

MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

- On Jan. 21, 1789, the first novel by an American writer to be published in America is printed in Boston. The first edition of the book, "The Power of Sympathy or the Triumph of Nature Founded in Truth," was a thinly veiled account of the seduction and suicide of a young woman.
- On Jan. 18, 1912, after a two-month ordeal, the expedition of British explorer Robert Falcon Scott arrives at the South Pole, only to find that Roald Amundsen, the Norwegian explorer, had preceded them by just over a month. The frozen bodies of Scott and his two compatriots were recovered eight months later, 11 miles from base camp.
- On Jan. 17, 1949, the first Volkswagen Beetle in the U.S. arrives from Germany. The little Volkswagen ("people's car") was a sturdy vehicle designed by Ferdinand Porsche at the request of Adolf Hitler. Its reputation for affordable reliability made it a profitable export.
- On Jan. 19, 1953, 44 million viewers, a full 72 percent of all U.S. homes with a television, tune in to episode No. 56 of the popular '50s television sitcom "I Love Lucy." In "Lucy Goes to the Hospital," Lucy Ricardo, famously played by Lucille Ball, gives birth to a son.
- On Jan. 16, 1963, Los Angeles' first disco, Whiskey-A-Go-Go, opens on Sunset Boulevard. The underground disco subculture turned into a national sensation when the film "Saturday Night Fever" was released in 1977.
- On Jan. 15, 1974, the first episode of "Happy Days" airs. The show portrayed the comic antics of 1950s Milwaukee high-school student Richie Cunningham and his pal Potsie Webber. A minor character, super-cool biker Arthur "the Fonz" Fonzarelli, soon came to be the show's central character.
- On Jan. 20, 1984, movie star and champion swimmer Johnny Weissmuller dies. He starred in MGM's Tarzan movies, starting with "Tarzan the Ape Man" in 1932 and continuing through the late 1940s. (c) 2007 King Features Synd., Inc.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

- Those who study such things claim that in any given year, more gasoline is spilled simply while refueling lawn equipment than was spilled in the Exxon Valdez disaster.
 - It was famed composer Igor Stravinsky who said, "Too many pieces of music finish too long after the end."
 - In the United States, approximately 18 acres of pizza are consumed every day.
 - With more than 300 million books in print, British novelist J.K. Rowling, author of the beloved Harry Potter series of books, is one of the best-selling writers in the world. When Joanne Kathleen was a youngster, however, her parents didn't have such lofty ambitions for her.
 - When she went to college they wanted her to study French so she would be able to find work as a bilingual secretary. The future author hated secretarial work, though; during meetings, when she was supposed to be taking notes about the proceedings, she daydreamed and scribbled potential names for fictional characters in the margins of her notepad.
 - Mechanics and engineers can tell exactly how hot an object (such as an engine component) is if they know two things: what color it glows and what material it is made of.
 - The next time you've had too much to drink at the neighborhood pub and think you should walk home instead of driving, you might want to think again. Various studies show that as many people are fatally injured while walking drunk as are while driving drunk.
 - In San Francisco, the city leaders are trying out a new way to get power: They're turning the methane from canine excrement - doggie doo - into electricity.
- Thought for the Day: "The nice thing about egoists is that they don't talk about other people." - Lucille S. Harper
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TRANSFORMERS ON DISPLAY AT LIBRARY



Eight-year-old Gabriel Weiss has a collection of Transformers on display at the Back Mountain Memorial Library, Huntsville Road in Dallas. The Transformer toys are robots that turn into toy vehicles, motorcycles, flying and fighting machines. Gabriel has more than 50 Transformers of all sizes on display. The display will be at the library through January. His collection also includes several videos about the Transformers. The second grade student at Lake-Noxen Elementary School lives in Noxen with his parents Mark and Marcey Weiss. His father said Gabriel enjoys Transformers because he has an interest in "building" toys. He also enjoys Legos. Most of the Transformers owned by Gabriel have been gifts or rewards for doing chores.

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PHOTO FOR THE DALLAS POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

The minions of Jack Frost paid a visit; scampering in, whirling in a frozen frenzy, then drifting away until the conditions are just right for another dizzying dance.

Back Mountain library ready for great things in 2007

The holiday decorations are down, but spirits are up as the Back Mountain Memorial Library updates its calendar for the New Year.

Anyone looking for a relaxing evening of free entertainment will want to attend the Back Mountain Memorial Library's "Open Mic Night" - also known as WordHorde - which will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27 at the former Himmler Theatre, 50 Lake Street in Dallas. The building is also the former Richardson car dealership building and is located near The Old House Café.

Attendees will enjoy songs

LIBRARY NEWS

by local musicians and singers as well as writers reading their original works of prose and poetry. Refreshments will be served. Experienced or novice entertainers interested in performing should pre-register by calling library staff member Krista Connolly at 675-1182.

If you are planning on visiting the library on a Saturday, be sure to include time to enjoy our Coffee Café. We are offering specialty coffees and

tea for \$1 a cup. There are also free cookies. Patrons will be able to enjoy the refreshments while in our reference room.

After enjoying a warm beverage, take a trip downstairs to our Slightly Read Bookshop, which is open from 1-7 p.m. Mondays; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesdays; and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays. Be sure to check out the half-price sale on books (excluding children's titles), which will be ongoing throughout the month of January.

Parents are reminded that there are a few openings in the Wednesday story hours for

children ages 3-5. To register, call the library at 675-1182. Story hours will begin the week of Feb. 12 and conclude the week of April 2.

Young Adults who would like to gather for an hour at the library to discuss "The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants" by Ann Brashares are welcome to the young adult section at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 29. No registration is necessary. Participants may bring snacks for the group to share.

The Back Mountain Memorial Library news column is written by library staff members. The column appears every other week.

Fiction, biography, large print among new books

The Back Mountain Memorial Library, 96 Huntsville Road in Dallas, has added the following books to its collection. The library also accepts donations of memory and honor books. To donate a book in someone's honor or memory, call the library at 675-1182.

EXPRESS
(1 week)

"Next" by Michael Crichton

FICTION

"Next" by Michael Crichton
"A Dangerous Love" by Bertice Small
"Just One Sip" by Katie MacAlister
"The Meaning of Night" by

Michael Cox

"Treasure of Khan" by Clive Cussler
"Limitations" by Scott Turow

NONFICTION

"Ghost Map" by Steven Johnson
"Child Psychology"
"Paradigm Wars: indigenous peoples' resistance to globalization"
"The Complete Guide to Vitamins, Herbs and Supplements" by Winifred Conkling

BIOGRAPHY

"Jim Brown" by Michael Freeman

LARGE PRINT

FICTION

"Velocity" by Dean Koontz

REFERENCE

"Representative American Speeches 2005-2006"

BOOKS ON CD

"Suspense"

YOUNG ADULT

"Genital Herpes" by Greg Saulman
"Secrets, Lies, Gizmos, and Spies" by Janet Wyman Coleman

SPECIAL DONATIONS

"Captive Warriors" by Sam Johnson, donated by Daddow-

Isaacs Post 672 American Legion

"Soldiers and Slaves" by Roger Cohen, donated by Daddow-Isaacs Post 672 American Legion

The following books were donated by The Kirkwood Family:
"The Illustrated Dream Dictionary" by Russell Grant
"ESPN Sports Almanac 2007" edited by Gerry Brown & Michael Morrison
"Do Fish Drink Water?" by Bill McLain
"The World Almanac and Book of Facts 2007"
"Monopoly: the story behind the world's best-selling game" by Rod Kennedy, Jr.

70 YEARS AGO
Jan. 8, 1937WORK TO BEING
ON SCHOOL ANNEX

A contract for \$28,808 to construct an eight-room addition to Kingstown Township High School

ONLY
YESTERDAY

was awarded to W.J. Kear during a meeting of the school board on Wednesday night. Work on the annex will begin next week, possibly Monday, with the Works Progress Administration assuming labor costs estimated at \$21,273. The WPA grant was approved last October.

The addition will permit the township to establish a junior-senior high school and help relieve congestion of some of the other buildings. Royal Lynn of Trucksville was named clerk of works at a salary of \$100 per month. His salary is not to exceed \$750.

The Daddow-Isaacs Post No. 672 will hold an official opening and housewarming at a special meeting next Monday night in the new club rooms over the B and B Hardware Store in Dallas. All veterans of the area are invited to attend. Refreshments will

be served and a good time is assured to all who attend.

The quarters are still in need of furniture and dishes. The Legionnaires request that anyone having those articles which they desire to give to the local veterans, to contact Arthur Brown at the hardware store.

60 YEARS AGO
Jan. 10, 1947

ARREST MADE

IN CAR, HOME THEFTS

Thefts of two cars and burglaries of a home and service station in Beaumont were solved this weekend when police officers arrested a Tunkhannock man in one of the stolen vehicles on Monday night. State police were put on the trail of the thief on Saturday, Dec. 27 when it was learned a 1941 Dodge sedan belonging to Mary Jackson of Beaumont had been stolen the previous night.

Reports were heard and officers were elected to serve during 1947 at the annual meeting of the Sweet Valley Christian Church on Saturday. Rev. Ira Button, who has served as minister for the past 11 years, was re-hired. His son, Lewis W. Button, was granted a local preacher's license by the church.

During the Rev. Button's min-

istry, many new members have been taken into the church so that it now has an active membership of about 155 persons.

50 YEARS AGO
Jan. 11, 1957

ARREST MADE

IN CAR, HOME THEFTS

The Back Mountain Branch of the YMCA board of management extends to all an invitation to attend the annual meeting at the YMCA building in Shavertown on Thursday evening, R.E. Neal, chairman of the board of management, announced that reports will be given concerning finance and activities of the past year. He asked that all members and friends of youth join together at that time to review the 1956 program and to dream and plan for the future.

Salaries and wages of police officers and road department workers were increased at the January meeting of the Dallas Borough Council on Tuesday night in the Borough Building. Street department wages for laborers will be increased from \$1 to \$1.10 per hour. The same rate will apply for all extra policemen.

40 YEARS AGO
Jan. 5, 1967FAMILY HOME
BURNS TO GROUND

An old single block two-story family home was burned to the ground in Loyalville on Saturday, despite the efforts of the Harveys Lake and Sweet Valley fire companies to save the structure.

The fire at the home of Roscoe Harrison and five children was discovered shortly after noon on the last day of 1966. The roof had fallen in and the center of the dwelling was an inferno by the time firemen arrived.

Fire chief Richard Williams said the intense heat and complete consumption precluded firemen from saving the home, although 20 men from Harveys Lake and an equal number of men from Sweet Valley stayed at the scene for more than an hour.

Dallas Borough council at an adjourned meeting Thursday night became the first municipality in the Back Mountain to lower the millage in anticipation of revenues from the 1 percent wage tax. This will lessen the burden for taxpayers three mills, a drop from 12 mills to 9 mills.

In other business, police chief Russell Honeywell received an increase of \$400 per year and an hourly workers were given a 15 cent per hour rate increase. Council president Harold Brobst presided over the meeting.