

# SUSQUEHANNA TIMES

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Susquehanna Times & The Mount  
MARIETTA & MOUNT JOY

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FIFTEEN CENTS

## Maytown clean-up brigade formed

Want to take a Pleasant Country Stroll, see some Spring Scenery, and perform a Good Deed all at the same time?

Larry Garber can arrange this for you!

Larry is asking for volunteers to help beautify the roadways around Maytown by picking up roadside trash for disposal. The collected material will be recycled if the quantity justifies it.

The time set for the collection is Sunday afternoon, March 27, from 1 to 4. All you need to participate are your walking shoes and a large plastic bag to hold your collection.

Interested? Call Larry Garber, 426-3689.

The Maytown Boy Scouts and the Maytown Civic Organization particularly recommends this exercise to their members.

## Indians win at their own game: Indoor soccer

A new interest is developing at Donegal called indoor soccer! It is a fast and exciting game with plenty of physical contact.

Indoor soccer requires good soccer fundamentals and strategy quite like ice hockey. Just as the puck is played off the boards in hockey, the soccer ball is played off the walls and bleachers in the gym.

[continued on page 8]



## New postmaster in Marietta

Marietta has a new Post Master.

Mervin E. Gutshall, a Marietta native, has come home to 17547 for good, after being away at other post offices for some time. On March 12th he was named Marietta Post Master by Francis Biglin, regional Post Master General.

Marietta has not had a Post Master of its own since Frank Seaman retired last year. The duties of the office had been delegated to Charles Smith, Post Master of Goodville, who served with the title of Officer-in-Charge at Marietta.

Mervin Gutshall started his postal career in Marietta in February of 1954 as a part-time letter carrier. He became a regular clerk in 1957, and Assistant Post Master in 1961.

Starting in 1972, Mervin began occasional work at other post offices as a supervisor (replacing people on leave). He supervised at post offices in

York, Hallem, Quarryville, and Lancaster. In October 1973 he was officially transferred to Lancaster where he supervised the operation of a letter-sorting machine. From June 1976 till his recent appointment he was Officer-in-Charge at post offices in Lititz and Landisville.

"It's very nice to be back home again," says Mervin, who was born in Marietta, and has lived here ever since almost continuously.

Before joining the post office, Mervin worked as a jeweler. After working 9 months at Hamilton Watch Co., he spent about a year each at the Newcastle Jewelry school and at Bowman Tech in Lancaster, studying jewelry making and repair. He ran a jewelry store on Gay Street in Marietta in the early fifties.

During World War II, he joined the Navy and was trained as a "combat air crewman." His duties were to operate the radio until

[continued on Page 2]

## Residents want to keep Mount Joy mini-park

A small dispute is sizzling over a tiny playground in Mount Joy. Located on the 300 block of Donegal Springs Road, the park consists of a swing and a sandlot where the water tank stood twenty years ago.

Borough Council has proposed rezoning the park as a residential tract so they can sell it. Local residents, led by former councilman Ronald Hawthorne (who lives next to the park), want to keep it as is.

At a recent council meeting a petition, containing 60 signatures, was presented to the council, who thereupon postponed a decision.

A larger and better equipped park is being constructed only a few blocks away from the Donegal Springs site. The borough is applying for a \$5000 federal grant to finance this new park.

Councilmen note that few children use the Donegal Springs park. Borough Council spokesmen feel that local residents are actually more worried about the possibility of a modular home being built in their neighborhood (after the park is sold) than they are about the park being unavailable for play.

Ronald Hawthorne told the *Susquehanna Times* that local residents were indeed worried about a modular home on their block (he noted that the park is so small and irregular that it would be difficult to construct a house like those adjacent) but that they were primarily concerned about the park facilities. "People around here are opposed to any house on this plot," he told us.

The borough has estimated cost of upkeep for the park at about \$600 per year. Mr. Hawthorne thinks this is too high. "All they have to do is mow the grass and shovel snow off the walk," he said. The borough stands to gain

about \$3000 from the sale of the land.

Mr. Hawthorne also feels that the park has not been kept up the way it should.

"They say that the kids don't use the park," he said, "but it would be used a lot more if there weren't weeds growing all over it.

## Marietta okays old curbs for Front St.

At a special meeting last Monday, Marietta Council voted to allow Front Street residents to keep their historic brick and river stone curbs when the street is re-paved.

Council's decision should help untangle the conflicts of interest which have complicated plans to pave the pitted street.

Residents of the western-most blocks of Front Street were upset when Council voted to proceed with the paving job. They wanted to preserve their battered, wandering, but historic curbs, and they did not want to lose the old trees which line the street.

The historic-minded residents are backed by the Marietta Restoration Associates and the County Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission's opinion is important, because their recommendations help decide whether federal money will be available to pay for the re-paving job. If the U.S. does not pay for the new pavement, Marietta will go ahead with the project anyway. However, the cost to local taxpayers and Front Street residents will be a lot higher.

The borough has asked the U.S. for \$212,102. This sum would cover both the paving job and the cost of installing new curbs. (Without new curbs, the pavement would buckle.) If the federal money does not

come, individual homeowners will have to pay for new curbs on their properties. The boro will pay for the street itself.

The County Planners recommended last week that Front Street be paved, but said efforts should be made to preserve the historical character of the street.

At this point, the question of federal funding is in the hands of an agency called, "The U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration, under the Local Public Works Capital Investment Program." That agency may:

- not fund the project.
- fund the project with no string attached
- fund the project and add money to save the historic curbs
- specify that the historic curbs must be saved, but refuse to add extra money to cover the extra cost.

One way or another, it appears that the historic curbs will be saved and the street will be paved. The big question is: Who will pay for the job?

### DID YOU HEAR...

May 30, 1977 and July 30, 1977, are the dates for Maytown Fire Company Carnivals. More news on these at a later date.