

# The Dallas Post

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THE TIMES LEADER

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## New books on library shelves

The following new books have been added to the shelves of the Back Mountain Memorial Library, 96 Huntsville Rd., Dallas for December 2009:

### EXPRESS (1 WEEK)

"Spoooner" by Pete Dexter, "Help" by Kathryn Stockett and "The Honor of Spies" by W.E.B. Griffin

### FICTION

"The Four Corners of the Sky" by Michael Malone, "Spoooner" by Pete Dexter, "Deeper Than the Dead" by Tami Hoag, "The Honor of Spies" by W.E.B. Griffin and "A Separate Country" by Robert Hicks

### NONFICTION

"Frommer's Italy 2010," "The Good Soldiers" by David Finkel, "Why Our Health Matters" by Andrew Weil and "Nutureshock" by Po Bronson

### BIOGRAPHY

"True Compass" by Edward M. Kennedy

### REFERENCE

"The World Almanac and Book of Facts 2010"

### BOOKS ON CD

"The Imperial Cruise" by James Bradley, "A Rumpole Christmas" by John Mortimer and "Witch and Wizard" by James Patterson

### YOUNG ADULT

"Front and Center" by Catherine Gilbert Murdock, "A Brief History of Montmaray" by Michelle Cooper and "Marching for Freedom" by Elizabeth Partridge

### SPECIAL DONATIONS

"D-Day: the Battle for Normandy" by Antony Beevor presented by Daddow-Isaacs Post 672 American Legion, "Starr Wars: Darth Bane: Dynasty of Evil" by Drew Karpshyn presented by The Bernard Bronsberg Family

## MOMENTS IN TIME

### The History Channel

• On Jan. 5, 1643, in the first record of a legal divorce in the American colonies, Anne Clarke of the Massachusetts Bay Colony is granted a divorce from her absent and adulterous husband, Denis Clarke, by the Quarter Court of Boston.

• On Jan. 10, 1901, a drilling derrick at Spindletop Hill near Beaumont, Texas, produces an enormous gusher of crude oil, signaling the advent of the American oil industry. The geyser flowed at an initial rate of 100,000 barrels a day. Within a year, there were more than 285 active wells at Spindletop. Today, only a few oil wells still operate in the area.

• On Jan. 6, 1936, Porky Pig makes his world debut in a Warner Brothers cartoon, "Gold Diggers of '49." When Mel Blanc joined Warner Brothers the following year, he became the famous voice behind Porky, as well as the Warner Brothers characters Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Sylvester and Tweety.

• On Jan. 7, 1959, six days after the fall of the Fulgencio Batista dictatorship, the United States recognizes the new Cuban government of Fidel Castro. The U.S. government believed it could work with Castro and protect American interests in Cuba, but less than two years later, the U.S. severed diplomatic ties and unleashed the Bay of Pigs invasion.

• On Jan. 8, 1966, rock-and-roll TV variety show "Shindig" on ABC airs its last episode. The show had debuted in September 1964, featuring acts including the Everly Brothers, the Rolling Stones and the Beach Boys.

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

### By Samantha Weaver

• If you ever travel to the British territory of Bermuda, you might want to stop off in Ely to see the world's smallest drawbridge. Somerset Bridge is less than 20 feet from one embankment to the other, and when the draws are raised, there's barely enough room for a single small sailboat to pass.

• Early in its history, the Catholic Church decreed that imbibing coffee was sinful. It was Pope Clement VIII who, in 1592, declared it to be a Christian drink.

• Early 20th-century ballet dancer and choreographer Vaslav Nijinsky is considered to be one of the most gifted dancers in history. Despite his talent and his fame, though, he was fired from the renowned Mariinsky Theater because one of his performances offended the Russian Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna. It seems Nijinsky appeared onstage wearing tights, but without the so-called modesty trunks commonly worn by male dancers at the time.

• When George Eastman sold the patent to his Kodak camera, he received only \$5,700.

• The world's best long-distance swimmers are Alaskan seals. In order to avoid the brutal northern winter, every fall these aquatic mammals leave their calving grounds on islands off the coast of Alaska and don't return until spring. For eight months they remain in the ocean, never touching land and sometimes traveling more than 6,000 miles before returning home as the weather warms.

## YOUR SPACE



While taking a walk along an old stone wall on an abandoned farm in Shavertown, Joan Taylor, of Harris Hill Road in Shavertown, came across this old truck. Who played with this truck? Did mother call "Supper's ready" and the little truck's owner went running home? Is that person still alive or have they passed on? Such intriguing questions one little rusty toy can invoke!

"YOUR SPACE" is reserved specifically for Dallas Post readers who have something they'd like to share with fellow readers.

Submitted items may include photos or short stories and should be sent via e-mail at news@mydallaspost.com, by fax at 675-

3650 or by mail to The Dallas Post, 15 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711.

Information must include the submitting person's name, address and a telephone number in the event we have questions. Readers wishing to have their photos re-

turned should include a self-addressed/stamped envelope.

Items will be published in the order in which they are received. The editor of The Dallas Post reserves the right to reject any items submitted for publication.

### 20 YEARS AGO

The Wyoming Valley Chapter, American Red Cross, recently completed a babysitting course with the members of Troop 636 at the Dallas Trinity Presbyterian Church. During the course participants learned Basic First Aid measures, "sitting" responsibilities, how to diaper and feed infants, how to choose appropriate toys and games for toddlers ages 1-5 years.



### ONLY YESTERDAY

Those in attendance were: Robyn Weber, Becky Barna, Tracy Jones, Adeline Groblewski, Natalie Temperine, Cari Cave, Melissa Hill, Sarah Podehl, Jennifer Parrish, Jada Kozick, Wendi Hunter, Carey Mazzoni and Leah Vincelli.

Dallas girls' basketball player Laura Poynton was named to the Hershey Girls All-Tournament Team in the competition last week at Hershey.

The Dallas girls' team entered the Hershey Tournament with teams from Hershey, Palmyra and Ann-Ville-Cleona. In first round action played at Hershey Middle School, the lady Mountaineers lost by a big score to Palmyra, the team that took the tournament, despite Poynton's 21 points.

In the consolation game held Thursday night at Hershey High School, the Dallas girls defeated Ann-Ville-Cleona 57-55 paced by Poynton who tossed in another 21 points.

### 30 YEARS AGO

The judges in the Back Mountain Holiday Decorations Contest this week announced the winners in the annual event. The contest is sponsored by The Dallas Post in cooperation with nine other sponsors.

None of the entries fell into the unlighted category. So for that reason the judges decided to award the two \$25 bonds to the first two selections in the lighted category.

"It was not too difficult selecting the grand prize winner. It is exceptionally beautiful," explained Contest Committee Chairman James B. Davies, III, mayor of Dallas. "The grand prize display is at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Crane, Outlet Road, Harvey's Lake.

The two best-lighted displays were at the homes of Gerald John, Country Club Road, Dallas, and Dr. Len Medura, Wellington Drive, Shavertown.

Scout Pack No. 155, Trucks-ville, held its annual Christmas Pack meeting last Friday. The Webelos held the opening skit which was entitled, "Santa's Dilemma On The Night Before Christmas." Participants included Enrice Nardone, Nathan Kelley, Brian Freeman, Lee Williams, David Morris, Paul Kaplanski, Albert Sutcavage, John Baller, Chris Peeler, Billy Gabel, Lon Miller, Billy Schmide, Fred Shiptoski, Joseph Perrone, Brian Kaplanski and Dale Morris.

### 40 YEARS AGO

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Alpha Hilbert, RD1, Dallas, was the first baby born in the New Year Thursday morning at 3:20 in Mercy Hospital.

The Chansonairs, a group of students from the Dallas area, delighted visitors to the main office of the First National Bank on West Market Street in Wilkes-Barre with a concert of holiday music on Christmas Eve. The group is under the direction of James Pichert and the accompanist is Paulette Stasko.

Other members of the group are: Jay Miller, Cathy Wilson, Bob Carle, Brenda Richards, Ruth Lewis, Ruth DeWitt, Chuck LaBerge, Lorene Darling, Nancy Pichert, Cliff Dungle,

Bonnie Loan, Ernie Gelb, Debbie Anderson, Barb Reese, Grant Davis and Clark Siertzer.

### 50 YEARS AGO

Two 12-year old boys, Marshall Rumbaugh and Sumner Bachman, both of Upper Demunds Road, Dallas, had an experience Monday night that neither of them will soon forget.

Though the temperatures had not been too cold, there was skating ice on the newly made lake at The Maples on Upper Demunds Road and the two boys decided to do some skating after school.

About dusk, Sumner Bachman, who was trying out his new Christmas skates, couldn't stop as he approached thin ice and before the boy knew what he had done, Sumner plunged through the ice into the water over his head.

As he struggled toward the surface, he screamed for his friend Marshall Rumbaugh to help him. Marshall, weighing less than Sumner, took off his coat, and with considerable carelessness crawled on his stomach to Sumner and extended it so that Sumner could grab it. After quite a struggle, they finally made it to thicker ice.

Both boys were considerably shaken up by the experience but learned a lesson about thin ice and also the value of having a good friend.

### 60 YEARS AGO

The house of Mr. and Mrs. James Kozemchak, Huntsville, was awarded first place in Dallas Business Association's Business Association's Christmas Lighting Contest for the best decorated home.

Mr. Kozemchak wrapped his door in gaily-colored cellophane and tied it with red ribbons and sprigs of evergreen to resemble a wrapped Christmas package. The eaves were festooned with

ropes of ground pines and window boxes were filled with greens and colored lights. The home was then given indirect lighting by spotlights placed in shrubbery.

Mrs. Fred Swanson of Harvey's Lake was Queen for a Day last week on Mutual Broadcasting Company's Program of that name, but she is a Queen every day of the year according to her husband, Chief of Police Fred Swanson even though she didn't place among the five women of the nation who were chosen to go to Hollywood where one was chosen Queen of America. And the neighbors and the newspaper agree with Fred.

### 70 YEARS AGO

Two days before Christmas Burt Jones of Pioneer Avenue, Dallas Township, mailed a Christmas card to his next-door neighbor, Floyd Sanders. Six days later Mr. Sanders received the card. It had been sent to Dallas, Texas and returned, traveling over 3,000 miles to go 100 feet.

The detour was not without precedent, however. Mail to Dallas, Pa., is so often misdirected to Dallas, Tex., and vice versa, that it has ceased to be a joke. A.S. Culbert, express agent at Lehigh Valley station, kept a Dallas, Tex. phone directory hanging on the wall for reference, so often does he receive shipments which should have gone to Texas.

David Joseph of Dallas was elected president of Mt. Greenwood Kiwanis Club at its reorganization meeting. Other officers were Russell Houser, Shavertown, vice-president; George Turn, Mt. Greenwood, secretary.

Information for "Only Yesterday" is taken from past issues of The Dallas Post which is 120 years old. The information is printed here exactly as it appeared in the newspaper years ago.

## "DO YOU THINK SCHOOLS IN THE BACK MOUNTAIN ARE SAFE?"



"I went to Evans Falls and rode the buses. It seemed safe to me."

Amanda Robinson  
Vernon



"Yes, I went to Dallas through '05. No problems when I went."

Dan Drury  
Dallas



"I taught math in Dallas for 32 years and there weren't many problems. Of course, I don't know what goes on today."

Lena Baur  
Shavertown



"Actually, I do. I don't see a problem. My kids went from Dallas to Lake-Lehman schools."

Kim Trindle  
Harveys Lake



"They are mostly safe. I graduated last year but there could be a couple of small changes, like making sure the doors are locked."

Michael Kornoski  
Harveys Lake



"I feel safe. I go to the school games and work here. The administrators do a good job."

Sandy Eramo  
Exeter