



TWO ERAS IN ONE - Javers Store at Harveys Lake mixes an old-time atmosphere with modern services like video rentals. (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Harveys Lake stores are 'wrinkle in time'

By **SCOTT A. DAVIS**
Post Staff

Harveys Lake is known for its high-tech boats, state-of-the-art pizza place, scuba school and many other modern facilities. But in the middle of all the modernization, there remains a small wrinkle in time.

As a driver passes the white church at the Alderson section of the lake, a small market catches the eye. A long, wooden bench set out on a porch in front of the market is the first indication that your purchase won't be checked out on computerized scanners. A small sign hangs overhead, "Javers Store".

As the bench pulls the viewer back to a quiet, more peaceful time, another sign forces him back to the 1980's. The sign reads, "Video Movies".

Javers Store was opened back in 1937. Not much information was available on the past history of the store until 1973, when Bill and Shirley Javer took over the store from Bill's father.

Today, the store sells fishing items, candy, movie videos and "a little bit of everything." Bill said while tending to the ice machine placed outside. This year is the first year the market is selling t-shirts.

"We get a combination of customers," Bill said while crushing the ice. "In the winter, we mostly have people from Harveys Lake,

but the summer brings people from the cottages and campgrounds."

87-year-old Leslie Dalinski said she has been a customer for more than 30 years. "I remember when my husband and I would come down here and just sit on the bench," she recalled. Her husband died in 1978. "Nowadays, I do not come down here so much. The bench hurts my back. I guess I am getting up in age," she said with a giggle.

Leslie's eyes gleamed as she spoke of the horses and carriages that would come to the store in what she called "the old days." She told of the kids, now grown and moved away, running down to the store to buy candy with the pennies they would find lying on the road. "If only we could go back. Things were so much simpler then," she said. "Not really easier, just simpler."

When leaving Javers, a little bit of the customer seems to stay in the past, and a little bit of the past seems to stay with the customer.

As Old Sandy Bottom Beach comes up on the left, another reminder of simpler days stands on the left. Small steps lead up into a brown, square building. The only indication of what is inside comes from a sign hanging over the steps reading, "Taft Market".

While walking up the steps, nothing seems out of time. But just inside the door, a small sound again pushes the mind back to an

earlier age. A tiny bell attached to the door rings lightly, almost as if to alert time that an adventurer has arrived.

The foyer contains a newspaper stand. Looking at it, a reader might expect to find the headlines, "Ford's Horseless Carriage Works", rather than "American Hostages fate unclear."

Inside, a gray-haired lady welcomes customers with a smile. Although she was hired as a clerk, she seems also to be the store's historian. She said the store has been open for over 100 years, recalling the original owner as I. A. Rood. "Then came Arley Harin, Bill Purcell, and now the owners are Taft and Margaret Truska," she said while selling a newspaper.

She recalled a fire three years ago that ruined the inside of the store. "The interior was gutted," she said, "and they (Taft and Margaret) redid it."

The store sells comic books, candy, dairy, kites, deli, medicine, ice, and many other items.

As at Javers Market, Taft's customers are seasonal. The winter brings along the Harveys Lake residents, and the summer brings in "more transient trade," as the clerk/historian puts it.

The clerk did not want her name printed, but some time stop in and say "hello." It is refreshing to have a clerk yell after you when you leave, "Have a nice day"... and mean it.

Water commission meets without a quorum

By **CHARLOT M. DENMON**
Staff Writer

Members of the Back Mountain Water Commission discussed the recommendation made by secretary John Molski, that the commission appoint standing committees to work with the Commission, at the meeting held Thursday, August 3, at the Kingston Township Municipal Building.

Those members attending agreed that it would be a good idea to appoint finance, technical, regulations, and public relations committees to work with the commission members. Since the majority of the members are employed during the day, it was thought that involving more individuals from within the municipalities would hasten the work that needs to be

achieved in resolving the water problems in the Back Mountain.

The committees will be discussed in detail and a decision made at the next meeting of the commission which will be held at a time to be announced.

Chairman James Ward reported that Kingston Township manager Jeff Box had received a reply to his letter concerning boil advisory from National Utilities. The letter stated that the company understood the township's concern about boil advisories, but the Department of Environmental Resources does not stipulate that a call to the township office be made.

The company officials said the company is not comfortable in providing notice to a third party but will notify customers only in the future through the media and

a news item in the local daily paper.

Ward also said that it had been mentioned in a letter to the governor that a booster pump was not installed, but Ward stated this was in error since the Dallas-Shaver-town Water Company had installed a booster pump.

Commissioner Joseph Grimes reported that a Harveys Lake resident had told him that wells in the area of Our Lady of Victory Church had been contaminated by sewage and that tests done of the Our Lady of Victory Church's well water showed that it was heavily contaminated and unfit for consumption. The commission discussed contacting someone to follow through on the report.

No specific vote could be taken due to lack of a quorum.



Knights of Columbus hold pancake breakfast

The Knights of Columbus featured a pancake breakfast at Our Lady of Victory Church at Harveys Lake Sunday. Pictured from left are kitchen helpers John Podgurski, Dave Abod, Harry Beck, Len Perkowski, and Frank Waitkus. (Photo by Scott A. Davis)



HL Lions Club hold chicken barbecue

The Harveys Lake Lions Club featured a chicken barbecue Sunday afternoon at Old Sandy Bottom Beach. Pictured here is Bill Megargel (left) and Bill Wilson (right) serving chicken orders to go. (Photo by Scott A. Davis)

Lights

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Miers added that maintaining traffic lights is costly. "For example, the traffic light control box near Kern Brothers has been knocked out a lot. I do not know how much that costs the municipality," he said.

Miers suggested three intersections that he feels need traffic lights: Center Hill Rd and Rt. 415, Rt. 118 and Rt. 415, and Main Street near Mark II.

To install these or any traffic light, the state must first do a Traffic Engineering Study. This involves studying the volume of traffic and the number of accidents at the intersection, according to Miers. The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) is responsible for doing the study. "The study must be made at the municipality's request," Miers said.

"Common sense tells you that they need lights at these three places," Miers said. "If these studies were done, I know it would show a need for the lights. Everyone in the area is aware of the accidents at these intersections."

Miers explained that if a study shows the need for a traffic light, the state will give the municipality a certain time period to install the lights. All cost of installation must be paid by the municipality.

Miers used the Mark II intersection as an example of the problem with the present process. "The estimated cost for a light at Mark II is \$80,000. The municipality must come up with the money. To do this, they must raise taxes and no one wants to see that," Miers said.

On the other hand, Miers explained, if the study indicates a need for a light and the municipality fails to provide one, the municipality is then open to a lawsuit from any accidents at that intersection. "It is a catch-22 situation until the municipality gets the funds," he

said.

In fact, one such study was done on the Mark II intersection during the summer of 1986. The study was requested by the Offset Paper-pack manufacturing plant located at the intersection.

The study showed that there was not enough risk of danger at the intersection to warrant a traffic light, according to Plant Vice-President Ian Richardson. "The study had to show a ridiculous number of rear-end collisions at the intersection," Richardson said. According to him, the state requires the study show five rear-end collisions each year for three consecutive years.

Richardson recalled asking PennDOT, "What do you need, somebody to get killed before you need a traffic light?"

After a complex series of meetings over two years dealing with Offset, PennDOT, Dallas Township, Dallas Borough, Kingston Township, and State Senator Charles Lemmond, Offset developed a plan to pay to have the lights installed

as a right-of-way for plant employees. "The state came out and said 'If you want a light, Offset, you pay for it.'"

Dallas Township offered to budget \$30,000 toward the lights in 1988. Offset offered to pay \$20,000 to \$25,000. Dallas Borough was having financial problems and could not budget the need \$5,000. "If we could have gotten \$5,000 from other businesses, we may have done it," Richardson said. "But now, we would have to start back at the beginning."

Although Offset offered to pay some of the cost, Richardson said he was dismayed that they would have to. "The state can put \$36 million toward the Cross-Valley Expressway, but cannot offer \$85,000 for a light to make the highway safer?" he asked.

"It is ludicrous to bring in industry but not supply roads for them. We have been here since 1969," Richardson said. "After paying all those taxes," the state would not install a needed light.

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