

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Revamp state's entire beverage sales system

It's time Pennsylvania got out of the business of selling liquor and wine, and completely revamped the way in which alcoholic beverages of all types are sold.

Two Senators have suggested selling existing state liquor stores to private businesses as the way to begin the process. Then, they would allow an as yet unspecified number of food stores to sell wine and finally take the state out of the wholesale liquor trade.

We would go much farther. In addition to selling existing stores, the state should allow municipalities to decide if they want additional liquor stores to open within their borders. That would eliminate the inconvenience and wastefulness that are now forced on those who must travel dozens of miles to buy a bottle of wine. The greater number of stores and absence of price controls, would also mean better value for consumers.

While they're at it, Pennsylvania's legislators should address the nonsensical way in which beer is sold in the state. The present system of case stores and carry-out restaurant licenses is perhaps the most inconvenient in the nation. The most logical system is to sell beer and wine in supermarkets and smaller stores that can provide adequate supervision, as well as in liquor stores. Sale hours can still be regulated if that is thought necessary.

Opponents of privatizing liquor sales raise the spectre of greater alcohol abuse because of easier access. But the prevalence of abuse in Pennsylvania under the existing system belies its effectiveness. Easy access isn't the problem; underlying societal attitudes are.

In defending the status quo, Governor Casey says that a control system is the best public policy. That may be so, but no one believes the Liquor Control Board adequately controls much, least of all the stores' response to public needs.

The measure's proponents think the state will gain windfall revenues from sale of the stores, and will make more money from tax collections in the future. That may or may not be true. What is beyond doubt is that Pennsylvania's present liquor control system punishes consumers for no good reason.

Girl Scouts help make world a better place

As the latest international conflict—which fortunately did not escalate into something larger—ends, it becomes more clear that if America is to become the kinder, gentler nation promised by the President when he was a candidate, the impetus must come from the people. One institution that helps Americans become not only kind and helpful but resourceful and strong is celebrating its 79th anniversary this year. We may never have needed it more.

The Girl Scouts of America was founded on March 12, 1912 by a remarkable woman named Juliette Low. She decided that the girls of America needed an organization in which they could learn skills, develop self esteem and have a good time doing it. Begun with only 18 members, the Girl Scouts has grown into the largest voluntary organization for girls in the world, with more than 3 million girls and adults participating.

Over the years, Girl Scouting has been able to maintain enduring values while adapting to modern lifestyles. Today's Girl Scouts are as up-to-date as tomorrow, conducting activities that include sending packages to soldiers in Saudi Arabia and working on projects that encourage literacy as part of the Girl Scout "Right to Read" project. Members will also plant trees in their neighborhoods as part of the "Forever Green" environmental project.

When Juliette Low founded the Girl Scouts, she did not anticipate the world of the and its problems of drug abuse, threats to the environment and racial strife. But the values and standards she set are timeless while the Girl Scout program is continually responsive to the changing needs of girls. Girl Scouting offers a way for America's girls and young women to meet the complex challenges that face them as they move toward the 21st century.

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 their 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.

Anderson afield

Pesticides, gasses have deadly effect on bird populations

By JOHN M. ANDERSON

Time was when you could not drive from this town to the next without seeing chickens. They scratched up weed seeds, caught insects and worms, and generally added a little life to the landscape. You can now drive from one state to another and hardly see a live chicken.

Chickens are caught up in the world of business. They are kept in a controlled environment, and looked upon as machines with feathers, that crank out eggs and supply packages of meat wrapped in cellophane. Admittedly, the human race has fed upon eggs and flesh of birds for millions of years; albeit the eggs didn't come in cartons, nor the flesh in cellophane.

Today, thanks to the ancient human weakness of pitting human against human, our prize white leghorns make the front page of the big dailies. We see Corporal Cornejo of Long Island, NY, stationed in Saudi Arabia, petting a chicken being used as an early

warning signal of a coming attack. The caption says, "Chickens are supposed to feel the effects of gas before people."

George Reiger, owner of a 200-acre farm on Virginia's Eastern Shore, maintains a battery of nesting boxes for tree swallows. Last spring he found one or two dead swallows in every box. He assumed some mysterious disease had killed his swallows, plus all the purple martins in his neighbor's yard. The neighbor sent his dead martins to Richmond for testing. Autopsies revealed that the martins had died of parathion, one of the "safe" insecticides. Parathion had been applied to an adjacent wheat field.

Purple martins and swallows feed almost entirely on flying insects. Hummingbirds must add a few insects to their nectar diet to get their protein. The loggerhead shrike, another insect-eater, is mysteriously declining in all parts of its range. The list of endangered species runs into the hundreds.



Hay, good lookin'

(Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Library news

Library notes 6 years in new building

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Back Mountain Memorial Library celebrated six years in the new library building on Monday, March 4.

The six years we have spent in this building have been so pleasant and the enthusiasm of our borrowers shows in their continued use and support of our library.

The Book Club of the library will meet on Monday, March 18 at 1:30 in the reference room of the library. Florence Crump will preside at the short business meeting after which a social hour will follow.

An interesting program will be presented and book reviews will be presented by members. All interested residents of the Back Mountain area are invited to attend the meeting. Guests are always welcome.

National VolunteerWeek will be celebrated in 1991 during the week of April 21 to 27. The Back Mountain Memorial Library is ever grate-

ful to all the wonderful volunteer people who come to the library regularly to help with the on-going projects necessary to maintain a well-running library.

Our volunteers do many different things, from shelving books, alphabetizing book cards from previous day circulation, checking books out for patrons at the front desk and helping with reference questions.

One of our new volunteers is Elda Oleson, who comes in two mornings a week to shelve books. Other regular volunteers include: Cleo Eneboe, Andrea Sordoni, Agnes Buchko, Shirley Forney, Virginia Davis, Nell Transue, Betty Gregson, Thelma Russ, Mary Thom, Noel Thomas, Jean Warneka and Ed Transue.

The library staff is very appreciative of all our volunteers because their dedication to their projects leaves the staff free to proceed with library policies.

New books at the library: "The Best of Ideals" is a collection of the

best poetry, photography, artwork, essays, recipes, and crafts from pages of previous Ideals magazines.

The book includes the best of Valentine, Easter, Mother's Day, Country, Home, Friendship, Thanksgiving and Christmas. The closing poem in the book quotes, "There are quiet hours and lonely hours, and hours that have no end; But the wonderful hour is the evening hour, when you walk beside a friend." This book was given to the library by Nancy Kozemchak in memory of Ida S. Hughes.

"The New York Public Library Desk Reference" is the ultimate one-volume collection of the most frequently sought information. It is an astonishing fountain of information, a researcher's dream, and a browser's delight. The book puts the best resources of one of the world's finest libraries at your fingertips. This book was given to the library by Harriet H. Ruggles in memory of Dorothy Roberts.

Only yesterday

60 Years Ago - Mar. 20, 1931
DALLAS SENIORS
PRESENT ORATIONS

Dallas girls team has chance to win championship if they defeat Beaumont tonight.

Dallas High School seniors as a part of their credits toward graduation in June are giving their senior orations each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the chapel services.

'Scandal Sheet' starring George Bancroft will be shown at Himmeler Theatre Friday and Saturday.

Wed - Catherine Lois Hofmeister and James Gansel.

William Fine, formerly editor of The Dallas Post, is now editor of the National Courier Publishing Company with main offices in New York City.

50 Years Ago - Mar. 21, 1941
AREA BAND MEMBERS
PLAY AT FESTIVAL

Dallas Borough School Board studies its preliminary budget for 1941.

A force of 21 WPA workers will begin work Tuesday on a \$34,888 borough-wide street repair project.

Rotary Club members heard Leo Jones, representative of the Luzerne County Taxpayers Association speak at its dinner meeting last week at Irem Temple Country Club.

Nancy Parks, Ted Parks and Betty Naugle of Lehman High School were among the 138 band members chosen to take part in the annual musical festival in Bloomsburg High School Saturday.

Engaged - Gloria Chance and William Deisenroth; June Chance and Keith Wolfe.

Wed - Abbie Van Buskirk and John Carr; Helen Holmes and Earl Vivian.

40 Years Ago - Mar. 16, 1951
CABBAGE PRICES
SOAR AFTER FREEZE

Local grocers say high cabbage prices are due to Florida freeze.

Back Mountain Little League has had the green light from Kingston Township School Board to use the Shavertown School playground for its official home ground and diamond of the teams of Carverton, Fernbrook, Jackson, Shavertown, Trucksville and Dallas Borough.

Engaged - Mary Verbetich and Frank Kozak.

Kingston Township takes championship defeating Harter 57-48.

30 Years Ago - Mar. 16, 1961
SHOPPING CENTER
TO OPEN IN JUNE

Dallas Shopping Center expects to open June 1 with the completion of the beautiful A&P building.

The explosion Monday afternoon of the Schuyler Manufacturing Company in Luzerne was felt throughout the Back Mountain.

Representatives of the Fish and Game Commission will attend the covered dish dinner of the Harveys Lake Rod and Gun Club, March 20, at the Kunkle Community Hall.

There are complete Republican and Democrat tickets in all Back Mountain communities but one promises and exciting election this year.

Engaged - Betty Doran and Donald Lee Bell; Jannette Eleanor Veety and Russell Hons.

Wed - Ruth Phillips and Daniel Federici.

Charles Gosart expands his parking lot at his store on Memorial Highway, Dallas.

20 Years Ago - Mar. 18, 1971
ZONING MEETING
ENDS IN SHOUTS

The first public meeting of the Harveys Lake Zoning Board Monday night dissolved into a shouting match and ended with a sharp rap of the chairman's gavel 40 minutes after it began.

Construction begins on the Dallas area sewers.

Dr. Brokenshire proposed ungraded classes for area schools.

Strong opposition was voiced Monday night by several residents of West Center Road against a proposed variance in a zoning law, sought by Michael Stahl, Jr. to open a recording studio in his home.

Candidates declare as filing deadline passes.

Dallas ends long season as they lose 95-62 to Riverside.

Kim Davis of Dallas wins swimming event in the Junior Olympics.

The Dallas Post

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