



**Magee closes**

The Magee Publick House, the restaurant located at the Newberry Estates, has closed its doors and discontinued business after only eight months of operation.

**Restaurant doors close again**

By JANE C. BOLGER  
Staff Correspondent

Magee Publick House at Newberry Estates closed its doors for good Sunday, thus joining the growing list of restaurants that have been unable to succeed in the prime Dallas location.

The reason for the Magee closing as stated by Manager Bruce Thomas was "not enough volume to cover expenses." The decision to close was made after only eight months of operation by the same company that has had years of experience running the very successful Hotel Magee in Bloomsburg.

The restaurant at Newberry Estates, which seats 140 people in the main dining room, was leased by Magee Inc. from the family of the late Walter Robbins who purchased the entire complex with the exception of the individually owned condominiums two years ago from the First Valley Bank. The bank had taken over Newberry several years before from the original developers, the Troup family, when their corporation ran into financial difficulties.

During the period of time that the bank or its agents operated Newberry, other experienced restaurateurs from Brunico's and Augustine's, as well as privately hired

managers, also attempted to make the restaurant a paying proposition.

Obviously, no one has succeeded and although no one is quite sure why, guesses run the gamut from financial overexpansion, too many desserts, location of the Ladies Room, too small a cocktail lounge to a ghost who doesn't want a restaurant in her haunts.

The slightly isolated location off Pioneer Avenue is believed to be one legitimate drawback for people who are unfamiliar with the Back Mountain. Another reason is the fact that, originally, Newberry was operated primarily as a private country club and some people continue to believe that this is so.

The cost of upkeep appears to be quite high, too. "The Lodge", which has a large expanse of window area, is costly to heat while another possibility suggested is that the formality of the elegant dining room is not what young people are looking for when they dine out.

These, of course, are all non-professional speculations but they may hold an element of truth - unlike the oft repeated story of a laughing female ghost. The tale goes that Mrs. Ghost, who supposedly was a member of the original Newberry clan, still holds private parties in her favorite room, complete with music and tinkling glasses after hours.

Whatever the reason, the restaurant has closed again for the present, however, all private parties and weddings booked from now until Dec. 31 will be honored by the Magee Corporation.

**SHOP TALK**

"Shop Talk" is a weekly column in The Dallas Post and features tidbits about Back Mountain businesses and business people. Information for "Shop Talk" may be submitted by writing to The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas, Pa., 18612, or by calling 675-5211.)

ANDREW J. SORDONI III, of Warden Place, Harveys Lake, has been re-elected chairman of the board of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Commerce. The announcement was made during the Chamber's annual meeting in the William Penn Hotel in Harrisburg. Sordoni, chairman of Commonwealth Telephone Enterprises Inc., of Wilkes-Barre, is the youngest Pennsylvania businessman ever to hold the State Chamber's highest elected office.

DRURY'S DELI, Sunset, Harveys Lake, was recently granted a State Liquor License. Jim Drury, proprietor, had been trying for nearly two years to secure such a license.

HUMPHREY'S WALTER'S SHOE RACKS is moving into the Dallas Shopping Center. All kinds of shoe racks and displays have been moved into the company's new Back Mountain location.

FIRST EASTERN BANK'S recently constructed sign gives the institution's Quik Teller machine much more visibility during the evening hours.

JOE PAGLIANITE, proprietor of Joe's Grotto Pizza, Harveys Lake, hasn't yet divulged his plans for the grand opening of the addition to his building. Joe has already opened a portion of the new dining room, but no date has been set for the unveiling of the completed project.

THE JEAN SHOP on Route 415 in Dallas is really lit up at night these days. The new Jean Shop sign is easily seen from the Dallas Highway.

RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONIES were held this week at Melba's Fashion Nook in the Hickory Hills Mall off Carverton Road in Trucksville. The new shop is being operated by Mrs. Ronald Boudreaux of Carverton.



**Checking the flowers**

Shown here at the holiday fair sponsored by the Shavertown Branch of the Nesbitt Memorial Hospital Auxiliary are, from left, looking over a selection of flowers are Dallas residents Nancy Peters and Ida Edwards.

**Nesbitt's Holiday Fair termed huge success**

Wyoming Valley residents recently attended the annual Holiday Fair conducted by the Auxiliary of Nesbitt Memorial Hospital. Early holiday shoppers were treated to a wide selection of Thanksgiving and Christmas gifts and decorations handmade by auxiliary members.

The fair, sponsored by the auxiliary's Shavertown branch, also featured homemade foods and special health services performed free of charge by hospital personnel. More than 250 blood pressure screenings, 100 diabetes-cholesterol screenings and 85 pulmonary function tests were performed.

Mrs. Frederick Eck, chairman of the fair, thanks all residents, hospital personnel and auxiliaries for their attendance and support. Funds raised from the event will be used to purchase patient care equipment.

A special drawing was conducted at the fair and the winners are R. Lenton, Kingston, a money tree; Loretta Rudingle, Pittston, Christmas stockings; and Dot Hoover, Trucksville, a handmade afghan.



**Will Harveys Lake be profitable again?**

BY WALLY KOCHER  
Staff Correspondent

"History of Harveys Lake", was the title of a lecture presented by the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society recently with Attorney F. Charles Petrillo as guest speaker.

The lecture also included slides of the lake's recreational history from the late 19th century to the present.

Petrillo is the author of "Harveys Lake", which was published last summer and is available through the Harveys Lake Historical Society.

His interest in the lake area grew as he was studying the lake's steamboat era. As he stated in his book, "Once the steamboat history was complete, a full 200-year history of the lake seemed imperative in recognition of the labors of generations of unheralded people who contributed toil and life to decades of lake visitors when the lake was truly a public resource."

In an interview with The Dallas Post, Petrillo elaborated on the point of the lake once being a public

resource. Although it is true that during its "golden years", the lake was a prime resort area, according to Petrillo, a decline in the interest of the lake began after World War I.

"Private automobiles doomed the existence of the railroad and trolley services to the area," said Petrillo. He also attributes the decline of Harveys Lake to competition from other areas such as Ricketts Glen. Other reasons are the decline of public interest with the emergence of private interest and the vanishing family unit.

When asked what could be done to bring the lake back to resort status again, Petrillo said, "I don't know if the lake can ever come back."

He did say however, that since the bicentennial celebration in 1981, local businesses have been trying to revive the area. The fishing and boating industry on the lake has also been attributed with keeping the public interested with the area.

Although these aspects of the lake attract crowds, it is doubtful, according to Mr. Petrillo, that the lake will ever enjoy the profitable seasons it once did.

**Civil Service exams slated**

The State Civil Service Commission announced that applications are being accepted for entrance and promotion examinations for supervisors and managers in the construction inspector field.

Positions are located in the Department of General Services. Twenty-one vacancies are anticipated during the next year: 14 at the supervisor level and seven at the manager level. For the most recent information on job opportunities, contact the Department of General Services, Bureau of Personnel, 507 North Office Building, Harrisburg, PA; telephone (717) 787-6678.

Various combinations of training or experience will qualify applicants for these positions. Acceptable work experience must be in the building or renovation of commercial, industrial, institutional or public-use type

buildings. All candidates are urged to obtain a copy of State Civil Service Commission examination announcement 339-83 for detailed information on qualifications.

The test will consist of a rating of applicant's related training and experience. Candidates will receive a score based on the experience and training reported on the application and on the application supplement number 339-3-1. Failure to provide complete and accurate information may delay processing of applications or result in a lower score.

Civil Service examination announcements, applications and supplements may be obtained from State Civil Service Commission offices in Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, and Philadelphia, or from the Department of General Services, Bureau of Personnel, Harrisburg.

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