

Book buddies

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program, the sixth-graders had to learn how to read to the younger set. Read slowly. Point to the pictures and talk about them. Ask simple questions.

"They were very happy when the little kids started paying attention to the stories being read to them," Edwards said.

The book buddies also helped their friends learn "Astro-phonics," an introduction to letters and the sounds that they make, Edwards said.

"We plan on having the book buddies go to assembly together, so that the kindergarteners can learn better listening manners," she said. "They also marched together in the Halloween costume parade."

December 6 was a big day for the kindergarteners. Their book buddies took them to Santa's Shop to buy Christmas presents for their families and helped them keep track of their purchases and spending money.

Operated by the PTA, Santa's Shop offers inexpensive gifts priced between 25¢ and \$3.00, obtained at cost from local merchants.

"The kindergarteners are the most fun. Their eyes open wide the first time that they come in," said co-chairman MaryAnn Finch, who has helped organize the shop for the past five years.

"The boys always try to buy shiny jewelry for their mothers, while the girls often shop for younger brothers and sisters first," she said.

There was certainly a fine selection of gifts, everything from jewelry to fishing lures and pet toys.

Spyke VanCampen's eyes lit up as he browsed through the merchandise. "Let's see what you want to look at," said book buddy Chris Murray.

Edwards said that the program has been successful for the sixth-graders, who are slowly realizing that they are role models for the younger students.

"There has been a big change in them," she said.

Now the fifth grade wants to form a similar program, possibly working with the first-graders' Reading is FUNdamental (RIF) project.

"I wish we had had this when I was in kindergarten," said Steve Barber, coloring another picture with his buddy

Building Dallas

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information that he can find about the area.

"Luckily I got shots of the old Agway building before it was torn down," he laughed.

Specifically, he wants to copy drawings or photos of the old freight station, the Ben Franklin store, the original Honor Roll on Memorial Lane, the Himmler Theatre, the Dallas Dairy and Commonwealth's warehouse, served by their own rail spurs.

It took Chamberlain nearly 1,000 hours to build the model of the landmark Harry E breaker, which received lump coal by truck and rail from nearby mines and processed it into usable sizes during the heyday of Wyoming Valley's underground coal mines.

Its enclosed conveyor belts running from the railroad tracks and the street still cross over Swoyersville's back road.

"I chose the Harry E because it was an era of valley history that I missed," Chamberlain said. "The mines are an important part of our history. Many railroads were centered around the breakers, bringing in building materials and raw coal and taking out the finished coal."

He has painstakingly recreated several homes behind the breaker on Slocum Street, copying two architectural designs common in the area - the "company houses" of the coal fields and the Sears-Roebuck



POST PHOTO: GRACE R. DOVE

LIFELIKE DETAILS - Walt Chamberlain's model train layouts are realistic down to the telephone poles, cars and people. Shown is a detail from his layout of Swoyersville.

homes built from kits ordered from the famous wishbook.

Backyards have coal bins, wood piles, fences, swing sets and gardens - complete with tomatoes tied to stakes. The cars even have authentic period license plates.

A self-employed landscaper, Chamberlain works on his layout during the winter when business is slow, making every part of the model layout by hand.

His wife, Donna, often helps out with pointers on the layout or how to photograph it. Her photos of the Harry E

model will be featured next year in *Model Railroad Magazine's* "Trackside Photos" section.

Their three-year-old daughter, Nina, often ventures out to the workshop in the garage to watch Dad and his trains. This year she might have her own train platform under the Christmas tree.

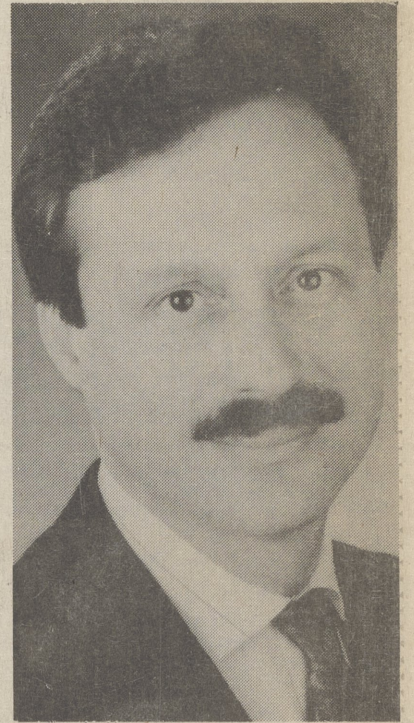
Chamberlain would love to hear from anyone with information or photos of the railroads running through the center of Dallas during the 1950's. He can be reached at 675-0983.

Heart Association names James Schilling chairman

Jim Schilling, Trucksville, was appointed chairman of the American Heart Association - Pennsylvania Affiliate Communications Committee at the recent AHA Annual Board Meeting held at the Nittany Lion Inn, State College.

In the volunteer position, Schilling will counsel and guide the Affiliate in communications and public relations matters and review, develop and determine Affiliate communications plans and priorities. In addition, he will serve a two-year term as a member of the board of directors and executive committee of the AHA, Pennsylvania Affiliate.

Schilling currently serves as Director of Marketing and System Communications of Wyoming Valley Health Care System, Inc. A certified member of the American Society for Health Care Marketing and Public Relations, he also holds board affiliations with the local divisions of the American Heart Association and American Diabetes Association, respectively.



JAMES SCHILLING

LCCC orientation, registration in Jan.

Luzerne County Community College will hold its annual Spring Freshman Orientation program January 7, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Educational Conference Center at college's main campus in Nanticoke.

Information on courses, student activities, student services and financial aid will be available.

Registration for Spring 1994 day and evening classes will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 11 and 12, from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., in building #7, at the main campus. Spring semester classes will begin on Monday, January 24.

More Back Mountain news and ads are in The Dallas Post

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Arthritis clinic at Nesbitt Hospital Jan. 12

Nesbitt Memorial Hospital campus of Wyoming Valley Health Care System Inc., will host an arthritis clinic Wednesday, January 12 at 11 a.m. in its Medical Arts Building, 534 Wyoming Avenue, Kingston.

Arthritic patients will be given individual exami-

nations by John Carey, M.D., and a complete treatment plan will be suggested. Results will then be forwarded to each patient's physician for consultation and follow-up care.

Appointments are required. To register or for more information, call 283-4528.

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SKI TIP #11

by Sean O'Shea

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