

# COMMENTARY

## EDITOR'S NOTES

HOW NICE IT WAS to see Joan Kingsbury and her family with several friends at an Edwardsville restaurant Sunday evening.

Joan had served as sponsor for the child of a family friend when the child was confirmed and the group was out celebrating the affair.

As Joan introduced her children to me, I couldn't help but remember when Billy used to come into the office with his mother. All Billy ever wanted to do was go into the darkroom and watch pictures develop. Billy's getting older now, though, and since he's in school, we don't see him in the office much anymore.

Joan's two daughters, Nancy and Nicole, look so much alike, I wasn't exactly sure which was which, but Joan's husband, Bill, assured me that even he gets mixed up now and then. Believe me, then I didn't feel so bad.

I GUESS fathers have a habit of getting their children mixed up - it seems to come with the territory. I guess if they have more than one child, things sometimes become confusing to them.

I have only one brother and my one brother had only one sister - me. So, there were only two of us for my parents to keep track of and, though my mother usually didn't have too much trouble telling us apart, my father was always calling us "Dot-Lar." (My brother's name is Larry.)

I guess that way he figured he had all bases covered, no matter which one of us he was referring to. Some of you fathers out there who may be suffering from the same confusion of keeping your children straight will be interested in knowing that as my brother and I got older, my father came to realize which one of us was known by which name. So, there is still hope if you are confused about which child is which.

WHILE HAVING DINNER at this West Side eatery, we were served by a very pleasant young lady by the name of Paula Pekarski who resides in Kunkle.

Paula is currently a student at Luzerne County Community College and is working her way toward a degree in Journalism. She hopes to continue her education at Temple University in Philadelphia once she completes her undergraduate work at LCCC.

Who knows - someday you may be reading stories in The Dallas Post written by Paula. Good luck to you, Paula. If you make as good a journalist as you do a waitress, you'll be in pretty good shape.

I MET A WOMAN the other day who tells me she has a lot of friends who reside in the Back Mountain.

Mina McCracken, who has resided in Wyoming for many, many years was at my house the other day, visiting a house guest of mine. Mina, who is 86 years young, had just returned from having dinner in Tunkhannock.

My stepsister, who obviously found it rather amazing that a woman of 86 would travel from Wyoming to Tunkhannock merely to enjoy dinner, proceeded to ask Mina if she and her dinner partners had driven all the way to Tunkhannock. Mina, who found the question rather absurd, asked Susan how else she would expect to get to Tunkhannock.

But, believe it or not, at 86, Mina McCracken is still driving all around town - and even driving to Tunkhannock.

KENNY ROGERS is going to be making a return appearance at the Allentown Fair this year and rumor has it there are going to be several people from the Back Mountain sitting in the front rows, screaming

and carrying on again like they did during his performance last year.

I sure hope these people who are paying good money for their tickets get their money's worth this year since last year's performance was a little disappointing since Mr. Rogers was suffering from a slight bout of laryngitis.

SINCERE SYMPATHY is extended to Jim and Jane Bolger of Midland Drive in Dallas on the recent death of their son, Jim III.

Jim, who was employed as manager of AMES Department Store in Reisterstown, Maryland, was involved in an automobile accident in Kingdom, Nevada, and died as a result of injuries sustained in that accident.

My deepest sympathy goes out to this couple during this very difficult time in their lives. Jane is a former correspondent for The Dallas Post and was employed as a general assignment reporter for the paper when I started here three years ago.

HOPE OUR READERS enjoy the special section on Car Care in today's paper. Our advertising representatives really put forth an extra effort every time we publish a special section such as this one and we do like to hear how our readers respond to them.

The last special section we published - on Lawns and Gardens - received a lot of compliments and, from what I understand, contained a lot of good tips for Back Mountain gardeners.

A GREAT BIG HAPPY BIRTHDAY goes out to Pat Jones of Dallas. Pat, who is employed as a real estate agent in the Back Mountain, is reportedly celebrating her 42nd birthday, however, something tells me my information sources are just a bit incorrect.

Why, I don't think Pat looks a day over 40 and I'd bet anyone who knows her would agree with me.

Anyway, happy birthday to you, Pat. Although I don't know exactly what day is your big one, I'm sure you'll celebrate to the max.

THE KING OF ICE CREAM in the Back Mountain is now officially out of the ice cream business.

John Baur, who, along with his wife, Lena, owned and operated the Treat Drive-In Restaurant in the Fernbrook section of Dallas, have sold the shopping plaza and are now reportedly trying to figure out what to do with all their spare time.

The Baur's, who are both school teachers in the Dallas School District, will most likely opt for a lot of sun, fun and tennis during the summer months. Something tells me, however, that it's going to take a few summers to get the ice cream out of their blood before they can honestly admit they don't miss the business.

SPEAKING OF SUN AND FUN, what happened to the nice weather we were enjoying there for a while?

While the temperatures climbed into the 80 degree marks for a few days a couple weeks ago, somebody mentioned to me that we hadn't had our onion snow yet. Never having heard the phrase onion snow, I couldn't help but chuckle when its meaning was explained to me.

Needless to say, though, whoever told me about onion snow knew what they were talking about since we did have at least a ground covering of snow a short time ago and the temperatures are still struggling to get into the 60s and 70s.

Oh, well - now that we've all gotten our summer clothes out, we can continue wearing our winter clothes for a little while longer. Never fails, does it? Just once, I'd like to see Mother Nature cooperate with Human Nature.

(Dotty Martin is the Executive Editor of Pennaprint Inc., publisher of The Dallas Post. Her column appears weekly.)

## Coslett has scholarships

Rep. Frank Coslett is reminding students and parents of approaching student aid application deadlines for the 1986-87 school year.

Coslett said Thursday, May 1 is the 1986-87 filing deadline for all students seeking to renew their aid from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) state grant program. The deadline applies to all renewal applications, regardless of the student's program of study.

The May 1 deadline also applies to all applicants who plan to enroll in

bachelor degree programs, including those enrolling in transfer programs at community or junior colleges.

The lawmaker said those seeking aid for the first time and planning to enroll in business or trade schools, hospital schools of nursing or two-year vocational (non-transferable) programs at community and junior colleges have until Aug. 1 to file their state grant application.

For additional information contact Coslett's office at 1265 Wyoming Ave., Forty Fort, PA 18704. The telephone number is 288-3990.



## REMEMBERING

### Risley Barn

As volunteers of the Back Mountain Memorial Library begin to prepare for the 1986 Annual Library Auction, some residents will remember when library auction items used to be stored in the Risley Barn prior to the actual auction itself.

## ONLY YESTERDAY

### Area churches welcome pastors

30 YEARS AGO - APRIL 24, 1936  
Three area churches welcomed new pastors. Rev. Charles H. Gilbert, Meshoppen, came to Carverton Methodist Church; Rev. Howard B. Willetts became pastor at Lehman Methodist Church; Rev. Harry Savacool assumed the pastorate at Trucksville Methodist Church.

Seamstresses from the WPA sewing project displayed their work at the Redington Hotel. Sponsoring the event were A.H. Rainey, Bertha Thomas, Otilla Titus, Katie Wilson, Margarite Girvan.  
Engaged - Ann Walko to Dr. John Sturek.  
Married - Mary A. Casterline to John VanCampen.  
You could get - Baby carrots 4 bunches 19c; celery 2 bunches 19c; grapefruit 3-19c; onions 3 lb. 10c; peaches 2 lg. cans 27c; coffee 2 lb. 29c; evaporated milk 3 tall cans 20c; cheese 21c lb.

40 YEARS AGO - APRIL 26, 1946  
School taxes in Dallas Borough were raised from 25 to 30 mills; per capita was upped from \$3 to \$5.  
More than 50 former servicemen and employees of the State Highway Department under the direction of John Clark, State Highway Department forester, started planting memorial trees from Trucksville to Idetown along the Memorial Highway.

Engaged - Jane Case to Donald E. Davis.  
Married - Florence Marrow to Frank Bennalack; Doris Stookey and Harold L. Brobst; Lillian Wood Hebron and Wyman H. Greenlaw.  
Deaths - Morgan Rowlands, Trucksville.  
You could get - Chickens 45c lb.; cooked salami 39c lb.; asparagus 15c lb.; coffee 2 lb. 47c; 16 oz. pkg. Spic and Span 20c; Ivory soap 4 med. bars 23c; oranges 45c doz.

30 YEARS AGO - APRIL 27, 1956  
Mrs. Frederick Eck, Shayertown, was named winner of the title Mrs. Wyoming Valley. Active in school, church and community activities, Mrs. Eck was the mother of four children.  
Dallas-Franklin-Monroe Township presented the operetta "Tom Sawyer." Dale Mosler starred as Tom while Thomas Gauntlett portrayed Huck Finn.

A Fulbright Grant to study for one academic year at the Academy of Music in Vienna Austria was awarded to Harry Trebilcock of Trucksville.  
Anniversaries - Mr. and Mrs. Bert Brace, 40 years.  
Birthdays - William H. Evans, 87 years old.

You could get - Chicken fryers 37c lb.; chuck roast 29c lb.; oranges 39c doz.; mushrooms 49c lb.; fresh eggs 59c doz.; applesauce 7 cans \$1; crushed pineapple 4 cans \$1.

20 YEARS AGO - APRIL 28, 1966  
A meteor passed through the earth's atmosphere giving a display of fireworks to Back Mountain residents.

Actually the meteor was witnessed all over the eastern seaboard, estimated by experts to be miles high and reported by the Hayden Planetarium in New York as traveling at an estimated 35 miles per second.

Plans for the annual Library Auction Kick Off Dinner were finalized according to Jack Stanley and Robert Reid, co-chairmen. The buffet dinner was scheduled to be held at Irem Temple Country Club.  
Engaged - Shirley Ann Yalick to Charles Kisbaugh, Jr.; Dorothy Mason to Richard R. Harvey; Pat Zawolski and James Kozemchak, Jr.

Anniversaries - Mr. and Mrs. F.W. Smith, 27 years; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Womer, 18 years.  
Deaths - Hoyd Emmanuel Smith, Lancaster; George Reakes, Bagaman, N.Y.; Stella Rousing, Sweet Valley.

You could get - Hams 55c lb.; pork loins 79c lb.; turkey breasts 89c lb.; sea scallops 59c lb.; strawberries 39c pt.; 10 lb. bag Pillsbury flour \$1.19; fresh pies 43c; tea 55c pkg.

10 YEARS AGO - APRIL 29, 1976  
Sheila Bonawitz, Shayertown, was chosen as Hidden Heroine for the Shayertown Trucksville Girl Scout Neighborhood of Penn's Woods Girl Scout Council. To mark the occasion, Mrs. Bonawitz was presented with a replica of the Liberty Bell and a bouquet of yellow rosebuds.  
Final preparations were underway for the annual Prince of Peace Antique Show. Mrs. Jerome Cohen was chairman.

Engaged - Jennie R. Kapson and John J. Martin.  
Deaths - Samuel Kittle, Sweet Valley; Pearl Heidel, Outlet; Florence Williams, Shayertown; Gertrude Cosgrove, Dallas.

You could get - Western round steak \$1.59 lb.; rump roast \$1.59 lb.; Crisco shortening 3 lb. can \$1.59; Windex 20 oz. bottle 59c; cut or wax beans 4 cans \$1; sweet corn 6 ears 79c.

## OPINION

### What will Emily's cut-rate school lunch do to deficit?

By EDWIN FEULNER  
Special to The Dallas Post

I earn a good living. Yet my daughter Emily, who attends elementary school in Alexandria, Virginia, is eligible for a cut-rate school lunch five days a week courtesy of U.S. taxpayers, many of whom earn considerably less than I do.

Am I insensitive, or is something wrong here?

We are going to find out just how wrong things are in the weeks ahead, as Congress, the White House, and the special interest lobbies engage in a free-for-all over the federal budget.

Some of this will be waged with statistics. Already the Congressional Budget Office has cooked up a new report showing that even without any changes in our tax and spending policies there will be a dramatic drop in the deficit by 1991. Some conservatives have gone for the bait, crediting the CBO with suddenly discovering that Reaganomics is working.

Others of us can read between the lines. The CBO report has no paeon to Reaganomics. It was a backdoor attempt to guard special-interest spending from the coming budget cuts. After all, if things are peachy keen just as they are, why change them. There's something very

Alfred E. Neumanish about it.

Which brings me back to Emily's subsidized lunch. There is really no reason under the sun why Emily and millions of other school children shouldn't pay the full cost of their lunches. The special-interest lobbies knew, however, that limiting subsidies to children whose families really need them would make it easier to keep costs under control. They lobbied, therefore, to subsidize everyone, regardless of need.

So prevalent are these subsidies that a new Census Bureau study indicates that one out of every three children in the United States now lives in a family receiving some kind of government welfare. The true numbers, of course, are much higher when all of the Emilies in the country are included.

When non-cash benefits from government and private employers are looked at, a separate Census Bureau report showed that 76.7 million of the country's 86.8 million households in 1984 were the recipients of one or more freebies. Of these non-cash benefits - valued at more than \$300 billion annually - an estimated \$250 billion worth were not based on need.

Let's face it: Ed Feulner's daughter and most other school children don't need federally subsidized school lunches. They were included in the program to make it politically more difficult to trim the size of the

herd.

Cost-cutting changes in this and dozens of other federal programs are possible. Currently, the National School Lunch and National School Breakfasts programs provide cash and commodity assistance to schools, day care centers, and other institutions which serve meals to children.

Children from families whose income falls below 130 percent of the poverty line receive free lunches (which comes to a subsidy of approximately \$1.30 per pupil). Children from families between 130 percent and 180 percent of the poverty line receive a subsidy of 90 cents each. And children such as Emily from families with incomes above 180 percent of the poverty line receive a smaller 13-cent subsidy. But multiply that 13 cents by millions and repeat the calculation every school day, and you're talking about big bucks.

The elimination of school lunch subsidies for middle- and upper-income children is the kind of belt-tightening the country should have started years ago. It's time to realize that there's no such a thing as a free lunch.

(Edwin Feulner is president of The Heritage Foundation, a Washington-based public policy research institute. His editorials appear periodically in The Dallas Post.)

## LIBRARY NEWS

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK  
Library Correspondent

Thirty years ago, on April 6, 1956, a man from Luzerne poaching on Scranton-Springbrook Water Company property at Huntsville Dam, wantonly shot a rare Trumpeter Swan.

This man later signed a confession and was fined \$10 by State Game Protector. Federal Wildlife experts estimated that Trumpeter Swans on the American continent are almost extinct. Quick action by neighbors brought the offender to justice.

The bird had been at the reservoir for several days and had excited the admiration of scores of nature lovers. After the shooting, the man tried to flee the scene; however, with the help of the neighbors, reporters from The Dallas Post and the Chief of Police along with the Game Commission, the man was tracked down, signed the confession and paid the fine.

By special permission of the Game Commission, the bird was mounted and presented to the Back Mountain Memorial Library. This Trumpeter Swan has been a part of our Children's Department ever since and has moved to the new library building with us and is now a permanent part of the Children's Room. This swan is the largest of all North American waterfowl and belongs to a vanishing race, probably becoming extinct in the near future.

There were a few pair in Yellowstone National Park and the main stronghold was in northern British Columbia. The Trumpeter travels in smaller groups, coasts the shore more frequently as the Huntsville Swan did all the time it was on the reservoir. An interesting story about our very special Trumpeter Swan at the library.

Mr. John Henninger had borrowed a wheelchair from the library through the Dallas Rotary program for his wife while traveling to Florida for a few weeks. He returned the wheel chair last Friday and brought with him a large Ponderosa lemon from Cape Canaveral, which he presented to me. It is on display in our office area and is attracting much attention. It is really unique and we are contemplating a large pitcher of lemonade.

The library has a dedicated group of volunteers who perform a varied type of work for the library which is much appreciated. Some of the volunteer jobs include shelving books, alphabetizing book cards, call overdues or reserves, mend books, filing, and processing new books for circulation. We are constantly looking for new volunteers, if you have some time, contact the library and set up a schedule.

During 1985, 2,485 volunteer hours were given to the library. April 20 through 27th is National Volunteer Week and we would like to salute our volunteers and say thank you for making our jobs easier and much more pleasant.

Auction committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 29, at 7:30 p.m. at the library. Chances for the S-10 Blazer are available at the library circulation desk for purchase.

(Nancy Kozemchak is the assistant librarian at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. Her column appears weekly in The Dallas Post.)

## STATE CAPITOL ROUNDUP

By REP. FRANK COSLETT  
Special to The Dallas Post

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

"TRUTH AND FAIRNESS IN LITIGATION ACT" is the title of legislation unveiled this week which is intended to provide a degree of tort reform and product liability reform in Pennsylvania. Rep. Kenneth E. Brandt (R-Lancaster), key sponsor of the measure, said the bill is another step in solving the liability insurance crisis afflicting state businesses and governments. The tort reform aspect of the legislation is aimed at correcting a misguided system of compensation for the injured which has developed in the court system, according to Brandt. The product liability portion is similar to a Senate bill now awaiting Senate action. "If we are to improve our business climate we must address the excessive lawsuit awards which have resulted in the insurance liability problem," Brandt said.

ORGANIZED YOUTH GROUPS in Pennsylvania and officers of non-profit organizations would be immune from frivolous liability lawsuits if a bill which overwhelmingly passed the House becomes law. Sponsored by Rep. Robert J. Flick (R-Chester), the bill protects coaches, instructors, referees, umpires and other volunteers involved in legitimate youth sports programs from many so-called frivolous suits.

(Rep. Frank Coslett serves the 120th Legislative District which encompasses the Back Mountain area. His State Capitol Roundup appears weekly in The Dallas Post.)

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