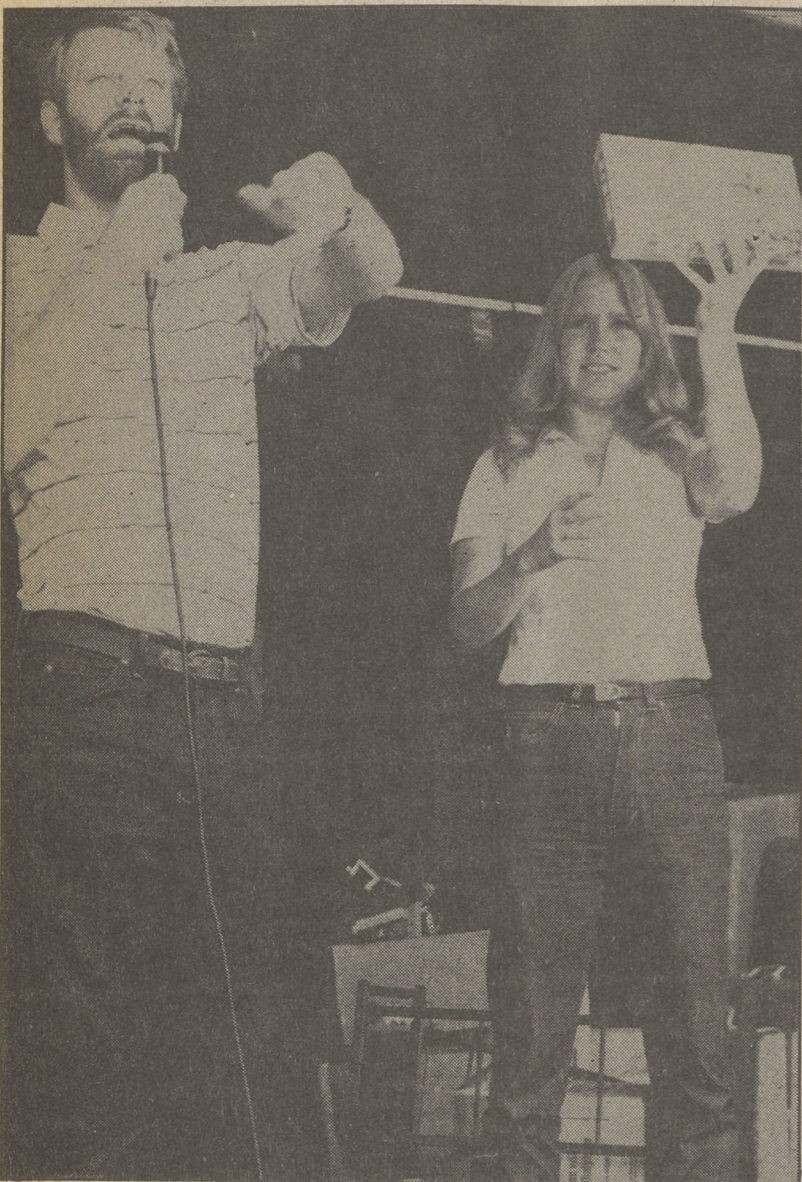


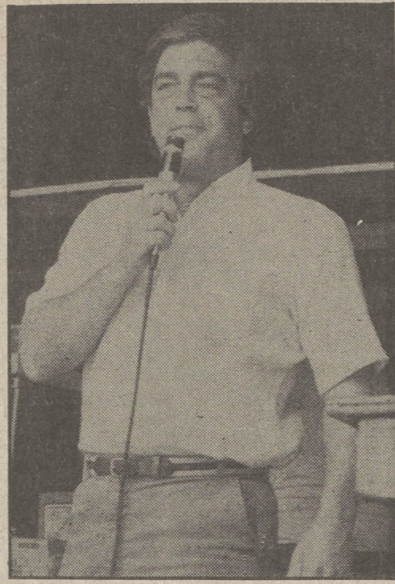
Despite weather, Library Auction was successful



Dallas Post/Charlot M. Denmon

First lady

Nancy Fremstad works the auction block as a spotter for auctioneer Jerry Fritzges. Later, Nancy became the first female auctioneer to work the block in the 38-year history of the Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction.



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Chairman

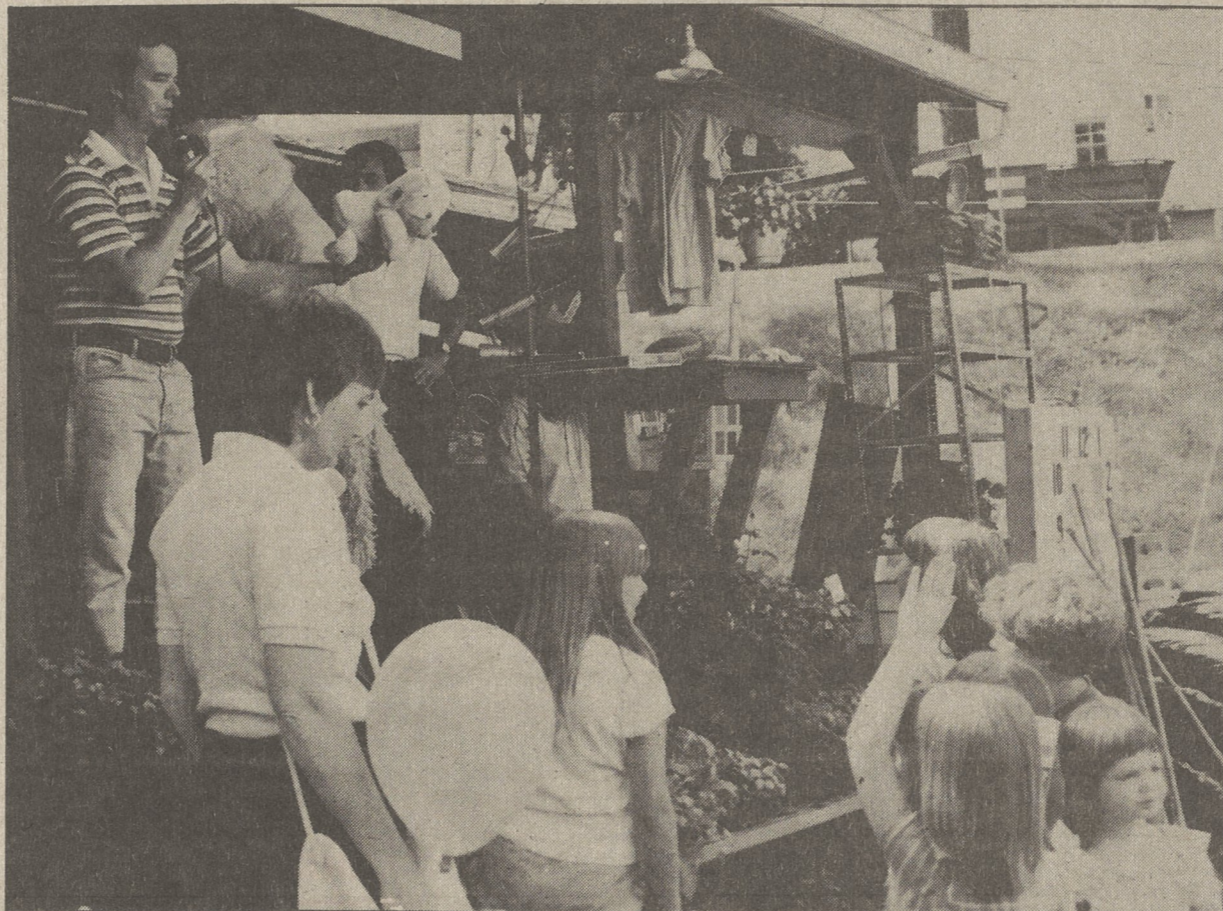
Attorney James Anzalone, chairman of this year's Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction, addresses the crowd. Anzalone said he was very pleased with the overall success of the 38th annual event.



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Making faces

Kendra Wilson takes on a new look as Kim Ertyley paints her face for her at the face-painting booth of the Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction. Face painting has become a tradition for children at the annual library auction.



Dallas Post/Charlot M. Denmon

Children's Auction

The Children's Auction, held Saturday morning, has become more popular every year. Here, an unidentified child puts in her bid for a stuffed animal.

Female

(Continued from page 1)

"The first five or 10 minutes I was extremely nervous, but Jerry was very helpful and I settled down. After that, it was fun."

When Fritzges and other volunteers kept asking her to work on the block, Nancy finally agreed. A female auctioneer is a first in the history of the Back Mountain Library Auction in its 38th year this year.

An insurance agent with the Castellino Agency, Fremstad is accustomed to being among people. The storm passed over and people began coming to the auction grounds, carrying their chairs and, after some final consultation with its workers, Anzalone announced the auction would open at 7:30 p.m.

Soon after that, Nancy went up on the block, spending the first 30 minutes as a spotter. Then, she took over as auctioneer.

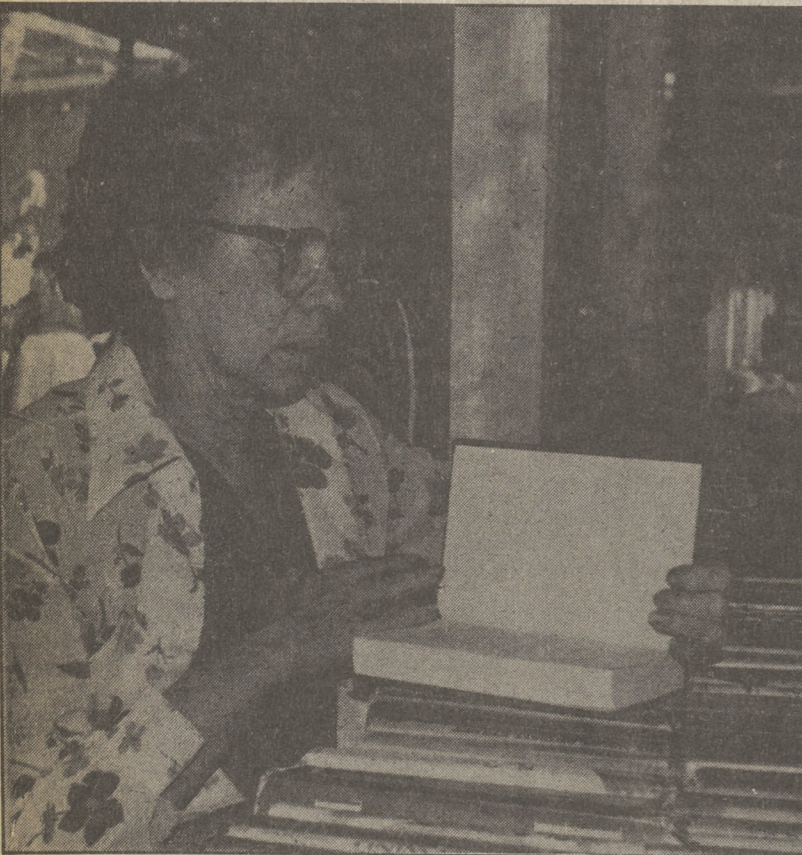
"It was fun, but I was more nervous than I expected," she said. "It gives you an odd feeling standing up there, looking out at all those people," she said.

About 9 p.m., the rain came again and, after a while, auction volunteers called it a night. It didn't discourage Nancy because Saturday morning she was back and worked during part of the children's auction.

It appears that Jerry Fritzges' idea to convince Nancy to work on the block was a success and a custom that should be continued.

If Nancy's work keeps her in this area she can be counted on for another year because she had a lot of fun.

"The other auctioneers are a big help and they make the work fun," Nancy said.



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Looking them over

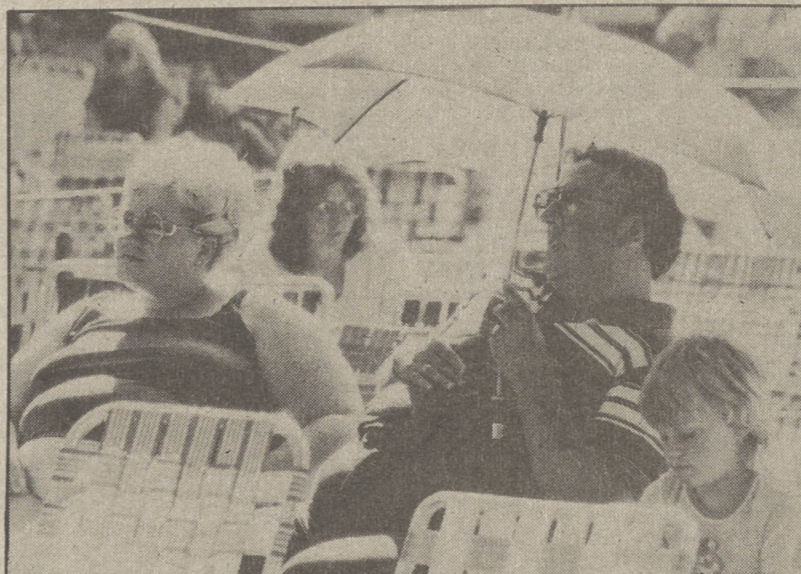
Lillian Soveroski, Trucksville, examines one of the books featured in the book booth. The book booth is an annual item at the library auction and is manned by Florence Crump, honorary chairwoman.



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Experienced

Kerry Freeman, a seasoned auctioneer, works the block during this year's event.



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Enjoying the auction

Members of the Reed family of Harveys Lake were among the auction-goers this year. From left, Mrs. Carolyn Reed, Rev. L.R. Reed and Joy Reed.



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

Making fries

Paul Nicholson, a volunteer worker at the Library Auction, was kept busy in the food stand.



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Children

(Continued from page 1)

Jennifer was reluctant to say what she wanted to buy. She did seem to like the balloon her mother bought her, though.

One girl who seemed to have been saving her money for this day was Reagan Bombick, 9, of Hoover Road, Dallas.

"I don't care what I get," she said. "I just want to buy something! I baby sat and helped my grandma dust the living room and clean the kitchen, and I saved my money from that so I could buy something here."

According to Reagan's grandmother, Mrs. Lizzie Milbrodt, she also got a special bonus for bringing home a good report card.

Mark Lamoreaux, 10, was doing some heavy bidding along with his six year old brother, Chris. It paid off, though, and Mark was able to purchase some miniature golf passes.

"I think the auction is a good idea," said Mark. "I like to golf, and now I can with these passes."

Of course he'll share them with his brother, though.

One family that came away with quite a lot of items was the Schoenig family, of Trucksville. Gregory Schoenig, 6½, and his younger brother, Jack, 5, were seen leaving the auction grounds with some exciting looking toys.

"I got some match box cars," said Gregory. "I thought the auction was very, very nice."

Jack agreed as he smiled and proudly showed off his new Sesame Street toy.

The Schoenig brothers didn't use their own money for the auction, but Gregory had a good reason for that. You see, believe it or not, he's saving it for college!

"I've told him that he has to save up at least \$40,000 if he wants to go to an Ivy League school," joked Barbara Schoenig, the boys' mother. "Seriously though, the boys come to the library throughout the year, and this is a good cause. We'll definitely be back!"

While speaking with the children, I spotted something in the corner of my eye. It was large, yellow and orange, feathery and had a beak. To my surprise, a large chicken was coming toward me. To say I was shocked when he, she, it gave me a bear hug, is an understatement!

I thought, "why not?" It's not every day a reporter gets to interview a chicken.

I learned the chicken's name was Wilbar. Actually, Wilbar's real name was Mark Conn, and he's from the Wilkes-Barre Recreation Board.

"I've been Wilbar the Chicken for the past three years," said Conn, 30. "I've been at the children's auction for the past two years."

"I really enjoy helping the kids out," he continued. "My main job is to hug the kids and play with them. You know, like the Phillie Phanatic."

"Wilbar" admitted he was enjoying the auction, except for the weather.

"Us chickens don't like rain," he exclaimed.

Among the auctioneers for the children's event were, Dave Tamburro, Paul Catrambone, Nancy Fremstad, and none other than Manny Gordon.

During an interview, Manny explained why he agreed to be an auctioneer.

"I think this is great, and it's for such a good cause. You know, there's nothing more important than a good library in a community."

When asked about his success as an auctioneer, he said, "Well I don't know for sure, but to tell you the truth, I think we did pretty well."

Attorney James Anzalone, General Chairman for the 1984 auction, was on hand to see the children's auction in progress.

"I am so pleased with just about everything," he said. "The quality of goods, cooperation from the people and turnout of the crowd have been just wonderful. Now, if only we could get the weather to cooperate! I am pretty confident that we'll reach our goal, however."