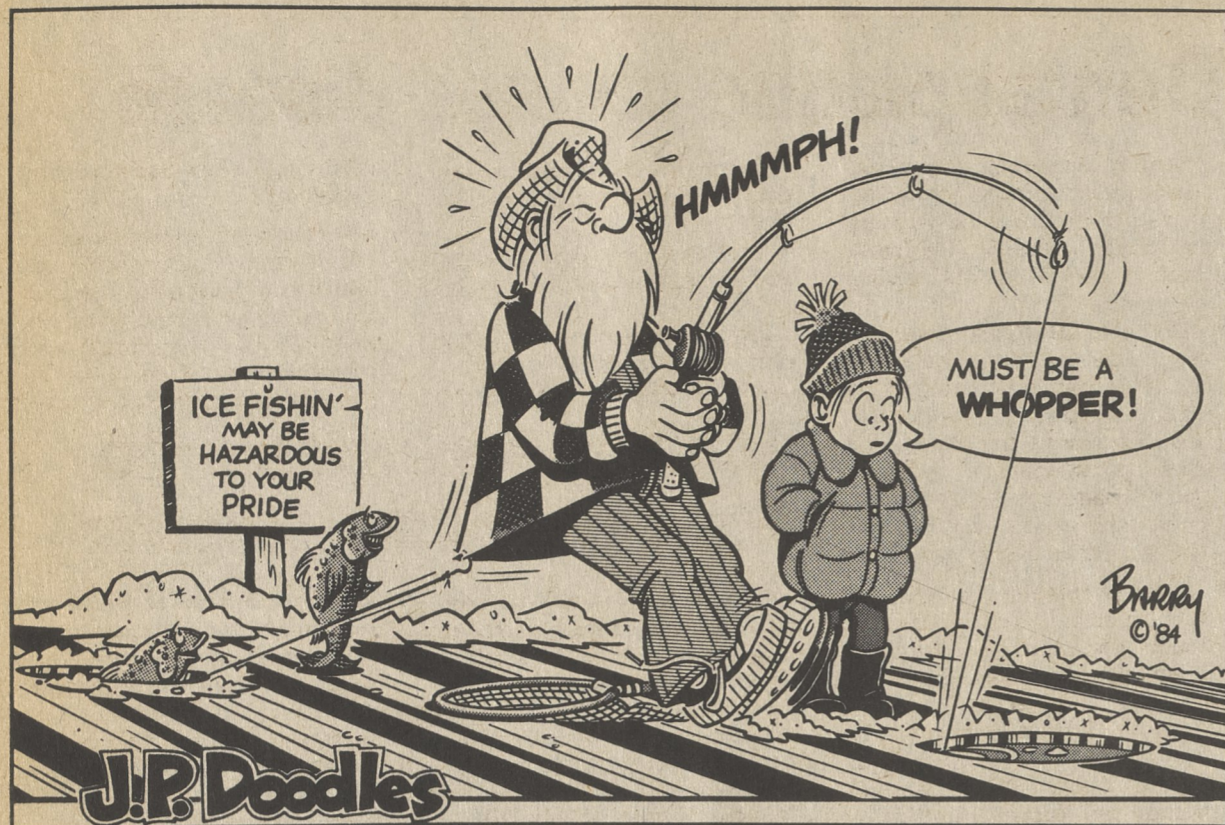


Perspective



Ice fishing can be a lot of fun - just make sure the fish aren't

making the sport difficult for you to enjoy. It's too cold out there to

play games.

Only yesterday

Acquitted of manslaughter

50 Years Ago - February 16, 1934

Clare Winters, former Dallas Township constable, was acquitted on a charge of manslaughter by a verdict returned by the jury. Winters had been charged with fatally assaulting Steve Slick as the climax of a quarrel at Michael Hazdinski's at Fernbrook. Slick died in Nesbitt Memorial Hospital four days after the quarrel.

Dallas Borough Council turned down the proposal of L.A. McHenry to give the borough an athletic field if local authorities would have it graded and purchase \$1,400 worth of nearby lots on the Goss Manor plot.

Faced with the problem of reducing costs to a point where they would come nearer to available finances, the committee that was working to secure the proposed Luzerne by-pass as a link between Kingston and the road to Dallas from Luzerne moved toward securing definite costs and was considering several alternate plans.

Deaths--Chester Gates, Dallas; John R. DeWitt, Shavertown.

You could get--Sardines, 2 cans, 15c; pink salmon, 2 cans, 23c; flour, 12 lb. bag, 55c; oranges, 8 lb. bag, 35c; cabbage, 2 lbs. 9c; carrots, 5c bunch; apples, 3 lbs. 17c; grapefruit, 3 lbs. 14c.

40 Years Ago - February 18, 1944

Lieutenant Evan J. Brace, pilot of a P-47 Thunderbolt Fighter, was reported missing during a local combat training flight at Dale Marby Field, Florida.

Nine tons of feed and 1600 six-week-old chickens were lost when fire destroyed the barn owned by William E. Pulsifer, on the former Charles Johnson Farm between Alderson and Beaumont.

Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire Co., Community Band and Orchestra held its first rehearsal with 15 members present at Dr. F. Budd Schooley's laboratory on Lake St.

Deaths--Loell Stross, Carverton; George W. Jones, Idetown; George Gosart, Trucksville.

Married--Jule Hardisky of Lehman to Cpl. Frank Pizar, Forty Fort.

You could get--Potatoes, 15 lb. bag, 49c; grapefruit, 4 for 23c; pork loin, 25c lb.; hams, 33c lb.; flour, 25 lb. bag, \$1.29; evaporated

milk, 3 cans, 28c; Octagon laundry soap, 3 bars, 14c.

30 Years Ago - February 19, 1954

Ted Poad was appointed by Martin Porter, president, to head the first annual fund drive of Kingston Township Ambulance Association.

R.E. Neal, chairman of the Finance Drive for 1954 of Back Mountain Town and Country YMCA announced a date for a kickoff meeting.

The coin slots in the Heart Fund plastic hearts that appeared on counters in Back Mountain stores wouldn't accommodate a silver dollar but the heart on the show case just inside the door of Dallas Branch of Miners National Bank did when Mrs. Sherman Schooley of Dallas donated a 1921 silver dollar.

Deaths--Mrs. Clifford Fink, Shavertown; Oliver Edmund Burke, Harveys Lake.

You could get--Chuck roast, 35c lb.; pascal celery, 2 bunches, 29c; temple oranges, 49c doz.; tomato soup, 3 cans, 29c; pineapple can, 27c; kidney beans, 2 cans, 23c; dog food, 3 cans, 29c.

20 Years Ago - February 20, 1964

Supervisors of Kingston Township and spectators were equally astounded when Tax Collector Vern Pritchard disclosed an acre of ground belonging to Clint Johnson, Trucksville, lay in the center of the new township building site.

Luzerne County Planning Commission planned to put its countywide zoning ordinance into effect sometime during the year, possibly affecting Back Mountain communities, Dallas, Jackson, Ross and Lake Township.

Thomas Pierce, a senior at Dallas High School, received word that he had been appointed to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and Lee Philo and Carl Kaschenbach, also seniors at Dallas, have been chosen as alternates.

Deaths--Allan Johnson, Shavertown; Mrs. Eliza Fielding, Huntsville; William Engelman, Noxen; Mrs. Ethel Crosby, Carverton Heights.

You could get--Shrimp, 75c lb.; oranges, 4 lb. bag, 59c; white grapefruit, 53c; apples, 2 lbs. 29c;

carrots, 2 one-lb. pkgs. 19c; cream style corn, 8-oz. can, 5c; peaches, 2 29-oz. cans, 49c.

10 Years Ago - February 14, 1974

Robert MacGregory, director of the Health and Hospital Planning Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania told officers and board members of the Dallas Fall Fair that a hospital was not needed in the Dallas area. Members of the Fair Committee and other Back Mountain service organizations gathered to hear what could be done to further plans to construct an emergency facility on property donated by Joe Parks, of Lehman.

Deaths--Edna Dymond, Noxen; Edward Pazik, Shavertown; John Edward Beagle, Dallas; Rose Kozemchak, Dallas.

Married--Paula Blizzard, Noxen to Mark Jurista, Tunkhannock.

You could get--Eggs, 69c doz.; orange juice 1/2 gal., 59c; Grade A turkeys, 59c lb.; bananas, 11c lb.; Oreo cookies, 2 1-lb. pkgs. 89c.

Library update

BY NANCY KOZEMCHAK

"One of our own!" That's what we will be showing in our display case for the next four weeks. Charlotte Oley, our No. 1 circulation desk attendant, is sharing her collection of bookmarks with us. Charlotte has been collecting bookmarks for two years and has at least 200 in her collection. She likes books and bookmarks and a friend gave her one from Inveraray Castle in Scotland, made of leather, and thus began her hobby. There is a very pretty needlepoint one made for her by a friend, a dried flower one from Canada, one from the water tower of Chicago, a very old silk one printed with the Star Spangled Banner, a hand made one from Japan, one from a dear friend, C.D. Phillips, brought from Italy, and a red and white needlepoint cross. There is also a crocheted book worm made by the Senior Citizens of Dallas and two from the Metropolitan Museum of Art purchased during the Vatican Collection. There are a few of the metal clip ones and one of the miniature gloves. There are many others from Israel, Hawaii, New Mexico, Alaska, Florida, Georgia and Arizona. Charlotte does not buy any of her bookmarks. They are given to her by friends and she has received many from libraries across the country. She lives in Trucksville and has been a member of the library staff for six years. The display will be at the library until March 7.

Winter can be the most fun-filled season of the year. Skating, skiing, ice fishing, sledding...they are all exciting and joyful activities. Part of winter fun, too, is curling up in an easy chair with a hot drink and a good book. You'll find the best in winter reading at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. Increase your winter fun. READ!

New books at the library: "American History-American Television" edited by John E. O'Connor is a book in which fourteen historians apply their skills of research and analysis to the critical study of the medium.

"Rainsong" by Phyllis Whitney begins by saying, the long corridors of Windtop echoed with emptiness. No one else was supposed to be out there in the dark.

OPINION

'The Sound of Music'

Music Box outdoes itself

If you haven't yet seen "The Sound of Music" at the Music Box Dinner Playhouse or aren't planning to see it, shame on you. Shame on you — because the Music Box Players have put together one of the most delightful, most entertaining events this Valley has seen in a long time.

Sitting in the Music Box Playhouse, which is housed in the old Roosevelt Theater on Hughes Street in Swoyersville, you tend to forget yourself. You become lost in the magic and enchantment of the scenery itself, not to mention the true-to-life charm of the characters on stage.

Except for the color of her hair, an occasional theatergoer might possibly mistake Sally Williams for the infamous Julie Andrews herself in the lead role of Maria Rainer. Ms. Williams' voice, as well as her "way" with the Von Trapp children, hypnotizes the audience from beginning to end.

And T. Doyle Leverett, playing opposite Ms. Williams, is, without a doubt, the best possible choice for the role of Captain Georg Von Trapp. Take his capturing baritone voice, add to it his role as director of this show and your respect for the man grows with every moment of his flawless performance.

Kelly Bishop, seen this time as the Mother Abbess, thrills the audience with her rendition of the well-known "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," while adding yet another superb performance to her ever-growing list of appearances at the Music Box. Doubling also as Musical Director, Bishop's talents seem endless.

The children, all seven of them, are fascinating. Nancy Krakosky takes charge as Liesl, the eldest, and plays the role with both innocence and maturity. Turning in cute and astonishing believable performances are Albert Sweitzer and Friedrich, Karen Hoffman as Louise, Timony Webb as Kurt, Tahnee Hobbs as Martha, and Courtney Hobbs as Gretl while Jennifer Gallagher, in her very first stage appearance, is outstanding as the quick and witty Brigitta.

At the risk of offending the beautiful Dawn Roberts, we notice she is perfect as the snub-nosed Elsa Schrader while Frank Marino is the kind of guy we love to hate as Max Detweiler. Marino, who also serves as an assistant to the director, portrays Detweiler as a nutty, lovable guy and greatly enhances the home life of the Von Trapp family.

Rounding out the cast for this unforgettable performance are Mary Dower as Sister Berthe, Pat Landry as

Sister Margaretta, Ann Balavage, Deb Caccese, Beverly Brennan, Evelyn Tomasovic, Susan Drake as the Sisters, Mary Radzowski as Sister Sophie, Bill Williams as Franz, Beverly Brennan as Frau Schmidt, Richard Lloyd as Rolf Gruber, Kevin D. Costley as Herr Zeller, Deb Caccese as Frau Zeller, Joseph Tomasovic as Baron Elberfeld, Ann Balavage as Baroness Elberfeld, Bonnie Biros as a Postulant, Lorraine Araya as Frau Schweiger and Thomas Dilione and James Parks as the Nazis.

Capably assisting the voices of the cast members is the orchestra in conductor Richard Dower, Jonathan Pineno and William Lehmkuhl.

"The Sound of Music" continues at the Music Box Playhouse through March 4 and, at \$18.50 per ticket, is worth every penny. A buffet smorgasbord, by Regency Catering, is a scrumptious way to start the evening. The atmosphere is very relaxing, the acting is great, the singing is superb. All in all, it's a great night out.

Call the Music Box Dinner Playhouse at 283-2195 or stop by the box office at 196 Hughes St., Swoyersville, for your tickets. But, don't miss this one! The Music Box Players have certainly outdone themselves this time.

— DOTTY MARTIN

We'll surely miss Junior Women

It's too bad the Dallas Junior Women's Club was unable to come to a decision other than disbanding. The club, after serving the Back Mountain community

for over 40 years, will dissolve itself in April of this year. The reason - declining membership and lack of a president.

The club has been an institution in our neighborhood as long as most of us can remember and those of us who frequent the annual

Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction will miss that homemade fudge club members sold every year.

It seems we all have a tendency to become so wrapped up in ourselves and the things that are going on in our own lives that we don't make time to devote to service organizations such as the Junior Women's Club. In that case, it's no wonder the service organizations are dissolving because of membership losses.

It would have been nice if

someone could have devised a sure cure so that the Junior Women could stay around for another 40 years, however, right now that doesn't seem likely.

Before the Junior Women disappear, though, we'd like to extend a huge round of applause and a great big thank you to them for all they've done in the last 40 years. The Back Mountain community is sure going to miss them.

— DOTTY MARTIN

It's tax time!

Married couples find added bliss

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Between now and April 15, income tax is first and foremost in most of our minds. In an effort to make filing income tax forms a little easier for our readers, The Dallas Post is publishing tax tips each week for five weeks. This week, the fourth of the series, the tips are entitled, "Married couples may find added bliss in tax breaks." The tips are furnished by the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Philadelphia.)

Many married couples nowadays have a hard time making ends meet. And, with tax filing season upon us, they need to get the best deal they can from the IRS. When it comes to taxes, that means taking advantage of what the law allows, says William L. Smith, Jr., CPA, President, Northeastern Chapter, Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

The most significant tax break this year is the deduction for married working couples. It has doubled since last year. If you and your spouse worked and file a joint return, you can deduct up to 10 percent from the salary of the lower-paid spouse. The maximum deduction is \$3,000.

Last year, when married working couples could have received as much as \$1,500 from the marital deduction, two million couples failed to claim it. If you are among them, file an amended return to get your deduction-plus interest. The IRS is paying 11 percent interest (compounded daily) for the overlooked deductions, and the interest paid is computed from your filing deadline of last year.

Here's how the marital deduction works. If Bob earned \$20,000 in 1983 and Linda's salary was \$15,000, they can deduct \$1,500 (10 percent) from Linda's salary if they file jointly. Keep in mind, however, that contributions to Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) and Keoghs, as well as business expenses, must be subtracted from your gross income before making the 10 percent deduction.

Though the marital deduction provides an easy-to-get tax break, some couples may get even bigger breaks if they file separate returns and take advantage of other tax laws. Just a few minutes of simple computations can help you see which option is best, CPAs say.

To illustrate, take a closer look at this year's tougher medical deduction formula.

Now, you may deduct only unreimbursed medical expenses that exceed five percent of your income (it used to be three percent). Furthermore, you may no longer deduct \$150 separately for medical insurance premiums you paid; they're to be included with your overall medical expenses.

In Bob and Linda's case, with their combined income of \$35,000, they can deduct any medical expenses above \$1,750 (five percent) if they file jointly. Because Linda incurred \$3,000 in medical expenses, they are entitled to a \$1,250 deduction if they file jointly. If they file separately, however, Linda is entitled to a \$2,250 deduction (\$3,000 minus five percent of her income). Since the \$2,250 deduction is greater than the \$1,500 marital deduction, it may

pay for Bob and Linda to file separate returns. Always figure it out both ways, CPAs say, because there are many factors involved, including a higher tax rate for separate returns.

One of the best ways for a married couple to cut taxes is to open two IRAs. Two wage earners can stash away up to \$4,000 a year in their IRAs and avoid paying taxes on that amount until the money is withdrawn. The principal is tax-deductible and the interest it earns is tax-deferred. Married couples with children may be eligible for the child and dependent care tax credit if they paid someone to watch their children while they were at work or attending school full-time. If your child is under 15, or if you have another dependent who cannot care for him or herself, you may qualify for the credit.

The credit is allotted on a sliding scale. For families with an income of \$10,000 or less, a 30 percent credit may be claimed on child or dependent care expenses of up to \$2,400 for one child and up to \$4,800 for two or more children. So, a couple with an income of \$10,000 or less who paid \$2,400 to care for their child can subtract \$750 from their tax bill. The maximum credit for two or more children would be \$1,440.

As income increases to \$28,000 and more, the credit decreases to 20 percent of expenses. The maximum tax credit for one child at that level is \$480 and \$960 for two or more children.

Keep in mind, a tax credit is subtracted directly from your tax bill, not from your income. Dollar for dollar, it's a bigger tax break.

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