

MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

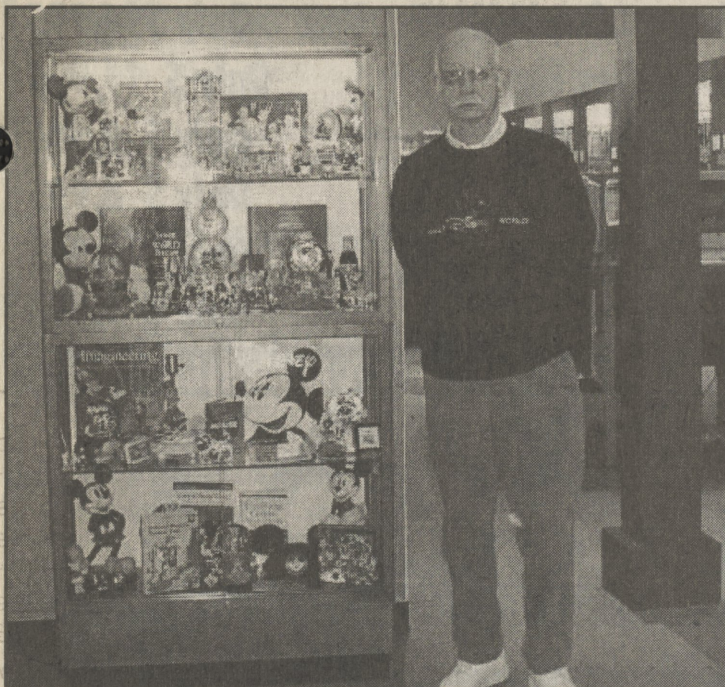
- On March 30, 1867, the United States government puts the finishing touches a deal to purchase Alaska. The U.S. paid Alaska's owner, Russia, \$7.2 million, or roughly two cents per acre of land. In certain circles, the deal was derisively known as "Seward's Folly" after Secretary of State William Seward.
- On April 1, 1877, prospector Edward Schieffelin begins his search for silver in the area of present-day southern Arizona. Later that year, he found one of the richest silver veins in the West, naming it the Tombstone Lode. Tombstone attracted gamblers, criminals and would-be lawmen such as Doc Holliday and the Earp brothers, famous for their shoot-out at the O.K. Corral.
- On March 31, 1889, the Eiffel Tower is dedicated in Paris. Gustave Eiffel's tower was greeted with skepticism, as critics argued it would be structurally unsound. Within a few decades, however, the tower came to be regarded as an architectural masterpiece.
- On April 2, 1902, the first American theater devoted solely to movies opens in Los Angeles. Housed in a circus tent, the venue was dubbed "The Electric Theater." Admission was about 10 cents for a one-hour show.
- On March 27, 1912, in Washington, D.C., on the northern bank of the Potomac River, Helen Taft, wife of President William Taft, plants two Yoshina cherry trees in celebration of a gift of 3,020 cherry trees from the Japanese government.
- On March 28, 1969, Dwight D. Eisenhower, the 34th president of the United States and one of the most highly regarded American generals of World War II, dies in Washington, D.C., at the age of 78.
- On March 29, 1973, under the provisions of the Paris Peace Accords, the last U.S. troops depart South Vietnam, ending nearly 10 years of U.S. military presence in that country. Roughly 8,500 U.S. civilians stayed on as technical advisers to the South Vietnamese.

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STRANGE BUT TRUE

- Do you suffer from ailurophobia? That's just a fancy way of saying that you hate cats. If you are ailurophobic, you're not alone: According to historians, Napoleon, Genghis Kahn, Adolph Hitler and Julius Caesar felt the same way. Interesting company to be in, don't you think?
 - It was Thomas Haliburton who noted, "There's many a mistake made on purpose."
 - The jukebox has been around since 1889, when the machine made its debut at a saloon in San Francisco. Though it wasn't called a jukebox. At the time, it was known as a "nickel-in-the-slot player." And it wasn't exactly like the music players we're familiar with today. It was simply a wooden cabinet with a phonograph player inside. Four tubes that resembled stethoscopes were attached to the cabinet, so no more than four people could enjoy the music at any given time - and each of those four people had to deposit five cents to activate the listening tube.
 - It's required by law that all U.S. currency have the national motto "In God We Trust" somewhere on it.
 - When you're whipping up a meal for the family, do you ever use saffron? If so, you know that it'll put a dent in your pocketbook. Not only is it one of the most ancient spices - records show that it was used as far back as 3,000 years ago - it is also one of the most expensive, with a price today of nearly \$30 for a single ounce. Why the high cost? It's because of the labor involved. Saffron comes from a type of crocus, and the delicate flowers must be processed by hand. Experts estimate that it takes 70,000 flowers to yield one pound of dried saffron.
- Thought for the Day: "Never pray for justice, because you might get some." - Margaret Atwood

ROGERS DISPLAYING DISNEY COLLECTIBLES



Lehman Township resident Bob Rogers is displaying some of his many Disney collectibles at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. Rogers has been collecting new and old Disney items for more than 15 years.

Some of his more interesting pieces include a 12-inch Mickey figure that was used to hold a dish of peanuts on the bar of Hanson's in Harveys Lake, a comic book written in Arabic, a Donald Duck lamp, an original Mouseketeers black and white photo, and a set of nesting eggs from Russia of Mickey and his pals. Rogers also has several beautiful snow globes, collector books about Disney World, large and small figurines of all the characters, a Minnie soap dish, and numerous postcards.

Rogers says his son David works in the Wilderness Lodge in Disney World. That means a visit to his son is also a visit to Disney World. In addition, many items were received as gifts from his family. He is still on the lookout for more pieces, especially a tin pull-along toy that was popular years ago.



Sheltered by a thin armor of plastic and a bubble of artificially tepid temperature, some race ahead of the weather in the vanguard to better days, brighter days, and balmy days, yet to come.

Reading program, babysitting course offered at library

Mary Baker, storyteller and musician, will present the book "Inside Mouse, Outside Mouse" in a special program encouraging early literacy at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 5 in the Children's Room at the Back Mountain Memorial Library.

Preschool through fifth grade children are invited to attend this evening of song and storytelling. "Pennsylvania One Book, Every Young Child" is a yearlong program that hopes to communicate to parents and caregivers how to develop early literacy skills through books and stories.

Parents may register their children by calling the library at

675-1182.

An American Red Cross Babysitting course will be offered at the library on Saturday, April 22. The time for the daylong class will be announced in a future column. Youth between the ages of 11-15 are welcome to register.

Participants will learn to perform first aid and 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.

Interested participants must register in advance at the main

desk of the library by presenting the \$40 program fee in cash or check made payable to the American Red Cross. A babysitter's handbook will be included and distributed at the program. Participants are asked to bring a bag lunch.

For more information, call the library.

The library is planning to hold an evening book discussion group for adults. If you are interested in participating, contact the library for more information. An organizational meeting is scheduled for 7:15 p.m. Tuesday, April 25.

The library is accepting donations for the odds and ends booth at the Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction. The preferred drop off time is 3-5 p.m. Saturdays. Anyone not able to drop items off at this time should contact the library to make other arrangements.

Some lovely spring and Easter items are on sale in the foyer of the library. Included are wreaths, decorated baskets, rabbits, pottery, dishes, Easter and spring novelties, stuffed animals and dolls. All proceeds directly benefit the library.

70 YEARS AGO
March, 27 1936



ONLY YESTERDAY

STUDENTS ASSIST IN FLOOD

Two Kingston Township High School pupils who worked tirelessly on rescue crews throughout the disastrous flood in Wyoming Valley last week related their experiences for 500 students from the high school and the seventh and eighth grades at assembly on Wednesday morning.

The talks were suggested by Prof. William Martin, supervising principal of Kingston Township schools as a means of illustrating for the school body how the Red Cross works in emergencies. Miss Sarah Pfahler had charge and Valerio Hunt presided.

The annual production of Henry M. Laing Fire Co. will be staged in Dallas Borough High School on Thursday and Friday, April 16 and 17, with more than 100 persons, including prominent men and women about town, taking part. Leonard O'Kane, chief of police of Dallas Borough, is general chairman of this year's show and Arline Rood, who has directed several splendid performances for the firemen, will again supervise in production.

Aroused by numerous complaints about the number of large dogs running loose in the borough, Dallas police this week issued a warning to owners, and declared that dogs without licenses or found damaging property or annoying children will be dispatched.

For some time, residents in some sections of the borough have complained about the noise of dogs at night and about the damage caused by loose-run-

ning canines. Several people have been in encounters with the larger dogs.

60 YEARS AGO
March 29, 1946

NO DOGS SHOT IN FIGHT AGAINST RABIES

Local police officers report that they have not shot any dogs this week, the first in Luzerne County's stringent 180-day anti-rabies campaign. So far few dogs have been seen and in those cases owners were given clemency because the animals were of good reputation. Warnings were delivered to the owners, however. Chief of Police Walter Covert expressed delight because the new ruling has proved that so many apparently homeless dogs have homes. Since the ruling went into effect he has not seen a single unleashed dog in Dallas.

Approximately 500 persons, the majority of them veterans, will be served this week by the Dallas office of the United States Employment Service, located in the former Dallas Borough Building on Mill Street. This is twice the number served last week, the first week the office was open. W.A. Henry, who is in charge, said that scores of persons from points as far distant as Sweet Valley and Noxen are now visiting the Dallas office instead of going to other Wyoming Valley employment offices.

50 YEARS AGO
March 30, 1956

DALLAS TODDLER SAVED FROM DEATH

Eight month old David Quare was dismissed from Mercy Hospital on Saturday, 24 hours after his admission. He was black in the face from strangulation. Recovering from his hanging with a bounce, once seven hours of oxygen had restored consciousness, the 21-pound mite could not be kept in the hospital crib. He went back on Monday for a final checkup.

If his father, Francis Quare, Midland Drive, had not discovered little David when he did, the child would have died. Francis put David in his crib for a nap after the morning romp, and went to the basement to fix the furnace. Coming up, he investigated the suspicious silence, and found David hanging from the crib post, his sweater tightened around his neck, caught on the post when he tried to climb over the side of the crib.

Mrs. Dwight Fisher of Pioneer Avenue will display her fascinating collection of ten miniature rooms for the benefit of the Wyoming Valley Crippled Children's Association and The Wheelchair club, Inc., on the second floor of the Boston Store next week, April 5, 6, and 7. She will be assisted by Mrs. Paul Bedford and James P. Harris.

After providing pleasure and wholesome recreation for thousands of Black Mountain and Northeastern Pennsylvania residents over the past nine years, Sweet Valley Memorial Day Parade may be abandoned this year because of lack of interest on the part of participating groups.

Sponsored by Sweet Valley Volunteer Fire Company, the parade annually attracted to Sweet Valley throngs estimated at between 10,000 and 15,000 persons.

40 YEARS AGO
March 31, 1966

SNOWDON TO SHOW LIFE-SAVING TECHNIQUES

Mouth to Mouth Resuscitation and External Cardiac Compression, which can mean the last chance of life in many instances, will be demonstrated by Harold Snowdon Jr. at Trucksville Fire Hall on Friday evening at 9 p.m. The public is invited.

A Norwegian doctor, Dr. Asmund Laerdal, who lost his 14-year-old daughter by asphyxiation, is responsible for the widespread interest in the demonstration. All equipment used is manufactured in Norway and

the life-size mannequin that will be used in the demonstration by Mr. Snowdon is an exact replica of the lost child, whom her father thought could have been saved if someone known what emergency means to take.

A March of Dimes dance, staged Friday night at a Lake-Lehman for High School students of the Back Mountain, drew 500 enthusiastic dancers who wriggled, stomped and cheered their way through the intricacies of the Philly-Dog and the Boogaloo, occasionally reverting to the ancient history of the Watusi and the Twist.

30 YEARS AGO
April 1, 1976

LAKE-LEHMAN BAND TO GIVE SPRING CONCERT

The Lake-Lehman High School Symphonic Concert Band directed by John Milliauskas, will be present their annual spring concert at the high school on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings, April 8, 9, and 10. Thursday will be the premiere performance with a limited number of tickets available, and regular admission Friday and Saturday nights.

More than 100 Dallas Rotarians and Rotary-Anns gathered to celebrate the 49th anniversary of the chartering of the club last Thursday at Irem Temple Country Club. The evening featured a buffet dinner and entertainment by a barbershop quartet known as the Tag masters.

Jane Ann McGough and David Dierolf, students at Dallas Senior High School, were selected by the Luzerne Intermediate Unit No. 18 to take part in a nuclear science project at the Pennsylvania State University Wilkes-Barre campus in Lehman Township.

They are among 40 juniors and seniors from each public and private high school in the Unit to take part in the mobile nuclear science lab for five weeks.

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