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50 cents

Cloudy
55
Forecast High

By the way:



Review Graphic / Sean C. Bellas

It's big, it's bronze and it's finished

CALIFORNIA, Pa. (AP) — Alan Cottrell says he thinks big, lives big and works big. He proved the latter with a 40-foot sculpture unveiled over the weekend at California University of Pennsylvania.

The artwork, titled "The Ascent of Humanity," consists of 15 bronze and polyester figures ranging from Cro-Magnon man to a woman astronaut. The figures appear to be climbing a network of vines that climb the wall of a building on the university's campus in Washington County.

"It's a reminder that we are in the human-development business," said Angelo Arment Jr., the university's president.

Cottrell used a blend of bronze powder and polyester resin since a solid bronze piece would have been too heavy and too expensive. The artwork weighs only about a ton, despite its size.

Cottrell has worked full-time on the sculpture for the last two years, and put in seven-day weeks for the last five months to finish the piece in time for the university's commencement over the weekend.

Now he's looking ahead to new challenges.

"Few artists have ever attempted anything this size," he said. "But I can work bigger."

Taxi etiquette has new, approved list

NEW YORK (AP) — Do forgive the intrusion, Mr. Cab Driver, but would you be so kind as to inform us of your feelings with regard to the city's request that you and your brethren learn to address customers more politely?

"You riding, or talking?" demanded one taxi driver, cornered at a traffic light Monday.

Um, talking.

"Then I'm riding," he replied, and sped off in search of a paying customer.

So maybe it's not such a bad thing that the Taxi and Limousine Commission is asking New York City's cab drivers to learn 50 new, nice things to say, such as: "Thank you for hailing me." "Please let me take your bags" and "Is there any particular route you would like today?"

Of course, some New Yorkers, accustomed to unmitigated rudeness from their taxi drivers, are likely to respond with some phrases of their own, like "Hey, what are you — a wiseguy or something?"

Barbara Schechter, the commission's director of licensing, said that New York's cabbies, despite their reputation, are not intentionally discourteous; they just don't know how to speak English well.

For your health
From Memorial Hospital

To safely reach infants' teeth, parents can position the baby's head in their laps, support the baby's head with their hands and then wipe clean the teeth with a damp cloth.

Coby's body found

BY HARRY F. ROSENTHAL
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — William E. Coby was a professional spy and a man of contradictions. He was denounced as a war criminal over CIA assassinations in Vietnam. But he was fired as CIA director after advocating a retreat from cloak-and-dagger operations.

The contradictions followed him to the end. He was an avid outdoorsman but he died, apparently by drowning, while canoeing on a familiar river. He was 76.

Coby's body was found washed up Monday on a sandbar of the Wicomico River not far from his southern Maryland vacation home, eight days after his empty canoe was found nearby. A state official said there was no sign of foul play.

Coby was dismissed as CIA director 20 years ago, after 3½ years, by President Ford. Since then, he had promoted a nuclear freeze and big cuts in the military budget.

"The Cold War is over, and the military threat is now far less," he said in a 1992 ad. "It's time to cut our military budget by 50 percent and to invest that money in our schools, our health care and our economy."

For the past week, while searchers looked for him in the Wicomico, near where they empty into the Potomac, his widow, Sally Shelton-Coby, had refused to accept the assumption that he had drowned.

After she identified the body on Monday, she thanked the searchers and said her husband had left the world a better place.

"There wasn't much that was left undone for him," she said. "He fought fascism and communism and lived to see democracy take hold in the world."

President Clinton said in a statement, "Through a quarter of a century at the CIA, William Coby played a pivotal role in shaping our nation's intelligence community. He made tough decisions when necessary — and he was always guided by the core values of the country he loved."

CIA Director John Deutch said, "He faced up to severe challenges with openness and integrity."

Former President Bush said, "My friendship for Bill Coby goes back many years; but it was in 1976, when I followed him as director of central intelligence, that I experienced his thorough professionalism and gained the utmost respect for his personal courage."

Coby was perfectly cast as a spy: colorless, soft-spoken, precise and thin. He fit this published description: "Mr. Coby never seems to have a hair or an emotion out of place."

Even Coby said, in his 1978 memoir, that he was "the traditional gray man, so inconspicuous that he can never catch the waiter's eye in a restaurant."

But Coby was fired on Nov. 2, 1975, as head of the CIA after being accused of talking too much. He was said to have been too candid in testimony to congressional investigators; he had long ago aroused the ire of the agency's old guard for trying to channel more effort into the gathering, evaluation and analysis of information and less into covert operation.

Two months after the firing, Ford honored Coby with the National Security Medal, citing his "outstanding contribution in the field of intelligence."

Coby was born Jan. 4, 1920, in St. Paul, Minn., the son of a career Army officer. He moved from post to post, eventually graduating from Princeton University with a Phi Beta Kappa key in 1940.

He enrolled in Columbia University Law School but left after a year to become an army paratrooper. He answered a call for French-speaking volunteers and

and Sayre firemen, many of them wearing breathing apparatus, hurried in and out of her front door with equipment and across her lawn carrying ladders to set up against the side of her house.

The Thompsons said they had been at their residence visiting with relatives who had stopped by when they all began smelling smoke. After discovering where it was coming from, in a room off their kitchen where their refrigerator and dryer are located, they called the fire department.

"I don't know what happened," Ruth said. "It seems to have started around the dryer, which is next to the refrigerator, but it wasn't being used at the time."



An Athens Borough fireman leads Gerald Thompson to safety away from his smoke-engulfed home on Chemung Street in Sayre on Monday afternoon. (Review Photos by Bonnie West)



The first shovelfuls of dirt for the construction of the new Sayre Veterans Outpatient Clinic in Athens Township were ceremoniously dug by (left to right): Dr. Robert L. Jones, network director, VISN No. 4; Reedes Hurt, director of the Wilkes-Barre Veterans Administration Medical Clinic; and Dr. John Wilt, chief medical officer at the Sayre Outpatient Clinic for the Department of Veterans Affairs. (Review Photo by Bonnie West)

New VA Clinic breaks ground in Sayre

BY BONNIE WEST
Valley Bureau Editor

SAYRE — "This is a happy and momentous occasion," said Reedes Hurt, director of the Wilkes-Barre Veterans Administration Medical Clinic at the official ground-breaking ceremony held Monday on Elmira Street in Sayre for the construction of a new veterans clinic.

"The Sayre Outpatient Clinic was an overnight success and has had 12 years of support and acceptance from a new veterans clinic."

He told gathered guests and dignitaries that the new clinic would "enable us to take care of more veterans," as well as offer more space for

the addition of more staff in the future. "That's the key," he said.

Leonard Pallis, director of Veterans Affairs in Wyoming County for the last 20 years, said the new facility would be much easier for many veterans to get to.

"They are 75 years of age now and getting pains and aches," he said. "The new clinic will be able to care for more veterans when it's complete. Right now, Wilkes-Barre (clinic) handles 23 counties."

In his talk, Dr. John Wilt, chief medical officer for the Sayre Veterans Outpatient Clinic, recognized veterans "for work they continue to do to keep the spirit of the veterans alive — and put pressure on politicians who still owe the vets."

Congressman Joseph McDade. (See "Clinic," Page 14)

Past and new history meet

ATHENS TOWNSHIP — World and local history intertwine at the very spot where dignitaries broke ground Monday for the new Veterans Administration Outpatient Clinic to be built on South Elmira Street in Athens Township.

Fordham Wood, World War II Navy veteran and past commander of the Waverly American Legion and past commander of Tioga County, N.Y., stood to one side watching the official ceremony intently.

The property on which mayors (See "History," Page 14)

Towanda supports building project

BY RICK JENNINGS
News Editor

TOWANDA — Towanda Borough last night pledged its support for a proposed office building, which would be constructed on the 700 block of Main Street here.

The Central Bradford County Economic Development Authority has proposed to state and federal

authorities the plan of constructing a building to house government agencies.

The authority would procure loans to finance the proposed \$3.6 million project. Borough manager Tom Fairchild explained that the rent collected from the agencies would retire the authority's debt and pay for building maintenance.

Towanda Borough and Wysox, Towanda and North Towanda town-

ships are members of the authority, which would be the owner of the building.

The borough council approved a resolution amending the use of a \$175,000 state grant for the project. The funds were previously procured for a parking structure plan, which would not be implemented.

"The \$175,000 is really an incentive," said Fairchild. "The borough (See "Towanda," Page 14)

Fire forces family from Sayre home

BY BONNIE WEST
Valley Bureau Editor

SAYRE — If it hasn't been one thing, it's been another lately in the lives of Gerald and Ruth Thompson and their daughter, Cindy, of Sayre.

An accident they were involved in on Jan. 19 of this year left Gerald and Cindy injured and put Ruth in the hospital with a broken collar bone.

"You just wonder what else could go wrong," Ruth fretted Monday afternoon. She was standing with Gerald and Cindy in front of a neighbor's house three doors down from their 307 Chemung St. address.

Just a few houses away smoke billowed from her home, where Athens

"Good thing we was home," Gerald Thompson said quietly while watching all the activity around him. "Good thing."

Firemen found smoke billowing from the roof's eaves and fire making crackling sounds in the walls when they arrived just minutes after the Thompsons placed the 1:48 p.m. call.

Fire had worked its way to the attic of the two-story structure, where the firemen were forced to smash a hole through the roof to ventilate the smoke.

"The house, which was insured, received extensive fire, smoke and water damage," said Assistant Fire Chief Don Schrader of the Sayre Fire Department.

He said that the cause of the fire was undetermined and that the fire marshal would be arriving Tuesday to continue the investigation.

The Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross was also called in to the scene to help the family.

"Their bedroom was completely destroyed," said Linda Shoemaker from the Valley chapter, located in

Waverly. "They are an elderly couple and their daughter has special needs."

She said that when she arrived to see what could be done to help the family, "Ruth kept repeating over and over that she had lost her Santa Claus collection. She had been collecting them her whole life."

The Red Cross arranged for the family to spend the night at the

Guthrie Inn, located in Sayre. "We also gave them vouchers for food," Ms. Shoemaker said.

Fire departments responding to the scene were Sayre and Athens with Athens Township covering the Valley in its absence. The Greater Valley Ambulance service also responded.

Sayre and Athens fire departments were back in service by 4 p.m.



A fireman smashes out an upper window on the two-story structure to ventilate the house from smoke accumulation from the fire.

Help if you can

SAYRE — Although the Thompson family's home was insured, "it will be some time before the contents that were destroyed, like those in their bedroom, can be replaced," said Linda Shoemaker of the Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross.

She said that financial donations could be given on the Thompson family's behalf by contacting the chapter at their office in the old Tioga General Hospital on North Chemung Street in Waverly at (607) 565-9310.

Anyone with questions about helping the family can direct them to the same number.