



**Just a little off the top, please**

American Asphalt employees Jim Baker, Wayne Swire, Jim Atherton and Benny Sersen finish a freshly poured section of

concrete curbing at the Route 309/Center Street intersection, as work on widening Route 309 continued last week.

POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

**Winging it**

(continued from page 1)

"We're not going anywhere near it."

At stake are \$20,000 in cash and prizes, with 80 planes competing in the race.

Gordon and Cooper, co-owners of a two-passenger Cessna based at the Wyoming Valley Airport, have logged a combined 1,500 hours in the air, but this is their first time in the race.

Dennis Cooper came along to act as engineer. He and his father took flying lessons together at Sky Haven airport in Tunkhannock when Dennis was 15, but he hasn't yet earned his pilot's license.

"I'm all psyched for it," he grinned.

Always interested in flying, Gordon started lessons several years ago after driving past the Wyoming Valley airport and stopping in to see what was involved in getting a pilot's license.

"There are two things that I've always wanted to do - fly a plane and play the guitar," he said. "All I need now is the guitar."

Gordon said two days were devoted to waxing the plane to help reduce the friction of the wind and give them more speed.

The men said that they felt confident and weren't nervous at all.

"I feel better, now that Dennis is coming along," Cooper said.

"We're going for a good time - an island-hopping adventure through the Caribbean," Gordon joked.

The pair said that since they didn't have any sponsors, they paid the trip's entire cost themselves.

"It costs a bit," Gordon said, refusing to elaborate.

A corrections officer at the State

*"We're going for a good time - an island-hopping adventure through the Caribbean."*

**Charles Gordon**  
Amateur air racer

Correctional Institution at Retreat, Cooper, a Lake Silkworth resident, has logged more than 1,000 hours of flight. He and his wife, Coleen, have four children, Dennis, Steve, Linda and Debbie.

Gordon, a Pikes Creek resident and the owner of Gordon Insurance Agency, has logged nearly 500 hours in the air.

He and his wife, Dottie, have two children, Terri and Charles III.

After the race's closing ceremonies May 14 in Freeport, Bahamas, the trio plans to return to Wyoming Valley May 15.

The men took off at sunrise May 7 after a few last-minute wind and instrument checks.

"Let's do it," they said, giving a "thumbs up" through the plane's window, and the motor purred to life.

**BOAT TIP #5**  
by Dave

**Q. How does wind effect a canoe?**

A. Extremely well if the wind is coming from directly behind. Problems arise in a wind from the sides or the front, because it turns your canoe. You can't avoid this but can minimize it by trimming the canoe properly

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**Chili Willies opening**

Donna Walker, co-owner of Chili Willies in the Dallas Corners building, served Ryan Steeves of Shavertown during the store's opening last weekend.



The Post has more local news

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**Busy Bookworm opens**

The Busy Bookworm bookstore opened last week in the Dallas Corners building. Shown during grand opening are, from left, Scott Werblin, ass't manager; Spot the Dog, character from an Eric Hill children's book; Krystal Vincent, owner; Donald Vincent.

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presents  
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David Greenwald, M.D.

Thursday, May 12 at 7 PM  
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Admission and refreshments are free.  
Reservations are required.  
To make yours, please call 283-4528.

This series of educational lectures is under the direction of Karen Cooper, M.D., Medical Oncologist and Chairperson of the Public Education Committee for the Wyoming Valley Unit of the American Cancer Society.

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NEWS

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