

Commentary

Editor's notes

A little of this...
...a little of that

I ATTENDED A SEMINAR for editors of weekly newspapers in Lionville, Pa. last Friday and, in addition to learning an awful lot about the newspaper business, I also learned a lot about life itself.

With the topic of the seminar being, "Dealing with the Police and Courts," a police chief by the name of Earl Hopkins was one of the members of the panel. Chief Hopkins was talking about a time when he worked in the Philadelphia Police Department under then-police commissioner Frank Rizzo.



DOTTY MARTIN

It seems the Philadelphia police chiefs and Mr. Rizzo were at a conference at a Philadelphia restaurant one day and decided to break for lunch. As the 12 men entered the dining area, Rizzo commented on how good the pot roast was at this particular restaurant and that everyone should try the pot roast.

So, when the waitress came to take their orders, Rizzo started by ordering the pot roast. And, as the waitress went around the table, every one of the police chiefs ordered the pot roast - except Hopkins, who said, "I'll have the ham on rye."

Rizzo piped up and said, "You'll have what?" and Hopkins immediately changed his order to the pot roast. Hopkins then explained to the editors at Friday's seminar that Rizzo was just that kind of person - when you worked for him, you did everything he told you to do.

The funny part about that police conference, however, was that a reporter from one of the Philadelphia newspapers was covering it - and his story in the next day's paper was not about the issues covered at the conference, but about how every one of the police chiefs felt compelled to order the pot roast when Rizzo told them to do so.

HOPKINS, who was relating to us his feeling about working with the press, told of a time he went on vacation with his family and received a phone call from his captain. The captain proceeded to lay Hopkins out in lavender for a story that appeared in that day's newspaper, quoting Hopkins on a whole bunch of different issues.

Hopkins knew he had not said half the things the police captain was convicting him of, however, the captain was so hot under the collar, Hopkins felt it wiser to wait until he returned to work the following week to get to the bottom of the situation.

When Hopkins returned to his precinct the following week, he read the story to which the chief was referring and couldn't believe the things he read about himself.

Getting a little hot under the collar himself, he called the newspaper and spoke to the reporter who had written the story, trying to find out how the reporter could possibly have quoted him the way he had when Hopkins was not even in town when the story in question occurred.

The reporter, who had obviously interviewed and quoted a Philadelphia police chief, admitted he could

not remember who it was he had spoken to concerning the story. So, after he conducted the interview, he went to the schedule board in the police station and saw Hopkins' name (which was obviously a mistake because he was on vacation) on the duty board for that night. The reporter, therefore assumed Hopkins was the chief to whom he had spoken and quoted him throughout the story.

Although Hopkins did not tell those of us at the seminar how the newspaper's management dealt with the reporter who had obviously not done his homework, I would like to assure Back Mountain readers of The Dallas Post that a reporter like that will never last on the staff of our newspaper.

Can you imagine someone being so negligent that they can't even remember who they interviewed for a story?

HAVE YOU GOT any books on her shelves or on her bookcases at home that may belong to the Back Mountain library? Sometimes, people borrows books from the library and then, as time passes, simply forget to return them.

The Back Mountain Library is having Forgiveness Weeks now through March 16 and will be receiving overdue books from members without charging overdue fines.

Beverly Marchetti, a volunteer for the Back Mountain Library, reports that every book not returned to the library cost the local lending house approximately \$18 - a fee our area library just cannot afford right now as it moves to its new location on Huntsville Road.

Members of the library are urged to look over their books at home and if you find one that should be on the shelves of the library, make it a point to return it.

A HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS to Attorney and Mrs. Richard Confair of Dallas on the recent birth of their first child, a daughter, who was born on February 23 in Nesbitt Memorial Hospital.

Mrs. Confair is the former Mariella Bravayak of Harding. Attorney Confair has a law practice in Kings-ton.

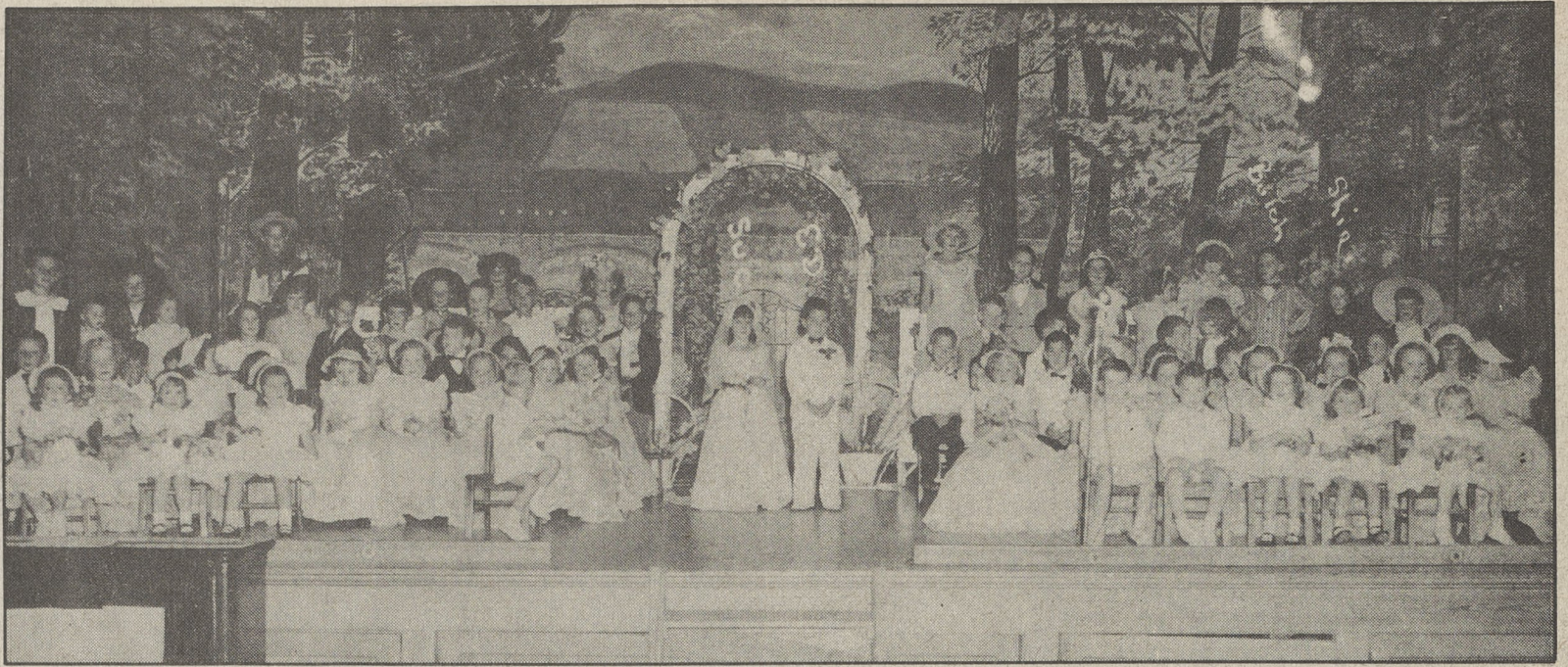
BIRTHDAY GREETINGS go out to Debby Wysocki, a teacher at Gate of Heaven School and assistant coach of the Dallas Junior High girls' basketball team, who celebrated a birthday this past Monday.

A great big happy birthday also goes to Katie Delaney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P.J. Delaney of Harveys Lake, who celebrated her first birthday last month.

Katie's mom is the former Cathy Dillon, of Plymouth and her father, formerly of Dallas, is employed at Benton Foundry.

Rumor has it that Katie's dad, also known as the Dr. J of the Lehman-Noxen Adult Recreational Basketball League, has been seen teaching his daughter how to shoot hoops in the back yard.

SPEAKING OF HOOPS, the staff at The Dallas Post would like to wish all the Back Mountain basketball teams the best of luck as they begin their quests for District titles this week. Good luck, gang - we're with you all the way.



REMEMBERING

Tom Thumb wedding

Something we don't see much of these days is depicted in this photo taking in 1951. It's a scene from a Tom Thumb wedding at the Dallas Township Elementary School Building taken

during the 1950-51 school year. (Thanks to Shirley Rittenhouse of Dallas for use of the photo.)

Only yesterday

Atty. Peter Jurchak named Assistant District Attorney

50 YEARS AGO - MARCH 1, 1935
Attorney Peter Jurchak, one of the outstanding lawyers in the Mt. Greenwood Area, was named assistant District Attorney for Luzerne County.

Shavertown School students presented two operettas. "The Saucy Hollandaise" was presented by the 7th and 8th grades with Miss Florence Heitsman directing. The lower grades presented "Peter Rabbit" directed by Miss Louise Roushey.

Mr. Ira Button started a milk route through Dallas, Shavertown and Trucksville, selling milk, eggs, butter, cream and cheese.

You could get - Stewing chickens 22c lb.; chuck pot roast 19c lb.; pork sausage 25c lb.; hamburger 2 lb. 29c; filet of haddock 2 lb. 23c; 2 1/2 lb. bag flour 74c; pink salmon 10c tall can; fresh eggs 29c doz.

40 YEARS AGO - MARCH 2, 1945
Faced with a quota 20 percent higher than last year, Red Cross workers in the Back Mountain area opened their campaign to raise \$5,250 within the next four weeks for the war effort. Mrs. Harry Ohlman and Mrs. Charles Wheaton Lee were drive co-chairmen.

Northwest Service Command Chaplain William Brown, Goss Manor, reported that the Back Mountain was experiencing a colder winter and deeper snow than at Whitehorse in the Yukon Territory. Following a short leave, Brown returned to his Yukon post.

Married - Bessie Wandel and Rev. E.J. Waterstripe.

Deaths - Rev. A.L. Prynne; Clementine Gough, dauauauauauEdison Walters, in action in the Philippines.

You could get - Oranges 39c doz.; apples 3 lb. 29c; lettuce 9c hd.; tomatoes 25c pkg.; legs o lamb 39c lb.; sirloin steak 34c lb.;

fillets of cod 32c lb.; macaroni 10c lb.; Sweetheart soap 3 cakes 20c; 4 oz. pkg. cocoa 19c.

30 YEARS AGO - MARCH 4, 1955
Back Mountain residents gave the largest Blood Donation in the history of the Wyoming Valley Area when 186 pints of blood were donated at a drive held at Dallas Borough School. Area physicians, Dr. A.A. Mascali, Dr. Michael Bucan, Dr. Richard Crompton, Dr. Charles Perkins and Dr. H.G. Gallagher helped with the drive.

Wyoming National Bank prepared to open its third and newest branch office in Shavertown. W.A. Valentine was chairman of the board while Albert M. Bossard was president of the bank.

Engaged - Joy Ann Cease to Robert Bridle; Barbara Hess to Laurence Alan Robbins; Carol Huray to Robert Y. Guyette.

Married - Rebecca Eleanor Gabel to Laverne Anthony Stueber; Pvt. Lillie E. Marcey to Pfc. Donald L. Dillard.

Anniversaries - Mr. and Mrs. Charles Updyke, Sweet Valley.

You could get - Pork loin roasts 33c lb.; smoked ham 59c lb.; jumbo shrimp, 69c lb.; extra sharp cheese 69c lb.; mushrooms 39c lb.; 4 lb. potatoes 25c; grapefruit 4-25c; evaporated milk 6 tall cans 73c; crackers 33c lb.

20 YEARS AGO - MARCH 4, 1965
Lawrene Joos, Sutton Road resident and student at Wyoming Seminary, was designated a finalist in the National Merit Scholarship competition. Lawrence was the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Joos.

A Sweet Valley home owned by Mrs. Jean Hunter was destroyed by fire. The fire was believed to be the work of an arsonist.

Fred Malkemes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred

Malkemes, Shavertown was injured while taking a trip with friends to Mt. Kenya. Fred was teaching in Kenya, East Africa. Following a lengthy operation on a badly injured hand, his parents anxiously awaited his next letter home to see how he was progressing.

Engaged - Richard Allen Ide and Susan M. Rumsel.

Married - James F. Besecker, Sr. and Charlotte Jeffrey.

Anniversaries - Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sorber, Noxen, 25 years; Mr. and Mrs. Job Dietz, Kunkle, 25 years.

Birthdays - Mrs. Mary Shupp, Tunkhannock, 89 years old.

Deaths - Donald Wilson, East Orange, N.J.; Edith P. Gensel, Sweet Valley; Marietta K. Warden, Kunkle; Carey Blanche Martin, Kunkle.

You could get - Sirloin steaks 75c lb.; sausage 65c lb.; chicken legs 49c lb.; King Crab legs 85c lb.; lettuce 2 lg. hds. 29c; bananas 2 lb. 25c; nectarines 29c lb.; cheddar cheese, mild, 53c lb.; Clorox 1/2 gal. 34c.

10 YEARS AGO - MARCH 6, 1975
Sgt. William Pugh, Kingston Twp., the area's only narcotics officer, presented a program on "The Drug Culture" for Dallas Kiwanis Women's Club.

Dr. Richard C. Scott opened his office for the practice of general dentistry in the Dallas Shopping Center. A native of Illinois, Scott graduated from the University of Arizona in Tucson, Ariz. He received his Dental Surgery degree from the University of Illinois Medical Center in Chicago.

You could get - T-bone steak \$1.59 lb.; lean groundbeef, 3 lb. \$2.07; smoked kielbasi \$1.39 lb.; mushrooms 79c lb.; carrots 35c cello bag; 1/2 gal. Minute Maid orange juice 69c; tomatoes cello pkg. 35c; broccoli spears 3-10 oz. pkg. \$1.

LETTERS

Reader encourages support of animals

DEAR EDITOR:

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through two state agencies, the Department of Agriculture and Game Commission, has joined with several special interest groups to form an "anti-animal rights coalition."

The mission of this coalition is to act "as a political and public information counterforce to the growing animal rights movement in the state."

International Society for Animal

Rights holds the position that it is inappropriate for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to devote tax dollars and to assign state employees to defend select special interest groups.

Special interest groups represented in this coalition include the Pennsylvania Trappers Association, Woodstream Corporation (manufacturer of leghold traps), Pennsylvania Poultry Federation, Pennsylvania Veterinary Medical

Association, and Hershey Medical Center.

If readers agree that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania should remain impartial in the public debate on the treatment of animals in our society and not join ranks with private special interest groups, please write Governor Richard Thornburgh (225 Main Capitol, Harrisburg, PA 17120).

Request that Governor Thornburgh (1) immediately withdraw any state support of this coalition

and (2) instruct state agencies and employees to cease at once any involvement with the "anti-animal rights coalition."

Additional information on how you can help can be obtained by contacting ISAR, 421 South State Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411.

HELEN JONES
PRESIDENT
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR ANIMAL RIGHTS, INC.
CLARKS SUMMIT

Former Red Cross executive thanks volunteers

DEAR EDITOR:

I would like to publicly thank the many volunteer instructors of the Wyoming Valley Chaper, American Red Cross that I have worked with

during the past four years.

Through their concerted efforts over 32,000 certificates in CPR, First Aid and Water Safety have been issued in Wyoming Valley.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank your newspaper for printing the many articles, news releases and course announcements I have submitted to you.

MARY BARBARA GILLEGAN
FORMER DIRECTOR OF SAFETY SERVICES
AMERICAN RED CROSS

LIBRARY NEWS

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK
Library Correspondent

We are well into the process of moving the library from 69 Main Street where it has been for 40 years to 96 Huntsville Road, where we hope it will be for the next 40 years, at least.

The Back Mountain Memorial Library plans to open in its new location on Monday, March 4 at 9:30 a.m. for regular business. The book drop on the street at 69 Main will remain there for the return of books until spring.

There are so many wonderful volunteers who have given generously of their time and labor to help with the move and we are indeed grateful for this community cooper-

ation. There is David Smith who arrived at the library at 10:00 on Monday morning complete with pick-up truck and a mechanism to roll boxes of books out of the window into the truck and came again the next three days and really did a lot of work.

Boy Scouts of Troop 281, Aric Gingo, Peter Williams, Daniel Holdredge and Mark Chappel; Mike and Morag Michael; Kathy Downs, Donald Moore from New Jersey; Jean Warneka and daughter Lori; and David Casey of Troop 232 have all given of their time. A tremendous thank you to Mel Congdon, who was able to borrow a large truck from his brother-in-law, David Sharp and to his friend, Carl Oberst who spent a good part of Thursday

hauling tables, chairs, desks, filing cabinets, card catalogs and other large furniture to the new building.

During the last four days, I got a new nick-name. David Smith's little boy always came into my office for a lollypop and one day I told him he could not have any more unless I was in the office. Wednesday of this week, I was not in till 4 p.m. and all day long, Kevin was asking where the 'lollypop lady' was. My lollypop supply is gradually being depleted.

With the recent warmer weather, the talk at Franklin's coffee counter naturally turns to golf, and it seems some of the golfers have a little bit of excess 'winter weight' which could interfere with their game. Bob seems to feel that unless some serious dieting is done, one of the

things they will have to do all summer is, "Hit the ball, drag Russ". Before you get to golf in the Dewey Decimal System in the library, which is 796.76, you come to diet and shape up, which is 636.8. Now seems to be the time to think about shaping up!

A special thank you to Charles Puckey of Dallas who donated a large group of terrific books to the library which have been added to the inventory. Chuck also donated some plastic bags and book marks which we will give out to our patrons. Thanks, Chuck!

I must also thank Mrs. Crump for getting up at 6 a.m. and baking chocolate chip cookies for the workers at both libraries. To her, I say, Bless you, Mrs. Crump.

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