

CALL IN NEWS.....to
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 --- Men Spot!

SUSQUEHANNA TIMES

Susquehanna Times & The Mount Joy Bulletin
 MARIETTA & MOUNT JOY, PA.

Vol. 79, No. 38, September 26, 1979

FIFTEEN CENTS

Lt. Commander Thomas Lavin, Marietta, flies to Gulf of Mexico, to check largest oil slick ever



Rev. LeRoy Hoover

Rev. L. Hoover pastors rapidly growing church

Without question, the fastest growing church in the Donegal area is the Assembly of God on Route 141 and Oremine Road in East Donegal Township.

The pastor, Rev. LeRoy Hoover, started the church ten years with one member in the old, decaying Union Meeting House on Waterford Avenue in Marietta. Rev. Hoover conducted Sunday School and the church service, including a

sermon, for that lone congregation of one.

One week later there were two people in the congregation. "There aren't many churches that double their congregations in one week," says Rev. Hoover with a chuckle.

Today, ten years later, the membership numbers 200 and is bursting the seams of the new building on Oremine Road; an addition will have to be added. From

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Maytown Fire Co. has a safety slogan contest

Maytown Fire Chief Charles Shaffner has announced that the fire company will hold a Fire Safety Slogan Contest.

This contest is open to any resident of Maytown or East Donegal Township. All entries must be limited to 25 words or less, and be sent to the fire company by October 1st.

The winners will get smoke alarms as prizes.

Winners will be announced during Fire Prevention Week (October 7-13).

Have a good fire safety slogan? Send your entry to:

Maytown Fire Co.
 P.O. Box 68
 Maytown, Pa.
 17550

No entries will be returned, unless the sender requests it and encloses a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Thomas P. Lavin, 316 East Market St., Marietta leads a double life. A majority of his time he spends running an arts and crafts business, Chateau Art, with offices in both Marietta and Harrisburg, with his wife Claire. Frequently, however, he will put on the uniform of a Lt. Commander in the Naval Reserve and take off for a mission to some faraway place.

This past August, for example, he was at work in the Chateau Art office in Harrisburg when he received a call from his Patrol Squadron headquarters in Willow Grove, asking him if he could go in the next few

days to the Gulf of Mexico, to survey the oil slick which had spread across the Gulf and which was threatening to wash up on the shores of Texas. Commander Lavin said he could go, if he could get back to Marietta by the following Wednesday for a zoning hearing board meeting; Lavin is zoning office for Marietta. The Navy thought he could get back in time for his zoning meeting.

As it so happened Lavin's brother Mark, who is also in the Naval Reserve, was also called and asked whether he could participate in the same mission. Mark Lavin is a water quality control officer in Dauphin County,

and since the oil slick on the Gulf was a problem in water control his agency was willing to let him go.

The call for men had come to the Lavins on a Friday. Saturday and Sunday they were in Willow Grove. While in Willow Grove Thomas Lavin took tests to qualify as a tactical coordinator for naval flights. Lavin passed the tests and thus moved up from navigator to the more responsible position.

On Monday the Lavins and the rest of their crew flew their P-3a from Willow Grove to Corpus Christi, where they were briefed on their mission. On Tuesday, August 13, their plane took off over the Gulf.

Their task was to assess the extent of the slick. An oceanographer was in the nose of the plane, observing the water below and calling out his descriptions. He noted the type of slick and the percentage of the water it covered.

Three types of slicks were observed. Some of the oil looked like a smooth sheen, shiny brown, but it was hard to detect, because it resembled a shadow of a cloud on the water. Sometimes the oceanographer couldn't tell the difference.

In other places the oil looked like pudding and was called a "mousse."

A third type of slick was labelled "pancake," because it was circular in shape and flat.

As the oceanographer called out his classifications and the percentage of area it covered, Commander Lavin recorded his observations and the locations of the various slicks as determined by Lavin's navigational instruments, which were extremely sophisticated, including two computers. All Commander Lavin had to do to determine their location was to push a button.

The complex navigational equipment occasionally malfunctions. When it does, Commander Lavin resorts to his sextant to determine the plane's latitude and longitude.

The largest patch of slick they sighted was 30 miles long and five miles wide.

Right in the middle of one slick a shrimp boat was fishing, as usual.

Mission completed Commander Lavin was ready to fly back home and get to his zoning hearing in Marietta. The plan was for the P-3a to land at Olmstead Airport and drop him off where his wife Claire would meet him and rush him, just in time, to the meeting in Marietta.

But there was some engine trouble, and Lavin [continued on page 14]



Laura Schwert

Schwert, semi-finalist

Laura Schwert, of 281 Marietta Ave., Mount Joy, is a National Merit Scholarship semi-finalist.

Laura, a senior at Donegal High, plans to attend Millersville State College

and study a pre-law program. She is majoring in art at DHS.

Laura's only previous academic honor was win-

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Marietta Youth Center to open on E. Front St.

The Marietta Youth Center on East Front Street will be officially opening on October 1. An exciting fall program is scheduled for all young people in Marietta from ages 9-18.

SCHEDULE

Mon. 7-8:30 pm, boys 9-12
 Tues. 7-8:30 pm, girls 9-12
 Thurs. 7-9:00 pm guys 13-18
 Fri. 7:30-9, guys/girls 13-18 (occasionally)
 Sat. 7:30-9, guys/girls 13-18

The purpose of the Youth Center is to provide meaningful recreation for the youth of Marietta through which to teach them Christian values. Every activity is supervised by

trained adult Christians. These counselors try to develop lasting friendships with each youth during the recreational activities—basketball, floor hockey, volleyball, pool, ping-pong, and weight lifting.

Each evening also features a Bible Study and discussion in which the counselors help the young people to look into the Bible to help solve their problems and answer their questions.

If you have any questions concerning the Youth Center Program, contact Gary Newton, the Youth Center Director, at 426-2514 or 426-1345.

—Gary Newton