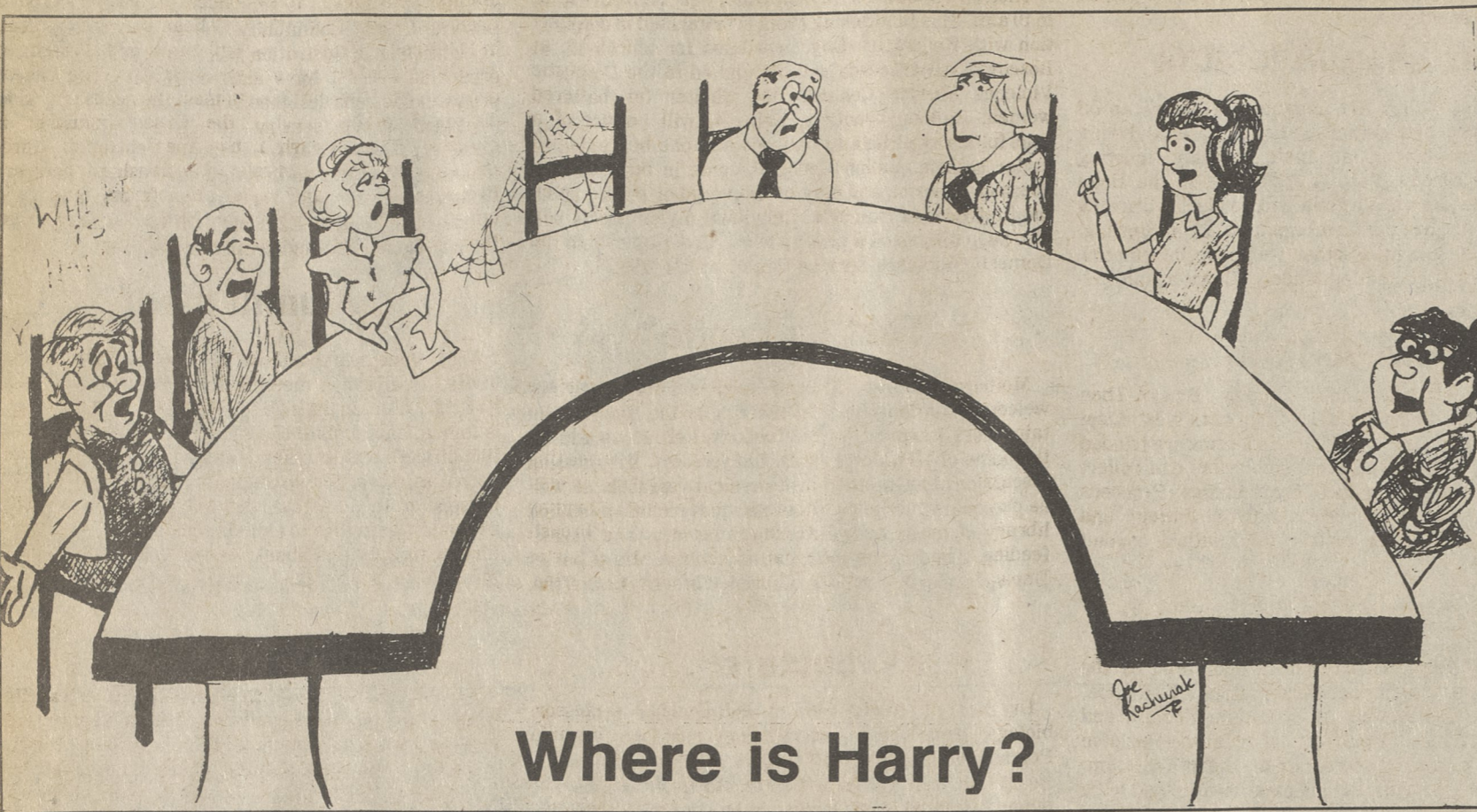


Chatterbox



Where is Harry?

A Little Fact; A Little Fancy

from Mak

With the start of the new year, parents and seniors in high school begin to think about higher education. For many, over the last 10 years, consideration of entry into the teaching field has been a foregone conclusion. Regardless of how desperately a student might wish to enter the realm of education as a teacher, he or she was discouraged due to the phenomenal overcrowding in the field creating an almost impossible situation for job seekers.

A surprising report caught my eye the other day, however. It was entitled "Report Shows Substantial Drop in Number of Teachers" and was published by Pennsylvania's Department of Education.

The press release actually leads off with the statement: "A shortage of teachers in almost all fields of study is a definite possibility since the number of teachers prepared in Pennsylvania colleges and universities has fallen off considerably from 1971-72..."

Fact: The 7,396 teachers graduated from teacher preparation programs in 1980-81 represents 38 percent of the 19,453 graduated in 1971-72.

Fact: In elementary education, only 31 percent of the 1971-72 figure were graduated.

Fact: Shortages are already evident in several secondary subject areas, while the continued decline of available teachers for all fields of study appears to be approaching a critical level.

Fact: The state's 1980-81 graduation list included 2,570 elementary teachers, 1,476 secondary teachers, 1,977 combined teachers and 1,373 special education teachers.

The department has prepared a complete report, entitled "Our Colleges and Universities Today: The Preparation and Occupational Pursuits of Teachers, 1980-81". It might make good reading for high school students contemplating a future course in life. The report may be obtained from the Department of Education, 333 Market Street, P.O. Box 911, Harrisburg, Pa. 17108.

Congratulations to Laura Poynton—big winner in the Back Mountain Youth Basketball's first foul-shooting contest. Laura came in first among the fourth, fifth and sixth graders, with Michael Farris, runner up. In the older division, congratulations to Mario Liva, winner; and Joyce Tinner runner-up.

Congratulations to the clerk at Fino's celebrating her big "40".

Askin' & Tellin'

A group of six well wishing young ladies have extended Valentine's greetings to their favorite Valentines for the upcoming holiday.



Renee Strauser, Dallas: "Tell Tom O'Donnell to have a good day."



Cheryl McDermott, Sweet Valley: "Tell Brian Taylor that I love him."



Jennifer Moran, Dallas: "Tell David Mayers to have a good day."



Heather Davies, Dallas: "Tell John Masley to have a good day."

Letter

Harveys Lake finances explained

Editor:

With the change in the recent majority of Harveys Lake Council, so goes the change in the 1983 budget. The proposed \$25 garbage sticker fee has been eliminated. This fee would have affected every resident that wished to participate. It is my contention that it would have been fair for all residents because each would pay \$25 per year regardless of assessed property valuation. The cost of garbage collection for 1983 represents \$32,800. Under the sticker proposal, money for this service would have been self-sustaining. Now garbage collection money will come directly from our tax dollars. This is unfortunate for Harveys Lake Borough, just as many other municipalities in Luzerne County. It stands to reason that if \$32,800 of taxpayer's money is being used for garbage service, then other services must be eliminated or drastically cut. This is in fact exactly what will take place and I oppose this type of financial management. In doing so,

let me offer some pertinent facts about our borough.

1. Harveys Lake Borough is and has been operating at a financial deficit. The use of \$32,800 in tax revenue for garbage will not alleviate this situation; it will perpetuate it.

2. Over the years, many areas of government have been grossly neglected due to lack of funds. Paramount among these are the roads. Under the majority's new plan, more money will not be given to the road department, in fact it will be cut. Consequently, money for repair, reconstruction, acquisition and oiling will be almost non-existent. The condition of Borough roads has to be one of our major problems and should be addressed with adequate funding rather than cuts. Our roads are a major priority and should be treated as such.

3. The health and safety of our residents should be our utmost concern. The Police Department

has a direct responsibility in overseeing that task. We as government officials should be able to afford these public servants a fair financial allotment, and safe, dependable equipment with which to work. Under the new plan, money for new equipment has been eliminated. This is very unfortunate.

It took more than one year for the borough to get in such a deplorable financial state and it will take some years of firm management for us to recover. I believe that with our initial budget proposal, we took the first step toward firm management. Unfortunately, the present council majority has seen fit to undo most of that plan. I believe that this is a step backward, rather than forward.

Through most of 1982, I stated that things would get worse before they get better. I also said that we would run out of money before the end of the year—that prediction came true. Presently we are more than \$37,000 in debt for 1982, and the borough has been refused a tax

anticipation loan from not one, but two banks. The reason for this was primarily bad publicity the borough has recently received. Furthermore, due to President Reagan's policies, 1983 may be the last year for revenue sharing funds. If this does happen, we will be in worse financial shape in the future. Consequently, 1983 is the year that we must take the first step toward a balanced budget. With the new majority changes, we will not ease our deficit, it will be increased. I will say that by the end of 1983 and the beginning of 1984, the deficit will be even higher than at present. For the aforementioned reasons, I will oppose the current changes in the budget.

The majority of Council would be wise to heed the words of poet George Santayana: "Those who do not learn from the past are destined to repeat its errors."

Daniel F. Blaine, Jr.,
Councilman
Harveys Lake Borough

Comment

Valentine's Day is no bummer!

It appears Tulane University psychologist Fred Koenig has gone a bit bonkers himself. Koenig was reported to have called Valentine's Day a 'bummer in disguise'. The expert on social psychology downplayed the unhealthy foundation of the day, saying it begins in elementary school, where students are encouraged to send greetings to one another to celebrate the February holiday.

Koenig calls the idea 'ego-threatening', noting the number of Valentines is used as a measure of popularity of the child and that this attitude prevails throughout adult-

hood. He further notes that it becomes a direct reflection of individual worth and this can be traumatic to a child.

"Sorry, Mr. Koenig, we simply cannot buy this one." It is the duty of a psychologist, of course, to detect problem areas and try and explain them away. But it appears this is one psychologist, having difficulty finding a behavioral problem to solve, picked Valentine's Day out of thin air.

His excuses for downplaying the holiday, are very thin indeed. Calling a celebration to show love 'unhealthy' is surely one for the books. Don't our children learn to show their affection through such actions as sending cards and exchanging greetings with one another?

Koenig points out that popularity is measured by the number of Valentines a child receives and those who get less are, made aware of their lack of popularity with others. While this idea may hold wear, not getting an invitation to Johnny's birthday party can also be crushing to a child with a fragile ego. Should we, therefore, change the way we celebrate birthdays?

Koenig actually blames our manner of celebrating the holiday on cold northern winters (remember, he is from the south, where life is evidently just full of beauty and love all year through.)

If our celebration of Valentine's Day did in fact, come about because we needed something to break up the gloom of winter, what better

way to do it? It is a well-known fact that holidays of any kind tend to add to some people's depression. While it is a sad fact that this happens, should we therefore, do away with holidays, which also bring happiness?

Valentine's Day provides a much needed shot in the arm to florists, card shops and candy makers, not to mention jewelers and drug stores. A little gift-giving and card-sharing cannot be so bad.

I truly wonder how many of us actually remember, as adults, the number of Valentines we did not get as children? Koenig sounds much like the "Scrooge" of Valentine's Day to me and I'm crossing him off my list of persons to send mid-winter greetings.

Only Yesterday

Dallas cagers defeat Laketon

50 Years Ago - Feb. 17, 1933

Dallas almost relinquished its first place position in basketball when they played Laketon High School. Despite a lead by Laketon early in the game, teamwork and fast offense in the final stanza resulted in Laketon's defeat with a score of 27-22.

You could get—Bread 3 loaves 10c; apple butter 2 jars 25c; raisins 2 pkg. 15c; sugar corn 2 cans 19c; cigarettes 10c pkg.

40 Years Ago - Feb. 19, 1943

Demanding restoration of a guaranteed 40-hour minimum work week, which had been curtailed because of a shortage of hides, 255 employees of the Armour Leather Company plant, Noxen, called a strike. Workers were members of the Fur and Leather Worker's Union.

Married—Helen Gacha to Lt. Alexander J. Wazeter; Margaret J. Campbell to Capt. E.C. Deal.

Anniversaries—John and Emogene Rogers Crispell, 59 years; T.J. and Minnie Swainbank, 50 years.

Deaths—Thomas P. Him, Wilkes-Barre; Ernest Rothar, Huntsville; Thomas E. Sayre, Pikes Creek.

You could get—Bologna ¼ lb. 12c; fresh peas 15c lb.; oranges 28c doz.; carrots 2 lb. 15c; bread 2 lvs. 17c.

30 Years Ago - Feb. 20, 1953

David Westfield was captain and Robert Lukaschun, co-captain of the new Lake-Noxen wrestling team. Shop instructor Thomas Longmore was coach.

Edith Adams Enke, formerly of Davis Street, Trucksville, was appearing in the new Broadway musical "Wonderful Town". Appearing under the state name of Edith Adams, she was performing with Rosalind Russell, famous stage and screen actress.

Anniversaries—Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Kocher, 50 years; Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Belles, 44 years.

Birthdays—Mrs. Charles Tremayne, 84 years old.

Engagements—Lenore Rothfuss to Charles Henry.

Deaths—Alvin J. Misson, Dallas; Benjamin Evans, Dallas; Raymond Smith, Lake Township; Melvinae Shouldice, Jackson Twp.; Alida Weaver, Idetown; Warren Dennis, Harveys Lake; William J. Lewis, Harveys Lake.

You could get—Veal roast 79c lb.; ground beef 43c lb.; coffee 89c lb.; tuna fish 7 oz. can 30c; 2 bottles Joy liquid 59c.

20 Years Ago - Feb. 21, 1963

A capacity crowd attended a dinner at Irem Temple Country Club honoring Rev. Francis A.

Kane, pastor of Gate of Heaven Church. Rev. Kane had been chosen recipient of the Community Service Award given annually by the Back Mt. Protective Association.

Engaged—Diane Judy Jones to Norman Clancy.

Married—Judith Ann Robinhold and Wayne Barry Brandt; Linda Conden and Boyd Barber.

Deaths—Louis P. Youngblood, Trucksville; Helen Moore, Carverton Road; John Ferguson, Shavertown; Freda Ehrhoff, Fernbrook.

You could get—Leg-o-lamb 57c lb.; turkeys 35c lb.; potatoes 10 lb. bag 69c; sharp cheese 69c lb.; cream cheese 8 oz. 25c.

10 Years Ago - Feb. 15, 1973

On the advice of his doctor, Bruce Spencer, Lehman Township, tendered his resignation to the Lehman Township Board of Supervisors.

Anniversaries—Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Eyet Sr., Dymond Hollow, 35 years.

Deaths—Dorothy Spofford, Tunkhannock; Nelson R. Blackwell, Trucksville; Russell Fenrich, Lehman; Melvin Elwood Wagner, Shavertown.

You could get—Sliced bacon 49c lb.; leg-o-lamb 89c lb.; skinned franks 79c lb.; sweet corn 4 cans 89c; oranges 59c doz.

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