

# It's Buckle Up Week in Pa.

Gov. Thornburgh has signed a proclamation declaring the week of Nov. 24-30 as All American Buckle Up Week in Pennsylvania.

During the week of November 24-30 the Pennsylvania AAA Federation and Valley Automobile Club, with the support of the State Departments of Transportation and Health and the State Police, are spearheading the drive to encourage passengers and drivers alike to "buckle up."

Approximately 140,000 automobile

accidents occurred in 1984 in the Commonwealth, resulting in nearly 1,500 deaths and almost 90,000 injuries. Governor Thornburgh, in signing the proclamation, stated, "It has been estimated...that, had safety belts been in use in the 140,000 automobile accidents in Pennsylvania in 1984, more than 530 lives would have been saved and 10,000 injuries prevented."

"Safety on the highways is a great concern to the Valley Automobile Club, and we are pleased to be

a part of this effort encouraging passengers and drivers alike to buckle up," said Pat Higgins-Safety Director-Valley Automobile Club.

Across the country National AAA is joining with the U.S. Department of Transportation in promoting "buckle up" activities during the same week.

AAA is also supporting mandatory seat belt laws for all states. The Pennsylvania AAA Federation and Valley Automobile Club are proud to be a part of this drive.



## Contest held

Nine area residents were named winners in a poster contest sponsored by Offset Paperback Manufacturers on behalf of United Way of Wyoming Valley. The contest employed the theme "Building a Better Community...the United Way." Citizens of all ages from Wyoming Valley were invited to participate for cash prizes. First place winners were also awarded a poster book from G.K. Hall & Co. of Boston. Shown are the winners in each of three age categories with Offset Paperback and United Way officials. From left, seated, are Juanita Ricker, first place winner, ages 19 to 49; Ian Richardson, Executive Vice President, Offset Paperback; Sophia Musto, first place winner, ages 8 to 13 category; Donald Lockhart, President-Customer Services; and Antonia Rose Musto, first place winner, ages 13 to 18 category. Standing, Carol Yurek, second place winner, ages 19 to 49 category; Jackqueline Matthews, third place winner, ages 19 to 49 category; Tiffany George, third place winner, ages 8 to 13 category; Charles J. Reynolds, President and Chief Professional Officer, United Way; Justin Skibitsky, second place winner, ages 8 to 13 category; Edward Ostrowski, second place winner, ages 13 to 18 category, and Anya Musto, third place winner, ages 13 to 18 category.



## on entertainment with Debbey Wysocki

"Baseball, hot dogs, apple pie, and Chevrolet?" No, but an American institution just as revered, is undergoing a slow, but noticeable evolution. With cold weather approaching, the drive-in theater season is rapidly drawing to a close. The drive-in was once a place for teenagers to congregate and have a lively time. Other movie viewers, especially in the older age bracket, were usually made aware of the presence of these fun-loving young adults.

The old days of sporty cars and their squeal of tires have gradually given way to vans and campers. These vehicles are not packed so much by young teens as they are loaded down with married couples, and

families who are bargain-hunting viewers.

According to statistics released by the National Association of Theater Owners, the number of drive-ins has been steadily on the decline. NATO recently listed the existence of over 2000 drive-ins compared to 3,790 in 1972.

It is interesting to note a correlation between the number of drive-ins in a state and its population. The top six drive-in states were listed almost identically to the electoral vote ranking: California, Ohio, Texas, Pennsylvania, Michigan and New York. With no surprise, Alaska was ranked last with no drive-ins.

This drive-in decline can be attributed in part to rising property taxes, to deterioration, to escalation of land values, and of course, to an insufficient number of patrons forcing many drive-ins out of business.

In this area alone, this decline is evident. The Comerford Drive-In Theater, the Midway and the Dallas Drive-In have all gone out of business. What remains are the Moonlight Drive-in (often carload rather than individual admission), the W-B Drive-in Theater, the West Side Drive-in (Kingston) and the Garden Drive-in (Hunlock's Creek).

For drive-in fans, the future is not as bleak as it seems. With modernization such as installing large multiscreens and Cine-Fi sound systems, upgrading facilities, and providing a huge selection of food at the much visited snack bars, drive-in theater owners can level off this trend. Most importantly, drive-ins must offer first-run films, and play them for families to assure good business and their continued existence.

(Debbey Wysocki is the entertainment writer for The Dallas Post)



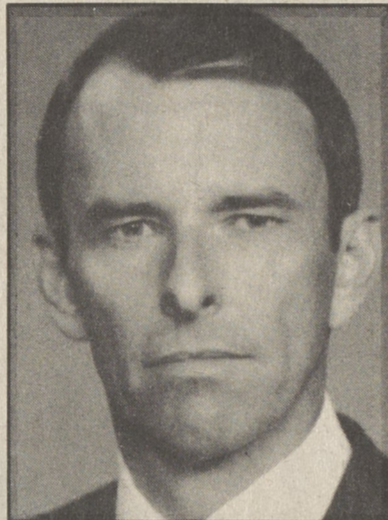
WYSOCKI

## PG&W names VP

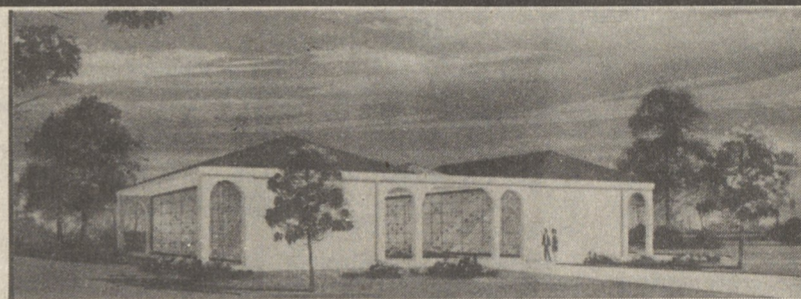
Paul E. Henderson has been named Vice President of Operations of Pennsylvania Gas and Water Company (PG&W) according to an announcement by J. Glenn Gooch, PG&W's President and CEO. Mr. Henderson joins PG&W after serving as Director of Distribution and Engineering for the Commonwealth Gas Company, headquartered in Southborough, Mass.

Mr. Gooch stated that, "We are fortunate to have a person of Mr. Henderson's background and experience join with us in helping to provide gas and water utility services in Northeastern and Northcentral Pennsylvania." Mr. Henderson will be responsible for all phases of operations and maintenance activities in PG&W relative to the Company's distribution systems, including customer service, training, certain construction work, all vehicles and work equipment.

Mr. Henderson began his gas utility career as a meter reader in 1956 with the Cambridge Gas Company, which later merged with the Worcester Gas Company to form the present Commonwealth Gas Company. During his tenure at Commonwealth, Mr. Henderson held a variety of positions including heating customer representative engineer, supervisor of gas operations, superintendent of gas supply and system control, and his most recent capacities as Director of both Distribution and Engineering. He is a past chairman of the Construction and Maintenance Committee of the New England Gas Association.



PAUL E. HENDERSON



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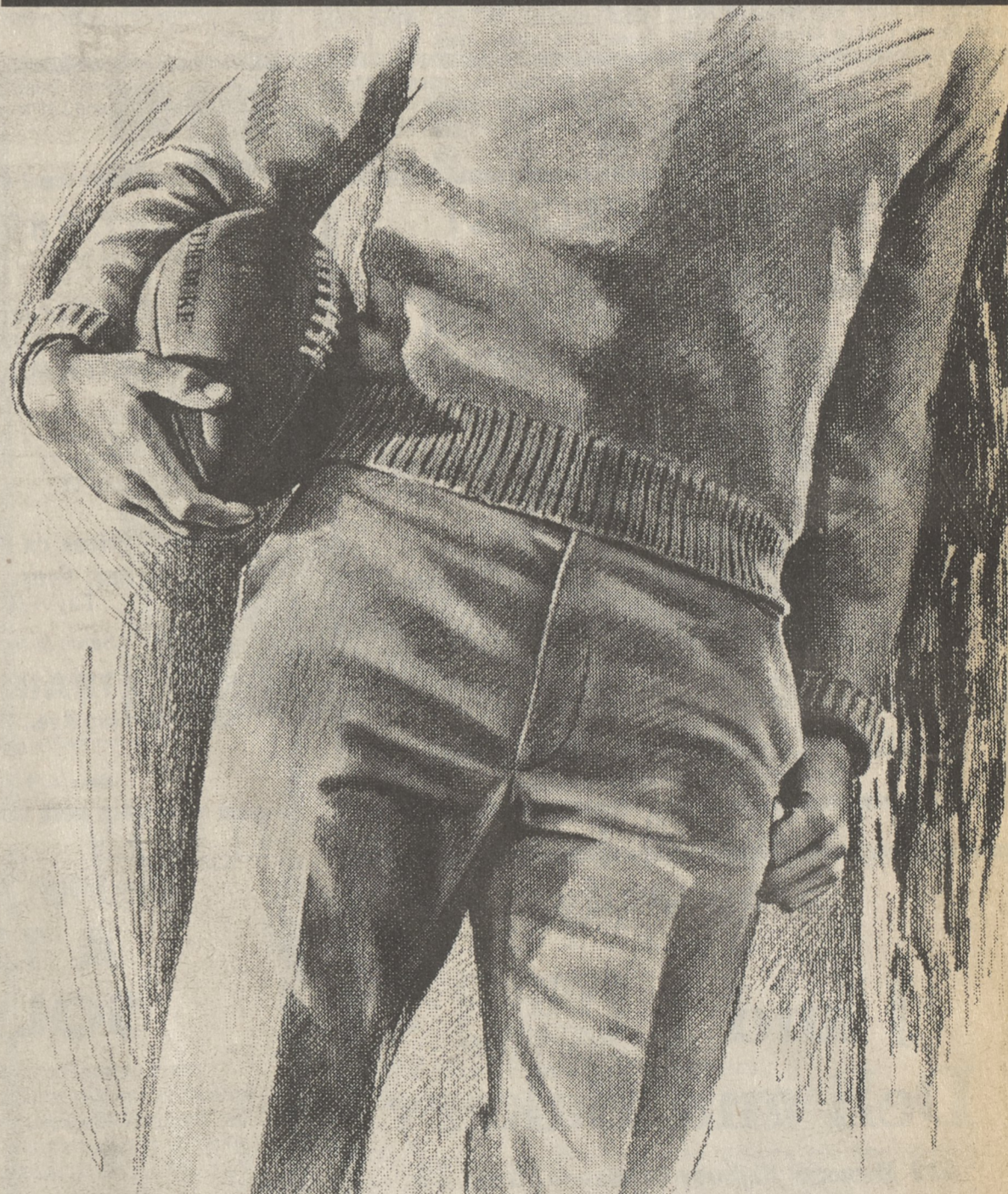
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