

MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

- On March 5, 1658, Antoine de la Mothe, Le Sieur de Cadillac, namesake of Cadillac cars, is born in Gascogne, France. Cadillac was an explorer who mapped the Great Lakes and founded Detroit, which today is affectionately known as the Motor City.
- On Feb. 27, 1860, President Abraham Lincoln poses for the first of several portraits by noted Civil War-era photographer Mathew Brady. A relatively new art form, the photograph (or daguerreotype) showed a beardless Lincoln just moments before he delivered an address at Cooper Union.
- On March 3, 1931, President Herbert Hoover signs a congressional act making "The Star-Spangled Banner" the official national anthem of the United States.
- On March 2, 1944, for the first time, the Academy Awards are presented as part of a televised variety show. Jack Benny served as master of ceremonies for the event, which was held at Grauman's Chinese Theater in Los Angeles. Due to lack of network interest, the show was only broadcast locally, on two Los Angeles TV stations.
- On March 4, 1952, Ernest Hemingway completes his short novel "The Old Man and the Sea." The book won the Pulitzer Prize in 1953 and would be his last significant work of fiction before his suicide in 1961.
- On March 1, 1961, President John F. Kennedy issues Executive Order 10924, establishing the Peace Corps as a new agency within the Department of State. Since 1961, more than 160,000 Americans have joined the Peace Corps, serving in 134 nations.
- On Feb. 28, 1983, "M*A*S*H," the cynical situation-comedy about doctors behind the front lines of the Korean War, airs its final episode after 11 seasons. The last episode drew 77 percent of the television viewing audience, the largest audience ever to watch a single TV show up to that time.

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STRANGE BUT TRUE

- Each shovelful of soil holds more living things than all the human beings ever born.
 - Sidney Joseph Perelman was a humorist who also collaborated on writing screenplays for the Marx Brothers. His connection to the elite of the movie industry, however, didn't make him any happier living on the West Coast. He once called Hollywood "a dreary industrial town controlled by hoodlums of enormous wealth, the ethical sense of a pack of jackals, and a taste so degraded that it befouled everything it touched." And that was in the 1930s - I wonder what he'd think about Tinseltown today.
 - It was noted wit Mark Twain who came up with the following definition of the ideal life: "Good friends, good books and a sleepy conscience."
 - Have you ever heard of William Friese-Greene? Unfortunately for him, probably not. He was a brilliant and unfortunate 19th-century English inventor. He built a prototype motion-picture camera and was even granted a patent for it. The process of inventing and patenting the device, though, caused him to become bankrupt. Since he was in such dire straits, he sold the rights to the patent for 500 pounds - a pittance considering the extremely lucrative nature of the invention. During his lifetime, he took out more than 70 patents for other inventions, including X-ray and light printing on paper fabrics, inkless printing, and electrical transmission of images, but earned little money from them and was on the verge of bankruptcy all his life.
 - You may be surprised to learn that the hippopotamus is the most dangerous animal on the continent of Africa. That beast causes more human deaths every year than even lions and cobras.
- Thought for the Day: "A government big enough to give you everything you want, is strong enough to take everything you have." - Thomas Jefferson

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KATYLS DISPLAYING HOCKEY MEMORABILIA



Hockey fans will really enjoy and envy the collection on display this month at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. Cindy and Bill Katyl, along with sons Aaron, Matt and Chris, are displaying their vast collection of hockey memorabilia from various teams. The Dallas family is very active with the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins as Bill is an off-ice official and Cindy is a season ticket holder and an avid fan. Some of the exciting items on display include an autographed jersey by the Penguin's 2001 Calder Cup playoff team members, one by Jaromir Jagr and another by the members of the New Jersey Devils. Several autographed pictures and a Philadelphia Flyers Stanley Cup license plate from 1973-74 are also included in the display. There are also Stanley Cup hats from the New Jersey Devils and the Pittsburgh Penguins, several bobblehead dolls, pucks, trading cards and more.

THE POST

TIMES LEADER Community Newspaper Group

15 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18711 • 570-675-5211
thepost@leader.netPatrick McHugh
PUBLISHERDavid C. Konopki
EDITORErika Calvert
ADVERTISING

Like promises lined up against a list of things to do, they stand at the ready for gutters to be cleaned and eaves painted, of branches to be trimmed and chimneys re-pointed. And alas, in reality, a few may end up in closets, basements and garages, collecting dust for want of time and ambition to get those chores done.

Slightly Read Bookshop gets ready to re-open



THE SLIGHTLY Read Bookshop at the Back Mountain Memorial Library will open during regular business hours beginning Monday, Feb. 27. Watch for a grand re-opening celebration soon!

"One Valley One Book: Wyoming Valley Reads" is being sponsored by Leadership Wilkes-Barre Class of 2006. The special project is being conducted by many communities throughout the country, where by an entire community reads and discusses a particular book. The Back Mountain is joining the rest of Luzerne County by promoting the reading of "The Natural" by Bernard Malamud.

LIBRARY NEWS

CAROL KING

The library has several copies of the book available, as well as an audio tape and a DVD of the movie starring Robert Redford. Library director Martha Butler invites all patrons to join in this endeavor to promote Leadership Wilkes-Barre's goal to unite the people of Wyoming Valley through the advancement of literacy and enjoyment of reading. She encourages community members to stop by the library and check out a copy of the book or the audio. The project will commence with a screening of "The Natural" at Wilkes University on April 2 followed by a reception and a short discussion of the book and the movie.

A "Swing Into Spring" sale will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 4 in the Community Room of the library. Some of the wonderful items for sale will include wreaths, decorated baskets, rabbits, pottery, dishes, Easter and spring novelties, stuffed animals and dolls. All proceeds directly benefit the library.

A babysitting course conducted by the American Red Cross will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 18 in the Community Room of the library. The class is open to teenagers ages 11-15. The class will provide them with the skills and confidence needed to become a care provider.

Participants will learn how to perform first aid, understand how to get professional medical

help fast, identify common safety hazards and prevent injuries, perform basic care routines like diapering, feeding and dressing, handle bedtime issues and more. A babysitter's handbook will be included and distributed at the program.

A \$40 course fee is due at the time of registration. Checks should be made out to the American Red Cross.

Teens may begin registering now at the main desk of the library.

Participants are asked to bring a bag lunch to the program. Teens may call the library during regular business hours at 675-1182 if there are any questions.

Carol King is a volunteer at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. Her library news column appears every other week.

70 YEARS AGO
Feb. 28, 1936

TAX REDUCTIONS POSSIBLE NEXT YEAR

Real estate owners in seven local townships will have road tax reductions made possible next year by township allocations from the motor fund which will bring more than \$43,000 to this section.

The refunds to townships under the second-class Township Code will be reflected in the 1936 road tax levy, which must be fixed supervisors before the fourth Monday of March.



ONLY YESTERDAY

Among the 40 seniors of College Misericordia who are engaged in doing practice teaching throughout the Wyoming Valley are eight who have been placed in local schools: Dallas Borough, Misses Catherine Finney, Jayne Jordon, Beatrice McCarthy and Mary Sherlock; Kingston Township, Misses Elizabeth Culbert, Emily Lewis, and Jessica Thomas.

In Pennsylvania it is necessary for college graduates to have several weeks experience in actual class room teaching, under the direction of master teachers, before they are qualified to hold regular class room positions.

60 YEARS AGO
March 1, 1946

DALLAS POLICE CRACKING DOWN

Dallas Police are conducting a campaign against motorists who drive recklessly on Main Street and fail to stop before proceeding past stop signs. Officer James Gansel, who has charge of regulating traffic during the absence of Chief Walter Covert, has warned several drivers and

also has tow cases pending which will be heard before Burgess George Williams.

First National Bank of Dallas has probably completed more G.I. Loans than any other bank of similar size in Northwestern Pennsylvania and may even have established a record unsurpassed by the larger banks of Luzerne County. The local institution was one of the first in the country to complete a G.I. Loan of any kind.

Stephen R. Pravlick, S.K. 3/C, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Pravlick of Davenport Street, Dallas, will celebrate his 19th birthday anniversary in Japan Sunday, March 3. Steve, a graduate of Dallas Borough High School in the class of 1944, enlisted in February 1945. He received his boot training at Sampson, N.Y., spent four weeks in California, and was then shipped to the Philippines.

50 YEARS AGO
March 2, 1956

BLOOD DRIVE A BIG SUCCESS

Red Cross Bloodmobile collected 168 pints last Friday at Dallas Borough School. At 6 p.m., the announced closing time, forty prospective donors were still awaiting service, and Dr. Bell, from Wilkes-Barre Blood Band Headquarters was called upon in the emergency to handle the load, when local doctors had to leave for their evening office hours.

William Thomas Burnaford, weight seven pounds and thirteen ounces, is not only the baby of the year, born on Leap Day, February 29, but the first grandchild and the first great-grandchild on both sides of the family. William Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Burnaford of Shavertown, was born Wednesday morning at 7:42 in Nesbitt

Memorial Hospital. His mother is the former Mildred Kingston, of Dallas. His grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kingston, Dallas, and William Burnaford and the late Dorothy Burnaford of Shavertown.

40 YEARS AGO
March 3, 1966

FOUNDER'S DAY OBSERVED IN SCHOOL

PTA Founder's Day was observed recently by the Back Mountain Area Council of Parent-Teacher Association in the Dallas Senior High School. Approximately 200 PTA members, parents and teachers attended. The Dallas Senior High stage band, directed by Lester Lewis, entertained with several arrangements.

Dallas Community Ambulance Association offers and directors have approved purchase of a 1965 Superior-body Cadillac ambulance with only 8,500 miles on the odometer. Replacement at this time was expedient, president Leighton Scott explained, in view of condition of Dallas 1961 model, which last year made 207 calls, more than an other services in the Back Mountain, as well as the steady depreciation on ambulances.

30 YEARS AGO
Feb. 28, 1976

HORSEMEN FIGHT SWAMP FEVER

The Western Horsemen's Club will hold a special meeting for the benefit of club members and local horsemen for the prevention of swamp fever and other horse-related diseases at 8 p.m. on March 5 at the Exeter Twp. Municipal Building, Route 92, Harding. Due to the large number of interested citizens the meeting will be held with many state representatives, congressmen and senators.

Lengthy discussion ensued at the Dallas Borough Council meeting last week between council members and Atty. James Reinert, representing David Jones, contractor, over council's reluctance to issue Jones a building permit. Jones applied for a permit to build a \$50,000 home on a lot in his Powderhorn Estates development, one of eight he has planned there.

The annual sewing contest held by the Dallas Junior Woman's Club highlighted the meeting held recently at Prince of Peace Church. Mrs. John Andrusis was chairman of the event. The following winners were selected in the club woman division: first place typical outfit worn by a club member was awarded to Mrs. Frank Smarka, second place winner was Mrs. James Richardson.

20 YEARS AGO
Feb. 26, 1986

POTHoles PLAYING HAVOC WITH TIRES

There is one word familiar to anyone who has driven a car in the past few weeks, "potholes," those looming craters that strike without a moment's notice, devouring tires and sending motorists scurrying to local repair garages. Throughout the Wyoming Valley and surrounding areas, travelers have been increasingly irritated over the rising number of potholes and the hazardous driving conditions they have been posing.

Junior and senior students in the child development class at Dallas Senior High School are presently conducting a nursery school for 16 three-year old children, a school which is run over four class periods until March 20. Following the end of the three-year-old sessions, a second session for four-year-olds will begin April 8 and run through May 22.