



TIC TOC

March, 1968

BEETHOVEN'S BEEP ON KEY AFTER QUARTER CENTURY

After a quarter of a century of turning over in his grave every hour on the hour, the late Ludwig Von Beethoven can now rest easy. The first four notes of his "Fifth Symphony" are finally being played in the proper key on WTIC.

The musical three dots and a dash, World War II's "V for Victory" sign, has been WTIC's time signal since 1943. It was the wartime brainchild of Leonard J. Patricelli and Irwin C. Cowper.

The original mechanical device was built by WTIC engineers with the material then available in wartime, a gear arrangement from a 1930s radio and tubes from the same era. The makeshift mechanism was durable, however, and didn't wear out until mid-March--after more than 200,000 hourly performances.

When the old device beeped its last, engineer Bill Kolouch quickly set about creating a replacement--a solid state device with no moving parts--and WTIC listeners were without the familiar time signal for only a day.

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AHEARN-PERRUCCIO

Sheila Ahearn will be married to Lt. Dennis M. Perruccio on April 20.

Miss Ahearn, secretary to Radio General Sales Manager Ernest Peterson, leaves WTIC after 6½ years on the staff. Lt. Perruccio, a member of the Army Signal Corps, is a former part-time engineer.

The Perruccios will be stationed at Fort Monmouth, N.J. from June to mid-September.

NEW WTIC PUBLIC OPINION POLL USES RANDOM SAMPLE TECHNIQUE

The WTIC News Public Opinion Poll, a weekly television poll on a major issue, was introduced by WTIC Radio and Television on March 20 when more than 1,000 Connecticut and western Massachusetts residents were called and asked to state their presidential preferences.

WTIC is using the random sample technique to gather opinions from a cross section of Connecticut and Massachusetts residents once each week. The poll topic is announced on the 6 p.m. radio and 6:15 p.m. television newscasts and the results are announced on the 11 p.m. newscasts.

More than 1,000 residents of the area served by WTIC Radio and Television are telephoned each week. The number of calls to each section of Connecticut and western Massachusetts will be determined by the population of each area.

President Patricelli said "the poll is a logical outgrowth of the Big Question service inaugurated last September. It is also a major improvement in the polling technique employed for the Big Question. The WTIC News Public Opinion Poll will use one of the most generally accepted of all modern polling techniques in order to obtain an accurate reflection of public opinion on the most vital issues of the day."

Gene Muriaty selected the area that is being polled and planned the random sample. He is also supervising the weekly poll as it is conducted by nine members of the secretarial staff. Rufus Coes is assisting Muriaty in all phases of the poll.

The first question asked in the WTIC News Public Opinion Poll March 20 was: "If the election were held today, who would be your choice for President?"

President Johnson received the most votes, 20.9 per cent, but this was less than the combined votes of his adversaries, Sen. Robert Kennedy, 16.3 per cent, and Sen. Eugene McCarthy, 12.4 per cent.

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DAUGHTER FOR THE BEAULACS

A daughter, Beth Ann, was born to Pat and Bob Beaulac in St. Francis Hospital March 26.

Beth Ann weighed six pounds, 10 ounces and was 21 inches long. Pat is a former guest relations assistant and Bob is a TV studio crewman.

PUBLIC OPINION POLL
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Richard Nixon polled the most votes for the Republicans, with 14.8 per cent, and Gov. Nelson Rockefeller trailed with 8.5 per cent.

George Wallace received .7 per cent of the votes. Various other candidates received 1.5 per cent and 24.7 per cent were undecided.

The March 27 question was: "If the election were held today and Johnson and Nixon were the candidates for president, for whom would you vote?"

Mr. Johnson received 37.2 per cent; Mr. Nixon, 35.2 per cent, and 27.5 per cent were undecided or said they preferred neither candidate. There were 807 responses.

EHRlich AGAIN
TOP SPORTSCASTER

George Ehrlich has been named Connecticut's outstanding sportscaster for the third time in the past four years.

He was selected in the annual National Sportswriters and Sportscasters competition in a vote by his colleagues in the state sports fraternity.

A member of the staff since 1957, Ehrlich was named sports director in 1967. He has described University of Connecticut basketball games for 16 seasons and UConn football for 14.

KRAUSE, FLEMING WIN
TOASTMASTER AWARDS

Lew Krause and Don Fleming are becoming successful after dinner speakers.

In their first speeches as members of Toastmasters Clubs, Krause and Fleming received first prize trophies. Krause is a member of the Travelers Toastmasters Club and Fleming belongs to the Manchester Toastmasters.

BEETHOVEN'S BEEP
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Construction of the new device gave Production Manager Bill Marks, a man with both musical and engineering training, an opportunity to correct a 25-year-old fault by replacing the old notes.

Today, if you're one of those rare people with a talented ear, you may notice that the notes are G, G, G and E Flat instead of F Sharp, F Sharp, F Sharp and D. There aren't many people who are likely to notice, but it should please Beethoven.

STAFF CLUB REPORTS
ANNUAL DISBURSEMENTS

During April, you will be asked to contribute the \$3 annual dues for the WTIC Staff Club.

In 1967, the Staff Club collected \$500.75 in dues and \$498.17 in vending machines profit for a total of \$998.92 and disbursed the following: \$110.20 for nine illnesses, \$112.90 for five weddings; \$210.00 for three anniversaries; \$226.48 for 19 who left the company; \$60.00 for a retirement and \$175.05 for nine bereavements. Total disbursements were \$894.63, plus \$48.90 from the Travelers Cheer Committee for a grand total of \$48.90. Balance on hand at the end of the year was \$75.80.

ABUCEWICZ-CANDRAIN

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Abucewicz have announced the engagement of their daughter, Kathryn Joyce, to Robert William Cadrain, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar L. Cadrain.

Miss Abucewicz is a graduate of Pulaski High School, attended Central Connecticut State College and is employed in the music library. Her fiancé is a graduate of New Britain High School and is an order clerk for Putnam, Coffin and Burr.

The wedding will be November 23.

53 STAFF MEMBERS DONATED THEIR BLOOD

The WTIC Staff broke all previous records by donating 53 pints of blood during the March blood-mobile visit to the Travelers.

Twenty-one of the 53 were first-time staff members.

The outstanding turnout was due to the efforts of the WTIC Blood Donor Committee: Chairman Eileen O'Leary and Brian Hartnett, Joyce Bennett, Rose Egazarian, Nancy Hartwell, Linda Lu Lawton, Gail Martin and Paula Sipala.

The donors were: Kathy Abucewicz, Stu Babcock, Debbie Barker, Bob Barr, Joyce Bennett, Dick Bertel, Rufus Coes, Bill Conticello, Brad Davis, George Dawson.

Arnold Dean, Ed Derry, Bob duFour, John Dwyer, Bill Dwyer, Fred Edwards, Rose Egazarian, Karen Findlay, Don Fleming, Jerry Haber, Bill Hanson, Brian Hartnett, Nancy Hartwell, Gail Hebert.

Bernadine Janco, Al Jankowski, Chester Keffer, Lew Krause, Tom Lang, Linda Lu Lawton, Jane Lechowicz, Joe Lorrain, Bill Marks, Dan McAuliffe, Ray McDonald, Joe McGuinness, Liz Meloon.

Steve Myers, Doreen Oates, Dick O'Keefe, Ernie Olivieri, Harry Parcell, John Pohorylo, Randy Scalise, Bob Scherago, Mary Ellen Shea, Paula Sipala, Howard Smith, Dillon Smith, Jim Stewart, George Sulok, John Welch, Dick Zwirko.

ROSS MILLER DUE BACK NEXT MONTH

Ross Miller expects to be back on the job about mid-April.

He is putting the finishing touches on his recovery by getting some sun and visiting his parents in Zephyrhills, Florida.

GREEK ORTHODOX PRIEST WILL SPEAK AT PLAZA

The third annual Easter Sunrise Service on Constitution Plaza will again be televised and broadcast by WTIC TV and Radio.

The Rev. Dr. Leonidas C. Contos, dean of the Greek Orthodox Theological School in Brookline, Mass., will deliver the sermon at the 6 a.m. service, which is expected to attract thousands of worshippers to the Plaza April 14.

The service will again be sponsored by the Commission for Ecumenical Affairs of the Archdiocese of Hartford, the Greater Hartford Council of Churches and the Orthodox Churches of Hartford.

STUDENTS GET WORD FROM ROBERT STEELE

The sixth grade at a Windsor school is getting the word every day from Bob Steele.

Donald Knofla, a teacher at the John Fitch School in Windsor, recently wrote to Steele to thank him for his "word for the day" feature, which Knofla had been using in his classroom.

Each day, Knofla explained, the students listen for the word before leaving for school. At school, a pre-selected student leads a short discussion on pronunciation and usage, then the class posts the words on its "Words of Steele" board.

"The students look forward to this activity each day," said Knofla, "for it is something a little different and in some instances, more challenging, than routine book work. For having this service on your morning show, I thank you, and so do the students in the class. It has brought enthusiasm and excitement to our classroom."

Knofla asked Steele if he could provide an advance list so that he could plan the words to be studied week by week. Steele has complied.