

Commentary

Editor's notes

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

WHAT A RESPONSE I have had from two stories I included in my last two columns. It really feels good to know people are reading this column. I thank you all for that, too.

My story on organ donations, reprinted from a column written by Ed Ackerman from the Sunday Dispatch in Pittston, seems to have hit home on a lot of people.

I went to my marketing class at Dallas High School the night that story appeared in the paper and, lo and behold, one of my classmates had cut that part of my column out. **DOTTY MARTIN** of the paper and was carrying it with her.

Seems her sister buried a young boy just a few months ago after the boy was involved in an accident with the family horse. This girl's sister had donated her son's organs and, understandably so, went through a rather traumatic time after that.

However, just a few days before my column appeared, the sister had received two telephone calls from parents of young children who were on the receiving end of her little boy's organs. The parents were calling to tell this woman just how grateful they were to see their children given a second chance at life.

It does take a special person to be able to donate someone's organs, but when the results are like the result of this story, it makes us realize that organ donation is a very worthwhile program.

AS LATE AS A WEEK after that story appeared in this column, I had a telephone call from a woman who wanted me to know that she had become an organ donor after reading it.

The woman, whose name I cannot recall, said the story touched her so deeply that she made it a point to sign up for an organ donor program.

As a carrier of an organ donor card for years now, I can't tell you how much that one simple telephone call meant - to know that the story had touched one person enough to make them want to become an organ donor.

A FORMER COLLEGE CLASSMATE of mine, Wilma Gardner, is now employed as the public relations director of Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. And Wilma is very big on organ donations.

She also read my column and sent me some literature on organ donation programs to reassure me that these kinds of programs do exist around here and that people can sign up for them with no problems whatsoever.

If anyone would like to become an organ donor, I encourage you to call Wilma Gardner at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital at 829-8111. Tell her I sent you - it may or may not get you anywhere, depending on what part of our college days Wilma remembers at the time.

THE STORY ENTITLED "A Dog's Plea" has also hit home with several people as I have received a lot of comments from people who read that story.

I've also seen the column cut out

and taped to many a refrigerator door. There are obviously more animals lovers out there than I ever dreamed there were.

I HAD A NICE LETTER from a former Back Mountain resident by the name of Mavreen K. Veihmeyer. Mavreen is currently residing at 15904 Kerr Road, Laurel, Md., 20707.

She is looking for old photos of the Dallas Elementary Building where the Back Mountain Library is currently housed. Mavreen wants to do pen and ink drawings of old Dallas and has asked me to help her locate such photos.

If anyone has any photos of this kind in their possession, please contact Mavreen so that she can complete her project.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS go out to Andy Denmon of Davenport Street in Dallas, who recently celebrated his 39th birthday.

What? Andy isn't 39? Boy, he sure had me fooled.

ALSO CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS are David Cummings, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Cummings of Dallas who notes his fourth birthday tomorrow, December 12.

David's grandmother, Sis Birnstock, of Clearwater, Florida, also celebrated a birthday recently as she blew out candles on her cake on December 1.

ANOTHER CUMMINGS FAMILY CELEBRATION occurred last week when Mom Jane, an account executive for our sister publication, the Northeast Pennsylvania Business Journal, broke the 200 mark on the bowling alley.

Jane, an avid bowler for several years, has been getting closer and closer to the 200 mark for the past few weeks and managed to break it last week.

Rumor has it she's now practicing for an absolutely perfect game. We'll keep you posted as to whether or not she attains that feat.

NANCY DERHAMMER of Dallas was busy stringing Christmas lights in the cocktail lounge of Pickett's Charge Restaurant last Wednesday evening.

Nancy, who tends bar at the Dallas lounge, was doubling as the Christmas Spirit last week, decorating the establishment for the coming holiday season.

AND, FINALLY - The Dallas Post has learned that "Herb" (the only person in the world who has never eaten at Burger King) is alive and well and living in Dallas.

Can you believe it? A national celebrity right here in our back yard. And he works right next door to our office, to boot!

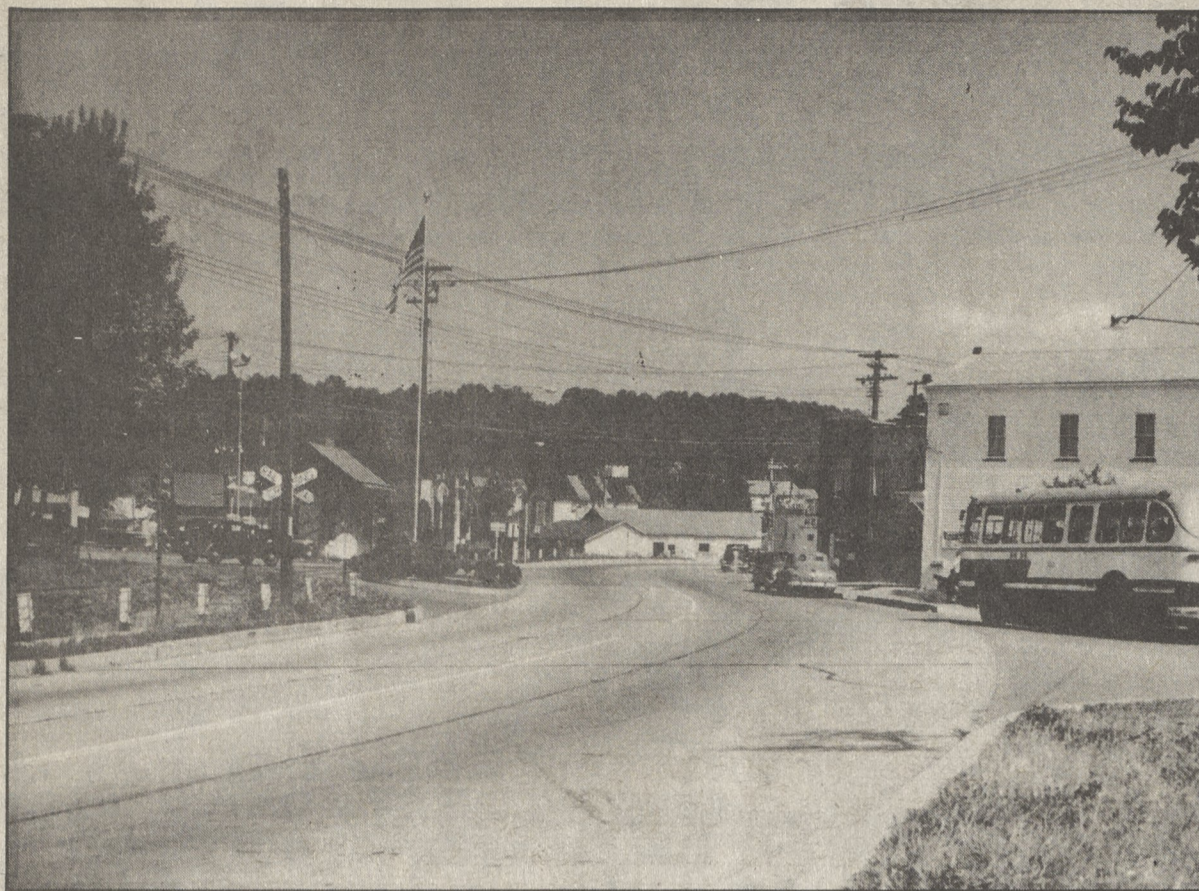
Pat Jones and Jean Innamorati of Rachel's Real Estate say Herb works with them and they know him very well. Although Herb is very big on McDonald's, Pat and Jean say he isn't as unusual as the television commercials make him out to be.

The girls say Herb is actually a very mild-mannered person and always pays attention to what's going on around him. And Herb's co-workers seem to think that if Burger King would give him some free Whopper certificates, he just might break down and try their food.

holidays.

This scenario has been repeated over the past several years, and this year when the kind gesture was again offered, I discussed the possibility of making this heartwarming Christmas story available to the public for two reasons: 1) to let our community know that there are sensitive and generous people who do care about the needy, and 2) to explore the possibility that some others feel similarly and wish to become involved. Our generous contributor agreed; therefore, this story.

If any of you - individuals, orga-



REMEMBERING

Dallas Corners

Shown here is an old photo of what Dallas Corners once looked like. Notice the railroad station on the left and the absence of a traffic light at the intersection.

Only yesterday

Area amateur actors perform at Bloomsburg

50 YEARS AGO - DEC. 13, 1935
A group of talented amateur actors and actresses from Lehman Methodist Episcopal Church represented rural Luzerne County in the district play competition held at Bloomsburg State Teacher's College. The cast included Mrs. Francis Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Ide, Charles Kinsman, Jr., Mrs. Charles Kinsman, Sr., Sheldon Ehret. Mrs. Arthur Major was director.

James A. Martin, supervising principal of Kingston Township High School was elected president of the Back Mountain Basketball Conference.

Amelia Earhart was scheduled to give a talk entitled "Adventures in Flying" at Meyers High School in Wilkes-Barre. The College Woman's Club sponsored this program featuring the world's most famous woman flier.

Engaged - Frances Geraldine Eyet to Robert R. Rogers; Verna Elizabeth Miller to Howard Isaacs.

Married - Frances Robbins and Cleon Boyer; Mae Gross and Leland Moss.

Deaths - James Ide, Dallas; Lucinda H. Durland, Shavertown.

You could get - Oranges 8 lb. bag 39c; apples 6 lb. 25c; lettuce, celery or grapes, choice of 3-25c; peaches 2 lg. cans 29c; salmon tall can 10c; butter 2 lb. 69c; 10x Sugar 7c pkg.; 2 pkg. macaroni 11c; prunes 2 big cans 23c.

40 YEARS AGO - DEC. 14, 1945
A former member of the Women's Army Corps, Miss Lois Avery replaced Mrs. James Worth, as coach of the girl's basketball team at Lake Township High School.

Children of the first six grades of Dallas Borough Schools presented a cantata entitled "Christmas Around the World."

Although Dallas Township basketball team lost its first game of the season to a more experienced Forty Fort High School team, coach Tony Barbore felt sure that the team would do well this season.

Deaths - John Lumley, Fernbrook.

You could get - Standing rib roast 30c lb.; ground hamburger 28c lb.; sausage 39c lb.; Pillsbury flour 10 lb. bag 58c; oranges 37c doz.; grapefruit 7c ea.; mixed nuts 45c lb.; corn 14c can; saltines 19c pkg.

30 YEARS AGO - DEC. 16, 1955
The Alan B. Wilkinson home on Bunker Hill was saved from destruction by the concerted efforts of three fire companies, Trucksville, Shavertown and Dallas.

For the third consecutive year Dallas Women's Club Chorale under the direction of Mrs. Norman Patton, presented a program of Christmas carols in Grand

Central Terminal, New York City.

Engaged - Gwen Williams to Bruce E. Kibbler.

Married - Mary A. Lukavitch to Joseph Margowicz; Janet Louise Hess to Jack Hiller; Ramona Balut to Carl Dymond.

Deaths - A. Nesbitt Williams, Cambra; C. Herbert Fiske, Bk. Mountain native; David Bencotter, Hunlock Creek.

You could get - Dinner napkins 2 pkg. 19c; cranberry sauce 2 cans 37c; plum pudding 39c can; seedless grapefruit 4-25c; baking potatoes 10 lb. bag 59c; walnuts 55c lb.; pecans 79c lb.; fresh ground beef 3 lb. \$1; 16 oz. frozen strawberries 39c.

20 YEARS AGO - DEC. 16, 1965
Proposal by Kingston Township Supervisors of possible passing of a tenth of 1 percent wage tax for local residents raised quite a controversy throughout the valley.

Vandals let themselves out the frontdoor after breaking into Lake-Lehman High School smashing their way into several rooms and emptying vending machines of an undetermined amount.

Married - Mildred Betterly Wickkizer and Alfred H. Runstall.

Anniversaries - Mr. and Mrs. William Covert, 25 years; Mr. and Mrs. Donald Williams, 22 years; Mr. and Mrs. John B. Feist, 50 years.

Deaths - Frank Foss, Sweet Valley; Iona May Brown, Harding.

You could get - Sirloln tip roast 89c lb.; fresh ground round 89c lb.; franks 59c lb.; turkey roasts, boneless, 79c lb.; bananas 10c lb.; 1 lb. 8 oz. fruit cakes \$1.59; 2 lb. can Chase & Sanborn coffee \$1.57.

10 YEARS AGO - DEC. 18, 1975
Commonwealth Telephone Company Communications Workers of America (AFL-CIO) went out on strike after mediation talks broke down. No further talks were scheduled.

Dallas Borough council finance chairman Peter Arnaud proposed a budget of \$180,307 for the coming year.

Laurie Dockeray was selected queen of the Lake-Lehman Christmas dance.

Deaths - Mrs. Walter Sorber, Harveys Lake; Alan Heycock, Overbrook Rd.; Mrs. Daniel Jones, Sr., Harveys Lake; Mrs. Edward Williams, Santa Ana, Calif.; Lewis Gay, Kingston Twp.

You could get - Turkeys 59c lb.; chicken 44c lb.; smoked kolbassi \$1.69 lb.; Folgers Coffee lb. can \$1.59; Birds Eye Cool Whip 9 oz. tub 59c; freshly ground poppy seed \$1.49 lb.; Sunkist oranges 10-99c; grapefruit 7-11.

LIBRARY NEWS

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK
Library Correspondent

Our new library really does look like Christmas! We have hung the large lighted wreath on the front of the building and decorated the large pole in the entryway to look like a candy cane with lights.

For the first time in the library's history, there is enough room to have a nice sized Christmas tree and we do have a lovely six-foot decorated Christmas tree in the foyer of our new building, thanks to an appreciated donation. We also have a unique lighted wall tree in the entryway, a small tree and a wreath in the office area. In other words, we do look like Christmas.

A two year old boy coming into the library for the toddler story hour announced, as he entered the door, "Hi, Christmas!" And that says it all: Christmas is for children! We also have a unique advent calendar, made by the Prince of Peace Women many years ago, hanging in the office area. We would like to share some Christmas punch and cookies with our patrons and friends and invite the public to visit the library, enjoy the Christmas decorations and have some refreshments on Friday, the 20th, Saturday the 21st and Monday, the 23rd between the hours of 2 and 5. Come to see your festive library!

Thank you, Morag, for a lovely exhibit! Morag Michael, on behalf of the Bay Window Complex on Overbrook Road in Shavertown, has set up in our display case a beautiful Christmas arrangement featuring the unique shopping experience and some of the items available from the 14 different artisans and their handcrafted gifts.

There is a teddy bear, wooden duck and sleigh, vintage jewelry, old fashioned Christmas boot, Victorian doll and a wooden horse and sleigh. A small selection of the many kinds of decorative accessories available for the holiday season and the shop offers a chance to browse in an old rustic barn decorated with antiques. We say thank you to these girls for letting us enjoy some of their talents and invite the public to view this display any time before January 2nd.

Featured in our upright exhibit case is an ever-popular collection of Star War characters loaned to us by John Gilgallon, who is 12 years old and in sixth grade at Gate of Heaven School. John lives in Shavertown and has allowed us to have Darth Vader, Luke Skywalker, Princess Leia, Bounty hunters, Storm troopers, Ewoks, Rebels, R2D2 and CP30. They are all strangers to me but are well loved by their collectors. These characters will be in the exhibit case for a few months and would love to have visitors. Thank you, John!

The capital campaign has reached an amount of \$322,000 on its way to the goal of \$450,000. With three weeks remaining in the campaign, we need your help to reach our goal. This amount is necessary to pay for the renovation. Send a Christmas gift to your library!

STATE CAPITOL ROUNDUP

Here is a summary of important events that occurred on Capitol Hill last week from Rep. Frank Coslett, 120th Legislative District.

LEGISLATION MAKING Pennsylvania the host state for a low-level radioactive waste disposal site was unanimously approved by the House this week. The Senate bill designates Pennsylvania as the disposal site for waste from West Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. West Virginia, however, is the only state to show continuing interest in the so-called Appalachian States Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact. The House amended a Senate bill to provide that each state's \$1.5 million contribution to the cleanup fund come from generators of the waste rather than taxpayers. No location has been selected in Pennsylvania for the disposal site. The measure was returned to the Senate for concurrence on House amendments.

CALLING ASBESTOS a major cause for concern throughout the state and nation, Rep. George E. Saurman (R-Montgomery) introduced legislation which would reduce exposure to the substance. One bill would label asbestos a hazardous substance and would require that the material be disposed of safely. A second measure would mandate the recording of exact locations where asbestos is buried and that the information become part of any property deed. "Presently, asbestos is being disposed of in an irresponsible way and we are compounding tomorrow's problems," Saurman said.

SKI OPERATORS will be permitted to purchase liability insurance to protect them against lawsuits seeking punitive damages if a bill which passed the House becomes law. Punitive damages are sometimes awarded by courts to defendants over and above the actual cost of injuries.

LETTERS

Good Samaritan work continues at LL

DEAR EDITOR:

Several years ago a member of our school community, who wishes to remain anonymous, contacted me about this time of the year and expressed the desire to do something for needy children at Christmas. This expression of goodwill resulted in the provision of hats, scarves, sweaters, gloves, boots, etc. to needy elementary children identified by counselors, nurses and teachers. These gifts were purchased by counselors, wrapped as presents, and given to the children, "from Santa Claus" on the last day of school preceding the Christmas

holidays. This scenario has been repeated over the past several years, and this year when the kind gesture was again offered, I discussed the possibility of making this heartwarming Christmas story available to the public for two reasons: 1) to let our community know that there are sensitive and generous people who do care about the needy, and 2) to explore the possibility that some others feel similarly and wish to become involved. Our generous contributor agreed; therefore, this story.

If any of you - individuals, orga-

nizations, or businesses, would like to become involved in this seasonal gesture, a special account, called "Lake-Lehman's Project Santa Claus" has been established with United Penn Bank, Dallas, PA, and you may send contributions to that account. The money in that account

will be managed by Sylvia Bator, Chairperson of the Pupil Personnel Services Department, and needy children identified by our counselors, nurses, home-school visitor, and teachers will receive their special presents from Santa Claus, as outlined above.

Thank you for learning about our special Christmas story at Lake-Lehman.

Merry Christmas!
DR. M. DAVID PRESTON
SUPERINTENDENT
LAKE-LEHMAN DISTRICT

Think twice before adopting now

DEAR EDITOR:

Thinking about a Christmas puppy or kitten? Think twice! A pet needs time and patience to adjust to its new home and the hectic holiday season is not a good time to introduce an animal into a household.

If your family is planning to get an animal for the holidays, The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) suggests wrapping a dog dish or cat toy or a picture of an animal instead. After the holidays, when the family is more relaxed, pick out your new pet at the local humane society. This gives the children something to look forward to after the other gifts are put aside.

A dog or cat is a long-term

commitment of care, food, time and medical expenses and should be entered into with as much seriousness as adding a new child to the family.

A little consideration now would

avoid heartache after the holidays.

NINA AUSTENBERG
REGIONAL DIRECTOR
THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

Ball committee grateful

DEAR EDITOR:

On behalf of the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital's Auxiliary President, Mrs. Guy Serpico, and the Starlight Ball co-chairmen, Mrs. Alfred D'Anca and Mrs. William Rusin, I wish to offer our most sincere thank you for the help you gave us in achieving our goal - a

truly successful charitable and social event.

The publicity you gave us concerning the works of the various committees led to the success of the annual event.

LOIS DEGENNARO
PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN
1985 STARLIGHT BALL

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