

# Commentary

## Editor's notes

**MY DEEPEST APOLOGIES** to the Holthaus brothers whose photos appeared in last week's edition of The Dallas Post with the wrong namelines under them.

Richard and Ryan Holthaus, who were both honored recently for separate accomplishments, had every right to have their pictures in the paper with a little article about what they've done. What they shouldn't have had to put up with, however, was having their names screwed-up under their pictures.

I take full blame for it. It was my mistake and I am terribly sorry for it. And, at the risk of sounding even more human, I think I remember doing the same thing with these same two photos in another edition of paper within the last year.

The boys are so darn good-looking, though, I must get all nervous when trying to identify which is which. Anyway, sorry guys!



**DOTTY MARTIN**

and explain himself.

John pulled up to a red light in the Back Mountain the other day and found himself stopped alongside another car. It wasn't until John turned to look at the driver of the other car did he realize something was rather amiss.

The driver of the other car was wearing a baseball helmet with two ear flaps. When John looked at him in a puzzled manner, the gentleman simply ignored him as if to question why the puzzled look on John's face.

Now, you have to admit - that's strange. However, giving this driver the benefit of the doubt, I'm sure there's a good reason why he would feel the need to don a baseball helmet when going out in his car. Could it be that he doesn't trust his own driving?

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS** are extended by Myrtle Elston Hess of Shady Side Lake in Kunkle who will celebrate her 88th birthday next week.

Myrtle, who is currently a guest at the Carpenter Nursing Home in Idetown, will note her special day on July 9.

Happy birthday to you, Myrtle - and many more!

**SPEAKING OF BIRTHDAYS**, we're coming up on one of the biggest birthday celebrations our nation has yet to see - the 100th birthday of the State of Liberty.

It's going to be one wild bash all over the country this Fourth of July, including right here in Wyoming Valley. As the cars from the Great American Race which began last week in California begin to roll into Wilkes-Barre, several thousands of people are expected to converge on Kirby Park for all kinds of events.

Not only will the cars from the Great American Race be housed in the Kingston Armory for public inspection, there will also be a display of all kinds of older cars at Kirby Park on July 5. The Philharmonic will provide a free concert in Kirby Park over the weekend while hundreds of joggers will get together for a 10K race and a shorter fun run on Friday and Saturday.

It's going to be a wild time in Wilkes-Barre as Wyoming Valley-ites prepare to celebrate Lady Liberty's 100th birthday. Let's do it in style - without any violence or disturbances.

**I WONDER** if the celebration in New York City will be uneventful. Someone told me the other day that Mayor Ed Koch of New York City has allocated \$6 million in extra law enforcement for the July Fourth weekend. Can you imagine what he must be expecting to put that kind of money aside to prevent it?

I was originally considering joining the millions of people who will be singing Happy Birthday to the Lady on Ellis Island, however, being a small-town girl at heart, something tells me I'm going to be celebrating the Fourth of July either in my backyard or in a city no bigger than Wilkes-Barre.

**OH, OH!** Yet another celebration in the Harry Lefko family of Dallas. Harry's youngest daughter, Cindy, noted her birthday last week and rumor has it, she celebrated in style - eating German food and playing a boom-bah for the first time in her life.

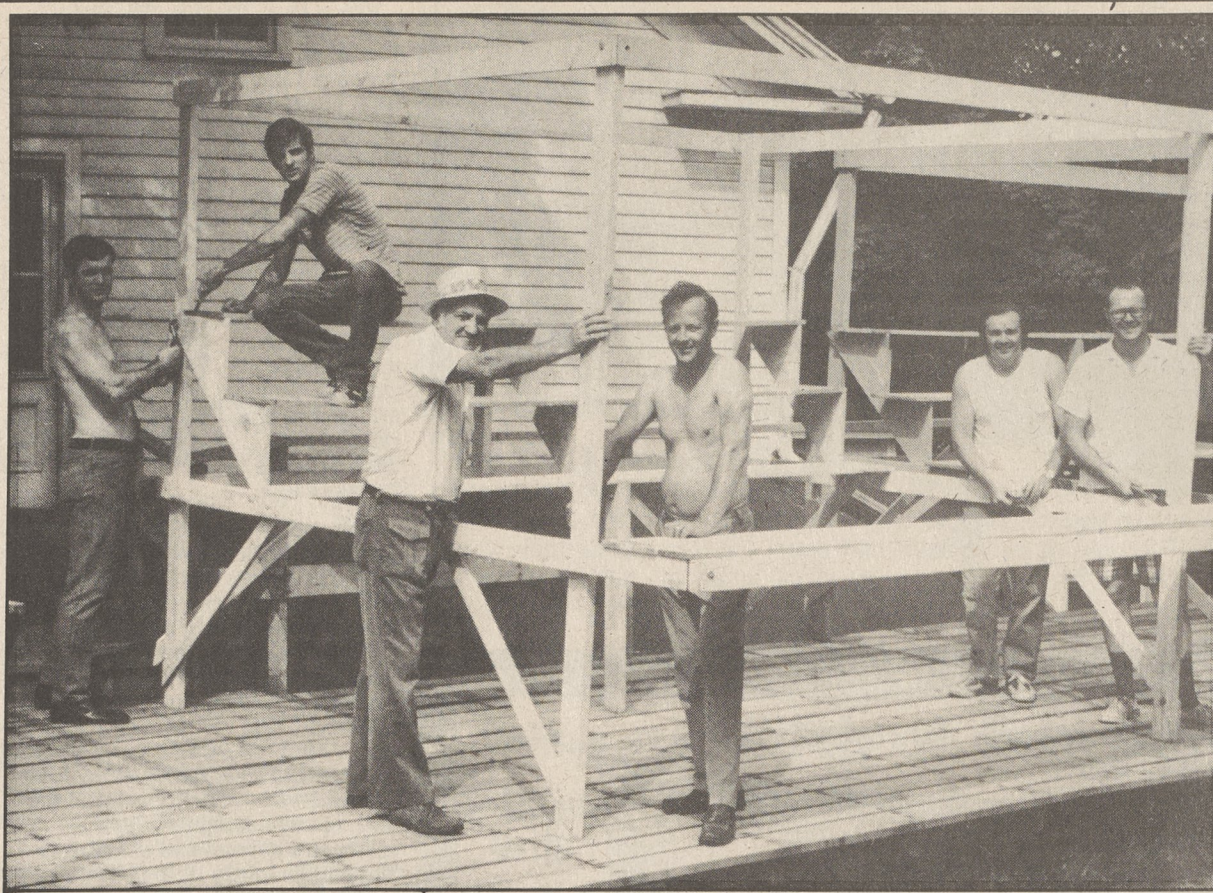
**SOME OF YOU** may remember a column I wrote shortly after the Challenger disaster in January of this year. That tragedy touched me rather deeply and I felt compelled to put my personal feelings on paper.

My stepmother seemed to have shared the same feelings I did about the disaster and felt compelled to share both of our feelings, in the way of my column, with none other than President Reagan - so she sent the leader of our country a copy of what I had written, along with her own personal feelings of sadness on the loss of seven astronauts.

As President Reagan was inundated with correspondence at that time, I'm sure, it took him quite a while to respond to Laura's letter, but he didn't forget it and, just last week, Laura received a letter from the White House, thanking her for taking the time to share our feelings with the White House staff.

Included in the official correspondence from the White House were copies of President Reagan's speech the night of the disaster, which replaced his originally scheduled State of the Union address, along with the words he spoke during the memorial service for the astronauts - a nice keepsake for those of us who were so deeply saddened by the tragedy.

(Dotty Martin is the Executive Editor of Pennaprint Inc. Her column appears weekly.)



## REMEMBERING

### Building booths

Workers are shown here as they put the final touches to booths for the annual firemen's bazaar in Dallas years ago. The bazaars are still held every year.

## Only yesterday

### Vernon planned old-fashioned celebration for Fourth of July

**50 YEARS AGO - JULY 3, 1936**

An old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration was planned for the village of Vernon. A series of athletic events, including a quilt match and races for children, a softball game would highlight the day. The main sports events, however, was a game between Vernon A.C. baseball team and Forty Fort A.C. team. Dinner was served at noon, followed by a concert by the Gobel Orchestra of Centermoreland at night.

Harry L. Tennyson, new supervising principal of Dallas Borough School District assumed his position. Bus service between Dallas and Harveys Lake was extended to run until midnight. The announcement was made by Wilkes-Barre Railway Company.

Married - Adda Garinger and Peter R. Kuchta; E. Claire Allen and Perry H. Long; Mary Edith Smith and Henry Heberling; Letha Crispell to Francis Schenk.

Deaths - John S. Davis, Fernbrook. You could get - Chuck roast 18c lb.; hams 29c lb.; chickens 29c lb.; Little Neck clams 100-29c; tomatoes 3 lb. 29c; peaches 3 lb. 23c; watermelons 29c; fig bars 2 lb. 15c; motor oil 8 qt. can 88c; dill pickles 2 qt. jars 25c.

**40 YEARS AGO - JULY 5, 1946**

Explosion of an alcohol drum at Oliver's Garage shook Dallas and seriously burned Richard Westerman, an employee, who was cutting the empty sheet metal tank with an acetylene blowtorch. Westerman was hospitalized in shock with second degree burns.

The Dallas Post began publishing excerpts from The Story of Wyoming Valley by the late Louis Frank. Lt. Col. Norman W. Smith, Huntsville, Special Service Officer at Fort Monroe received a citation for meritorious and outstanding service as chief of Special Services at Indiantown Gap Military Reservation.

Engaged - Marian Newton Powell and David Crawford Hall.

You could get - Cottage cheese 19c lb.; pollock 25c lb.; Sani Flush 19c can; waxed paper lg. roll 16c; candles 10c doz.; washboards 75c ea.; Mason Jars qts. 65c doz.; vinegar 12c qt.; Spicy 3 lb. jar 68c; Spic and Span 20c pkg. Lipton Tea 4 oz. 26c.

**30 YEARS AGO - JULY 6, 1956**

The first rattlesnake of the summer season was killed in Lehman on the private road leading to the Arch Major property.

Jack Heidig, chairman of the Idetown Civic Association announced Open House at the new playground on the Gilbert Ide property, adjacent to Oak Hill. A ball field, volleyball court, swings and gym equipment for children were included in the playground equipment.

Dallas Legion baseball team, undefeated in six starts, was downed by the Hanover White Sox in a hard fought battle lasting 11 innings. The score was 8 to 6. Bagonis and Hendershot starred.

Married - Naomi Hons to Robert Haag; John Hauck and Priscilla Sonntag; Lena Mossuto and Harold Evans.

## Letters

### Director asks that we remember servicemen who fought for freedom

**DEAR EDITOR:**

As we celebrate the 210th anniversary of the birth of our great nation, it is easy to recall those whose names are recorded in the annals of history. However, there are many unsung heroes deserving our recognition and thanks who have namelessly contributed to the strength of the United States of America.

From the days of the first permanent settlement in Jamestown, through the American Revolution, the War of 1812, the American Civil War, both World Wars and most recently Vietnam, men have borne arms to fight the common foe when occasion demanded.

During peace and during war, committed men have maintained the military strength so vital to the strength of the nation. Today we are blessed with peace and are fortunate to celebrate more than 13 years

of draft-free existence. However, we must be prepared to bolster the all volunteer armed forces in the event of a national emergency.

Since Selective Service registration was reinstated in 1980, more than 16 million men have added

their names to the list of those eligible to serve their country in a time of need.

**WILFRED L. EBEL**  
ACTING DIRECTOR  
SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20435

### Auxiliary seeks assistance

**DEAR EDITOR:**

Residents of Jackson Township must realize how important our fire department is to each and every one of us. What you may not realize is how important our Auxiliary is to our fire department. Our main objective is to help our fire department whenever and however they need our help.

Our auxiliary was started back in 1949 and most of our members today are among its original found-

ers. It would be such a shame to see all their hard work and dedication go to waste due to lack of interest.

If you would like to help support our fire department our auxiliary meets the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Jackson Township Fire Hall.

**LOUISE ARNOLD**  
SECRETARY/PR DIRECTOR  
JACKSON TOWNSHIP  
FIRE DEPARTMENT AUX.

## Library news

By **NANCY KOZEMCHAK**  
Library Correspondent

We are here! The month of July and the 40th annual Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction is just around the corner.

On Wednesday, July 9 at 6 p.m. the bell will sound ringing in another auction, this year for the first time on the new auction block in back of the library on Huntsville Road. The carpenters and the painters are busy with last minute details and soon the auction block, the antiques room and the new goods room will be given their first challenge as we get into the 40th annual library auction.

Many new pieces have been added to the lobby of the library from the antiques committee on display in anticipation of the bidding. There is a spinning wheel, a drop leaf table, two marble top tables, an end table and lamp, two leather covered chairs and a side chair. Many of these items will be timed items and a majority of them will go over the block on Saturday night. The committees have worked hard on this auction and are hoping that No. 40 will be the best ever. Get your chairs ready, gather your friends and plan to spend five fun-filled days at one of the exciting events in the Back Mountain summertime!

An exciting update! Paul Deebie just dropped in and gave me a very nice large starfish to put on top of the display case which is showing his seashells. This starfish was found in Florida and adds a nice finishing touch to the seashell collection. This display is attracting a lot of attention by young and old alike, and will be at the library until August 30. If you can't get to the seashore, you can see seashells at the library.

The Children's Room at the library is indeed buzzing with activity these days. The summer reading monopoly game has attracted 221 players so far. This is an exciting way for young people to have fun and keep their interest in reading at the same time. The three story hours for three to five year olds are under way, with a total of 53 children in attendance. A toddler bedtime story hour for two year olds in their pajamas accompanied by a parent is something new and quite a hit on Tuesday evenings. There are 10 children involved in this. Children from the nearby playground and Day Care programs make regular scheduled visits for stories in the Children's Room.

Gate of Heaven, Wyoming Seminary, Lehman and Dallas Schools have given their students summer reading lists. The young patrons are madly scrambling for some of the best books in children's literature. We have started waiting reserve lists for some of the more popular books. The library is the place to visit this summer for fun and education.

(Nancy Kozemchak is the assistant librarian at the Back Mountain Memorial Library. Her column appears weekly in The Dallas Post.)

## State Capitol roundup

By **REP. FRANK COSLETT**  
Special to The Dallas Post

Here is a summary of important events that occurred on Capitol Hill last week from Rep. Frank Coslett, 120th Legislative District.

**EDUCATION FUNDING** - An amendment to the proposed state budget which would remove \$130 million from Philadelphia's public school allocation and distribute it to school districts across the state was introduced by Rep. Stephen Freind (R-Delaware). The measure is needed, Freind said, to restore equity to education funding. He said Philadelphia has been receiving additional funding for the past two years under a special plan designed to provide only temporary assistance. "Unless action is taken to remove the blank check we gave the city for the past two years, Philadelphia will receive \$130 million this year it does not deserve," Freind said. He said his proposal would mean significant subsidy increases to the state's other 500 school districts.

**PUC REFORM** - The House and Senate approved legislation this week to reform and restore the state's Public Utility Commission (PUC). The measure would prevent the PUC from expiring at the end of the year under the sunset law and would institute a number of changes in the agency's operation. Under the bill, terms for PUC commissioners would be reduced from 10 to five years, their salaries would be increased from \$40,000 to \$55,000, and Senate confirmation procedures for commissioners would be changed. It would also authorize the PUC to deny a rate hike request if a utility's service is inadequate and would prohibit a utility from passing along unnecessary advertising costs. The measure has been sent to the governor.

(Rep. Frank Coslett serves the 120th Legislative District which encompasses parts of the Back Mountain area. His column appears weekly in The Dallas Post.)

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