

Valley Views

This weekend, Jan. 25-26, will feature the 29th Annual Ligonier Ice Fest in Ligonier's Diamond Park. Last week, we asked what new types of sculptures people would like to see the ice carvers create this year. Now, let's take a look back. What is your favorite ice sculpture from past Ice Fests?



"I liked the big eagle the one year."
Lee Steffey
42, Ligonier



"I like the big ice chair, and a train, and the one where you can put your face in the hole."
Donald Manges
51, Ligonier



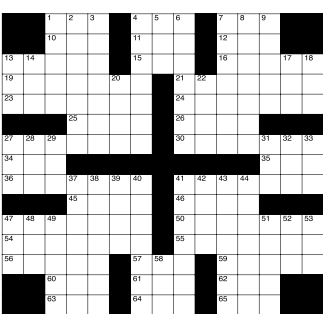
"I like when they make horses, like the winged Pegasus one year on the bandstand."
Shannon Ramsey
39, Ligonier



"The big one on the bandstand is always nice and the ice chair is fun."
Bev McMastor
66, Ligonier



"I liked the trout carving and the ice chair."
Dan McMastor
67, Ligonier

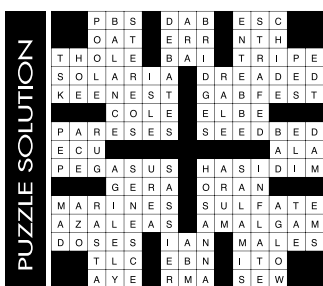


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Public broadcaster
- 4. Hit lightly
- 7. Keyboard key
- 10. Grain
- 11. Make a mistake
- 12. To the _ degree
- 13. Endure without complaint
- 15. Chinese-American actress Ling
- 16. Edible stomach lining
- 19. Sunrooms
- 21. Feared
- 23. Most eager
- 24. Excessive chatting session
- 25. MLB ace
- 26. Major Central European river
- 27. Muscular weaknesses
- 30. Where seedlings germinate
- 34. Former monetary unit of the EU
- 35. Personal ads abbreviation
- 36. Mythical animal
- 41. Members of Orthodox Jewish sect
- 45. German city
- 46. Algerian coastal city
- 47. Military men
- 50. Salt of sulfuric acid
- 54. Rhododendrons
- 55. Mixture
- 56. Recommended quantities
- 57. 007's creator
- 59. Men
- 60. Kids need it
- 61. Midway between east and east-northeast
- 62. Old trial judge
- 63. Yes vote
- 64. USDA branch that manages the FCIC
- 65. Create with cloth

CLUES DOWN

- 1. English seaport
- 2. What's owed
- 3. Sound systems
- 4. Elections feature them
- 5. Southern constellation
- 6. London and Brooklyn are two
- 7. One-time Ugandan capital
- 8. Attacked with bombs
- 9. Rebuke
- 13. Expression of disappointment
- 14. A way to work the soil
- 17. The human foot
- 18. Sun up in New York
- 20. A small island
- 22. Abnormal rattling sound
- 27. Make lively
- 28. A team's best pitcher
- 29. It goes on the floor
- 31. Not good
- 32. Peyton's little brother
- 33. Barrier that holds back water
- 37. Move quickly
- 38. Deteriorate with age
- 39. Colorless crystalline compound
- 40. Cheekier
- 41. Expresses praise or joy
- 42. Famed boxing promoter
- 43. Cured sausages
- 44. Fill with air or gas
- 47. Angry
- 48. Chemistry prefix
- 49. Practitioner of Jamaican religion
- 51. Softly bright or radiant
- 52. Buffer solution used to separate nucleic acids
- 53. First responder group
- 58. Defensive nuclear weapon



PUZZLE SOLUTION

Looking Back

100 years ago Jan. 21, 1920

• J. Wilbur Cole and his 2-month-old baby, were burned to death in their home at midnight Friday night in Mutual. The fire was caused by the explosion of a kerosene lamp in the bedroom of the part of the house where the Cole family slept. Their child was ill and for that reason the parents kept the oil lamp burning, and it was from the explosion of the lamp that the disastrous fire occurred. The Greensburg fire department was called to Mutual to fight the fire. The family of Charles W. Liston lived in the other half of the double house. They were all asleep when the fire occurred. The Liston family and Mrs. Cole escaped injury. All of their household goods were lost in the fire. Mr. Cole, clasping the baby in his arms, attempted to stamp out the fire and both he and the child were burned to death in the flames. Cole was 23 years old. He worked in the mines and he had served in the American Expeditionary force in France. A call for aid was sent to Greensburg and the firemen responded promptly and they soon laid two lines of hose. Silvo Zecceetta's store was also burned, causing a loss of \$2,000.

• The headquarters of the Day Oil and Gas Co. has been changed from the residence of Burt Morrow, by his request, and is now located at the Echo office. The placing of an office in Ligonier is to give any person in this section an opportunity to secure some of these splendid shares at \$50 a share enabling you to participate in 10 wells and 140 acres of well-selected leases in the McKeesport, Pennsylvania, district. This is a co-limited partnership.

• A truck with a traveling recruiting party from the Navy Recruiting Station, Pittsburgh, will arrive in Ligonier, Friday, Jan. 30, to examine and enlist men for the U.S. Naval Service. The young men of this vicinity will be given an opportunity at this time to join Uncle Sam's fighting forces afloat. The Navy of today is an institution for training, education and travel. To give the necessary training, the Navy has provided four Naval Training Stations, at which places young men receive four months intensive training in military and naval tactics, in knotting and splicing, signals and other elementary requirements of a seaman. After leaving these training schools other practical training continues on board the different warships. For education, the Navy has established numerous trade schools in addition to the Naval Academy, which is recognized as the foremost naval school in the world. In these various schools young men are being taught everything from aerial photography to marine engines and from navigation to blacksmithing. For travel, no other organization in this country compares with our Navy. Naval vessels are now cruising in the Caribbean Sea, Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, the Arctic Ocean and other places. Enlistments are now open to American citizens from 18 to 35 years of age for 2, 3 or 4 years in all branches of the Navy.

75 years ago

• No entry.

50 years ago Jan. 21, 1970

• Several key committees and a speakers' bureau were set up by the New Florence Area Community Action Committee Monday to push plans to acquire the former E.U.B. Church on Ligonier Street and convert it into a community recreation center. Former Mayor Norman Kells, chairman of CAC, said he hopes the committees will do a great deal to inform the people of New Florence and neighboring St. Clair Township with the advantages of the proposed recreation center. It would be used by people in all walks of life and in all age brackets from children to senior citizens, he said. The possibility of getting state and/or federal aid for the project is being explored.

• Some people are poor losers, some merely gripe, while others lash out and try to hurt. Laurel Valley High School ran into some of the latter Friday night at Portage where the Rams scored a particularly one-sided victory and the result was about \$2,000 damage to school buses, private automobiles and several buildings in New Florence. The damage estimate was made by New Florence Police Chief Orrie Hurt. As state police Tpr. Wargo and Chief Hurt reconstructed the story, the foul tautal Valley buses (owned by F & T School Bus Lines) were followed by two cars

which tailed the buses and several times cut in and out, trying to cut them off. At Munster, about four miles out of Portage, a soft drink bottle hurled from one of the cars smashed the rear window of a bus, showering Laurel Valley students with glass. Fortunately no one was cut. As state police said, the youths in the cars "harassed" the buses all the way.

• Mill Creek in its last few hundred yards before its confluence with the Loyalhanna Creek, was dredged and cleaned about six years ago in a program designed to prevent recurring floods in the area. The Commonwealth picked up 90% of the cost, Ligonier Borough the other fraction. Time and perennial spring runs have filled up the channel again, but the borough council's request for assistance from the state in clearing it once more has been turned down by the Department of Forests and Waters on the grounds that the cost cannot be justified by the relatively small amount of property improvements and ratables in the area.

• With less than five months remaining before the deadline, the spring of 1970 shapes up as being a busy time for several hundred householders and quite a few businessmen in Ligonier Borough as they prepare to meet the terms of the land use ordinance which requires universal off-street parking for automobiles and trucks and which lays down restrictions on business signs. Lawrence T. Clawson, zoning administrator, this week issued yet another reminder that the three-year period of grace written into the ordinance will expire June 8, 1970, and enforcement of the law will have to start on that date. The Echo has made several surveys in recent months, and concluded that very few citizens of the borough have made any visible efforts to meet the deadline.

25 years ago Jan. 25, 1995

• Leonard Bench, Ligonier Valley School Board president, defended the recent "early bird" contract settlement with the Ligonier Valley Education Association (LVEA) at last Thursday's regular meeting of the school board, held at R.K. Mellon Elementary School. Bench also renewed his call for the state legislature to hasten tax reform in order to reduce reliance on property taxes to fund education. Reacting to a letter to the board from Katherine Gercher, Bench commented that recent reports about the contract settlement failed to make the point that average LVSD teachers' salaries "will still be less at every level than the county average next year. Teachers in neighboring districts will still be paid a higher rate, even though they work fewer days," Bench continued. He noted that the average LVSD salary will rise from \$37,862 this year to \$40,018 next year. While that is a 5.4% increase, LVSD teachers will be working eight additional days, said Bench — making their "per diem" increase next year "tiny," about \$3 more per day. "Since none of us would ordinarily work additional days at no pay, the teachers have, in effect, agreed to a 1.4% increase over their current daily wage," Bench said. "So if you put that into perspective, some of the news reports were kind of misleading and we would like to set the record straight. We appreciate what the teachers did, and I think the teachers appreciate what we did. I think it was a win-win situation for the board, the administration, the teachers, and the whole community."

• The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation is once more urging Ligonier Township to support its plans for reconfiguring the Darlington Road intersection with Route 30, closing the crossover to all traffic but left turns from the westbound lane into Darlington Road. In a letter to the Ligonier Township Planning Commission dated Dec. 16, 1994, discussed at the Jan. 23 meeting, district PennDOT engineer Michael Dufalla threatened that "failure to take action to correct the accident pattern" at the intersection "will expose the Department and Ligonier Township to tort liability" if an accident should happen at the site.

• Without much comment or fanfare, the Ligonier Valley School Board last Thursday adopted the first Strategic Plan for the school district, an inch-thick, nearly 200-page document which outlines goals for the district over the next five years — to the year 2000. LVSD began the strategic planning process in October 1992, but the process was interrupted in June 1993 by numerous administrative changes. One of the first tasks of the new superintendent, James R. Dick, was to establish new leadership for strategic planning within the district.

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