

MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

• On March 20, 1345, the Black Death (bubonic plague) is created from what University of Paris scholars call "a triple conjunction of Saturn, Jupiter and Mars in the 40th degree of Aquarius." The plague, carried by fleas that usually traveled on rats, killed an estimated 25 million people.

• On March 23, 1836, in hopes of keeping pace with the furious march of technology, the U.S. Mint unveils its first steam-powered press. The new-fangled contraption helped crank out coins more efficiently.

• On March 25, 1901, the Mercedes automobile is introduced by Gottlieb Daimler at in Nice, France. After seeing a Daimler car win a race two years previous, businessman Emile Jellinek approached Daimler with an offer to buy 30 of them. Jellinek requested that the cars be named after his daughter, Mercedes.

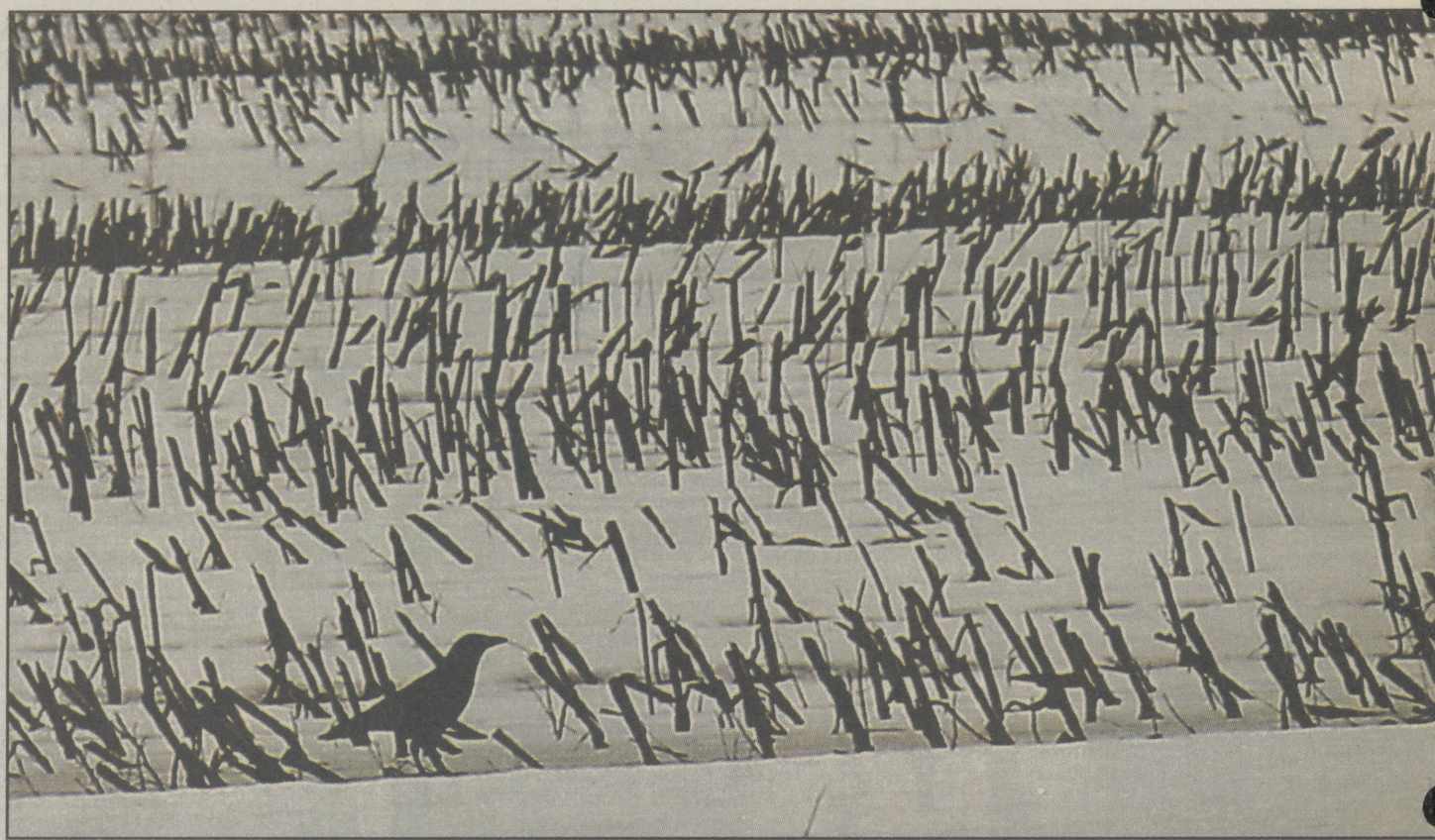
• On March 24, 1934, the debut of radio program "Major Bowes' Original Amateur Hour" launches a national craze among amateur performers. Families sold their homes and youngsters ran away to audition in New York, hoping to win and pull themselves out of Depression-era poverty.

• On March 22, 1947, President Harry Truman issues an executive decree establishing a sweeping loyalty investigation of federal employees in every department and agency. The program resulted in the discovery of only a few employees whose loyalty could be "reasonably" doubted.

• On March 19, 1952, the 1 millionth Jeep is produced. The name "Jeep" is reportedly derived from the Army's 1941 request that car manufacturers develop a "General Purpose" vehicle. "Gee Pee" turned to "Jeep" somewhere along the battle lines.

• On March 24, 1950, President Jimmy Carter informs a group of U.S. athletes that, in response to the December 1979 Soviet incursion into Afghanistan, the United States will boycott the 1980 Olympics in Moscow. The U.S. boycott had no impact on Soviet policy in Afghanistan, as Russian troops did not withdraw until nearly a decade later.

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FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZER

Searching amid the stubble and chaff, a resourceful omnivore searches for the most meager of sustenance, working, always working, toward survival in another season. A stray corn kernel here, some grain there, until accommodating weather and the farmer's furrow graces the menu with more succulent fare.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

• You might be surprised to learn that famed 17th-century Dutch painter Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn - better known, for obvious reasons, by his first name alone - was not what you'd consider a model citizen. Art historians point out that he cheated on his taxes, stole from his wife's inheritance, rarely paid his bills and sometimes indulged in petty theft and con scams. Despite his attempts at acquiring money by any means possible, however, he was a pauper when he died.

• Famed author D.H. Lawrence reportedly loved his favorite horse so much that he had it made into a duffel bag after it died.

• Throughout history, numerous languages have died out, taking with them words that could perhaps be useful in modern life. Take, for example, the Old English word "fribbler," referring to someone who is infatuated but commitment-shy - anyone on the dating scene these days is familiar with the phenomenon, but it's doubtful they have a word for it. At least, not a word appropriate for polite society.

• "The Star-Spangled Banner" wasn't officially adopted as the national anthem until 1931.

• Those who study such things say that a mixture of equal parts beer, Listerine mouthwash, Epsom salts, ammonia and liquid soap can be used as a lawn fertilizer. What I'd like to know is how long it took and how many different combinations of substances the researchers had to try before they hit on that particular one.

• The next time you're choosing fresh produce at the grocery store, keep this in mind: It's considered good luck if you find a pea pod with just one pea in it, and anyone who finds a pea pod with nine peas in it supposedly gets a wish granted.

• • •
Thought for the Day: "Man is the only animal that can remain on friendly terms with the victims he intends to eat until he eats them."
- Samuel Butler

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ORGANIZATION MAKES DONATION TO LIBRARY



Members of the Colonel Timothy Pickering Chapter of the Children of the American Revolution recently presented several books to Fred Krohle, manager of The Slightly Read Bookshop at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. The Chapter is comprised of youths under 21 who can trace their ancestry to someone who served in or helped the cause of freedom in some way during the American Revolution. Children of the American Revolution, the nation's oldest and largest patriotic organization for youth, was chartered in 1895. It is sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution. Accepting the donation, from left, are Mark Swick, organizing chaplain; Melissa Swick, Daughters of the American Revolution; Rhiannon Borchert, organizing librarian; and Krohle.

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ADVERTISING

Rita Mae Brown books added to library shelves

The Back Mountain Memorial Library, 96 Huntsville Road in Dallas recently added the following 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)

"Daddy's Girl" by Lisa Scottoline

"Puss 'n Cahoots" by Rita Mae Brown

"Temperatures Rising" by Sandra Brown

"Innocent in Death" by J.D. Robb

"Whitethorn Woods" by Maeve Binchy

FICTION

"Daddy's Girl" by Lisa Scottoline

"Returning to Earth" by Jim Harrison

"Inferno" by Karen Harper

"Lethal Justice" by Fern Michaels

"Temperatures Rising" by Sandra Brown

"After This" by Alice McDermott

"Infidel" by Ayaan Hirsi Ali

"Heart-Shaped Box" by Joe Hill

"Innocent in Death" by J.D. Robb

"Whitethorn Woods" by Maeve Binchy

"Nineteen Minutes" by Jodi Picoult

NONFICTION

"Ship of Ghosts" by James D. Hornfischer

"Supreme Conflict" by Jan Crawford Greenburg

"Collected Plays and Writings on Theater" by Thornton Wilder

MYSTERY

"Puss 'n Cahoots" by Rita Mae Brown

"Aunt Dimity and the Deep Blue Sea" by Nancy Atherton

"Key Lime Pie Murder" by Joanne Fluke

BIOGRAPHY

"Madame Chiang Kai-Shek"

by Laura Tysin Li

REFERENCE

"Polk City Directory, Wilkes-Barre, PA"

"Current Biography Yearbook 2006"

LARGE PRINTFICTION

"The Englisher" by Beverly Lewis

"The Preacher's Daughter" by Beverly Lewis

"Everything Must Go" by Elizabeth Flock

"The Emperor's Children" by Claire Messud

"Darkfever" by Karen Marie Moning

"The Guy Not Taken" by Jennifer Weiner

"Love is Blind" by Lynsay Sands

BOOKS ON CD

"You on a Diet" by Dr. Michael F. Roizen

"Shadow Dance" by Julie Garwood

"The Suspect" by John Lescroart

"The Boleyn Inheritance" by

Philippa Gregory

"The Last White Knight" by Tami Hoag

"The Day of the Triffids"

"The Adventures of the Christmas Pudding" by Agatha Christie

"The Places in Between" by Rory Stewart

"The Emperor's Children" by Claire Messud

"Clemente" by David Maraniss

"Act of Treason" by Vince Flynn

"Scariest Shows Ever"

"The Best of Jack Benny"

"The Other Boleyn Girl" by Philippa Gregory

"Yours Truly, Johnny"

"Amos 'n Andy: Mystic Knights of the Sea"

YOUNG ADULT

"Surrender" by Sonya Hartnett

"The Hydrosphere: agent of change" by Gregory L. Vogt

"Earth's Outer Atmosphere: bordering space" by Gregory L. Vogt

70 Years Ago
March 5, 1937

POLICE CHIEF

OPENING RESTAURANT

Chief of Police Leonard O'Kane, whose courtesy as a police officer has made hundreds of friends for him, will now have an opportunity to try out that courtesy as a host in his own restaurant.



ONLY YESTERDAY

This week the chief became proprietor of the Suburban Inn on Main Street, Dallas, which has been operated for the past several years by Mrs. Emma Shaver. The new enterprise will not interfere with Mr. O'Kane's duties as the Chief of Police. Mrs. O'Kane will assist him in the management of the restaurant. Mrs. Shaver, well known for her good food, will still be associated with the Suburban.

Flames which destroyed the roof and interior of the Silas J. Jackimowitz home on Demunds Road, East Dallas, did \$1,000 damage on Tuesday afternoon.

A defective chimney is believed to have been the cause of the blaze. Henry M. Laing Fire Co., responded to a telephoned alarm and the roof and interior were a mass of flames when the firemen arrived. Members of the family had removed nearly all furniture. Firemen obtained water from a well and two streams to check the flames finally.

Their meteoric career as bandits abruptly ended, five youths who, police say, took part in more than thirty hold-ups and thefts within the last few months, including three gasoline station robberies near Dallas, were rounded up by state police this week.

The men are still being ques-

tioned about a long list of robberies which they are charged with having perpetrated during their lucky careers. Using stolen automobiles, they escaped injury a number of times when their cars were wrecked.

60 Years Ago
March 7, 1947

ILLNESS CAUSES

MASS ABSENTEEISM

Seventy-three students were absent from Dallas Borough Schools yesterday because of illnesses causing school officials to curtail classes and dismiss all students at 2 p.m.

Most of the illness, according to Supervising Principal Charles James, himself a victim, is due to colds, flu and virus infections. Two other teachers, Bertha Arnold and Mrs. Ernest Gay, were among those who were ill yesterday.

Mr. James said the schools will open again this morning, but if illnesses continue they will probably be dismissed early.

Funeral services for F.S. Biery, 78, Dallas, held Monday in a driving snow storm, were largely attended, not only by local people but also by relatives who came from New Jersey and New York.

Mr. Biery, called "Fade" as long as anyone in Dallas can remember, had been employed by R.L. Brickel for more than 40 years. He was a regular attendant of Dallas Methodist Church and had been a member of the Junior Mechanics for many years. He died at his home this week after an illness of three months.

50 Years Ago
March 8, 1957

STUDENT INJURED IN SHOP CLASS

Wardan Wesley, ninth grade student at Lehman-Jackson-Ross, sustained a deep head laceration Monday morning when a high-speed drill in the shop toppled and threw him against a table. Dr. H. A. Brown used six sutures in closing the wound at the back of the head. Wardan and another ninth grade vocational agriculture student, Josiah Harrison, attempted to move the drill in the course of a volunteer cleaning campaign. The drill, rocked from side to side, fell on its apron. Wardan escaped being pinned to the floor by the half ton mechanism.

George M. Jacobs, Pioneer Avenue, Shavertown, was elected Monday night to fill the vacancy on the Kingston Township School board caused by the resignation of Mrs. Charles Eberle. Mr. Jacobs will be officially installed at a special meeting of the board in advance of the Dallas Area School Board meeting Tuesday night at Dallas-Franklin-Monroe Township School.

40 Years Ago
March 9, 1967

BEN FRANKLIN STORE CLOSING ITS DOORS

The Ben Franklin Variety Store on Church Street will soon be a memory removing from the community a popular shopping spot for youngsters and adults.

Mrs. Frances Williams expects to close her doors by the end of the month, perhaps sooner, terminating the lease she holds with Harveys Lake Light Company, owner.

The present business site has an interesting history. Dan Waters, historian, says that an old map shows a blacksmith shop started by John Bulford on the lot. He later added a store including general merchandise and hardware. While it was being run by Harry Hatfield it burned. Bulford started his

blacksmith shop according to old Ryman history in 1847-48.

30 Years Ago
March 10, 1977

WATER PROBLEMS BROUGHT TO LIGHT

A serious water condition in the area was brought to light at the regular monthly Dallas Township Supervisors meeting Monday night in the township building. Larry Johnston, president of the College Manor Homeowners Association, told the supervisors that residents of that development had been without water for 11 consecutive days. He said that service had just been restored.

Chairman Phillip Walter said that he had no idea there was any problem with water in the area. Johnston said there is a very low water table right now due to the winter drought. Before the ground had time to become saturated with water it froze and the lack of rain and snow during the winter months is the cause of the drought condition.

20 Years Ago
March 11, 1987

STUDENTS VOLUNTEER IN KENTUCKY

Sixteen students and Rev. John Petrasko from College Misericordia recently spent a week of doing volunteer work in Appalachia, Ky. Coordinated by students Jennifer Flora and Ann Shandra, the students left in town vans to spend their semester break working with the Christian Appalachian Project. This year marks the fourth year students have volunteered. The students drove straight through to their destination, stopping only for gas and to eat. When each group arrived at their center, they performed all kinds of repairs, prepared seeds for planting, and worked with the elderly and children.