

# U.S. is great to visit in the wintertime

BY CHARLOT M. DENMON  
Staff Writer

Most residents of the Back Mountain are not overly happy about the recent snowfall but there is at least one person, who is delighted! She is Margie Goetsch, exchange student from South Africa.

Margie, who lives with her parents, older brother and three younger sisters on a large cattle farm outside Potgietersrus, Northern Transvaal, in South Africa, had never seen snow until she came to live with the Mazur family at Harveys Lake.

"I love it," said Margie. "I've gone sleigh riding and I've gone skiing twice and I've learned how to make snowballs. The snow is wonderful," said this young exchange student, who came from the hot, dry weather of South Africa, to the cold, freezing weather in this area, where she is currently living with Mr. and Mrs. Nick Mazur and their daughter, DeeDee.

A Rotary Exchange student, Margie came to America to broaden her horizons, and to learn how people in America live. She also felt she needed time to decide what she wanted to do in the future.

She is presently a senior at Lake-Lehman High School where she finds courses and school different than the boarding school she attended in South Africa. At the boarding school, Margie wore a school uniform, and school began at 7:30 and was dismissed at 1:15 p.m. At Lake-Lehman, the students and Margie, of course, dress casually and high school begins at 8 a.m. and classes are dismissed at 3:15 p.m.

"There is a wider variety of courses from which to select at Lake-Lehman. I am taking psychology, Sociology, photography and many subjects, we didn't have at home," Margie said. "We had only nine or 10 subjects from which to select and from 10th through 12th grade, we had to take the same six subjects".

Students are graded differently in South Africa, according to Margie. Grades are based on tests given at the end of the year. These tests are administered by a government board. The teachers do not see them and no name is put on the tests, just a number so everything is anonymous. In this way, there can be no partiality.

The boarding school had some sports but not as many as Lake-Lehman. They had rugby, net ball (played with a ball similar to a basketball), cricket, rifle team and track. Margie has been practicing basketball since she registered at the school in January and she expected to play in the game with Meyers Monday.

"I'm also going on a four-day skiing weekend at Big Boulder," Margie said. "A group of foreign exchange students have been invited and I'm looking forward to it. It will be fun in the snow. I have watched fishermen ice fishing on the lake and I have walked out on the ice. We have nothing like this at home."

Mention food and Margie's face lights up. She loves fast food, lobster tail and clams, foods different than she has in South Africa. Some of the food is the same but in her country there are different names for it such as jam means 'jelly', and jelly means 'jello.'

The supermarkets are much the same, according to Margie, but the American supermarkets have much more variety in foods.

Margie said not as many young people drive in South Africa as they do in America but one must be 18 years of age to drive in South Africa and only 16 in America. Drinking is also legal at 18 in South Africa where in Pennsylvania the legal age is 21 years of age.

The young exchange student has taken the school bus to classes several times since she is here which is different than in her country where she stayed in a boarding school and if she went home on a weekend, she had to take a commercial bus.

Social life is similar in South Africa and this area, although Margie never went out at boarding school unless it was to an occasional movie.

Some of the holidays are not familiar to Margie such as Valentine's Day. In South Africa, Valentines are not given to everyone, only to sweethearts. They are not given to everyone as they are here in America.

When Margie was not in boarding school, she and other members of her family sometimes got together with neighbors for fishing and swimming.

"It is different living here iwht just one sister, DeeDee," Margie said, "But I like it. At home, there are always my three sisters and my older brother."

Margie went to a school board meeting with her American mother, Linda Mazur to see how the meeting was conducted. Dr. Borchetta, district superintendent, introduced Margie and explained that she was a visiting student at the school. Her father



OH! IT'S COLD! — Margie Goetsch makes snowballs in the new-fallen snow, the first she has ever experienced. (C.M. Denmon Photo)

is on the board at home but students may not attend. Since school terms in South Africa run from January to November, Margie enrolled in Lake-Lehman in January and she will be a visitor in this country until January, 1989.

She likes the students at Lake-Lehman and finds them very friendly just as the young people in the church group with whom she has become involved. Margie plans to speak to the group about her life in South Africa and probably show them some pictures.

Since she has graduated from her South African school when Margie returns home, she will enter college where she has been accepted for a B.S. degree. She is not sure whether that is what she wants because she would like to work with people. The houses in this area are different from those at home where Margie says most are ranch houses and they have a lot of year-round gardens with gorgeous flowering trees.

On the farm where Margie lives, it's very dry and hot but mny about 200 miles away and along the coast, it is very humid.

Mardie plans to prepare a typical South African dinner for the Mazurs.

In addition to St. Valentine's Day, Margie is not familiar with the American Thanksgiving nor the Americans method of celebrating Halloween and is looking forward to celebrating it.

She is also looking forward to this summer when she hopes she will be selected as one of the group of exchange students to tour across the United States from June to July. Only a certain number a selected and Margie is hoping she applied early enough to be accepted.

Margie is looking forward to this weekend when she will participate in donkey basketball at Lake-Lehman when the students compete against the faculty.

Although they have television in South Africa, Margie enjoys watching it here since there are many more channels. They have a few shows from America such as Mash, Dallas, and Family Ties.

Margie enjoys living with DeeDee, also a student at Lake-Lehman and a member of the basketball team. We have a lot in common, she said, especially modern music.

Margie came to America by air, landing first at Kennedy Airport, then coming to Avoca where her Rotary Exchange parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mazur met her.

# County women's conference scheduled

The theme of the Fourth Annual Luzerne County Women's Conference will be "All Women Work." The conference will be Saturday, June 4, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus in Lehman.

"The planning committee of more than 35 women selected the theme to reflect the value of women's work at home, in volunteer occupations, in industry, business, retail stores and all occupations," according to Evelyn Albert, conference coordinator.

She said the theme also indicates the solidarity of the women in this Valley with the efforts to revitalize the economy of Northeast Pennsylvania.

"We are reminding the persons working on the marketing of this area that the women are a valuable resource and not to be overlooked," she added.

Keynoter for the conference, Barbara Ehrenreich, is a writer and speaker on working women. One of her latest articles in Ms magazine forecasts the emergency of pink and blue collar women as key influences in the women's movement of the coming decade. Her article was entitled "The Next Wave."

Mrs. Albert said letters went out early this month to organizations and businesses inviting them to be sponsors. Last year's conference was co-sponsored with the Wyoming Valley Network by 66 groups. This included all the higher education institutions, labor unions, CEG, League of Women Voters, NAACP, Chamber of Commerce, West Side-Kingston Business & Professional Women's Clubs, Junior League of Wilkes-Barre, Parents Without Partners, and Wyoming Valley Council of Churches.

Any group that wishes to be a sponsor may contact Evelyn Albert, 474-3122, or Joyce Misinec, 833-3625 days, 675-8669 evenings.



SUPPER PLANNED — Shown above are UNICO members planning the Spaghetti Supper to benefit the Dallas Elementary Playground Project. They are, seated, from left, Steven Sorce, Alt. District Governor; Gifford R. Cappellini, Pres., Dallas; Joe Manganaro, Dist. Gov. Pa. "I"; Joe Paglianite, 2nd Vice pres. Standing, Tom Competa, Sec.; Jim Perugini, Gary Morgantini, Dallas Chapter, UNICO.

# Dallas UNICO supports playground project fund

The Dallas Chapter of UNICO and the Dallas Elementary Playground Committee are sponsoring a Spaghetti Supper to be held on Wednesday, March 9 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Dallas Junior High School. Tickets are \$4.00 for adults, and \$3.00 for children. Highlighting the menu will be authentic Italian spaghetti and meatballs and a homemade dessert table. Take-outs are available.

Proceeds from the dinner will go toward the construction of a playground at the Dallas Elementary School.

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# Meet

(continued from p1)

ordinance for curbs and sidewalks in the Woodside II subdivision.

The preliminary plans of the Cranes Landing Phase II subdivision located off Crane Road and Manor Drive were approved subject to the developer, Harry Salavantis' compliance with three recommendations of the township engineer and planning consultant.

The supervisors also approved the preliminary and final plans of Hemlock Acres Manor Subdivision, a 12-acre subdivision by developer John Martin off Church Road in Carverton, and the Metz Minor Subdivision subject to compliance with the recommendation of the township engineer by Thomas Metz, owner, and Joseph Kalinowski, purchaser, located off Carverton Road.

The secretary was authorized to advertise for bids on 25 30-cubic yard roll off containers for Spring Cleanup, tentatively planned for the first week in May.

William Ringenbach of Atherholt Drive, questioned the possibility of the installation of a street light at the intersection of Dug Road and Bunker Hill Road. Township manager Fred A. Potzer and Township police chief Paul Sabol will investigate and make a recommendation to the board of supervisors at the regular meeting of the supervisors, March 10.

Township manager Fred Potzer wrote to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, February 4, citing the number of traffic accidents at the above intersection in recent months, which have resulted in property damage at 303 Dug Road, property owned by Charles Bray.

He stated in his correspondence that motorists traveling south on the road to Luzerne are unaware of the intersection with the state road and township road and the sharp curve approximately 500 feet before this intersection, making hazardous conditions at the intersection.

Potzer also explained that a drainage culvert presently in place across the state road to accommodate runoff piped from Bunker Hill presents a definite hazard to motorists since the shoulder of the road at this point is approximately eight feet and is not enough to accommodate vehicles which swerve

to avoid cars pulling out of Bunker Hill Road.

Potzer requested that District Traffic Engineer Ronald P.

Bonacci look into this matter to determine if the township and state could work together to resolve the problems at the intersection.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**MICHAEL R. KOSTELANSKY**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
Announces The Relocation  
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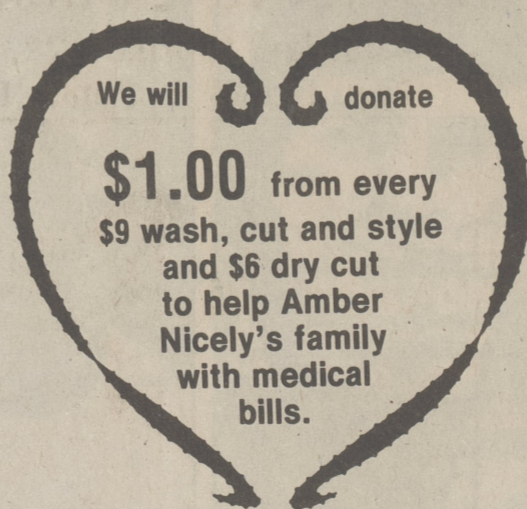
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