

Honored for service

The Meadows Nursing Center, Dallas, recently honored five and 10 year employees for their dedicated service and caring for residents at the Center at a special luncheon at the Beaumont Inn. Certificates of Appreciation and savings bonds were awarded to all honorees. Attending were, from left: 10 year employees, Linda Derby, Laundry Supervisor; Thomas Thorne, Environmental Services Director; Diane DeWitt, Dietary; Rita Nichols, Assistant Director of Activities and Volunteer Services; five year employees: Melanie Kocher, L.P.N. and Joan Krispin, L.P.N., Nursing Department; Paulette Krochta, Environmental Services; and Carol Leoni, R.N., Nursing Supervisor. Seated from left were: 10 year employees Jennie Taylor, Personnel Secretary; Sol Lubin, past President Ecumenical Enterprises Board; Jan Congdon, R.N., Nursing Supervisor; and Thomas J. Sweeney, Administrator of the Meadows Nursing Center. Also honored but not shown were 10 year employees, Chris Montross, L.P.N., Nursing Department; Ann M. Niznik, Beautician; Jean Reynolds, Environmental Services; Esther Wright, CNA, Nursing Department; and five year employee, Arlene Roerig, L.P.N., Nursing Department. The Meadows Nursing Center is owned and managed by Ecumenical Enterprises, Inc., (EEI) a private non-profit corporation. Sol Lubin recently retired from serving EEI as a volunteer after 24 years.



As I was saying...

Musician Artie Shaw: still swinging at 82

By JACK HILSHER

Arthur Jacob Arshawsky - Artie Shaw to you - reached 82 recently and still swings...but with words instead of music.

Shaw spends his days in a book-jammed study - reading, thinking and writing. His thoughts about a just-read book fill every blank page in that book; Shaw reads with a pencil in one hand and uses it to meticulously record his comments.

Bald from front to rear with greying side thatches and a busy moustache (the sexy eyebrows appear to be intact) the famous ex-bandleader does not look to be in his eighties.

His big record hits (over fifty) still sell and have been reissued in CDs. "Begin the Beguine" sounds as fresh and exciting today as it did back in the 40s, when even the Japanese embraced it. (They made the hit a symbol of a new beginning for their beaten country.)

Many are puzzled that such a

popular star could chuck lime-light for obscurity as a so-so novelist. Shaw solves that quite simply...he says he hated the music business. He hated the fans, the touring, the adulation, hated everything. In a recent interview Shaw said he always wanted to write, and his music was only a means to that end. "I never deceived myself that I liked what I was doing."

Something else he obviously didn't like but kept trying...married life. Shaw went through as many wives as he did bands...some say seven, some eight. What does it matter really, when his spouse parade, starting with Evelyn Keyes and continuing with Kathleen Windsor, Doris Dowling, Lana Turner, Ava Gardner and two or three more, surely was far more than any mortal man deserved? Shaw now admits that he was "impossible to live with!" (How could he tell?)

Part of the Shaw legend was that so-called rivalry with fellow clarinetist and bandleader, King

of Swing, Benny Goodman. Not so, says Artie. "We both happened to play the clarinet and he was very good. Why he practiced all day long! Did I? Hell no! But we were always very friendly."

In 1983 an orchestra was formed, owned by Shaw but led by clarinetist Dick Johnson, no youngster himself. Shaw said, "Let him play 'Frenesi' and 'Beguine'...I can't anymore."

Johnson, who comes from Brockton, Mass., where a car is called "cah," phoned a printing supplier for music folders for the new band. A clerk took down his specifications, which included having "THE ARTIE SHAW ORCHESTRA" printed on their fronts.

Unfortunately the clerk had never heard of Artie Shaw, so Dick Johnson's "Brockton-style" phoned instructions resulted in a shipment of beautiful folders, each embossed on the cover with this legend: "THE OTTIE SHORE ORCHESTRA."

Did Johnson keep them all? Of course!

The economic viewpoint

Many factors will affect our future growth

By HOWARD J. GROSSMAN

Have you ever wondered what questions need to be addressed in order to improve Northeastern Pennsylvania's future? Some organizations have, including the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania (EDCNP). Taking a strategic view of the region's future, EDCNP cataloged a list of questions which its Board of Directors felt to be important if the region was to compete in the remainder of the 1990s and the 21st century. There are no ready answers to these questions but forming and framing the right questions in the first place is the initial step toward developing the types of strategies and responses which will be most helpful to guide and shape how and in what manner the region will grow and hopefully be economically competitive over the next century.

Questions were divided into categories which are strategic in nature include the following.

Regional Factors

—Will the increase in gambling in various states eventually impact Northeastern Pennsylvania and cause new thinking regarding gambling in the region?

—The demographics of Northeastern Pennsylvania are quite different than many other regions of the nation with an accelerated aging process and a diminished birth rate. What are the implications of this with respect to 21st century Northeastern Pennsylvania?

—The region has undergone significant change in recent years with respect to citizen involvement in many types and forms of

economic and community development functions. How can citizen involvement be effectively utilized as a positive and continuing force for an economic betterment throughout the region.

Statewide Factors

—Northeastern Pennsylvania has been sharply impacted in the past by competitive regions such as Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, Binghamton, New York and similar locations. To what extent will the continuing migration of people into the Pocono Mountains, Northeastern Pennsylvania, and nearby regions close the gap of competitiveness and make the region more closely aligned as allies and partners rather than competitors?

—Commonwealth marketing strategies are critical to each region of the state. How can these marketing strategies be best incorporated into a regional and sub-regional marketing strategy to benefit the region's economic future?

National Factors

—Municipalities across the nation, especially in urban America, have great financial stress being placed upon them. What can Northeastern Pennsylvania local governments do to protect themselves with respect to financial distress?

—Preparation and training of a technologically competent workforce has become a national issue. To what extent can the region significantly expand its educational base and utilize new student learning outcome techniques and undertake workforce training and workforce

development processes which will meet the needs of business and industry into the 21st century?

—Immigration policies in the United States have impacted certain regions of the nation more dramatically than others. As immigration policies develop and as people migrate throughout the nation, how would this impact the region's future and how can these trends be incorporated for the betterment of the region's 21st century lifestyles.

International Factors

—Will the breakup of Eastern European nations provide more or less opportunities for international trade with Northeastern Pennsylvania?

—The importation of foreign products to the United States has been and continues to be a major international and national issue. To what extent will foreign competition continue to impact the region's economic life; and how will this measure against the need to maximize job opportunities of all types in the region?

All together, there were 27 major strategic questions addressed in a 1992 document prepared by EDCNP as a guide for regional economic growth. This document represents a major contribution to the body of knowledge by which Northeastern Pennsylvania will improve its ability to be economically competitive in the 21st century. For those who would like more information contact EDCNP, 1151 Oak Street, Pittston, PA 18640.

Howard Grossman is Executive Director of the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania. He lives in Dallas.

Library news

Celebrating Mrs. Crump's 99th birthday

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

December 1, 1993 is the day of celebration for the 99th birthday of Mrs. Florence Crump who is residing at the Meadows Nursing Center. Open House will be held in the community room on the first floor of the center from 2:30 until 3:30. Hopefully, many of her friends and former associates will attend to wish her a happy birthday!

The Book Club held its November meeting in the reference room at the library. The club now has 228 members for 1993 with \$2,077.50 in dues collected for the purchase of books for the Book Club shelf.

Gene Wert, book selection committee, reported there are eight new books on order for this month. The December meeting will be held Monday, Dec. 20 at 1:30 in the reading room. This will be the Book Club Annual Christmas Tea. The program will be presented by a Handbell Quar-

ter from the Shavertown United Methodist Church consisting of Mary Lou Swingle, Kathy Berkey, Kim Hogans and Nancy Kozemchak. A special part of the program will be audience participation with handbells and special Christmas music. Members of the community are cordially invited to this special Christmas Tea.

The library will hold its annual Holiday Open House at the Library on December 22 and 23, Wednesday and Thursday, from 1 to 4 p.m. in the afternoon. Punch, hot cider, candies and cookies will be served. Friends, neighbors and community members are invited to the library during this holiday season to enjoy some refreshments and share in the festivities of the holidays at their library.

New Memorial Books at the library: "Daring To Be Yourself" by Alexandra Stoddard is a book designed to help you bring out your own beautiful style in all you

do. It is finding and manifesting your true personal style, opening new avenues of expression and bringing wholeness and serenity into every area of your life. It is discovering that style is an exhilarating and ongoing detective story. This gives you a chance to create your own style. This book is presented by Lenora Hayden in memory of Francis Jones.

The fifth edition of "The Columbia Encyclopedia" is given by Barbara Eyet in memory of her father, Glenn W. Eyet, Jr. The fourth edition was copyrighted in 1975.

The difficulty involved in updating this encyclopedia had to do not only with the size of the book—at least six and a half million words—but with its range of subject matter, its reputation for accuracy and with the times in which we are living. A bad time for editing an encyclopedia, but the best of times for providing our readers with a new edition of a classic work.

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