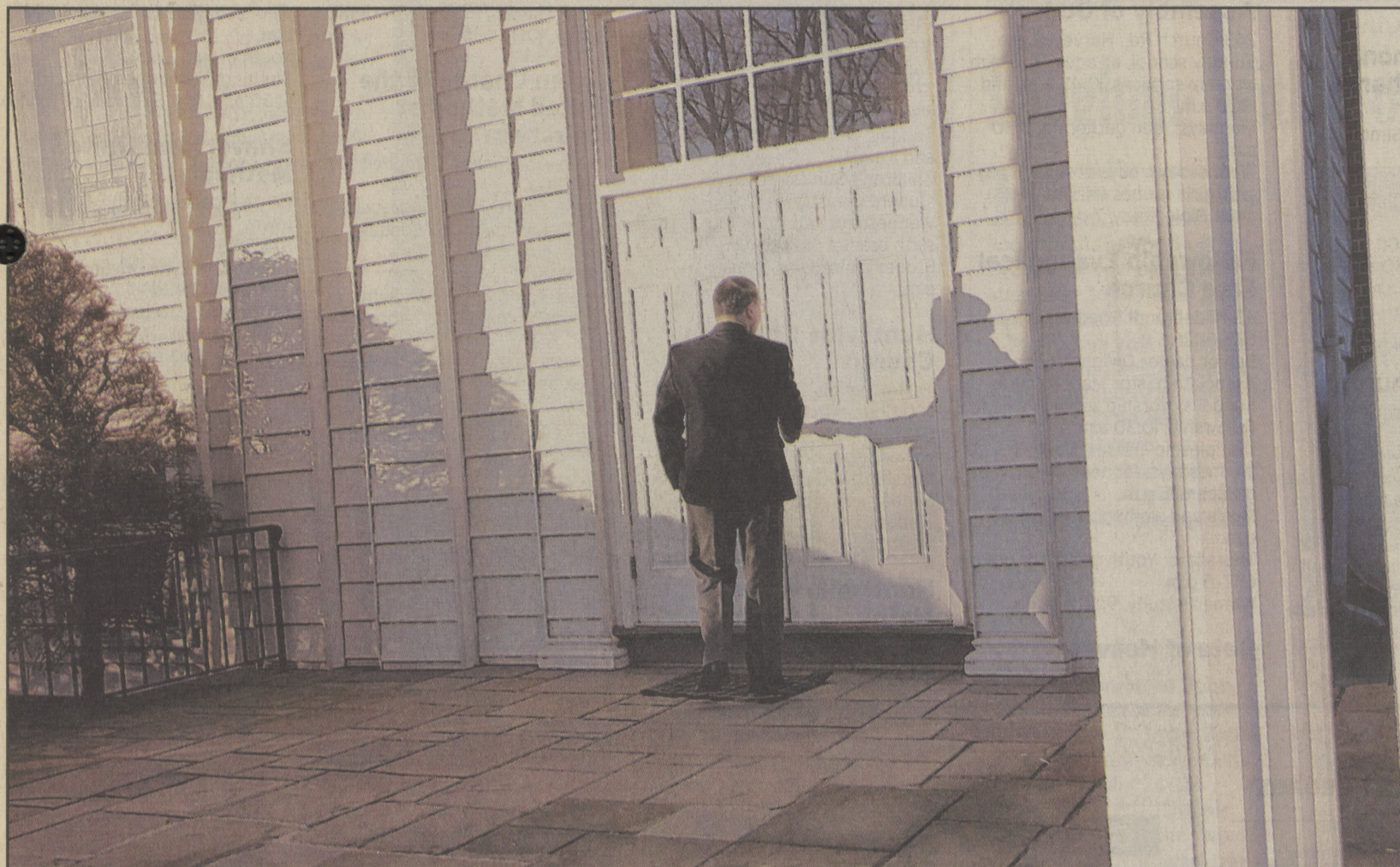


The DALLAS POST

50¢

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS AND LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER



FOR THE DALLAS POST/ CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Larry Sorber, of Dymond Hollow, arrives early Thursday morning at the United Methodist Church in Center Moreland. Sorber and Dave Pearn provided music for a National Day of Prayer service.

Early risers pray on

While most people were still sleeping, eating breakfast or packing school lunches, a quiet prayer time was being observed by a few people at the Center Moreland United Methodist Church on Creamery Road in Center Moreland.

The prayer time, which marked the beginning of the National Day of Prayer Event, was followed by a prayer breakfast and an 8 a.m. prayer service.

Prior to the breakfast, devotions were led by former US Army Chaplain James May, of Falls, who has served as a chaplain in Iraq. The prayer service was led by Pastor Mary Jean Simonin, pastor of the Center Moreland UMC, assisted by Pastor Jerry Mattocks of Tunkhannock.

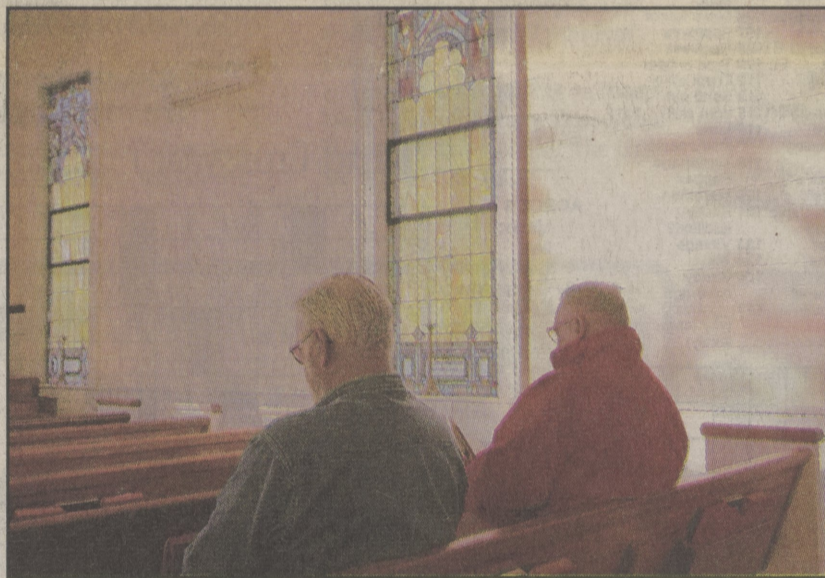
Special music was performed by some of the CM Sunday School

children and Larry Sorber and Dave Pearn of the Dymond Hollow UMC. Members of Boy Scout Troop 336 presented the flags.

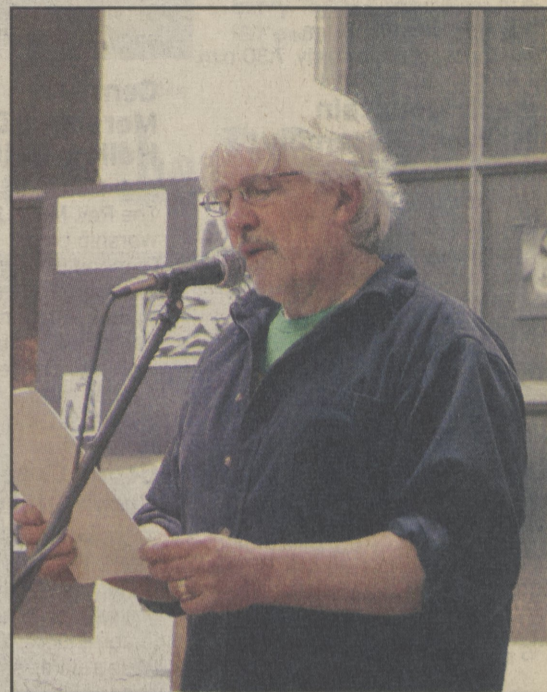
U.S. Army Reserve Chaplain Colonel Rev. Rodney Miller was the guest speaker. Chaplain Colonel Miller serves with the Army Reserves unit of the 11th MT Police Brigade in Ashley. He is a United Methodist minister, serving the Albright and Wesley United Methodist in Nescopeck.

He is a member of the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church and lives in Nescopeck with his wife, Betsy, and two children, Allison and Rod.

Donations made at the local event benefit the National Day of Prayer Task Forces in Colorado Springs, Colorado. This year's theme was "America, United in Prayer."



In the early morning twilight, friends Bill Race and Norm Harding, both of Tunkhannock, pray together at the United Methodist Church in Center Moreland during a National Day of Prayer service this past Thursday.



FOR THE DALLAS POST/ CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Herb Baldwin, of Dallas, reads his poetry and adds comic moments to the evening with skits and props.

Spontaneity + creativity = sheer delight

By CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK
For The Dallas Post

Economic prosperity for the last four decades has its benefits - not the least of which is generational tolerance, goodwill and appreciation seen at the Open Mic performance this past Saturday night in Dallas.

More than a dozen spontaneous and creative acts delighted everyone. There were piano solos, a violin performance, impromptu comedy stand ups and conversation. The performers ranged in age from 14 to whatever.

Dan Siani, of Mountain Top, who stopped playing piano for 15 years while raising his family, played honky-tonk keyboard selections and the audience wouldn't let him stop.

College Misericordia students listened approvingly to poetry by Ron Krause, of Dallas, about the 1960s with some explanation about who Dr. Benjamin Spock, Donna Rice, Edmund Muskie and Gary Hart are. Krause examined his youthful passions and the younger college students related.

Jim Spak, of Ashley, read his haiku and Owen Saut read a rollicking poem about "Planned Zucchini." Rich Fufaro and Herb Baldwin both jumped in as impromptu emcees and entertainers.

Krista Connolly, circulation coordinator from the Back Mountain Memorial Library, covered the 70s with her reading of a Nora Ephron book and a long look at the contents of her pocketbook.

The library sponsors the event and provides refreshments.

The college students then got up and sang some original songs off the top of their heads and introduced the older crowd to Alana Morissette, whom members of the audience liked very much.

Teenage newcomers Nova Price, Janelle Marshall and Kendra Balmer, all of Dallas, played instruments or gave readings and all said they felt comfortable and well-accepted by the adoring audience.

Interestingly enough, the former Richardson car dealer showroom on Lake Street in Dallas provides a beautiful spot for the evening as the glowing sun sets behind the glass walls on the building and the performers are silhouetted against it.

College Misericordia students Keira McMennamin and Matt LaRose perform individually and as the group "Autumn Leaves."



Learning how to feed, burp and diaper at Red Cross course

By GENELLE HOBAN
Post Correspondent

The opportunity to learn proper and appropriate babysitting techniques prompted about a dozen pre-teen and teenage girls to attend a babysitting seminar at the Back Mountain Memorial Library last Saturday.

From how to feed a baby to basic first-aid skills to the rules and responsibilities of being a babysitter, the girls heard a wide variety of material from instructor Julie Burke of the Wyoming Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross, who taught the six-hour training course.

"Knowing that the babysitter went through this training class gives the parents a sense of security," Burke said. "Our trained babysitters leave here with the knowledge to be responsible caretakers while parents are out."

Eleven-year-old Samantha Ziminski, of Dallas signed up for the class because she wanted to learn how to



FOR THE DALLAS POST/ CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Megan Banks, left, and Nicole Slavoski pair up with a doll at an American Red Cross class for babysitters held at the Back Mountain Memorial Library.

take care of little children and how to make them happy when she babysits. "I want to learn what to do instead of doing something wrong," Ziminski

said. "I want to be the fun babysitter that every kid wants to have."

Taylor Prothero of Wilkes-Barre decided to take the class to help take

care of her 4-year-old niece.

"When my niece comes over, my mom usually has to run a lot of errands and if I could babysit she wouldn't have to drag us around with her," the 11-year-old said. "It would be really helpful."

Prothero showed what she had learned about properly feeding a baby by holding the baby up with the head above the shoulders and tipping the bottle up so very little air could get into the child's mouth.

Each girl in attendance received a Babysitters Training Handbook and a mini first-aid kit as part of the \$40 fee.

The book lists and explains how to create a resume, questions to ask parents, family interview forms and game ideas.

"I really wanted to learn how to take care of children because I never really knew how to before today," said Megan Banks, 11, of Dallas. "I hope to babysit this summer and make some money."

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