

## CARS

Continued from Page 1

driving it in Southern California while he was stationed at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. The Mustang takes him back to his teenage days.

"I enjoyed those years," Judge said. "I'm still a kid. I hope I never grow up."

Some other members' cars include treasurer John Corbett's 1953 Ford Crestliner, Jim Famulare's 1969 Plymouth Roadrunner, Fred Mooney's 1947 Mercury Coupe and Adam Lemongelli's 1967 Mustang Coupe GT.

According to Judge, car cruises at the beginning of this year were slow, something he attributes to the current economy.

"What's happened in the last year or so is we're losing people due to gas prices and the cost of eating at restaurants and all," Judge said. "I'm hoping with the easing of the gas prices, maybe we'll get people to come out more."

Hi Lites Motor Club meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month at Big Ten Pizza and Subs on Route 118 in Lehman Township. New members are welcome and yearly membership dues are \$10 per individual or \$15 per family. The public is welcome at club activities and cruises.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Shown with trophies at the Hi Lites Motor Club annual dinner-dance in April are, from left, Jack Judge, club president; and John Corbett, club treasurer.

## JERRY

Continued from Page 1

said. "When I first bought this station from Calvin Sutton, I worked 70 and 80 hour weeks. It was hard."

Yet Schmid was able to support his wife, Rosemary, and their three children, Renee Benedetti, Jerry Jr. and Cheryl. He has loved his community and sees his customers more like friends.

"I know all their names; I'm going to miss them all and I have mixed feelings about closing," he

said.

The feeling in the community is mutual.

"He's been a fixture in the Back Mountain," said Kingston Township police Chief James Balavage. "His community service should earn him an award. He's responded to so many crashes and devoted so much spare time to the town. He would always help us out. I've been with him on many calls and he would always fix the police cars for us quickly."

Concerning Schmid's mechanical ability, Dave Spurlin, who also operates an automotive shop in Shavertown, said, "He's a great

mechanic and was always eager to help. I'll give him a job tomorrow if he wanted one. And, I always referred customers to him if I couldn't handle the work myself."

But the best reference to the man who graduated from GAR High School and has made the Back Mountain his home is found in a list of young men he has trained and employed.

Having learned a few things from Schmid as "grease monkeys" or gas attendants are Earl and Danny Monk, Dave Bisconti, Robert Wright and the late Paul Mazza.

These last few days Adam Hunsinger, of Tunkhannock, still works at the station and is sad to see it close.

"We've had a lot of fun together," Hunsinger said. "He taught me things I would have never learned. He's the best guy I ever worked for."

Though he will officially be out of the car repair business, Schmid will keep the picture of an old '41 Plymouth that's been his inspiration since he was 12 and will still race a rear-engine dragster with his daughter, Cheryl, this year in Maryland. He will also continue to reside in Lehman.

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From coal mine worker, to heavy duty laborer, to local historian to long-time environmentalist, Bill Hastie is natural born teacher. This 89-year-old community leader has been helping his fellow man since he was a child. He took a true interest in the world around him at 13, writing editorial letters and becoming involved in the community.

Bill became a history buff after being at the Knox Coal Mine disaster and on the beachhead in Anzio during World War II. He went on to become a popular, knowledgeable speaker, appearing at fraternal organizations, schools and other community groups.

A lover of the land, Bill always plants an extensive garden. "Whatever comes out of the soil must go back in," he claims. "Three things are important to preserving our environment: clean air, clean water and good topsoil."

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