Auditions for the two-act comedy, "Round and Round the Garden," next production of Moonlight Theatre, 7:30 p.m., Art and Ethnic Center, Pottsville.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 24

"Walking the Skies — Mexico to Canada," 7 p.m., Reading Area Community College, Reading.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 25

Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic Opening, Kirby Center, Wilkes-Barre. Other performances 8 p.m. Sept. 26, Masonic Temple, Scranton; 3 p.m. Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m., Kirby Center, Wilkes-Barre, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCT. 3

Jerry Vale, 8 p.m., Kirby Center, Wilkes-Barre. 47th Annual Chester County Day, tours of historic homes in Chester County, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., West Chester. For information call (215) 692-4322.

"Witness for the Prosecution," starring Tyrone Power, Marlene Dietrich and Charles Laughton, Hershey Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCT. 4

Lee Greenwood, Kirby Center, Wilkes-Barre. Professor Peter Schickele in concert, 3 p.m., Symphony 500 Museum Road, Reading.

SUNDAY, OCT. 11

Reading Symphony Celebrity Gala Anniversary Concert, 4 p.m., 500 Museum Road, Reading. For tickets or information call (215) 373-7557.

Blue Mountain and Reading Railroad Fall Foliage Extravaganza to Tamaqua, 8 a.m. leave South Hamburg Station.

Vespers/Concert Series, featuring children's musical by the youth and children's choirs, "It's Cool in the Furnace," 7:30 p.m., St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Orwigsburg. Coffee hour follows program.

Grand Finale car sale, 10 a.m., Carle's, 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd.
Veteran fights for Korean War memorial

— Pages 14, 15
By TERRI COLEMAN

On Oct. 28, 1986, President Reagan signed a law authorizing the American Battle Monuments Commission to erect a memorial in Washington, honoring members of the armed forces who served in Korea.

The legislation is only a small victory for "The Forgotten War" veterans. They have to continue to fight for their national recognition.

The legislation requires that the memorial (estimated cost $6 million) is to be funded through private contributions except for $1 million appropriated for design, site preparation, associated administrative costs and partial construction.

Any contributions received over $5 million has to go towards reimbursement of the government's $1 million appropriation.

Shortly after the president signed the law for the memorial, additional legislation, proposed by Sen. Malcolm Wallop of Wyoming - who is vehemently opposed to the Korean memorial - limits the placement of military memorials to a site other than the Mall area (where the Vietnam memorial stands).

The Korean veterans must now encourage Secretary of the Interior, Donald Hodel to petition Congress to change the site from the outskirts of Washington to the Mall area.

Once the petition is submitted, Congress has 150 days to act. If it doesn't, the original site will stand.

Tony Zdanavage, Berwick, founder and coordinator of the Korean War Awareness Project has initiated a letter-writing campaign, urging veterans to write in support of having the memorial placed in the Mall area. And there is yet another concern.

A group called The Chosen Few is proposing construction of a $10 million international memorial in California, honoring all the United Nations forces who fought in Korea.

According to a Directors Digest, issued by The Chosen Few, the initial funds for the international project are to be generated by wealthy individuals and two major foundations.

The digest also concludes that "we should emerge from this memorial project as an extremely wealthy organization."

Zdanavage's concern is that the widows, mothers and veterans who support a "national" monument will be confused by the requests for funding for two memorials.

Of additional concern is the appointment of John B. Curcio, of Mack Trucks, Allentown, as one of the 12 members of the Korean War Advisory Board for the national monument, while serving as chairman and chief executive officer of the International Korean War Memorial.

Because one of the functions of the national board is to "encourage contributions of private funds for construction and maintenance of the memorial," many veterans are questioning if Curcio can fairly represent the best interests of both projects.

"We are not saying that The Chosen Few should not have their monument," Zdanavage said, "but let's first get a national one honoring the American men who fought and died in Korea. Then we can all work together for the international monument."
Until there is a national memorial dedicated to the Korean War veterans in Washington, Tony said this
norial on his lawn in Berwick, dedicated by Catherine Harter, of Nescopeck, will serve as a reminder
of the war America forgot to remember.

(Staff photos by Terri Coleman)

Tony's challenge is to remind others of Korea's

stamp of his right leg. The lower portion was recently
amputated, the result of his frostbitten feet while he
was a prisoner of war.

Tony was a medic at Fort Lewis, Wash., when the
Korean War broke out. He arrived in Korea in August,
1950 and was attached to a M.A.S.H. (Mobile Army
Surgical Hospital) with the 37th Field Artillery Bn.,
2nd Inf. Div.

On Nov. 30, 1950, Tony was driving an ambulance
filled with wounded men when 130,000 Chinese sur-
rounded the 8th Army and the Second Division at the
Kumuri-Sunchon Roadblock near the Manchurian bor-
der.

Tony calmly talks about his early Army days then
becomes slightly agitated. He knows he is going to be
asked to relive that nightmare again.

He nervously scoots his motorized runabout back
and forth a few times then becomes still and in a quiet
voice begins his story.

"We were next to the last group through. The 38th
was the last. I remember coming up and around one
point when all hell broke loose.

"I was in charge of an ambulance bringing up the
rear of the 37th when a mortar shell hit the ambu-
ランス and got both guys next to me.

"I was the most unprepared man for combat that
you ever saw. I never saw anything but basic
training and a hospital setting. As a medic, I didn't
carry a weapon.

"Our orders were that any disabled vehicle had to
be ditched and my ambulance was full of wounded but
I had to steer that ambulance while a truck pushed it
over a bank. I heard that screaming day and night.

"The Chinese were coming up over the bank, blow-
ing whistles, screaming and shouting. I picked up a
weapon and fired it a couple of times then it jammed.

"I thought... what am I doing. I'm supposed to be
saving lives not taking them, so I threw the rifle down.
I climbed into a truck. It was every man for himself.

"We lost almost every piece of equipment in the
division. I think there was only one jeep that made it
through the roadblock. We lost 5,000 men but you
never hear about that.

"I was already wounded but then I was hit in the
head and left for dead.

"How long I laid there unconscious, I don't know.
Then I was walking down this road. It was so cold,
about 20 below, and we had no winter equipment or
clothing. Everything was lost in the roadblock. My
coat was covered with blood and there were bodies
and wrecked vehicles all around me.

As dark as it was, my path was lit for me. As I
was walking it was lit - just like a path opened for me
- I didn't hear anything and it's strange, but I wasn't
afraid.

"I remember reaching the end of the roadblock. I
was all alone. All I had with me was my medical bag.
Then I heard Chinese talking over near the left bank
and dove into this ditch.

"God must have been guiding those bullets when
they opened fire because I heard the bullets hitting
the ground all around me. One of soldiers came down
and stopped within a couple of feet of me and laughed.

"I heard them walk away. When I got up I wasn't
even in that ditch. Only my feet were in there and if I
had been one inch either way, I would have been a
spear.

"I got up and started walking down the road again
and walked right into two Chinese officers. I didn't
have a weapon so they just kept jabbing me with their
needles.

"We went up a bank and there were two more Chi-
inese there, high on opium and all they did was laugh
and laugh like two drunks. (Even now, Tony says he
cannot stand the sight of anyone who
is drunk).

"There were two Americans there. One had a
stomach wound and the other's leg was just about
blown off. I started walking towards them to help and
the Chinese fired shots over my head.

"I only know I didn't have anything to eat or
drink.

Tony's voice falters. He presses the button on his
motorized runabout, moving back and forth, back and
forth.

"It's kind of hard to talk about this," he says.

"I lost all track of time. Every so often they would
motion for me to go... to walk away, and when I did
they would fire at my feet.

"I don't remember being scared and I always say
that was God's way of taking me out of a situation I
couldn't handle.

One day the Chinese emptied Tony's medical bag
of all his pills and medication and left him go.

"I walked and walked. I put my feet on the
ground. I hid in cornfields when I was a prisoner of
the Chinese. One time I couldn't hide a
One soldier came up and kicked me in
self so stiff, he thought I was dead. But
I finally reached a road. I had
heard a noise and
I heard someone saying 'get in
an American truck.'

Tony doesn't remember too much in
time. He doesn't remember leaving
Japan and finally home.

"I must have taken a train to
hitchhiking a ride to my home.
It was even if I knew who I was
to give me a ride (ironically, the
came to become his father-in-law) and as
I drove the motorized runabout,
I was only one of two

Tony recalls going to stay with
and was asked to leave beca
before 1981, he never thought about
"I spent years trying to track him
I came out of the closet (his descr
Tony never did find his

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Until a national monument in
forces of the Korean War is const
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who lost her son in Korea, sits on
For the past two years, speci
ies were held at the site, honoring
supreme sacrifice and as a remi
those who will never forget.
said this reminder (Coleman)

Zdanavage's two grandsons, Jason and Shawn, participated in the memorial services honoring the Korean War veterans.

"I walked and walked. I put my field jacket over my feet. I hid in cornfields when I saw or heard the Chinese. One time I couldn't hide and I laid real still. One soldier came up and kicked me but I made myself so still, he thought I was dead and left.

"I finally reached a road. I had no idea where I was but I heard someone saying 'get in, get in.' It was an American truck."

Tony doesn't remember too much from that point in time. He doesn't remember leaving Korea, going to Japan and finally home.

"I must have taken a train to Wilkes-Barre and was hitchhiking a ride to my home in Dorrance. I don't even remember if I knew who I was. This guy stopped to give me a ride (ironically, the driver was later to become his father-in-law) and asked if I was Tony Zdanavage. "Then just in a split second I remembered where I was."

Tony recalls going to stay with his brother's family until he was asked to leave because his screaming nightmares scared the children. "I slept in the car until I could sleep without screaming."

Tony's only was two of several survivors of his outfit, but because he could never talk about his experiences before 1981, he never thought about him.

"I spent years trying to track him down, ever since I came out of the closet (his description for the years of silence)." Tony never did find his comrade.

"I think God spared me for a purpose. Maybe that's why I'm so committed to this memorial project," he said.

Fighting to get a national monument for the Korean War veterans has not been easy. He has made enemies in Washington because he made people remember.

"I ruffled a lot of feathers and made some enemies. Their way of getting back at me was to deny me service connected benefits for my amputation," he said.

But for every enemy, he has gained thousands of friends. He found out he was not alone in feeling that Korean veterans were forgotten.

Until a national monument honoring the armed forces of the Korean War is constructed in Washington, a small granite memorial, donated by a mother who lost her son in Korea, sits on Tony's lawn.

For the past two years, special military ceremonies were held at the site, honoring those who paid the supreme sacrifice and as a reminder that there are those who will never forget.

Fifty-nine countians died during the Korean War

BY TERRI COLEMAN

There were 59 Schuylkill County Korean War veterans who lost their lives between 1950-53 either in battle, as a prisoner of war, battle wounds or while listed as missing in action.

William J. Hamm Sr., director of the Department of Veterans Affairs said the list was obtained from the Korean Conflict Casualty File Records of the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Although the 59 men are from the county there are several whose hometowns are not listed.

Those who died were:


U. S. Marine Corps — PFC Edward F. Blasko, Mary D, and PFC Ronald F. Snyder, Onesio, both killed in action.

U. S. Army: KILLED IN ACTION — Pvt. Lloyd C. Adams, Jonestown; Pvt. Andrew Barakoskie, Gilberton; Pvt. John W. Dinsmore, address not listed; PFC Kenneth R. Englarman, address not listed; PFC John H. Evans, Port Carbon, and PFC Michael Faleshock, Kelayres.


PFC Robert L. McShaw, Pottsville area; Cpl. Louis F. Miskavage, Mahanoy City; Pvt. James A. Moyer, Zions Grove; PFC Charles H. Ney, Donaldson; PFC Michael Pengra, Lost Creek; Pvt. Charles P. Quinn, Mount Carbon; PFC Jackie H. Rockwell, Lavelle; Cpl. Thomas J. Ryncavage, Minersville; SFC Joseph C. Shattas, address not listed; PFC Walker J. Sparrow, Ashland; Cpl. John E. Troutman, Muir; PFC Francis J. Walker, Minersville; PFC Edward F. Yost, address not listed; SFC John C. Zavalick, Kelayres; and Sgt. Anthony J. Zukas, address not listed.


DIED OF WOUNDS — PFC Franklin H. Williams, Pottsville.

Fifty-nine countians died during the Korean War