

## Back in time



Anna Mae Estus

I remember very well the first Armistice Day on November 11, 1918 ending World War I. I was only four years old, but my memories are still as vivid as if it was today. I was watching my mother bathe my baby brother when the school bell began to ring which was most unusual for that time of day.

I ran to the dining room win-

## The first Armistice Day

dow to see what was happening. All the teachers and students came out of the school laughing and shouting, "The war is over, the war is over."

Billie Isaacs who lived across the street where Risley's later lived, was running up and down the street banging on a kettle with a big spoon screaming, "The war is over, the war is over." She was so excited she was beside herself.

Then the Methodist Church bell began to ring, never before did it ring except on Sunday. Everyone rejoiced that peace had finally come to the world. Everything was so frightening and so happy. I didn't know if to laugh or cry, but I suppose I did both, everyone else did.

On subsequent Armistice Days, whatever anyone was doing at 11 a.m. on November 11, you stopped and bowing your head for one minute and silently said a prayer of thanksgiving for peace in the world.

It's different today. You get a whole weekend off to celebrate in ways that have completely lost the joy of world peace after World War I. There have been many wars since that Armistice Day, but their end was not so gratefully celebrated as that first one. The end of World War II was special to me. My husband, David would come home safely from the terrible battles with the First Division in Germany.

## Teen scene



Donora Hillard

There is a word that strikes fear in the minds of high-school students everywhere. It can be a feather in your cap or the bane of your existence. That word is "popularity," and given that most schools have recently elected class officers and homecoming courts, it deserves to be elaborated upon.

What is popularity? It often seems abstract, undefinable, classified with words such as love, hate, and freedom. I talked with my parents recently about this. Predictably, they relayed anecdotes about how in their day,

## Popularity at a price

popularity was dictated by clothing, cars, financial status, and (gasp) morals. Flash-forward to the year 2000. It appears to me that we must have done a u-turn somewhere along the way.

Now popularity isn't really about what you have — it's about what you do with what you have. There are both positives and negatives to this current train of thought. We are, I feel, far more open-minded than our parents' generation. This isn't entirely their fault, mind you; it is simply a matter of kids being exposed to more at a younger age. Racial pressures, while still prevalent, do not carry the same sting as they did 35 years ago. The importance of money and driving an expensive automobile have dwindled. But ironically enough, the prime indicator of popularity nowadays seems to be advertising, and I do not mean in the

commercial sense. People, especially those of a teenage variety, advertise themselves, whether through sports or school clubs or what they did over the weekend.

While this has always been around, from what I have observed my generation is one with a voracious appetite for notoriety. An interesting philosophy, and one that can go either way. Do we choose to advertise our outstanding science skills and field hockey expertise, or do we choose to advertise how many beers we consumed at a recent party? A line is clearly drawn between the two factions, and some even try to walk this precarious barrier. My point (and yes I have one) is that you should choose carefully what you are going to advertise, even as the risk of losing renown. Put your immoral activities on a billboard, and your fame may soon become infamy.

## Food bank

(continued from page 1)

serious trouble.

With colder temperatures, the skyrocketing costs of fuel, and the ever-increasing cost of prescription medicines, almost 100 households in the Back Mountain depend on help from the food bank. They have difficult decisions to make every day about food, heat and medicines.

Pastor Chuck Naugle of the Trucksville United Methodist Church has managed the food bank and the distribution for several years. "We are getting two to three new families per week," said Pastor Naugle, "and right now the usual sources of supply are not keeping up with the demand."

Pastor Naugle said "we serve 96 families at present. Fifty-six families include 131 children. There are also 22 senior citizens and 18 other adults being served. They live in Dallas, Harveys Lake, Shavertown, Trucksville, Sweet Valley, Hunlock Creek, Noxen and Lehman."

The food at the bank comes entirely from volunteer giving. "Right now we need several groups to help us get through the holidays and the winter," said Pastor Naugle. "We would welcome a food drive held by any scout troop, grade school or high school, college, service group, church or company." They are pleased to have recent food donations from the epx Internet Group, a division of Commonwealth Telephone Company in Dallas.

Food donations are also encouraged from those attending the Back Mountain Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at St. Therese's Church, Pioneer Avenue

on Wednesday evening, November 22 at 7:30 p.m.

"These food drives will help us meet some of the demand, but other efforts will definitely be needed to keep up with the seasonal needs of our community. We have requests for 50 Thanksgiving baskets, which will further deplete our resources," said Pastor Naugle.

If you can help by organizing a food drive with your group, please call Pastor Naugle or Barbara DeBellis, food bank coordinator, at the Trucksville United Methodist Church. The number is 696-3897. They will provide helpful information for a successful event. Also please call them ahead of time to drop off large donations of food so that arrangements can be made to receive them. The workers at the food bank are all volun-

teers.

The following non-perishable items are needed: soup, canned fruits, vegetables and juice, pasta, rice, tuna fish or other canned meats, peanut butter and jelly, cake or quick bread mixes, jello, pudding mixes and cereal.

Tax deductible monetary donations are also needed so that meat, bread, milk, etc. can be purchased as needed. Checks should be made payable to the Back Mountain Food Bank and sent to the Trucksville United Methodist Church, 40 Knob Hill Rd., Trucksville, PA 18708. Please write "Food Bank" on the outside of your envelope.

"We would really appreciate all the help we can get," said Pastor Naugle. "The children and seniors in our area will greatly benefit from your generosity."

## Drop-off points for food

Several Back Mountain businesses have offered to help out. From now until December 22, food donations can be dropped off at the following locations:

- Trucksville United Methodist Church**, Church Rd., Trucksville: 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday
- Century 21 Ruth K. Smith Real Estate, Inc.**, 358 S. Memorial Hwy., Shavertown: 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday
- The Dallas Post**, 607 Main Rd., Dallas: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday thru Friday
- Mama & Papa's Ice Cream Parlor**, Country Club Shopping Center, Dallas: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., 7 days a week
- Carolyn Lauer's Shear Magic Hair Salon**, 266 Memorial Hwy., Shavertown (across from the Ranch Wagon): Tues. 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Weds. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thurs. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m..

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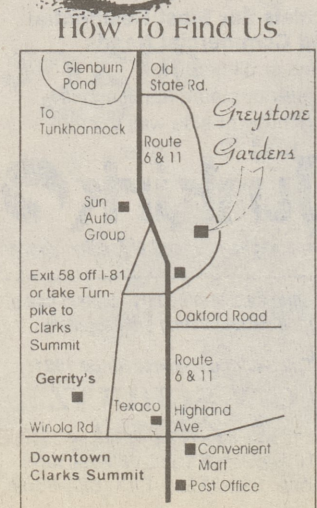
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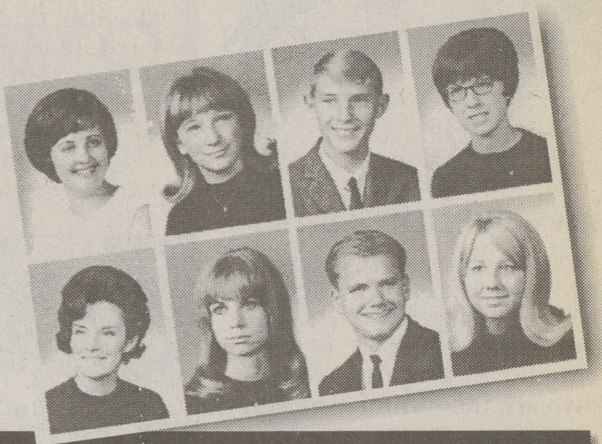
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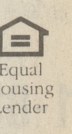
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