

As I was saying...

By way of introduction

By JACK HILSHER

You are reading an introduction to a series of new columns, written by a newcomer to the Back Mountain. We recently moved out here from Kingston (some will say to get away from higher taxes or another flood. Not so, it's something we wanted to do.) and judging from how much we have enjoyed it so far, it's something we should have done a long time ago.

Our valley is not exactly lacking in newspaper columns. Before the S.I. went tummy up there were over two dozen. That's a lot considering how few papers we have. So to be of any use at all - to entertain, to teach, to make you think - a new column should be at the very least different from all those other twenty-something.

This one will try to be. We were told once to "write only about what you know." And like, I would add. So you are going to read about my lifelong love for jazz and its diverse characters. You'll read about photography, and perhaps

even some darkroom tips. About pets, and hobbies, outer space and all sorts of goodies, but no politics or school board fights. I leave that stuff to others.

Should you wonder about my credentials for this job, well there has been some experience, however I have always been fascinated by columnists and their products. So if I like them that much it certainly should improve my own. And it definitely is fun to write and see your words in print.

Obviously I am not alone in this regard. When former LCCC prexy Tom Moran was asked to contribute a column with subjects of his own choosing, he led off with "Somebody Up There Likes Me." I felt the same way when our editor invited me to sign on.

Columnists are a strange breed. They - so to speak - expose their inner selves in public on a regular basis. Try as they might to be impersonal their true nature shines through every time.

Franklin P. Adams probably was the first, or close to it, in 1911 with "The Conning Tower." Then

they showed up in droves: Heywood Brown, Westbrook Pegler, Walter Winchell (who invented gossip all by himself), Dorothy Thompson, "Odd" McIntyre...the list is endless. Some became syndicated (in many papers) and attracted millions of readers. They were the first thing people turned to after reading the front page, and I'll be telling you more about all of them in the future.

Naturally I don't presume to rank myself with those greats, but I did once have a reader who wrote in to say my column was the first thing he turned to after the obituary page!

One must assume that reader was a senior citizen. So am I. Our number incidentally is on the increase and some day we shall take over, but I don't mean to imply that I intend to appeal only to senior readers.

Far from it, both beginning and seasoned yuppies should read this space also. After all, they will be seniors themselves some day. Stay tuned...I'll be right back.

Historical Society to note 100th year

The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society announces the opening of an exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of their museum, Sunday, Nov. 21 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The exhibit features 100 artifacts from the Society's collections. "The 100th anniversary provided us with an opportunity to display some of the strange and wonderful treasures that are normally locked away in storage,"

according to Richard Stanislaus, Curator. "In the course of fulfilling its mission, to collect, preserve and interpret the history of Wyoming Valley and Luzerne County for the past 140 years, the Society has collected over 60,000 objects," he added.

The Wyoming Historical and Geographical Society, one of the oldest historical organizations in the nation, was founded in 1858. The museum building, designed

by architect A.H. Kipp, was built in 1893 through the generosity of Isaac S. Osterhout, who provided for both the public library and the Historical Society in his will.

The museum is open to the public free of charge Tuesday through Friday, noon to 4 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Guided school and group tours may be arranged by appointment. For additional information, please contact the Society at 823-6244.

Thanks

Mini-Mounts coach thanks team supporters

The Dallas Mini-Mounts C-Team would like to thank all the people involved with this season.

Despite ending the season with two ties, thus eliminating C-Team's chances of making it to the playoffs, C-Team players finished the season in third place. Team work was the key element

for our success.

The Dallas Mini-Mounts would especially like to thank the Dallas School District for the use of their fields and parking lots; for our 1st annual "Let's Kick Off the Football Season Carnival."

We would also like to thank all the people who helped with bake sales, mug sales, umbrella sales,

candy sales and also our Super Bowl ticket booths all of which helped in purchasing new equipment for our players and cheerleaders.

And last but not least, we'd like to thank the fans who supported us throughout the season.

Ed Gryskevitz
Asst. Coach

Library news

Kids can 'Pig out on books' at the library

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

On December 2, 1993, Florence Tremayne Crump will celebrate her 99th birthday. This genuine 'friend of the library' has been my friend and mentor for the past 28 years. I met her when she was working in the children's library on Main Street, when I took my two boys in for library books.

Twenty six years ago she told me the library needed a children's librarian and wanted to recommend me for the position. I had never given it a thought to working in a library; however, I have been doing it for the past 26 years. She is the one person I accepted criticism from when I mis-spelled a word or used a wrong word when doing my publicity through the years.

Mrs. Crump is spending her time at the Meadows Nursing Center in Dallas in Room 204 these days, and would love to receive

cards on her birthday from friends. Whenever I visit her, all I say is 'I'm Nancy from the library' and she knows who I am and talks about the library and the children. Happy birthday, Mrs. Crump!!

Children's Book Week will be celebrated in 1993 from November 15 through November 20. The theme at the Back Mountain Library will be "Pig Out On Books". A Pig Trivia Game will be to see how many questions about pigs each child can answer. A Truffle Hunt: In France pigs are used to sniff out truffles. Children will be asked to find as many truffles as they can in the library.

During the week, as books are read, readers can 'feed' their recording forms to the Pig in the children's room. How many books will our Pig eat in a week? Guess the answer to this on Saturday, Nov. 20. There is a bulletin board display near the children's room and see the special pig things for Children's Book Week.

New books at the library: "Slow Waltz in Cedar Bend" by Robert James Waller is a haunting, intelligent story about a once-in-a-lifetime love, the kind that changes you forever. The first instant he saw her, something deep in his bones had whispered. "That one". And Jellie Braden in her 40th year, had heard the voice, too. It was attraction at first sight; however, it forced them to come to terms with their lives in ways they hadn't imagined.

"Criminal Trespass" by Helen Hudson is the story of Rannee, a young black woman who grows up during the '30s in Simms Quarter, a tiny family community in the deep South, isolated from the white world around it. Violence is kept at bay by the integrity and loyalty of the adults and their firm resolve never to trespass. Rannee's happiest moments are spent with Uncle Floyd, who, alone has time to talk with her as she rocks beside him in her chair.

Reese family grateful for support, kindness

Editor, We would like to thank all of the members of the community who have offered their love and support during the loss of our daughter, Wendy, and throughout her lengthy illness.

We are truly grateful for all of the expressions of kindness shown

to our family - the prayers, cards, visits, phone calls, gifts, and memorial contributions.

We appreciate the many individuals in the community and from the local schools, churches, organizations, and businesses who have offered their time and talents to organize or participate

in the various fund-raising events over the past two years.

Please know that we will be forever grateful to all those who have helped us through this most difficult time.

Thomas and Jennifer Reese
Dallas.

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