

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

It's Girl Scout cookie sale time again

This week marked the beginning of a nearly 60 year tradition in the Back Mountain and throughout America - it's Girl Scout cookie time again. The annual sale began Saturday and continues through the month, with delivery and collection taking place during February and early March.

Your purchase of Girl Scout cookies does much more than provide you and your family with tasty treats. You might be helping a girl to explore a future career in business, and giving her an opportunity to learn about sales and accounting.

More important, local Girl Scout troops benefit directly from the sale of cookies. Proceeds support anti-drug programs, council events, arts and crafts workshops and many other activities.

When you say "yes" to Girl Scout cookies, remember how much your purchase means. The cookies are good - the deed you're doing is better.

Revive King's legacy

This past Monday would have been the 61st birthday of one of America's greatest figures, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Had he not been murdered in 1968, King would probably have been affecting the course of our nation today as he did for more than a decade as the acknowledged leader of the civil rights movement.

Martin Luther King showed special bravery during those years of tumult and danger. His courage in speaking out and standing up for the rights of black people in a segregated society were most evident as he spent hundreds of days in jail because he dared to ask that all Americans be treated equally. But it took another kind of courage to hold to the non-violent principles that set his actions apart from others in the movement. How hard that must have been in the face of constant assaults from law enforcement officers and bigots.

By his stirring speeches and noble acts, Martin Luther King showed America a terrible wrong that needed correction and offered the prescription for its cure. His example of a citizen exercising his civic duty and civil rights is one of the finest in the world's history.

There are a few narrow-minded revisionists who would strip Martin Luther King of his place in history because of his human failings. King's weakness for women has been well documented and is not disputed by any reputable source. But to diminish our memory of his accomplishments because of his shortcomings would mean having to expel any number of great men and women from their rightful homes in our collective consciousness. Great achievements are often accompanied by great faults, but that doesn't diminish the achievement.

Rather than waste time arguing about Martin Luther King's personal weaknesses we should be acting to continue the work he began. If he were with us today, his words and deeds would remind us that America still contains far too many roadblocks for those in our society who begin their lives outside of the existing power structure. We can best honor his memory by speaking out for equitable treatment for all citizens.

Letters invited

The Dallas Post encourages readers to share their opinions with the community by writing a letter to the editor. All letters for publication must be signed and include a telephone number so that we may verify their authenticity. We will not publish anonymous letters. Send letters to: The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas, PA 18612. Letters received by Noon on Monday may be included in that week's issue.



Down an ice-covered lane in Lehman

(Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Only yesterday

60 Years Ago - Jan. 17, 1930

16-CYLINDER APPEARS AT ARMORY CAR SHOW

A 16-cylinder car is to be one of the features on display at the 19th Annual Car Show at the Armory Monday.

Dallas played two excellent games of basketball Friday night defeating Roaring Brook 23-22 and Shavertown 32-24.

Shavertown Fire Company held its regular meeting at St. Paul's Lutheran Church Monday night and elected L.T. Schwartz president; Woodie Travis, vice president; James Hariman, recording secretary; S.J. Woolbert, treasurer; E.W. Platt financial secretary; Stanley Wrisley, fire chief.

50 Years Ago - Jan. 19, 1940

SEWING MACHINES FOR FINLAND GARB NEEDED

A group of women at the Dallas Methodist Church need sewing machines to begin work on a quantity of garments which the Red Cross will ship next month to Finland.

Gov. Arthur H. James spoke on the radio Wednesday night reviewing his first year as Pennsylvania's chief executive.

Chief Leslie Warhola proposed an alarm system which will disclose to Dallas Borough residents

the general location of fires.

Stephen Tkach of Goss Manor, Dallas, received the appointment as chief clerk in the Commissioner's office at an annual salary of \$3,000.

Winter's cold weather records were broken yesterday morning when the temperature dropped below zero shortly after midnight.

Engaged - Margaret Lynn and Eugene Ritenour.

Wed - Anna Barto and Harold Boyce.

Dallas Township forged into a tie with Dallas Borough with its 46-23 win over Lehman Tuesday night.

40 Years Ago - Jan. 20, 1950

DALLAS TWP. REJECTS COMMISSION'S ZONING

Dallas Township supervisors reject zoning in the township presented by the Government Planning Commission and instead will adopt other ordinances suggested by a committee headed by Harry F. Goeringer, Wilkes-Barre realtor.

Mrs. T.M.B. Hicks was named president of the Back Mountain Memorial Library Book Club at its meeting Wednesday. Mrs. Fred Howell was the retiring president.

Engaged - Doris Rossman and Arnold L. Swan; Alice W. Shaver and Edward J. Thompson; Jean Louise Johnson and William Long.

30 Years Ago - Jan. 21, 1960

PARENTS WARNED OF BB GUNS' ILLEGALITY

Four police-escorted bus loads arrive at State Correctional Institution at Dallas from Huntingdon Institution.

Parents warned that BB guns are illegal in Dallas Borough.

Harriet Thompson, former National supervisor, is honored at dinner.

Westmoreland tops West Wyoming 69-49 in the high school league.

Engaged - Janet Marie Smith and Brian Lewis Schaeffer; Carol Zaleskas and Richard Lincoln; Lynda Anne Carey and James Sweitzer.

Annual congregation of St. Paul's Lutheran Church is held Sunday following the morning service.

20 Years Ago - Jan. 22, 1970

JAN. 25 DECREED 'MRS. HICKS' DAY BY MAYOR

Dallas Mayor Stephen Hartman proclaimed January 25 as official "Mrs. Hicks Day", to give tribute to the famed journalist of The Dallas Post and the Back Mountain community is invited to an Open House at College Misericordia in her honor from 2 to 4 p.m., in Kennedy Lounge.

Dallas Senior High wrestlers lost to the Meyers Mohawks by a score of 38-11.

Engaged - Kathleen Maury and PO 2C Donald E. Smith; Diane J. Searfoss and Gary Ralph Hozempa; Nancy Darlene Shaffer and James W. Worth.

LOOK OUT FOR MISSING STOP SIGNS IN HOMES

Dallas School Board will study the proposed 30-day suspension policy within the next week or so, according to board president Richard Hislop.

Dallas Township supervisor Phil Walter requested that parents be on the lookout for "STOP" signs brought in the home by students. Five such signs were vandalized last week to the total sum of \$85.

CT Co. plans \$18.3 million in improvements in Dallas, Factoryville and Pocono Lake areas.

Area residents surveys back boycott of the Olympics.

Wed - Jill Lyons and Robert Cara.

Knights cagers defeat Hanover Hawks 48-39.

Dallas defeats Seton Catholic 71-53 in High School Conference.

Library news

Book Club members get first look at many new issues

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Book Club of the Back Mountain Memorial Library is now accepting membership dues for 1990; \$10.00 for a single membership and \$15.00 for a double.

The membership year runs from January through December. The monies collected by the Book Club is used to purchase special books for the Book Club shelf in the library. These books are available to Book Club members only for the first year and then are placed on the regular library shelves. The membership dues is payable at the circulation desk in the library.

Our display of mini micro machines is attracting a lot of attention by young and old alike.

These tiny, intricate machines are really unique and the children just stand and drool over them.

One small boy wanted to buy a few of them right then and there and it was difficult to persuade him that they were to look at and not for sale. Another little boy asked if he could have a few of them from the display just to play with here for a while. These machines will be on display until January 31.

The library staff is very happy to welcome back on a part time basis, Jane Klem, who is working for us as a volunteer from the Office of the Aging. After a bout with some real health problems, she is now able and willing to perform some of the library chores.

The women who volunteer for us through this office have been a great asset to our staff.

There are available in the reference room of the library the federal income tax forms. These are for the public's use in filing 1989 tax reports. The State forms have not arrived at the library as yet, but should be here soon. We also have a notebook filled with the unusual tax forms which may be photo-copied for patron use.

New books at the library: "Facts About The States" by Joseph Nathan Kane is a book presented to the library in memory of John Connolly, Sr. by Catherine Woicicki. The book is compiled from a wide range of federal and state sources and offers concise

factual portraits of the 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia and contains authoritative information of geography, climate, land use, national sites, demography and landmark dates.

"Knitting Masterpieces" by Ruth Herring and Karen Manners is a book in memory of Gladys Wagner presented by Mary McDade and family. Drawing inspiration from some of the world's greatest works of art, the authors present 20 brilliant designs that are as much fun to wear as they are to knit. From a prehistoric cave painting, to the Mona Lisa, to Monet's Water Lilies and Gauguin's paintings these masterpieces of knitting are a collection of art.

Anderson afield

Slow times in a duck blind bring on curious thoughts

By JOHN M. ANDERSON

A duck blind is a place where hunters hide and hope those floating wooden blocks and honking those little horns known as duck calls will entice some unsuspecting flat-faced fowl within shooting range. But when that fails to happen for an extended period, the duck blind becomes a place where hunters think up earthshaking solutions to earthshaking problems.

Thus it comes to pass that my very sober companion (well, so early in the morning, who could be otherwise?) says, says he, "the Western World is facing a period in history unknown in the annals of mankind. Never before has there been a demographic phenomenon (he loves big words) in which the old outnumbered the young." He

went on to say this was causing society all sorts of troubles and what did I think about it.

Could be my white hair and difficulty in climbing out of boats and into duck blinds made him figure I was in the Golden Age bracket, complete with Social Security checks, hearing loss, impotence and associated characteristics. If so, 'twould imply that I am part of the earthshaking problem, - one of the senile surplus. Now that calls for serious thought.

And he points out that funding for this big and growing horde of unproductive elders would be an intolerable burden on evangelical preachers, hotel owners, doctors, lawyers and other hard-working folks. In extreme cases, according to a John Hopkins physician, the costs could run to a \$1,000 per day for someone on life-support sys-

tems.

So I said, "On the other hand, why not keep our faith in politics? Politics is a disease as insidious, catchable and incurable as AIDS. And those men and women who make it to Congress or the Senate in D.C. begin, the first day after their arrival, figuring ways to stay there. They're always looking for big issues to champion such as the oath of allegiance, school prayer, flag burning and so on. And what could be bigger and more popular than a bill to fight poverty among the elderly? Especially since there's so many of us. No, - don't worry," says I, "there'll always be money for those in dire straits."

If the ducks had been flying that morning, I might have gotten away with it. Alas! After scanning the horizon in all directions and seeing no ducks headed our way, my hard-

headed companion says, "Yes, but remember the campaign promise of no new taxes! So who's gonna pay for it?"

Well, he had me there. So I pointed out that I could contribute to the solution rather than the problem by switching from industrial grade vodka to high-priced stuff from Russia or Sweden and thus pay more taxes. And to avoid absorbing more than my allotted share of the earth's resources, I could start living more dangerously. I could sit in the smoking section of the plane and inhale cigarette smoke from fellow passengers. If I got lung cancer, there would be one less senile citizen for the government to take care of.

And I suggested we look at new ways to raise revenue. People love animals so much that our annual

outlay for pet food almost equals our own food bill. And think of the millions we spend on bird seed! Veterinarians are almost as numerous as people doctors. Why not have a whopping big tax on pet food and bird seed, and then we could afford medicare for dogs and cats.

The animal rights folks are parading and protesting outside of the fur coat stores in Toledo and New York City. They claim we have perfectly good synthetic fur, so there's no need to use real mink and muskrat. Trouble is, making synthetic fur causes all sorts of air pollution. Let the muskrats and minks and 'possums grow the fur for us, and it will save all that money for more research on acid rain.

"So you see", I said, "there's a jillion ways for the young folks to

save money and raise more money to make more old folks more comfortable."

At which point my friend looked frightened. I asked, "Did you just now see a cottonmouth moccasin swimming our way?"

"No", says he, "I was just thinking. If the senior citizens, being the largest age group, should resort to a voters' rebellion, they could throw out all our competent congressmen and replace 'em with a lot of big spenders who could bankrupt the country. Then where would we be?"

And so I asked him real innocent-like, "Where are we now?"

John M. "Frosty" Anderson was Director of the Wildlife Department of the National Audubon Society from 1966 until his retirement in 1987.