

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Ethics played as just another partisan issue

In an odd coincidence, partisan wrangling over ethics has beset both the United States Congress and the Luzerne County Courthouse simultaneously. In both cases, the current furor, while perhaps overdue, appears to be just another example of petty politics.

We heard the comment recently that nothing is being done in the Congress, since the ethics investigations are consuming all of our representatives time and attention. There are some who would say that's a good thing; that Congress just makes things worse anyway.

In the case of the Courthouse, ethics is simply the petty distraction of the moment, replacing temporarily Frank Trinisewski's change of parties, Jim Phillips' son's job, Frank Crossin's golf game and Corry Stevens' lack of prosecutorial success. It's as if these gentlemen will do anything to avoid leading Luzerne County into the 1990's. (Many would argue that they have yet to get us close to the 80's).

We hope that ethics continues as a concern among voters and potential officeholders. But we want to see evidence of real ethics or violations, presented because the cause is just and the principle right. As of this writing, all we see are opportunistic attacks by politicians who mistakenly think the voters share their fascination with the superficial.

A green start to the summer season

Once again we seem to have slid directly from winter to summer, with little in between except two weeks of rain. Well, that's fine, since we have had such a good start to the this season.

Lawns are lush and green, trees full and flowers blooming, as the Back Mountain takes on the look of a tropical paradise, if only for a while. While we have little enthusiasm for the demands of lawn care, they surely look good when neatly trimmed.

If you get a chance, take a ride to Harveys Lake, Frances Slocum Park or one of the other recreational areas that abound here. It's remarkable how refreshing a few hours of relaxation in the outdoors can be, whether spent enjoying a cool drink while watching the boaters on the lake or hiking a trail.

Get out and enjoy the warmth and beauty while it lasts; before you know it, we'll be watching the leaves fall and waiting for the snow.

Something to sing about

Amid the bad news about declining numbers of songbirds in North America, ornithologists are finding a bright spot. According to *National Wildlife* magazine, more than 20 varieties of songbirds seem to be expanding their ranges in this country. Cardinals, house finches and American robins are among the birds whose home territory is growing. Researchers attribute the songbird spread to the dramatic increase in the number of Americans who put out bird feeders during the winter months.

Courtesy of the National Wildlife Federation.

Letters invited

The Dallas Post encourages readers to share their opinions with the community by writing a letter to the editor. All letters for publication must be signed and include a telephone number so that we may verify authenticity. We will not publish anonymous letters. Send letters to: The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas PA 18612. Letters received by Noon on Monday may be included in that week's issue.

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Report from Harrisburg

Here is a summary of important events that occurred on Capitol Hill recently from Rep. Scott Ditterick, 120th Legislative District.

SMALL GAMES REVISITED - If legislation approved last week becomes law, political organizations would be permitted to conduct small-games-of-chance gambling as a fund-raising source. The House passed the bill just a week after voters in most municipalities across the commonwealth approved small games of chance for fire companies and other non-profit groups. The legislation would expand such gambling to political organizations as well. Supporters of the bill said the extension was only for bonafide organizations. House Republican Leader Matthew J. Ryan said such a law would allow political candidates to fund their campaigns partially with small games gambling. He and others questioned the faithfulness of extending small games after voters had decided the issue.

PRISON REFORM - Three Republican lawmakers this week unveiled a broad-based package of legislation designed to provide a degree of relief to overcrowded prison systems while ensuring that dangerous offenders remain securely behind bars. Reps. Jeffrey E. Piccola (Dauphin) and Lois S. Hagarty (Montgomery) and Sen. D. Michael Fisher (Allegheny) introduced the seven-bill proposal which combines innovative alternative sentencing programs with a plan to construct two 500-bed state prisons.

SEX AND EDUCATION - Legislation that would place tighter controls on the teaching of sex education in schools was introduced this week by Rep. Stephen F. Freind (R-Delaware). The bill would require schools to seek parental permission before instructing students in sex education and make public hearings on the content of the curriculum mandatory. "The parents...have vested interest in the welfare of their children..." Freind said.



This house is strictly for the birds

(Photo by Charlotte Bartzek)

Library news

Wood carvings by John Muller on display in June

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The display case in the office area of the Back Mountain Memorial Library is showing some very interesting wood carvings done by John Muller of Sweet Valley. Mr. Muller believes that no wood is scrap wood, that each can be used for some special carving. Any kind of wood can be used in carving; however, white pine is softer and easier to handle for beginners. He teaches wood carving to people from 8 years to 80 years, at their homes, in classrooms or in group gatherings.

Mr. Muller has taught wood carving to all ages including Cub Scouts and Boy and Girl Scouts. One special item in the display is a five piece section showing the beginning to the finished project in five stages.

Many special animals are shown from the beginning to the finished project; including, Miss Piggy, Mountain Man, puppy dogs, elephants and a deer. There is a two headed donkey, five Indian pieces of white pine, a two faced political piece, donkey and elephant, and Rudy the Hillbilly wearing green jeans.

An intricate item is a chain and four links, all made from one piece of wood. There is a special Hillbilly chess set which took two years to make, working part time on it. A special large Indian carved from cypress knee; a mountain man relaxing and a push-me-pull-e-you.

Included in the display is a carving set with six blades.

Mr. Muller works as a Security Guard at Penn State in his spare time, and enjoys teaching young children and handicapped people to carve. The display will be at the library until June 28.

The library is grateful to the Dallas Federated Woman's Club for their donation of \$500 to be used for the purchase of books. Mary Rice, past president and Martha Reese, past vice president presented the check at the library.

Michael Hoover of Shavertown, who is 9 years old, was our library patron of the week for last week.

Michael checked out 40 books one day to set a record and said he will read all of them. That will be a big boost to our circulation records for that day.

We have a lollipop tray in the office area and we allow the small children to take a lollipop with them as they are leaving the library. A novel turn-about; one day last week John Farkas of Shavertown who is 3 years old came into the library with a bag of lollipops to add to our collection and we thanked him very much. He said he wanted to return a favor to us as a thank you for the lollipops he had enjoyed.

Something new at the auction this year. There will be five spaces on the grounds for rental for displaying or selling merchandise. Call the library for further details.

Return of baseball important to region

By HOWARD J. GROSSMAN

Those of us who revel in the coming of spring and baseball will be doubly enthralled this season with the opening of the Lackawanna County Multi-Purpose Stadium, and the Class AAA Minor League professional baseball franchise—the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Red Barons. The opening game was sounded with 1200 people attending a "welcome the team banquet" at Pittston Convention Hall on April 11, 1989. The next great event was the opening of the stadium for the first home game of the season on April 26, 1989. With over 10,200 fans in attendance, the game represents the return of Minor League Professional Baseball to Northeastern Pennsylvania. Under the inspired leadership of John McGee, a Scranton attorney and accountant, the project has transpired over 11 long years since his first efforts to bring professional baseball back to the region. Through the cooperation of many persons and organizations including government and the private sector, not only has baseball been brought back to the Pocono-Northeast, but a modern baseball stadium, comparable to any minor league stadium in the country has been constructed and is available not only for the 73 home games of the Red Barons, but for other outstanding events

as well. The stadium and the team are assets which represent the future for Northeastern Pennsylvania, only the future is now.

The stadium franchise represents assets which can have economic and quality of life benefits to Northeastern Pennsylvania and others. For a small payment of \$3, \$4, or \$5, fans can attend the game and enjoy a recreational asset which is economical and exciting. The franchise represents an economic asset in terms of income flow to Northeastern Pennsylvania with the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania (EDCNP), having completed an economic impact analysis which determined that the stadium and Class AAA Minor League Professional Baseball Franchise would generate up to \$74,000,000 over 10 years, based upon direct and indirect impacts.

Furthermore, the marketing potential is unlimited. The use of the names, Scranton and Wilkes-Barre, in connection with the Red Barons, will be printed and heard in many different ways for many years to come. This marketing aspect is of inestimable value in terms of promoting Northeastern Pennsylvania. The stadium and franchise can also be marketed by local chambers of commerce and industrial development organizations as they seek to attract new

business and industry to the region.

The franchise has regional value through the cooperation of the Lackawanna and Luzerne County Commissioners who joined together to help acquire the Red Barons as the chief minor league franchise for the Philadelphia Phillies.

Sports has always been big in Northeastern Pennsylvania. With the initiation of the new Red Barons franchise, sports will become even bigger, and the stadium will attract major sporting events which otherwise might be located elsewhere in Pennsylvania. Organizations will have opportunities to hold special nights at the stadium. As other teams play the Red Barons, information flow concerning Northeastern Pennsylvania should be increased, and the stadium and franchise assets should grow.

Beyond the external influences, the stadium location at Montage and the growth corridor which the Montage Area currently represents, is a significant new economic activity area to the region. When those activities already in place are added to those planned, the Montage Area clearly will become, in the 1990's, a major economic player in the regional geography. Baseball enthusiasts and those who just want to have a relaxing,

Only yesterday

50 Years Ago - June 9, 1939
REV. GUY LEINTHALL WEDS MARY FEDOR

Dallas Water Company hopes to reach a flow of 200 gallons a minute in the new well being drilled at the base of Center Hill where Columbia Avenue intersects with Center Hill Road.

Harveys Lake has been chosen for the National Long Distance swimming meets to be held in July.

Federal Housing representatives told civic leaders and business leaders that Dallas is unsurpassed as a place for new home construction as he pointed out the new houses in New Goss Manor as an example.

Wed - Mary Fedor and Rev. Guy Leinthall.

Engaged - Margaret D. Hill and Richard Trout; Eleanor LaBar Machell and William Austin Brickel.

40 Years Ago - June 10, 1949
FIREMAN READY FOR ANNUAL FIELD DAYS

Dallas Township School Board elected Reese E. Pelton of Mill City as English teacher in the senior high school.

Shavertown firemen prepare for the annual field days of the fire company to be held June 22 through June 25 on the fire company lot on Main Road.

Wed - Dorothy Ruth York and Roger McSweeney; Wilma Ickinger and Layton Fish.

Engaged - Mary Vahey and Gerald A. Mulderig.

Private Dario Morgan, former Dallas Twp. student, is now the star catcher and one of the leading hitters on his Company Softball Team in Japan.

Shavertown continued in first place in the Bi-County League by defeating Dallas 5-4 and running their record to 7-0.

30 Years Ago - June 11, 1959
MC CRORY'S COMES TO THE BACK MOUNTAIN

Edward Eyerman announced that McCrory's Variety Store will locate in the Back Mountain Shopping Center.

Fireproofing the stairwells and doors of Shavertown Elementary and the frame building at Dallas Borough will cost the Dallas District, \$12,582.

Lake-Lehman area jointure voted to start a new building program.

Forty eight eighth grade students graduated from Gate of Heaven Sunday.

MacCloskey's art on display

An exhibit of watercolor paintings by well-known Dallas artist June MacCloskey will be on display in the lobby of the United Penn Bank, Main Street, Dallas, throughout the month of June. Depicting a variety of subjects, the exhibit of watercolors includes historical scenes of the Wilkes-Barre square and old Dallas, as well as shore scenes from Maine and Cape Cod.

June MacCloskey has studied painting with Alice Welsh Jenkins, Ann Parkhurst, and Sue Hand as well as studying in art classes and workshops through the Wyoming Valley Art League and College Misericordia. She is a member of the Cider Painters of America, the Art Gallery of College Misericordia, Wyoming Valley Art League, and the Back Mountain Collectors Group.

MacCloskey owned an advertising agency for over 30 years and

Lehman Township firemen are planning the biggest horse show in its history headed by Robert Disque.

Engaged - Shirley Jane Bailey and Kenneth F. Sedler; Patricia Eyet and Arthur Coolbaugh; Mary Lou Elson and Charles Crook.

Sixteen hour rain gives impetus to Back Mountain fruit crops.

20 Years Ago - June 12, 1969
U.S. TREASURER VISITS LEHMAN FIRE COMPANY

Dallas Twp. supervisors will request a light at Hildebrandt Road and Route 309 to ease traffic congestion.

Dorothy A. Elston, Washington, D.C., treasurer of the United States will be a guest of the Lehman Volunteer Fire Company July 3, 4 and 5 at their annual horse show.

Harveys Lake Council urges the adoption of Sunset Beach.

Library Auction co-chairmen Robert Richardson and George McCutcheon began discussing plans for the library auction to be held July 10, 11 and 12.

Wed - Lana Marie Vanchure and Thomas M. Sasper.

New Pennsylvania State Store opened in the Dallas Shopping Center June 12.

Lake Jean temporarily closed for swimming while being treated with a herbicide to control aquatic growth.

Kunkle hosts National Enduro Race.

10 years Ago - June 7, 1979
SKAMMER STRIKES OUT 15 TO BEAT SHAMOKIN

Dallas School District votes to invest nearly \$250 million in building repairs.

Public Utility Commission will hold a public hearing on complaints against the Shavertown Water Company regarding poor water quality, low pressure, periodic lack of water and the recent 23 percent rate increase.

Bill Spurlin, Library Auction chairman, hosted the Kickoff Dinner at the Irem Temple Country Club Friday, June 1.

Wed - Kathleen Anderson and Kenneth Roma; Joan Gallup and Philip Neiman.

Engaged - Michelle Millington and Salvatore Drago; Jane Marstel and Franklin E. Marshall, Patricia Kelly and Joseph Stelma.

Ace pitcher Steve Skammer struck out 15 men to lead the Back Mt. Hawks to a 0-6 win over Shamokin.

served as a consultant for national agencies out of New York and Philadelphia. After her retirement, she began painting in earnest. For the past 50 years, she has traveled to Cape Cod, and these trips provide many ideas for her paintings. She has traveled throughout the United States and says "There is no place like the USA!"

MacCloskey's interest in America and its history shows up in her hobbies as well as her art. She has an extensive collection of miniature rooms, dolls, and a miniature country store. She has exhibited her paintings and collections with the Cider Painters, the Art League, the Plymouth Historical Society and the Dennison House.

The exhibit which will continue through June, may be viewed in the United Penn Bank lobby during regular business hours.

fun time should visit the Lackawanna County Stadium and attend a Red Barons game. The official address and phone number of the Scranton/Lackawanna Red Barons is as follows: Red Barons Tickets, P.O. Box 3449, Scranton, PA 18505 or call (717) 969-2255.

Howard J. Grossman is executive director at the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Colwell class elects officers

The Colwell Class of the Dallas United Methodist Church met at the home of Martha Elston, Kunkle, Rev. Michael Bealla, pastor of the church was speaker. The class donated \$300 to the church.

Officers were elected: President, Emmajean Pittman; vice president, Helen Eggleston; secretary, Harriet Miller; treasurer, Alice Brown. Others present were Shirley Goode, Dorothy Blase, Eleanor Kistler, Bobby Otto, Ruth Rogers, Nan Parry, Martha Reese, Doris Brobst, Alberta Oliver, Louise James, Dorothy White, Helen Coombs, Sylvia Kuhnert, Louise Hess, Doris Carey, Martha Elston.