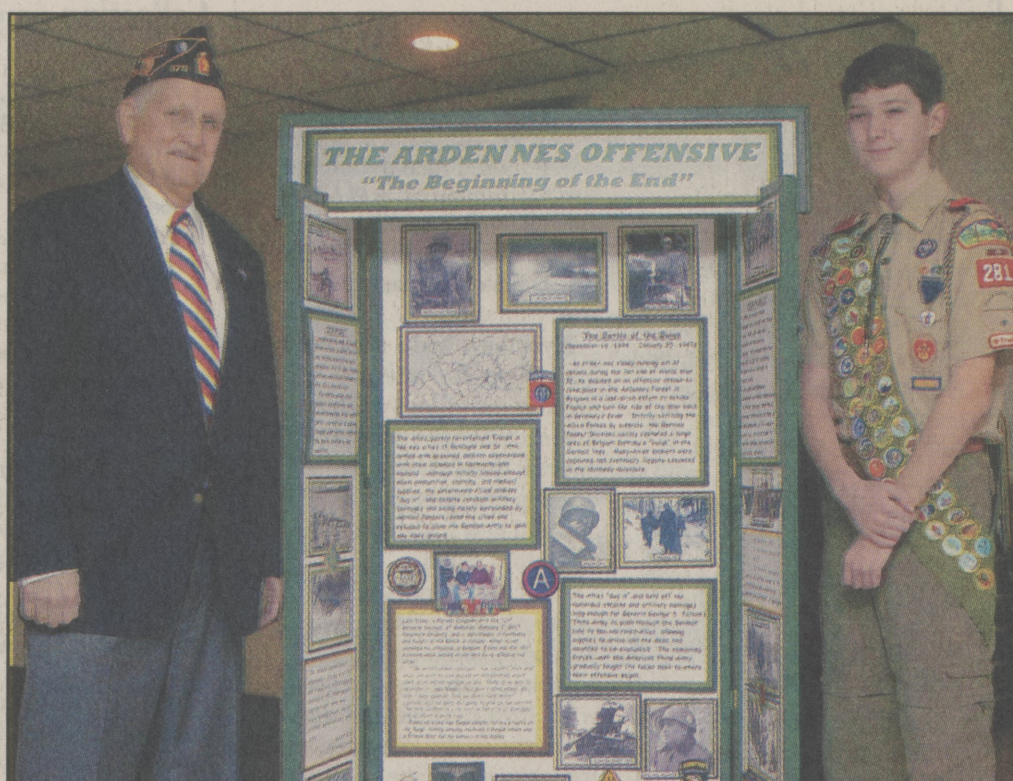




World War II veterans and 50 and 60-year members of Daddow-Isaacs Dallas American Legion Post 672 were honored at the organization's annual Pearl Harbor Day Breakfast. Shown in the above photo are, from left, seated, Joe Drust, Dallas; Lenny Groboski; Dallas; Pat Jelly, Dallas; Irwin Messick, Dallas; and Mary Reese, Dallas. Standing, Willis Ide, Dallas; Pete Rousheui, Dallas; Dick Kitchen, Dallas; Wally Gosart, Shavertown; Kep Gottshalk, Dallas; Willard Lozo, Shavertown; and Commander Clarence Michael, Dallas. At right, Andrew Snat-ora, a member of Boy Scout Troop 281, shows off his History Day project to American Legion Commander Clarence Michael.



## Honoring veterans

Daddow-Isaacs Dallas American Legion Post 672 held its annual Pearl Harbor Day Breakfast on Saturday, Dec. 6, at the post home. A special recognition was given to World War II veterans and to 50 and 60-year members of the organization who received certificates from State Representative Karen Boback. Andrew Santora, a member of Boy Scout Troop 281, offered an explanation of his History Day Project, entitled "The Battle of the Bulge." Commander Clarence J. Michael presided and John Emil Sr. was chairman of the event.

JONATHAN J. JUKA PHOTOS/  
FOR THE DALLAS POST

## MOMENTS IN TIME

### The History Channel

- On Dec. 19, 1732, Benjamin Franklin of Philadelphia first published Poor Richard's Almanack. The book, filled with proverbs preaching industry and prudence, was published continuously for 25 years and became one of the most popular publications in Colonial America, selling an average of 10,000 copies a year.
- On Dec. 20, 1892, Alexander Brown and George Stillman of Syracuse, N.Y., are issued a patent for an inflatable automobile tire. Before the pneumatic tire, wheels were often made of solid rubber, making travel a bumpy experience on dirt or cobblestone streets.
- On Dec. 17, 1903, near Kitty Hawk, N.C., Orville and Wilbur Wright make the first successful flight in history of a self-propelled, heavier-than-air aircraft. The gasoline-powered, propeller-driven biplane stayed aloft for 12 seconds and covered 120 feet on its inaugural flight.
- On Dec. 21, 1946, an undersea earthquake sets off a powerful tsunami that devastates Honshu, Japan. When the tsunami hit Honshu, 20-foot waves obliterated buildings from shorelines and about 2,000 ships were capsized. In all, 60,000 square miles were flooded by the waves and 40,000 homes were completely destroyed.
- On Dec. 16, 1951, the detective series "Dragnet" appears on television for the first time, as a sneak preview on the anthology show "Chesterfield Sound-Off Time." Dragnet had been a popular radio drama since 1949. The TV show debuted as a regular series in January 1952 and ran until 1959.
- On Dec. 15, 1966, animation pioneer Walt Disney dies. In 1928, Disney introduced Mickey Mouse in two silent movies. Mickey debuted on the big screen in "Steamboat Willie," the first fully synchronized sound cartoon ever made. Walt Disney himself provided Mickey's squeaky voice.
- On Dec. 18, 1984, the first Chevy Nova is introduced by New United Motor Manufacturing, Inc., a joint venture between Toyota and General Motors. The car later met with marketing trouble in South America, where its name read as "No Go" to Spanish speakers.

## MAILBAG

### Dear Editor:

When I unpack my Christmas decorations here in Florida, the gifts given to me during my teaching career in the Dallas Area School District bring back such wonderful memories. Almost every ornament, candleholder, coffee mug, magnet, towel or statue has a student's name and the year on the back or bottom to remind me of the child who gave it to me.

They are adults now and I pray they have gone on to lead happy, meaningful lives. The gifts are now 11 to 36 years old but quite precious to me.

May God bless all who helped create these cherished memories of those years (1972-1997). May He also bless the current faculty and staff in the schools as they continue to put the students first and offer an exemplary public education.

Catherine Flick  
cmflickf@aol.com

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

### By Samantha Weaver

- It was Canadian-American economist John Kenneth Galbraith who made the following sage observation -- which seems more and more prescient every day lately: "The only function of economic forecasting is to make astrology look respectable."
- In 2004, celebrities Paris Hilton and Ludacris appeared in a "Vote or Die" advertising campaign designed to encourage young people to participate in the electoral process. It's interesting to note, however, that they themselves didn't register to vote in that election.
- In The Old Granary Burying Ground, a cemetery in Boston, the grave of Mother Goose is more popular with visitors than the graves of American patriots Paul Revere, Samuel Adams and John Hancock.
- Studies show that the only taste humans are born with a craving for is sugar.
- According to a national poll, the average teenage boy spends more on getting ready for the prom than the average teenage girl: \$545 versus \$530.
- The saguaro cactus, found mainly in America's Southwest and in Mexico, can live for more than 150 years. It only grows about 1 inch in the first 10 years of its life, but can eventually reach a height of 50 feet.
- You may not realize it, but you're almost certainly quite proficient at dactylonomy -- counting on your fingers. If you're deaf, you're probably good at dactylology -- communicating by using signs made with your fingers.
- With the holiday season approaching, you might want to remember to check the policies of the stores whose gift cards you receive. In 2006, the electronics chain Best Buy made \$43 million off gift cards that were not used before they expired. In the United States, an estimated \$5 billion in gift-card cash expires every year.

## Library offers several special holiday happenings

The Back Mountain Memorial Library Board of Directors and staff would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy holiday season. And even though there is much work involved in preparing for the festivities, we hope that you will be able to squeeze in a break and enjoy some of our special holiday happenings.

### Slightly Read Bookshop

The busy elves working at our Slightly Read Bookshop have received permission from "Santa" to offer their Christmas books for half-price! They are also extending their current 10-cent sale of specially selected books and continuing their half price sale of all videos, audio books and puzzles through the month of December.

The bookshop will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 24, and will re-open on January 5. Be sure to stop by and take advantage of these special savings!

### Holiday Open House

Our Annual Holiday Open House will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 17, and Thursday, Dec. 18. An assortment of holiday cookies and punch will be available for you to enjoy when you visit us on these days.

### Closed for the holidays

The library will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 24, and Thursday, Dec. 25, and again on Wednesday, Dec. 31, and Thursday, Jan. 1, to celebrate the holidays.

### Storytime registration

A reminder to parents and grandparents that the registration date for the Winter/Spring Storytimes for 2009 will begin on Wednesday, Jan. 7. You may call the library at 675-1182 on that day beginning at 9:30 a.m. to register your child.

The storyhours will be as follows: Toddler Storytime for 2-year-olds will be from 10 to

10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays, Mother Goose on the Loose will be from 11 to 11:45 a.m. on Tuesdays, 3-to-5-year old story hour will be from 9:45 to 10:45 or from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays or from 10 to 11 a.m. on Thursdays. Storytimes will begin the week of February 1 and end the week of April 5.

### Parent/child workshop

A Parent/child workshop will also be offered in the spring of 2009. This workshop is a four-week program for children 1 to 3 years of age. A resource professional will be present to answer parenting questions while the children play and are introduced to short storytime.

### No TVs, please

The library staff asks residents not to donate television sets to the library. We are not able to sell them and incur a substantial cost when trying to dispose of them.

### 1988 - 20 YEARS AGO

Kicking off their annual Christmas season activities, the Back Mountain Jaycees will be selling Christmas Eve Candles at the Country Club Shopping Center in Dallas. The sand candles are an age-old tradition by which a path for welcomed visitors is lighted on Christmas Eve. Cost of the candles is \$2.50 per dozen. John Jablowski, Jr., project chairman, is being assisted by Karen Schleyer, Cathy



### ONLY YESTERDAY

Rubbico and Mark Masitis. Michael Faillace, son of Michael and Marie Faillace, Shavertown, recently won first prize in the Anti-Drug Poster Contest sponsored by the Wyoming Valley Drug and Alcohol Services, inc.

### 1978 - 30 YEARS AGO

Vicki Dobinick was chosen Prom Queen at the Lake-Lehman High School Junior-Senior Prom held last Friday at the school. Members of the queen's court included Linda Bednar, Eileen Borton, Holly Haverick, Lisa Twardowski and Amy Garinger.

Marsha Landis is chairman of the Dallas Rotary Anns Christmas Dinner-Dance which will be held tomorrow evening at Irem Temple Country Club. Planning committee members include Mrs. Duncan Whitehead, Mrs. R. Spencer Martin, Mrs. Alan Landis and Mrs. Hanford Eckman.

Three students from Dallas

Senior High School have been selected to represent the high school on the American Heart Association Youth Assembly. The purpose of the organization is to orient and involve young people in the affairs of the Heart Association and to gain knowledge concerning the normal heart and circulation. The students selected are Laurie Aicher, Joseph Gries and Edward Jewell.

### 1968 - 40 YEARS AGO

The Dallas Women's Club Choral will start their 21st season during the holiday season under the direction of Mrs. William Carroll. They will be singing for both the Dallas Jr. and Sr. Woman's Clubs, the Forty Fort Methodist Church, the Nesbitt Hospital Auxiliary, the General Hospital and Valley Crest, and the Miner's National Bank.

Members of the chorale are Mrs. Robert Law, Mrs. Leon Brokenshire, Mrs. John McGoe, Mrs. Leo Mohen, Mrs. Joseph Katyl, Mrs. Joseph Kaminsky, Mrs. Walter Davidson, Mrs. Charles Mahler, Mrs. William D. Jones, Mrs. Robert Carey, Mrs. William Carroll, Mrs. John Williams, Miss Jill Sicker, Mrs. Paul Lauer, Mrs. Lamort Holdsworth, Mrs. Donald Shaffer, Mrs. Robert Lutz, Mrs. Joseph Balavage, Mrs. James Balmer and Mrs. John Brown.

Brian Beard, 17, of Church Street, Dallas, who has compiled an outstanding record in 4-H work, has been named national leadership contest winner in the 4-H National Awards Program.

He received a \$500 scholarship provided by the Sears-Roebuck Foundation of Skokie, Illinois during ceremonies at the

national 4-H Congress in Chicago. In September he was judged state leadership contest winner and received an expense-paid trip to the national conference.

### 1958 - 50 YEARS AGO

Edgar W. Hughes, Jr., Overbrook Avenue, Dallas, had a narrow escape from injury and possible death late Tuesday afternoon as a result of offering a hunter a ride. Hughes, son of Harvey's Lake Police Chief and Mrs. Edgar W. Hughes, had been hunting after finishing his teaching job at Westmoreland High School.

Hughes parked his car in St. Nicholas Cemetery, opposite and some distance from Shavertown Methodist Church, and had been hunting in the nearby woods when he saw a hunter emerging from the woods and asked the man if he would like a ride. The man, identified as C.E. Darrow, 131 Center Street, Shavertown, said yes and got down on his knees to unload his rifle before entering the car.

As Darrow was unloading the Winchester Rifle, it was discharged and the bullet struck the driver's side of the car. The projectile went through the door, took an upward course along the steering wheel, passed between Hughes' hands which were on the steering wheel, and knocked out the windshield.

Booster mothers will serve a banquet for football players and fathers tomorrow night at Westmoreland High School. Mrs. Fred Houlihan is general chairman; Mrs. Kenneth Inman has charge of decoration; Mrs. Larry Newhart, dining room; Mrs. Donald Clark, arrangements; Mrs.

James Goodwin, invitations.

### 1948 - 60 YEARS AGO

One of the largest commercial real estate transactions in Dallas Borough in some months was announced yesterday afternoon by Ralph Garrahan who with George Ruckno is co-owner of Shavertown Builders Supply. Mr. Garrahan said his firm had purchased the triangular plot of land between Church and Lake Streets from the Oliver estate and will erect there immediately a new store building to be leased by Acme Markets.

Movies playing at the Shaver Theatre, Shavertown, included "Foreign Affair" starring Jean Arthur, John Lund and Marley Deitrich; "Roses Are Red" starring Don Castle and Patricia Knight; and "Gung Ho" starring Randolph Scott and Robert Mitchum.

### 1938 - 70 YEARS AGO

Walter Covert, a member of the Dallas Borough Police force for the last four years, was elected Chief last Friday night to fill the vacancy left by the death of Leonard O'Kane.

Chancellor Adolph Hitler's phone number in Berlin is 116191, according to the 1939 edition of the British Who's Who, published this week. The phone rate from Dallas to Berlin, according to M.E. Kuchta, manager of Commonwealth Telephone Co., is 4:30 to 7 p.m., \$24 for three minutes, 20 cents federal tax, and \$8 for each additional minute.

Information for "Only Yesterday" is taken from past issues of The Dallas Post, which is 119 years old.

## "WHAT ARE YOU ASKING SANTA CLAUS TO BRING YOU THIS YEAR?"



"I would like to have a Wii Fit."  
Katie Snedeker, 10  
Wyoming



"I would like 'Rock Band.'"  
Kathleen Brown, 10  
Shavertown



"This year, I want a laptop computer."  
Robert Emil, 9  
Dallas



"I'm asking for 'The Legend of Zelda: The Wind Waker.'"  
Colin Murray, 7  
Dallas



"I hope to get a PlayStation Portable this year."  
Casey Ulichny, 7  
Dallas



"I would love to get a Wii from Santa."  
Jensen Meade, 7  
Shavertown

## The Dallas Post

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