

# TAB I



HEALTH

made this report state like Connecticut would have the least difficulty "swallowing mandates." At the moment, insurers and business groups like CBA are concentrating on such issues as the best size of purchasing alliances to achieve cost savings, and whether or not such alliance is enough for the state.

The fear is that too many competing alliances in a small state like Connecticut could be self-defeating by fragmenting delivery of services, with only one alliance without competition might not have incentive to perform efficiently. The state's small businesses are 89% in support of private competing purchasing alliances, according to a recent survey, and almost unanimously opposed to federal or state governments running such alliances.

There seems to be agreement between CBA and legislators like Mr. Courtney that a central problem is the present state bureaucracy. Nobody seems to have a good word to say for the present Commission on Hospitals and Health Care efforts to control rising health care costs in the state.

When the average citizen with an expensive policy and high deductible will benefit from any of the schemes now under discussion for Connecticut is still difficult to determine. Serious discussion is just beginning at both the state and federal levels and needs to be closely tracked by interested citizens to the degree possible, according to all those involved in the policy-making level.

Rep. Philip Prelli (Rep.-63 District) believes the state should offer a national Basic group plan for small busi-

nesses with rates low enough so that the 9% of the state's population that is uninsured can buy in with before-tax dollars. At the moment the state has a group plan, but is caught in a catch-22. Mr. Prelli said. Because not enough small businesses have bought the rates have increased high.

"The present plan is like a Cadillac," Prelli said. "We need to get it down to the level of a Chevrolet."

Above and beyond such a basic plan would be a "cafeteria" of extra coverage from which an employee could buy what fits him or her and his or her family.

"No matter what we do, it's all not going to happen right away," Prelli said. "You're still going to have uncompensated care in hospital emergency rooms, no matter what."

He did agree with Rep. Courtney that health care was going to be hotly debated in the upcoming short session of the legislature that begins Feb. 9 and ends May 3.

Men's Group to View Life/Faith-Thises

LITCHFIELD—This January, men seeking personal and spiritual enrichment will come together to participate in a series of meetings to explore issues facing busy men today. An exchange of ideas will enable men of all ages to benefit from the experiences of the other participants.

The group will meet for the first time Thursday, Jan. 13, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at Wisdom House Retreat and Conference Center in Litchfield.

FLU CONTINUED

amount of sickness in the last few weeks in 1993, statistics provided by Sharon Hospital tell a different story. Total visits to the hospital's emergency room in the last two weeks of the year totaled 785, up from 644 for the same period a year ago.

Usually, the flu season begins right after Thanksgiving after people do a lot of traveling," he said. "But up until Jan. 3, we had logged a total of only four cases, all the Type A/Beijing strain among them in Fairfield, New Haven and Hartford counties. Then,

Cooper at the Connecticut Department of Public Health and Addiction Services. After 16 years at his present post tracking flu and other diseases, he is not surprised that reports of actual flu are beginning to pick up this week, saying the situation is really no different from the other years.

He is currently about 30,000 UN troops in the former Yugoslavia. Because of the increase in sniper fire, they are now allowed to fire back if fired upon, but their duties are limited to observing and monitoring the ceasefire. They are also helping civilian police organizations to make sure they don't get out of hand, and embarking on civil engineering projects such as repairing roads and bridges.

He came away impressed with how fluid the situation remains. "Every two weeks the British press publishes a front-line map with big areas where they simply don't know where the line is." Confusing as it all was, he is glad he went and came back fired up to learn more of the history of that part of the world.

WAR CONTINUED

and started slashing through the boxes even though it was obvious what we were carrying. You realized you were really in the hands of bandits."

Alderman went there thinking that maybe outside intervention could achieve a cease-fire. He came away feeling that, particularly in rural areas, there was too much hatred between peoples, much of it dating back to World War II. The hatred had simmered and burst into the open in the battle of Vukovar in 1991 when 15,000 died. Since then the tension and the fighting has increased to a point where he believes there is no good settlement.

He visualizes that eventually there could be a monitored settlement similar to that in Cyprus with partitions along ethnic lines that, for a long time, would have to be UN-monitored.

Alderman discounts the idea that the Muslims in the former Yugoslavia see themselves as soulmates of Muslims in the Middle East. He testified to quite a few Muslims who consistently told him, "We're Europeans."

FM Station's Listeners Lennu

By CHARLOTTE REID Staff Reporter

LAKEVILLE — Marshall Miles launched his only new radio station in Lakeville Oct. 31. But, he says, the station's operation has not been hindered. More and more people appear to be tuning in to "Mornings with Marshall Miles," his 6 to 10 a.m., daily stint on WQQQ FM, which calls itself "101.5."

Mr. Miles, who is both station manager and chief station announcer, and his remote microphone are becoming an increasingly familiar sight at events such as the Salisbury Chamber of Commerce Trade Show or the after-Christmas multi-town Youth Hockey tournament held recently at The Hotchkiss School rink.

"I really can see a tremendous listening response. I can see that we are making an impact," he said with characteristic enthusiasm.

He points to one recent measure of listener response, an incident that occurred the week before Christmas when Miles relayed a story he had picked up from the police news about a Bangam woman who had been taking Christmas presents to her retarded son in Torrington on Dec. 22. She stopped to

do an errand at a supermarket and left the driver's side door unlocked. On her return, all the packages were gone.

To his surprise, soon after Miles aired the story, people began walking in off the street leaving cash donations for the station. Within a week, Miles had received \$116 in \$3 and \$10 bills and delivered a haul on donations. He took the cash he had collected across Porter Street to the Lakeville post office where a generous clerk provided overnight mail service to the woman in Bangam.

"Obviously," he said, "all that wouldn't have happened if people hadn't been listening."

Miles and his radio presentations are not new to the area. He was a fixture on WKZE in Sharon for six years before parting company with the new owners last year. He has a unique arrangement at present with the station's owner, Dennis Jackson, who is "WREX" in Ridgefield.

The latter station picks up at 10 a.m. when Miles goes off the air and supplies listeners with music, news, and weather for the rest of the day, going off the air at 6:30 p.m., except during emergencies like major snowstorms.

SCHOOL CONTINUED

within the school system to resolve educational policy disputes. "There is a growing strategy by the third of January, we confirmed five new cases. Once in the state, the incidence typically takes two weeks to build up. Two to peak and two to die off. We call it 'the six-week cycle.' Last year was a little different, we had six weeks of Type A, then six weeks of B, and, finally, a six week recurrence."

Dr. Cooper added that, except in at-risk cases, fluids, rest and non-aspirin medications seem to be just about the only treatment.

Dr. Jared Zelman, chief of the emergency service at Sharon Hospital, agrees that true flu cases may be on the rise. His colleague, Dr. Stephen Roberts, recently sent five suspicious cultures from Sharon to the state for testing. And Dr. John Luchs in Torrington runs a clinic connected to Charlotte Hungerford has seen some six to 10 cases he considers suspicious and worth sending to Hartford for cultures. True flu carries a high mortality potential for adults.

For the most part, the unresolving viral bronchial infections, Dr. Zelman comments slowly spreading a hot mixture of lemon juice, honey and water to control coughing spasms.

Dr. Peter Gert credits the fact that he has seen no true flu cases yet to the fact that he gave over 400 preventive flu shots this fall to his patients in addition to those administered by other doctors and at area flu clinics.

Dr. Peter Gert credits the fact that he reported that his practice "is always busy around the holidays" and the various diseases he is seeing are no different from any others" although he admits the viral illnesses he has been treating are "knocking some people way down."

His advice to everyone is often heard but very important advice to "Wash your hands!"

BANKS CONTINUED

Bank in Great Barrington, Great Barrington Savings and Bank of New England West, also in Great Barrington, all of whom got healthy rates.

Individuals who want more details concerning individual banks should call VERIBANK at (617)245-1226, ext. 202. For a fee of \$10, one can obtain a safety rating of a single institution, with a fee of \$3 for each additional firm. Detailed recent reports also can be obtained. The firm specializes in special research for customers.

The mediation process is non-narrow street, but the selection said the prohibition will be enforced only during snowstorms. The possibility of diagonal parking spaces on the nearby Factory Pond green and additional parking in the Bicentennial Park area was also discussed.

On other matters, Selectman Trout said this week that the WMC Constitu-

throughout the day are made to include both stations "WREX and Q103 FM." Night-time programming for the two stations will be added soon, Miles said.

"The arrangement has enabled both Jackson and Miles to keep costs low. Although the start-up costs for Lakeville's operation have been paid off, Miles reported.

Advertising rates can remain low, because overhead is minimal — the staff consists of Miles, a part-time programmer and a part-time salesman. He hopes these staff people will become full time this year.

At present, however, Miles is a one-man band. He arrives at the Main Street station in Lakeville each morning at 4:45 a.m. and prepares his scripts. In between his own announcements, commercials, small quizzes and other features, he plays easy listening music from the 1960s, '70s and '80s.

He plans several new shows, including one by Dick Hermans of Old-long Books in Millerton who will discuss books and music and do occasional interviews. Alan Beaumont of Shore will be another frequent host, listing what Miles describes as "a Broadway musical show."

binding and parents may still pursue the formal hearing option if they are unsatisfied with the results of school district efforts to resolve the dispute. A formal state hearing is conducted by a hearing officer or hearing board appointed by the DOE to take testimony from parents and school representatives under oath. Each party has the right to question the other and their witnesses as well as to be represented by an attorney or advisor in a formal hearing. The hearing body will issue a written decision, which may be appealed by either side in Superior Court or Federal District Court.

Maslovsky said, "The system fixes itself disputes are confrontational. We're on the side of the parents. This litigious mode is costly to the district and ultimately this means less funds for students. We have to get parents to trust us more than attorneys who tell them to go out and demand their rights. We want parents to approach us first to resolve disputes because we're easier to do a business with than they think."

No change in the student's dispute placement can be made during the hearing process unless both parties can agree on a temporary placement.

Parents who cannot afford a private lawyer may obtain low cost legal services through agencies available to the parents of handicapped children.

Parents or guardians who prevail in the formal hearing process may be reasonably compensated for attorney fees as provided by state law.

Parents may also seek independent student evaluations if they are unsatisfied with the evaluations recommended by Region 1 special education personnel.

If the school district's student evaluations are deemed inappropriate by the formal hearing process, then the district also assumes the costs of independent evaluations sought by parents. Parents and school administrators may also agree on an independent evaluation at district expense.

He termed the hearing system a "Catch-22" and said it can force special education administrators to be "hard-nosed" because any compromise would appear to be a capitulation rather than an administrator that the district's student evaluation is somehow faulty even though the compromise is pursued in a conciliatory spirit.

PROJECTS CONTINUED

residents consider the site's vacant building an eyesore.

Parking on Holly Street in Lakeville in front of The Factory commercial building owned by Peter Oliver will be discussed at the Selectman's meeting. "No Parking" signs have been posted on both sides of the

narrow street, but the selection said the prohibition will be enforced only during snowstorms. The possibility of diagonal parking spaces on the nearby Factory Pond green and additional parking in the Bicentennial Park area was also discussed.

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Large advertisement for Condor cars and trucks. Features include: compare prices anywhere in USA, compare payments anywhere in USA, 5.9% FOR 60 MONTHS, ALL REBATES, INCENTIVES AND CONDOR DISCOUNTS. Lists various car models like 1993 SUBURB, 1993 GEO STORM, 1993 BUICK SKYLARK, etc. with prices and financing options.

TRI-CORNER WEATHER forecast. Recorded by The Lakeville Journal/Millerton News. Includes a table with columns for Day, Low, High, and Conditions. Forecast for Dec 22-24 and Jan 1-4.