

Literacy volunteer Carol King helps Indian student learn English

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

19-year-old Priya Patel of Gujarat, India, is learning to read English comprehensively with the help of Mrs. Carol King of Dallas. The young girl is a student at Wilkes College where she is currently majoring in biology and engineering.

"I don't intend to continue in both majors," Priya said. "I will drop one next year but I'm not sure which one at the present time."

Priya, who lives with her sister and brother-in-law in Shavertown, speaks English fluently but she contacted the Wyoming Valley Literacy Volunteers because she wanted to learn the meaning of the words she was reading in the textbooks.

Mrs. King, who taught for 20 years at the Wyoming Seminary Day School, is working with Priya to help her read as fluently as she speaks English. Mrs. King took a workshop in order to assist persons in reading or writing or those adults who want to learn English as a second language.

Priya came to this country last May to attend college. She waited seven years to get her

visa, then came to the United States with her mother, who has since returned to India. She spent 12 years in school in India before deciding to enter Wilkes College here.

There are 24 dialects in the Indian language, with Hindi the main one. Priya's dialect is Gujarati.

She is presently in her fourth week of learning to read English under the direction of Mrs. King and said she will continue as long as it takes her to comprehend what she is reading.

"I find pronouncing the words the most difficult and also learning the proper meaning," Priya said. "I study reading one night a week and Mrs. King and I talk about different things, which helps. At home, we speak in our native language, but in school I speak in English.

"My sister and brother-in-law, who is a doctor, help me sometimes at home," Priya explained.

She said in the beginning learning English was difficult but later it became easier to pronounce and learn the meaning of words. Since most of her courses this year are in calculus, making diagrams, or other



THINKING ABOUT HOME - Priya Patel, a native of India who is a student at Wilkes University, is studying English with Mrs. Carol King of Dallas, a literacy volunteer. They are shown during a recent session at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

maths, it has not been too difficult, but she realizes she will need to read better in the years ahead.

In lecture classes she tried to write in English, but if the instructors speak too fast, she writes in her native language.

Priya likes life in India better than in the United States.

"I also like the way our parents select a husband or wife for their children when they are old enough (over 18 years of age). I think that system is better because parents are older and they know the younger ones better.

"A Patel has to marry a Patel," she explained. "But a Patel of a different blood line. If a woman or man select someone who is not a Patel, the family will disown them."

Priya likes Wilkes College and said most of the students are friendly. She is a member of the International Club at and has met several other students from India.

Priya plans to remain in this country and is looking forward to a career in her future, although like her sister she plans to return to visit her family in India.

Sale of water company won't affect action on Stonehedge

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

John Molski, secretary of the Back Mountain Water Commission, reported at the regular meeting, March 1 that despite the reported sale of the Dallas-Shavertown Water Company, the Stonehedge case before the Public Utilities Commission is still under litigation. He also told members present at the meeting that Jackson Township had indicated their interest in joining the Commission and their representative is Beatrice Roy.

Hugh King, a resident of Dallas Borough, in correspondence to the Commission, stated that he had read a news item in the Wall Street Journal concerning nitrates in drinking water. King said he wondered whether or not the Commission knew of nitrates in the local public water and if so, did they have information on the level of nitrates in the water before becoming dangerous.

"Since we have no information about nitrates in the water, I sent a copy of King's letter to Paul Franklin at the Department of Environmental Resources and also asked Franklin if he had any information to send it to us," Molski told the member.

Commission chairman Jim Ward said he was concerned about the lack of a quorum at prior

meetings. "Without a quorum, it is impossible to accomplish anything," Ward said. He asked Molski if he had a record of the representatives attendance and when Molski answered in the affirmative, Ward asked him to give a report.

"I believe the various municipal officials should be aware of whether or not their representatives are attending and determine whether or not they are interested," Ward said.

Molski's records showed that from October, 1988 to December, 1989, the frequency of attendance was: Dallas Borough 100%; Dallas Township 92%; Kingston Township 83%; Lake Township 79%; Harveys Lake 50%; Franklin Township 46% and Lehman Township 12%.

State Rep. Scott Dieterick sent a letter enclosed with guidelines for private wells as drawn up by the State of Massachusetts. Ward asked Lake Township Representative Joseph Salla to contact Fran-

klin Township's Dan Faison about the Water Commission's progress on the ordinances for private wells.

Ellie Rodda, liaison to the Commission from the Back Mountain Citizens Council, told members that survey returns had been turned over to Howard Crossman's office to be computerized.

She also told the Commission that the Council had been discussing the possibility of a forum on the quality, quantity and source of water for a meeting and asked the Commission members for their input on information and also on the persons qualified for the forum.

In a closing report, Molski told members that sources researched for grants to assist the Commission in its work were exhausted.

"If any of the members have any recommendations, I welcome their suggestions," Molski said.

The next meeting of the Water Commission will be April 4, the first Thursday of the month.



PLAN FASHION SHOW - Members of the Lake-Lehman Football Mothers Fashion Show Committee met last week to make plans for their Fashion Show to be presented March 26 at the Lake-Lehman High School. Seated, above, from left are Drena Gorgone, Susann Tereska, Marion Kochoer, Charlotte Williams; standing, Gail L. Thomas, Jane Gouger, Chris Sakoski, Nancy Owens and Deatra Martin. Absent from photo, Deborah Houghney, Elaine Sholtis, Donna Butler and Jean Parry. (C.M. Denmon Photo)

Football Moms plan fashion show

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

The Lake-Lehman Football Mothers are preparing for another football season.

Every year the mothers reorganize to earn money to support the football team. Their main purpose is to buy a jacket for each senior player. They also present the cheerleading and football squads and the coaches with gifts and trophies.

All the awards and gifts are presented at a special banquet following the end of the season. This means a lot of work and fundraising. Among the fundraisers are selling candy, raffle tickets, game ball tickets, bake sales at home games and parking.

But, the first fundraiser this year will be a fashion show of prom and spring fashions to be presented Monday, March 26, at the Lake-Lehman High School auditorium.

Gina Major, Miss Pennsylvania 1984-1985, and a graduate of Lake-Lehman, will act as commentator. Football players will model tuxedos from U.S. Tuxedo and dress and sportswear from Pomeroy's and the Field House.

Football cheerleaders and managers will model gowns from

D's Bridal Shop and clothing from Back Street Fashions. Flowers to match the prom gowns will be provided by The Flower House.

Other businesses, particularly from the Back Mountain, have helped the football mothers' efforts by placing ads in the program or by donating door prizes. Tickets priced at \$2.00 for students and \$3.00 for adults are available at

the door or from any of the Lake-Lehman Football Mothers.

In addition to raising money, the Lake-Lehman Football Mothers form a very vocal cheering section at the games. They also participate in the Lehman-Dallas Old Shoe Game Pep Rally on the Friday before the game and in the car caravan to the game.

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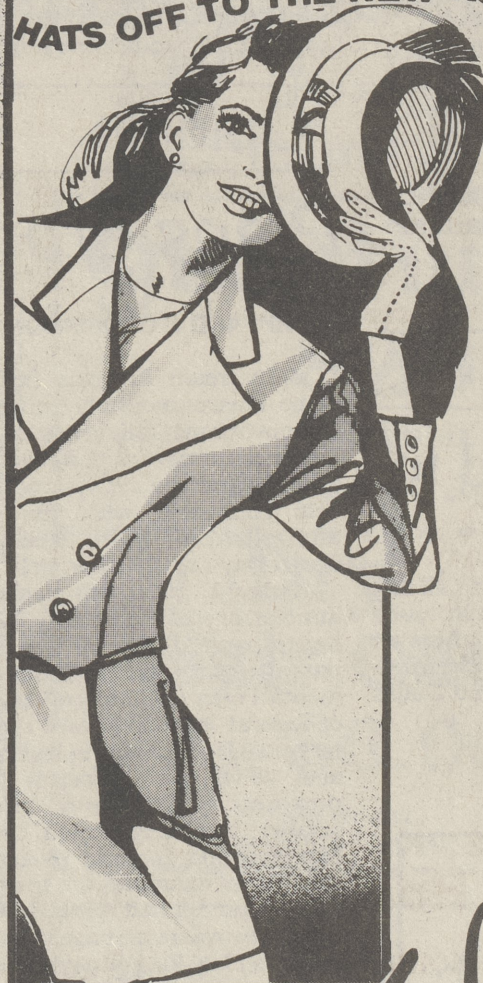
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