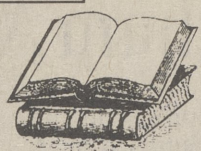


LIBRARY NEWS



By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Back Mountain Memorial Library circulated 6,763 books and materials during the month of November. Adult books totaled 3,576 and juvenile 3,187. Book Club books circulated 193; Interlibrary loan 71; CDs 62; Videos 254 and Audio tapes 282. Reference questions answered were 390. New books added to the collection totaled 166 and books withdrawn 86. New borrowers: adult 36, juvenile 44. The amnesty period held November 23 - 25, brought some late videos and some books from August. No fines were charged for any late materials on those days.

New large print books

New large print books at the library: "As The Wolf Loves Winter" by David Poyer shows a combination of rich imagery, real characters and heart-stopping suspense which makes the story an unforgettable pilgrimage into the wilderness of the human heart. What man or beast is leaving frozen, mangled bodies in the woods of western Pennsylvania? What terrible secret is behind these killings? Three unlikely heroes unravel the mystery.

"Shades of Twilight" by Linda Howard is the story of Roanna Davenport who was raised a wealthy orphan on her grandmother's Alabama estate named Davenport, where she had a passion for horses, a genius for trouble, and a deep love for her cousin Webb. But when Webb married their ravishing cousin, Jessie, Roanna's desire become no more than the stuff of dreams...until the night Jessie is

found bludgeoned to death. Webb then abandons his legacy.

"Cadillac Jukebox" by James Lee Burke is a scorching tale of Southern justice. Everyone knew that former Klansman Aaron Crown shot Louisiana's most famous civil rights leader 28 years ago; it just took that long to assemble a jury that would convict him. But Crown still proclaims his innocence and Detective Dave Robicheaux isn't making any friends by suggesting that maybe, just maybe, he really is innocent. A poisonous adversary appears.

"Before Women Had Wings" by Connie May Fowler is the story of "Bird", her real name is Avocet Abigail Jackson. She is starstruck by a dime-store picture of Jesus and fancies herself "His girlfriend" and embarks on a spiritual quest for salvation. She sifts through the ashes of her parents lives to forge a new idea of herself, reality, dreams and everyday certainties.

Benefit

(continued from page 1)

"special modifications to accommodate a wheelchair and other necessary equipment."

"We knew that the family would have to make a lot of changes in their home to accommodate Joyce, who is due home around Dec. 12," said Gary Baker, an organizer. "Our goal is to get the family established for the renovations."

Everyone was pleased by the immense turnout and felt that it was a fine example of the Back Mountain's sense of community and willingness to help others.

"I think this is the best thing they could do," said Theron Osborne, of Lehman. "This shows that people still stick together. It's an excellent turnout."

Shirley Wilson of Dallas ex-

"In this neck of the woods everyone sticks together."

Shirley Wilson
Dallas

"We expected about 500 people," said Dave Jones, kitchen volunteer. "But, we've gotten many more walk-ins. We've gone through over 100 pounds of pasta." Jones said the generosity of everyone was highly commendable.

Mrs. Coolbaugh's children, Pam and Russ were beaming over the outpouring of support. Smiling, they stood and greeted people in line. "It's an amazing turnout," said Russ Coolbaugh. "It's wonderful to see all of these people."

His sister felt the same and was also thankful to the organizers. "It's great to see people I haven't seen in years here, people from all over," she said. "I'm really grateful for the amount of people who came and those who created this."

pected nothing less than a huge crowd. "In this neck of the woods everyone sticks together," she said.

Ticket sales were slow prior to the dinner, but all of the walk-ins made up for it. So much so that the organizers of the event were pleasantly overwhelmed by the crowd and didn't even mind running to the store to get more spaghetti.

The economic viewpoint



Howard Grossman

The new initiative launched by the Ridge Administration called Shared Municipal Services should be studied and utilized within various areas of Northeastern Pennsylvania. This new initiative replaces, in part, the Council of Governments program which had been a previous activity under the now defunct Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs.

The new program is administered by the newly formed Center For Local Government Services within the Governor's Office but is administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and its four regional offices across the Commonwealth.

The shared municipal services process is designed to encourage cooperative partnerships between municipal governments in a state which has more general purpose units of government than any

Municipalities can share services, come together

other state except Illinois. There are many possible functions that can be advanced through this program, including shared code enforcement, planning, police services, administrative services, and others. Funds are available up to 50% of the amount necessary to support these types of cooperative ventures. Local governments could provide in-kind services, in part, to provide the remaining 50%.

Areas such as the Back Mountain, the Abingtons in Lackawanna County, the Mountaintop area in Luzerne County, Stroudsburg in Monroe County, and many other parts of the Northeastern Pennsylvania region should consider taking advantage of this program.

Grants may be awarded to newly formed Councils of Governments or similar organizations formed for the purpose of undertaking programs of intermunicipal cooperation, in order to defray the costs of initial administrative expenses.

Six criteria are utilized in the evaluation process. These are:

- ...Quality/intermunicipal aspects
- ...Cost savings potential
- ...Local commitment
- ...Funding adequacy and source
- ...Past performance
- ...Financial disadvantage

The latter includes whether or not the projects will be of benefit to municipalities identified by the Department of Community and Economic Development as disadvantaged under the department's early warning system.

There is particular relevance to the opportunities which exist for municipalities in the Back Mountain and other rapidly growing areas of the region to consider the advantages of working closely together through this mechanism. In order to prepare for 21st Century life, much more attention needs to be placed to achieve a better economy and quality of life through intermunicipal cooperation.

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

Free clinic

(continued from page 1)

aches and pains. We're not comfortable treating chronic conditions. In those cases we attempt to find family physicians," said Dr. Bloom. "Many doctors in the community have been wonderful about offering their services."

All of the clinic's supplies are donated. "A variety of hospitals donated equipment and general medication. All three local hospitals were extremely generous," said Bloom.

The clinic sees an average of five patients a week and is constantly publicizing so that more people know they can take advantage of the services offered.

Maureen Conahan, volunteer publicity person, feels the clinic is very important for everyone. "It provides for those who are in need. Anyone could lose their job and not be able to get decent health care themselves," she said.

The clinic accepts anyone from the community who needs help, no questions asked. "We don't ask any questions and people's files are kept very private," explained Marilyn O'Boyle, clerical volunteer.

The response has been positive and an increasing number of people are taking advantage of the clinic. The volunteers find it very rewarding. "Sometimes seeing the faces of patients that are really happy we're here is so nice."

UM women to meet

The Huntville U.M. Women are having a business meeting and a Christmas program on Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. Cindy Evans is having devotions and at 5 p.m. a Christmas cover dish supper. The entire church is invited to enjoy.

Register by Dec. 17 for Kingston Twp. decorating contest

The Kingston Township Recreation Commission will hold its annual Holiday Home Decorating Contest December 18. The contest is open to all Kingston Township residents. The prizes for first,

second and third place will be \$100, \$75 and \$50 United States Savings Bonds. In addition, a \$50 bond will be given for the best new entry.

Residents interested in registering their home for the contest must call the Township Building at 696-3809 by 4:30 p.m. Dec. 17.

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