

## LIBRARY NEWS

# Back Mountain library lends support to Hoyt

Patrons at the Back Mountain Memorial Library know that books assist us throughout our lives. We have all reached for them to escape our worries and even to help us relax on vacations. However, this past week, the very bookshelves themselves provided support, literal support, for a portion of the ceiling tiles, as our friends at the Hoyt Library in Kingston suffered indeterminate loss as their roof collapsed due to the heavy snowfall. Our thoughts are with the staff and board members of the Hoyt Library as they undertake the monumental task of replenishing their collection of library materials.

In the interim, Hoyt Library books may be returned to the Back Mountain Memorial Library on Huntsville Road in Dallas or any of the libraries in the Luzerne County Library System. The books will be checked in as usual and returns will be immediately credited to the patron's record. The books will be retained until they can be accepted for re-shelving at the Hoyt.

A new contest, the Children's Library Card Design Competition, is an exciting activity for children to participate in during the next few weeks. The Luzerne County Library System is sponsoring the contest, which begins immediately.

Children age 12 and younger may obtain an entry form at the Back Mountain Memorial Library or any other system library. The form may also be downloaded through the system Web site at [www.luzerneco.lib.pa.us](http://www.luzerneco.lib.pa.us).

The entry form consists of a facsimile of a library card and youngsters are asked to provide their artistic designs in the space provided. All entries must be submitted no later than Friday, March 23. Two winners will be selected and presented a trophy by the Luzerne County Commissioners.

While the young artists are eagerly awaiting the announcement of the contest winners, other patrons can look forward to the delivery of the American Cancer Society's Daffodils, which will be available for pick-up at the library on March 21.

Parents and caregivers of story hour participants are reminded that if Dallas or Lake-Lehman school districts have a school delay or closing, the story hours are canceled for that morning.

Two American Red Cross babysitting courses will be offered from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 31 and April 28 at the library. Girls and boys ages 11-15 are welcome to register for either program. Interested participants must register in advance at the main desk of the library by presenting the \$40 program fee in cash or a check made payable to the American Red Cross. Registrations will not be accepted the day of the class.

Participants will learn to perform first aid and how to get professional medical help quickly. They will also learn how to identify common safety hazards, prevent injuries, perform basic care routines such as diapering, feeding, and dressing, and handle bedtime issues. For more information, call the library at 675-1182.

## MOMENTS IN TIME

### The History Channel

On March 1, 1692, in Salem, Mass., three women are charged with the illegal practice of witchcraft. More than 150 people were later accused of Satanic practices and the resulting trials ended in the execution of 19 innocent women and men.

On March 3, 1863, during the Civil War, the U.S. Congress passes a conscription act that produces the first wartime draft of U.S. citizens in American history. Exemptions from the draft could be bought for \$300 or by finding a substitute draftee.

On March 2, 1925, shield-shaped highway number markers are used for the first time. Later, interstate highway numbering was improved by the odd-even demarcation that distinguishes between north-south and east-west travel.

On March 4, 1944, Louis "Lepke" Buchalter, the head of Murder, Inc., is executed at Sing Sing Prison. He was the leader of the country's largest crime syndicate until members of his killing squad turned into witnesses for the government. Lepke was able to order final hits on his betrayers from jail before his execution.

On Feb. 26, 1957, the final radio episode of "Dragnet" airs. Producer and writer Jack Webb tried to make the show as realistic as possible, using real police files: "Only the names have been changed to protect the innocent."

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

With April 15 right around the corner, you might want to note that Matthew is the patron saint of tax collectors.

It's well-known that noted American poet Emily Dickinson was a recluse, but she had some other quirks of personality that aren't as commonly known. For example, she sometimes wrote verse on chocolate wrappers.

Early car windshields were very dangerous because they would break into tooth-like radial shards around the neck of accident victims being ejected through them, often causing fatal lacerations or even decapitations.

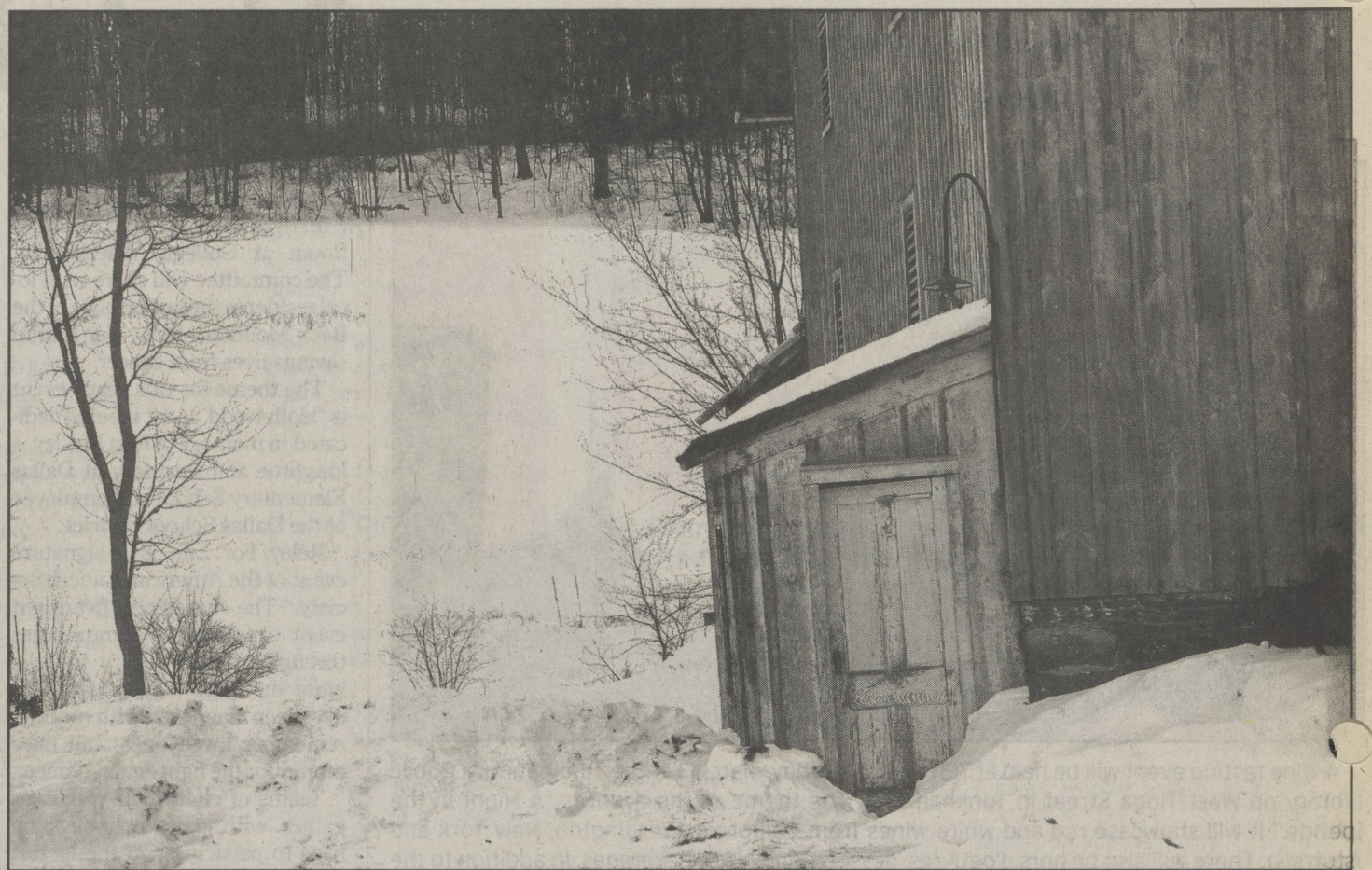
You might not be surprised to learn that Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone, also invented the hearing aid.

People who live in Indonesia must be very familiar with handling boats - the nation is made up of 17,000 islands.

If you spend one year on the planet Mars, you'll actually be there for 687 Earth days.

When you're in the produce section of the grocery store, you can pick up Idaho potatoes, russet potatoes and new potatoes - sometimes you might find some other varieties, depending on the store. However, I bet you won't find yellow Finns, christas, selmas, purple Peruvians, rockets, glorias, red rascals, lindas or Russian bananas - all little-known varieties of the humble spud.

In China in the 1700s, Pekingese dogs were so revered and so valued that any person caught stealing one would be put to death.



How many work-weary hands have turned the knob on a barn door? How many boots have been stamped on the dry floor within to dislodge a coat of snow, before setting off to feed the livestock? The lonely wind whispers of animals rustling in hay, noses searching grain buckets and a pair of boots setting back across the yard, drawn again to the window glow of home.

# Variety of new books added to library shelves

The Back Mountain Memorial Library on Huntsville Road in Dallas recently added the following new books to its collection. The library also accepts donations of memorial and honor books. If you would like to donate a book in someone's honor or memory, call the library at 675-1182.

### EXPRESS (1 week)

"Exile" by Richard North Patterson  
 "Step on a crack" by James Patterson

### FICTION

"True Evil" by Greg Iles  
 "Family Tree" by Barbara Delinsky  
 "The Welsh Girl" by Peter Ho Davies  
 "Find Me" by Carol O'Connell  
 "Exile" by Richard North Patterson

"Strangers in the House" by Georges Simenon

"Lords of the North" by Bernard Cornwell

"Step on a Crack" by James Patterson

"A Man Called Trent" by Louis L'Amour

"The Grave Tattoo" by Val McDermid

"The Suspect" by John T. Leacroart

### NONFICTION

"Thunderstruck" by Erik Larson

"War on the Middle Class" by Lou Dobbs

### MYSTERY

"The Collaborator of Bethlehem" by Matt Beynon Rees

"Trap Door" by Sarah Graves

"Sister Pelagia and the White Bulldog" by Boris Akunin

### SCIENCE FICTION

"Changelings" by Anne McCaffrey

"Ysabel" by Guy Gavriel Kay

### BIOGRAPHY

"About Alice" by Calvin Trillin

### REFERENCE

"J.K. Lasser's Your Income Tax, 2007"

"Statistical Abstract of the United States, 2007"

### YOUNG ADULT

"Valentine Princess" by Meg Cabot

"Forever in Blue" by Ann Brashares

"The Pull of the Ocean" by Jean-Claude Mourlevat

"The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing: traitor to the nation" by M.T. Anderson

"Desert Crossing" by Elise Broach

"Behind the Curtain" by Peter

Abrahams

"Life As We Knew It" by Susan Beth Pfeffer

"A Small White Scar" by K.A. Nuzum

"Hattie Big Sky" by Kirby Larson

"Tour America: A journey through poems and art" by Diane Siebert

"Faces, Places and Inner Spaces: a guide to looking at art" by Jean Sousa

"Sold" by Patricia McCormick

"Ask Me No Questions" by Marina Budhos

BOOKS ON CD

"Lords of the North" by Bernard Cornwell

"Step on a Crack" by James Patterson

"Plum Lovin'" by Janet Evanovich

"Next" by Michael Crichton

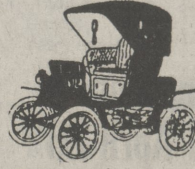
"Bad Blood" by Linda Fairstein

### 70 YEARS AGO Feb. 19, 1937

#### THREE ROBBERIES NET THIEVES \$55

It is a hard way to make a living!

The gas station bandits who have been striking with serpentine swiftness here in the last month have stolen \$55 in three robberies.



#### ONLY YESTERDAY

Split among the four, that nets each one a little less than \$14 for three stick-ups, not to mention the occupational risks of their profession and the threat of imprisonment hanging over them. They struck the third time within a month last Sunday night when they held up the Pen-Fern station at Fernbrook Corners and escaped with \$5 and a watch. The night's receipts had been taken from the station 10 minutes before the bandits arrived.

A good thing to remember, to assure a happy married life, is that there are two sides to every question.

This is a part of the advice Mrs. A. A. Neely of Lake Street, Dallas, gives as she and her husband prepare to celebrate their 50 wedding anniversary next Monday. Looking back on half a hundred years of happy married life, Mrs. Neely advises young married people to remember that tact, courtesy, appreciation and understanding are among the most important factors in assuring domestic contentment.

Further steps toward acquiring a new home for Shavertown Volunteer Fire Co. will be taken at a meeting in the Shavertown school house next Monday night. Last week, the firemen de-

ecided to purchase the building now occupied by Albert Bush's Garage, Main Street, Shavertown. A committee having as members William Cobleigh, Frances Youngblood and Howard Woolbert has secured a price on the building and estimates on the cost of repairs to the second floor, which is now occupied by the Shotwell family but which would be used as a meeting room and for community activities.

### 60 YEARS AGO Feb. 21, 1947

#### SCHOOL DIRECTOR HURT IN FALL

Though still experiencing considerable pain and inconvenience by having both hands incapacitated, Tom Earl, Franklin Township School Director, is home from Nesbitt Hospital where he was under treatment for eight days as the result of a fall in which he broke both wrists.

The accident occurred on the morning of February 4 where he was on the Sutton Creek highway where he is caretaker. Mr. Earl was removing several low hanging limbs from a hickory tree when the limb on which he was standing broke and threw him headforemost ten feet to the ground. In extending his hands to save himself he broke both wrists.

Workmen yesterday completed the 124-foot brick stack on the boiler room at Natona Mills. The stack has a 5-foot diameter at the top and will provide the draft for the two big boilers, one high pressure and the other low pressure, which will be installed in the boiler room as soon as floors are laid. Both boilers will be fed by stokers and burn anthracite coal.

Only within the week was the final design of the boilers "OK'd," that being one of the rea-

sons for delay in completion of the boiler room.

### 50 YEARS AGO Feb. 22, 1957

#### STUDENTS USE TELESCOPE AT LAKE-NOXEN

Eight or nine students at Lake-Noxen High School are interested enough in viewing the heavens through a telescope to meet Wednesday evenings from 8-10 to study constellations and take turns at the telescope.

The new apparatus, Bob McGovern's goal for several years, is a four-inch model Altazimuth Unitron with a four inch dynoscopic reflector, 255 power, purchased in November to supplement his former smaller model. Bob, a junior, has been interested in astronomy for five years.

He invites students from other high schools to join the local group in studying the constellations through the telescope and on star maps.

Students from Lake Noxen who are actively interested are: Daniel Grey, Lois DelKanic, Mary Charles McHose, Jack Rauch, David White, Jack Williams and Keith Evan.

Miss Frances Dorrance, authority on regional history, spoke to members of the Book Club Wednesday afternoon, delighting a large audience. Many guests and new members were present. Mrs. Gerald Stout presided, Mrs. Charles Frantz read the minutes, Mrs. Herman Thomas gave the treasurer's report, and Mrs. Fred Howell presented the book list. Routine business was held to the minimum to give time for enjoyment of the program.

Miss Dorrance, in outlining the foundations of Back Mountain history, said it necessarily had its roots in Wyoming Valley, and sketched in the factors which led to friction among the

early settlers, as well as trouble with the Indians and the British.

### 40 YEARS AGO Feb. 23, 1967

#### HOME-GROWN ICEBERG IS SPECTACULAR IN SUNSHINE

A home-grown iceberg on the Darte estate at Chase is stunning as it catches the rays of the sun. There are times when a rainbow appears above it, as frosty spray catches the light.

Edward Jeffrey, employed on the estate, says that there is an outside pipe-line running from a spring high in the hill behind the house, one which has to be permitted to run all winter to prevent from freezing up. A hose, attached in an upright position, feeds spring water to the pillar of ice, now 8 feet tall and growing with each freezing night.

Five Dallas Senior High School students were called form the audience to make a surprise appearance with Bucknell University Chorale Sunday afternoon.

Susan Moore, Ruth Higgins, Thomas Vernon, William Rowett and Howard Wiggin has represented the local school recently in Regional Chorus at Reading, under the direction of Professor Allen W. Flock of Bucknell.

Professor Flock urged the young people to attend the concert, presented in Dallas Senior High School under sponsorship of Shavertown WSCS.

Mrs. Wesley, lifetime resident of Sweet Valley and now a guest at the McCarthy Nursing Home, Orangeville, celebrated her 95th birthday on Feb. 12. Mrs. Wesley has maintained her own home and farm following the death of her husband, Eugene, 34 years ago and wintered at the homes of her children until she broke her hip four and a half years ago.

## The Dallas Post

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