

OBITUARIES

EDMUND GABEL

Born in Chase

Edmund C. Gabel, 87, of Luzerne Towers, died December 28, 2003 in General Hospital, Wilkes-Barre. Born in Chase, he was a son of the late Jacob and Retta (Coolbaugh) Gabel. He was a graduate of Westmoreland High School. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He operated Gabel's Variety Store, Luzerne, and did construction work. He also worked for Singer Co., Trucksville, and Royer Foundry, Kingston. He was a member of the Holy Family Parish, a eucharistic minister for the parish and a member of the American Legion Post 525, Luzerne.

He was preceded in death by his wife, the former Grace Stram; brothers, Daniel and Robert.

Surviving are sons, James, California; Theodore, Swoyersville; William, Dallas; daughter, Ruthanne Ruddy, Luzerne; 11 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; sisters, Dorothy Shorts, Edwardsville; Ruth Smith, Kendall Park, N.J.; nieces and nephews.

Interment, St. Nicholas Cemetery, Shavertown, Kingston Township.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to the American Cancer Society, Holy Family Parish Building.

LINDA COMPTON

Sister lives in Sweet Valley

Linda A. Compton, 59, of Mulberry Towers, Scranton, died December 26, 2003 in Mercy Hospital Skilled Nursing Facility, Scranton.

Born in Scranton, she was the daughter of the late Gerald and Margaret (Barbaro) Domenick O'Malley. She attended Dunmore High School. Before her retirement, she was employed by First Liberty Bank. She was a member of St. Patrick's Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, George Compton, Sr., brother, James O'Malley; stepfather, Anthony Domenick.

Surviving are her son, William R. McCarthy, Jr., Nicholson; daughters, Linda A. Amario, Margaret Wilkins, Maureen Rafferty, all of Nicholson; six grandchildren; sister Margo Swan, Sweet Valley; nieces and nephews.

Interment, Nicholson Cemetery, Nicholson.

Memorial donations may be sent to St. Patrick's Catholic Church, High Street, Nicholson, PA 18446.

EDWARD NOVAK

Served in Air Force during Vietnam War

Edward W. Novak, 55, of Ransom Road, Franklin Township, died December 28, 2003 at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Born in Pittston, he was the son of the late Dorothy Kurtinits Eaton. He was a 1966 graduate of Dallas High School. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was employed as a mechanic for the Tobyhanna Army Depot. He was a member of the ABATE Motorcycle Club of Hazleton and was an avid hunter and fisherman.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Everal Eaton Jr.

Surviving are his son, Edward Jr., Dallas; stepfather, Everal Eaton Sr., Dallas; brothers, Kenneth Eaton, Lehman Township; Dennis Eaton, Vernon; sisters, Virginia Kehler, Dallas; Dorothy Yousef, Port St. Lucie, Fla.; Lori Berry, Katy, Texas; several nieces and nephews.

Interment, Eaton Cemetery, Franklin Township.

BEVERLY HILLER

Daughter lives in Shavertown

Beverly M. (Bebe) Hiller, 85, of the East Mountain section of Scranton, died December 28, 2003 in the VNA Hospice and Palliative Care Center of Lackawanna County in the Moses Taylor Hospital, Scranton.

Born Feb. 18, 1918, in Free-land, she was the daughter of the late Robert C. and Laura (Drasher) Bell. She was educated in Moosic schools. She was employed as a seamstress for Mrs. Berger's Dress Shop, Moosic. She was a member of Moosic Presbyterian Church, Moosic.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Roy Peters.

Surviving are her husband, James M.; daughters, Cathy Eckenrode, Ithaca, N.Y.; Beverly Berley, Shavertown, Kingston Township; Maureen Cremard, Pittston; stepdaughter, Wendy Tohme, Brentwood, Calif.; stepson, Wayne Hiller, Scranton; nine grandchildren; a great-grandson; brother, Robert A. Bell, Duryea.

Interment, Memorial Shrine Park, Carverton, Kingston Township.

Memorial donations may be sent to the Animal Care Association, SPCA 1916 Rosanna Ave., Scranton, or to the Moosic Presbyterian Church, 625 Main St., Moosic, PA 18507.

JEAN HARKINS

Son lives in Tunkhannock

Mrs. Jean T. Harkins, of Yeager Avenue, Forty Fort, died December 28, 2003 morning at her home surrounded by her children and family.

Born on May 8, 1914, in Plymouth, she was the daughter of the late Peter and Mary (Stadulis) Dokas. She graduated from Plymouth High School and Wilkes-Barre Business College.

Mrs. Harkins had resided in Forty Fort since 1948. She was the President of Harkins Realty Company.

Preceding her in death are her husband, John D. Harkins, in 1977, who was the founder of Penn State Seed Company; also preceding her are her sister, Bertha Zurenda, and brothers, Peter, Joseph, Edward and William Dokas.

She was a member of Holy Name/St. Mary's Parish Community, Swoyersville.

Surviving are her daughters, Maureen and June Harkins, both at home, and Carol and her husband, Jerry Novak, Forty Fort; son, James, and his wife, Beth Harkins, Tunkhannock; grandchildren, John, Laura, Jimmy Harkins, Katie Harkins Williams and her husband, Jason Williams, Carolyn and Christine Novak; brother, Robert Dokas, Mountain Top; nieces and nephews.

Interment, Mount Olivet Cemetery, Kingston Township. Memorial contributions, if desired, can be made to the American Red Cross, Hanover Industrial Park, Hanover Twp., 18702, or to the charity of the donor's choice.

More obituaries on page 2

The Post publishes obituaries of Back Mountain residents and close family members without charge. Send obituaries to:

The Post
15 N. Main St.
Wilkes-Barre PA 18711
Photos are welcome.

RUTH TURNER

Member of St. Peter's Church

Ruth E. Turner of Church Street, Meshoppen, formerly of Evans Falls, Tunkhannock, died December 28, 2003 in Tyler Memorial Hospital, Tunkhannock.

Born October 27, 1944, in Tunkhannock Township, she was the daughter of the late Clayton G. and Mary Louise (Lane) Felker. She was a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Tunkhannock, and the Tunkhannock Moose Lodge.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert L.; sister, Dorothy Gavick.

Surviving are her sons, Robert, Meshoppen; John, Tunkhannock; Thomas, Clarksville, Tenn.; eight grandchildren; sisters, Mabel Clark, Laceyville; Ida Crawford, Tunkhannock.

Interment, Sunnyside Cemetery, Tunkhannock.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be sent to the Ruth E. Turner Final Expense Fund care of the First Liberty Bank, 198 E. Tioga St., Tunkhannock, PA 18657.

ANTHONY SKIPALIS

Leaves daughter in Dallas

Anthony (Skip) Skipalis Jr., of the Hanover section of Nanticoke, died December 27, 2003 in his home.

Born in the Hanover section of Nanticoke, he was the son of the late Anthony and Elizabeth (Tomcho) Skipalis. He served in the U.S. Marines during the Korean War. Before his retirement, he was the owner of the Skipalis Gas Co. He was a member of the American Legion Post 350, Nanticoke.

He was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Meghan Hanco.

Surviving are his sons, Anthony III, Wilkes-Barre; Mark, Sheatown; Michael, Shohola; daughters, Elizabeth Hanko, with whom he resided; Rita Carolan, Dallas; Patricia Ann King, Covington, Ga.; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; brother, James (Duke), Jacksonville, Fla.; sisters, Rose Rittenhouse, Nanticoke; Caroline Jones, Levittown.

Interment, St. Joseph's Church parish cemetery, Nanticoke.

CLINTON SMITH

Served in WWII

Clinton D. Smith, of Spencer Road, Dallas, died December 28, 2003 in the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Plains Township.

Born in Luzerne, he was the son of the late Ashton and Pauline (Cleaver) Smith. He was a graduate of Luzerne High School and Montgomery Junior College, Md. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. Before his retirement, he was employed as a purchasing agent by the Kanaar Corp., Kingston, and later at Pride Health Care, Exeter. He was a member of the Luzerne United Methodist Church, George M. Dallas Lodge 531 F & AM, Shekinah Royal Arch Chapter 182, Dieu Le Veut Commandry 45, Mount Horeb Council 34, Wilkes-Barre; Irem Temple, Wilkes-Barre, and its Stewards Unit; and was a member of its Board of Governors, Daddow Isaacs American Legion Post 672, Dallas.

He was preceded in death by his sisters, Virginia Morris and Elizabeth Delaney; brother, Ira.

Surviving are his wife of 46 years, the former Martha Clark; son, Robert H. Yetter, Lehman Township; two granddaughters; brothers, William, Forty Fort; Herbert, Maryland; nieces and nephews.

Interment, Carverton Cemetery. Memorial donations may be sent to Luzerne United Methodist Church.

JAMES POZAIC

Born in Dallas

James Pozaic of Bonita Springs, Fla. and formerly of Swoyersville, died December 24, 2003 in Naples Community Hospital, Florida.

Born in Dallas, he was a son of the late Robert and Della (Pannetti) Pozaic. He worked for the U.S. Postal Service. He was a former member of Holy Family Parish, Luzerne.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Joan; and daughter, Debbie.

Surviving are his son, Bruce, Florida; sister, Jeanette Ferraro, Kingston; brother, Robert, Swoyersville; and several nieces and nephews.

Interment, Denison Cemetery, Swoyersville.

IRENE ASHTON

Worked for Lake-Lehman schools

Irene E. Ashton, 78, of Ceasestown, Jackson Township, died December 28, 2003 at the home of her son, Ronald Ashton, Fredericksburg, Va.

Born March 30, 1925, in Nanticoke, she was the daughter of the late George and Gertrude (Wilkins) Burgham. Before retirement, she was employed as a custodian for the Lake-Lehman School District. She was a member of St. George's Episcopal Church, Nanticoke.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Irving Washington; brother, Sidney Burgham.

Surviving, in addition to her son, are her daughter, Nancy M. Potter, Manassas, Va.; six grandchildren; sister, Josephine Mitchell, Elkton, Md.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Friday from the Curtis L. Swanson Funeral Home Inc., corner of routes 29 and 118, Pikes Creek, with the Rev. Barbara Saxe officiating.

Interment, Oakdale Cemetery, Hunlock Township.

Memorial donations may be sent to the American Heart Association, 71 N. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701.

EUNICE GARRINGER

Westmoreland High graduate

Eunice Mae Garringer, 66, of Shavertown, died December 26, 2003 in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Born Jan. 25, 1937, in Wilkes-Barre, she was the daughter of the late Jess Fink, Avoca, and Ida Fink, Shavertown. She graduated from the Westmoreland High School, Trucksville.

Surviving, along with her mother, Ida, are her husband of 45 years, John; son, Robert William, Trucksville; daughter, Karen L. Pilger, Harvey's Lake; three grandchildren.

RESEARCH MATTERS

by Dr. David J. Madeira



"Snort. Sniffle. Sneeze. No antibiotics please."

Part 2

Last time we looked at the CDC's "Snort, Sniffle, Sneeze. No Antibiotics Please," ad campaign directed at getting moms to stop demanding antibiotics for the common cold.

This time we look at Acute Otitis Media (AOM) — middle ear infections — another area the AP reports the CDC says antibiotics are commonly misused. About half of these infections are caused by viruses and so will not be helped by antibiotics. Dr. Margaret Rennels of the University of Maryland, chair of the American Academy of Pediatrics' infectious-disease committee, said doctors are becoming more willing to suggest "watchful waiting" for these infections.

She noted that some fluid behind the middle ear is common in children's colds and will not be relieved by an antibiotic. Doctors can often tell just by looking whether the infection is bacterial and will respond to antibiotics. "Only a child who has purulent pus behind the middle ear with a red, bulging ear drum should be prescribed an antibiotic," she said.

Interestingly, a recent study showed that Osteopathic Manipulation showed measurable benefit for children with recurrent ear infections when used in addition to routine pediatric care. This study included 57 children and measured such things as frequency of episodes of AOM, antibiotic use, surgical interventions, various behaviors and tympanometric and audiometric performance. The study concludes that manipulative treatment may prevent or decrease surgical intervention or antibiotic usage. "This is good news for those looking for alternatives to antibiotics. My children get adjusted regularly and have never needed antibiotics."

The Use of Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment as Adjunct Therapy in Children with Recurrent Acute Otitis Media. Merrin B. Mills, M.D., et al. Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med. 2003;157(8):866-869. Oct 15, 2003.



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CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Puzzles appear on page 10

King Crossword Answers

Crossword grid with answers filled in. Words include: EATS, DAVIT, TAMER, MOE, THOU, AMISH, ELATE, SOWN, COWNT, BASTE, AESOP, CONE, HYND, ASIS, ONA, AHEM, ARAB, SHAUN, SALARY, STEERLING, MOSS, TRIM, PAL, ABEL, CHEAP, CAMEL, ABYSS, BROOKE, SOFA, ADA, ETA, OBI, PROD, DIN, OCCULT, ULM, DIODE, ASK, SCAT, BULLY, THECUD, CLOY, TEL, MELEE, SOB, SEQUIN, ALF, CRAM, GUT, REB, ROC, ATNO, KISSED, DAMON, STAND, ENTER, SEES, ARA, LYON, BEEFY, NEUWIRTH, BALLOU, MANNA, PRIG, OMOO, ANY, ETR, SNARE, DOWN, NERVE, HUGH, HEIFER, ERAS, CANON, EDGES, TRIO, DEY, ELAND, RESET, EONS.

Rational Numbers answers

4 3 6
6 3 4 7
3 6 1 2 9 8
6 5 1 6
1 6 5 9 1 2
1 2 1 3
4 3 1

PIG, TOPAZ, IDO, ATE, IRENE, ROB, STEAM, IRON, OLE, HBO, DISNEY, CHISEL, ETCH, RUF, REG, HOOPS, IGOR, SIC, WRAP, BONUS, GOB, SRA, ONES, WOOLERS, SEXTET, HUB, ELI, SEVEN, IRON, MAD, AVERT, ADO, INE, WEEDY, WED

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Region

(continued from page 4)

county. Already a major regional impact through its more than \$800 million economic generator as recently outlined by the NEPA Alliance (formerly the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania), Tobyhanna Army Depot's workforce is two-thirds resident in Lackawanna and Luzerne counties, and therefore its production and hopeful expansion will have a profound effect.

The Back Mountain is a likely candidate for the location of a major regional conference center and research institute that could attract events from a large geographic sector of the United States, if steps are taken to utilize appropriate land areas and infrastructure that already exist, such as College Misericordia and Penn State Wilkes-Barre in Lehman. Think of the opportunities that could be generated through establishment of a regional "think tank." It could be a satellite to the Great Valley Technology Alliance.

Not all of these possibilities will occur, and some are more likely than others. The most important principle is that regionalism is a symbol of progress that finally has a chance for success in a place that for scores of decades decried this progression. While still an imperfect process, regionalism represents a strong response to a new decade of substantive progress that will truly be linked to areas such as the Back Mountain and enable the next 10 years to be the best ever in the history of

the Pocono-Northeast. Howard Grossman lives in Dallas.