

Letters

There's no place like the Back Mountain

Editor:
We are writing to let you know how much we enjoy receiving *The Dallas Post* at our new home in Texas. Though we only lived in the Back Mountain for eighteen months, we made many friends and reading *The Post* helps us keep in touch. Our transfer to Texas was hectic and our move abrupt. We feel like we did not get a chance to say a proper good-bye to all those that we wished to remember. We would appreciate it if you would publish this letter in the editorial section of the paper. We are sorry it has taken us longer than expected to write this letter. Hopefully, all our friends in PA will know that we keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

We would like to send a special thank you to the Dallas Borough Council Members, Charlie and Danny on the dump truck and Mr. Jack Fowler for making our home in Dallas a warm and friendly place to live. We enjoyed living in Dallas and feel fortunate that we had so many neighbors and friends who made us feel welcomed.

We especially wish to remember, with fondness, Martha: the "Cookie Lady" and the employees of the Church & Foster St., Acme, the employees at the CVS drug-store who took such good care of

us, the "Girls" at Bev's Beauty Salon, Kimberly's Floral, Dallas Photo Shop, and Dale's Office Supply who always provided us with quality service. Shopping for shoes will never be the same as it was at Gino's!! Bob and Maryann at the Furniture Workshop always had a friendly, smile and we will miss the help we always got at the Dallas Hardware store. Amy and Judy, with A.J.'s Residential Services, Dave and the "guys" at the Back Mountain Auto Speicalists, Bill Cave Construction and Lisa Zavada with Stage Farm took great care of us all. We always enjoyed our meals at Mark II and Pickett's Charge, we especially miss the fun and food at all the local festivals.

We don't want to forget the fine people at the Back Mountain Library, the Faculty and Staff at Dallas Elementary School and Sister Stella and "Mozart" at Mercy Center for teaching our girls with care and patience. Debbie Jury, Deb Serfass and the Penn's Woods Girl Scout Council are very special people who deserve lots of praise and gratitude. The members of the Trucksville UMC made us a part of their family, and we will miss the fellowship. Dr. Boonin, Dr. Harris, Dr. Clements, Dr. Scott, Dr. C. Casterline; their associates and health care pro-

fessionals at the Wilkes-Barre General Hospital should be commended for providing consistent, quality care. Mr. John Peterson and the Ladies at the Shavertown Franklin First Savings Bank made banking "user friendly".

We would not wish to forget all those people who became special friends along the way: Mrs. "O", Pat and Ed, Adam and Puddles, Missy, Jimmy, Debbie, Ray and Allison, Ann and Len, the Webers, the Allardyses, the Careys, the Caves and Maribeth Jones. We met many people during our short stay in NE PA and are happy to remember them as friendly folks. The many merchants that we dealt with that we have omitted to name were equally friendly and provided excellent service. We hope that any one we failed to mention will not consider it a slight but merely an oversight. We would have to publish an entire edition of *The Post* to include all the small acts of kindness and generosity that we will remember. We appreciate the chance to tell you all how much your friendship has meant to us. We hope you all enjoy a safe and prosperous year and will remember us as your friends,

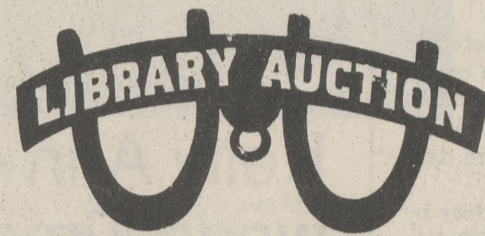
Cortinne, Ron Rebecca, Sarah and Emilie Thomason, Victoria, TX

Take a chance on a neat bike

Dallas Bikeworks has donated a mountain bike as a raffle prize for this year's Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction. In photo at right, Jennie Valick, left, raffle committee chairperson, and shop owner Joel Eneboe are shown with the Ross Mt. Rushmore model 21-speed, 18" mountain bike with Bushwacker bike bake and free full-season service. The bike is valued at \$259, and will be on display at the library until the auction. Raffle tickets are \$1 each and are available at the library or from staff or board members. The drawing will be held during the auction.



Library Auction Corner



For 49 summers, the people of the Back Mountain have come together to donate their goods, services and time to the auction block of the Back Mountain Memorial Library. The life of the library is a year-to-year proposition, and the auction is crucial to its operation. Twenty-five percent of the annual budget comes from the auction. This year's 49th annual auction will be held July 6-9 at the library grounds on Huntsville Road in Dallas. Any and all donations of cash or saleable items can help assure the continued fine service of the library to our communities. For more information, call the library at 675-1182.

July 6-7-8-9

Support the Back Mountain Library

One-fourth of the library's annual budget comes from the auction. You can help. Your donation of an item or money will help your library survive and prosper.

Here's my donation to the Back Mountain Memorial Library

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

I have an item to donate. Call me for details.

Here's a cash donation of \$ _____ to help the library.

Mail or bring to: Back Mountain Memorial Library
96 Huntsville Road, Dallas PA 18612
Call 675-1182 if you have any questions. Donations are tax-deductible.

This message donated as a public service by The Dallas Post

As I was saying



Jack Hilsher

Wilkes University students and guests were slated for a treat at their 1994 commencement when John Birks Gillespie agreed to address them. Unfortunately he became ill, couldn't show and died soon after. He would have been represented with an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters in honor of his 75th birthday, but instead the world lost one of its jazz legends - "Dizzy" Gillespie.

He had already held doctorates from 14 universities and had given hundreds of concerts every year. He was the first jazz artist appointed by the U.S. State Department as a cultural ambassador to Europe, Eastern Europe and Latin America.

At the Kennedy Center honors ceremony, this tribute was made. We salute a groundbreaking musician who transformed the

Memories of a jazz legend who transformed music

sound of jazz." That transformed sound was "bop", and at the mandatory White House appearance Dizzy got President Jimmy Carter to sing a bop classic, "Salt Peanuts." Or rather, "Salt-PEANUTS": because in bop you accent the second triplet syllable instead of the first. (Never mind, just take my word for it.)

Gillespie, a superb trumpet player, was also a puzzle. He called Louie Armstrong a "comic showman." That was strange coming from a guy who waddled around in an African dashiki, sported a goatee, wore huge medallions and clowned around all the time. He was even fired from Cab Calloway's swing band for throwing spitballs, claiming he didn't do it. (He could have!) Armstrong called bop the modern malice. And one popular bop characteristic, the so-called "flattened fifth note" caused guitarist Eddie Condon to quip, "We don't flat our fifths, we drink them."

Bob began when Diz and co-inventor Charlie "Yardbird" Parker started a backlash to white swing in the mid '40s when they experimented with fast tempos, strange chords and even stranger behavior.

In bop no signals were made to or from soloists, who might suddenly walk off the stage, in the middle of a chorus. Contempt for the audience showed, and if it was predominately white, musicians would play with their back to the listeners.

When pianist Mel Powell came home from overseas in '45 he listened to a 52nd St. group featuring Diz and went into shock. Powell said, "I had no idea what I was listening to. It was marvelous. And what I had been doing suddenly became history."

A Dizzy story showed his impish side: "We're late because the Ku Klux Klan and the John Birch Society gave a benefit for Catholic Youth and B'Nai B'rith at the Harlem Y, so we're lucky to be here at all."

And a not-so-impish side: Doing a TV show with a doctor explaining how humans could be frozen and revived later when their diseases could be cured, Dizzy asked seriously, "But what about our souls?"

A final attribute to this surprising man, the Diz played an excellent game of chess. I very much doubt any modern rock star could make that same claim, do you?

Library news

As auction nears, volunteers hard at work

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Back Mountain Memorial Library 49th annual auction will be held from July 6 through the 9th on the auction grounds behind the library. The committees are diligently working on the necessary arrangements for the event.

Maryann Daily, chairman of the Nearly Old booth handles a lot of merchandise for this area, cleaning and polishing and is always looking for more items to sell. We have for sale in the library now some handkerchiefs that are 'nearly old' that Maryann is willing to sell for \$1.50 each. These have been cleaned and ironed and are really special.

The book booth committee has requests for books for the sale on music and gardening, and, of course, cookbooks are always requested.

The Book Club held its May meeting in the community room at the library with interesting discussions on various subjects

among the members. Book Club membership for 1995 stands at 192 with \$1,770.00 collected for book club shelf books. The list of the recently purchased new books was previewed by Mary Panaway. Serving at the refreshment table were Blanche Thompson and Marge McGirvan. The next meeting will be Monday, June 19 at 1:30 at the library in the community room. Members and guests are invited to attend.

Reservations may still be made for the auction kickoff party to be held on Monday, June 5 at Yesterdays in Trucksville, cost of \$20 per person to be paid with the reservation. There will be a preview of antiques and a mini sale featuring select antiques and new goods. Call the library for further details and to make the reservations.

New children's books at the library: "Cat" by Juliet Clutton-Brock is an eyewitness book. This book includes everything you want to know about a cat; including, What is a cat?, the first cats, the

bare bones, supersenses, the young ones, tree climber and cat care.

"The Librarian Who Measured the Earth" by Kathryn Lasky is a lively picture-book biography which begins more than 2,000 years ago, when a very smart baby was born in ancient Greece. His name was Eratosthenes and he was full of wonder and questions about discovery.

"Thomas Jefferson" by James Cross Giblin has an eloquent, moving text and exquisite oil paintings which join forces to reveal the many-faceted character of our nation's third president, the author of the Declaration of Independence. He was a formidable intellect.

"The Third Planet" by Sally Ride and Tam O'Shaughnessy is about exploring the earth from space. Sally's ride gave her a spectacular view of the Earth—and a unique perspective on the planet's complex and delicate environment. An engaging and accessible introduction to our Earth.

Carroll named president of Benedictine College

Dr. William J. Carroll, a former Dallas resident, has recently been named the new president of Illinois Benedictine College.

Carroll is the son of William and Wilma (deceased) Carroll and the stepson of Dorothy Carroll. His brother, Tim is a local contractor and his sister, Resia, lives out of state.

He attended Gate of Heaven School and graduated from West

Side Central Catholic High School in 1965.

Joseph Kindlon, Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Illinois Benedictine College, announced the appointment of Dr. William J. Carroll to the position of College president on March 17. Carroll will succeed Dr. Richard C. Becker after his retirement on June 30, 1995.

Carroll holds an undergradu-

ate degree from the University of Scranton and two graduate degrees from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., all in philosophy. He has numerous publications in scholarly journals and has authored/edited three books. His publications are on a variety of topics including philosophy, diversity and education.

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