

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Fire company spat
musn't hurt coverage

Perhaps no public service is more important than the fire department in an area like the Back Mountain. With its patchwork of small communities, the region has no paid fire company, but relies on dedicated volunteers who risk their own health and safety to save their neighbors homes when a fire strikes. Like all professionals, firefighters take great pride in their training and their performance. Sometimes, as recently in Harveys Lake, that pride and a natural human competitive instinct spills over into controversy.

Harveys Lake has the benefit of two separate fire companies that cover the town. The D.C. Roberts Fire Company is located near Hanson's park on the northern side of the lake. Almost exactly opposite, but just over the line in the Idetown section of Lehman Township, sits the J.R. Davis Fire Company. In July, the Harveys Lake Borough Council voted to recognize J.R. Davis, so that the company could be called when a fire occurred. Not exclusively, mind you, but in concert with D.C. Roberts, though perhaps first if the fire is in the southern section of the borough.

That action has raised concerns among members of the Roberts company, who have told the council that calling two departments may result in confusion and a safety hazard as each tries to outdo the other in responding to a call. Roberts' chief Frank Latinski also worries that funding could be diluted between the two companies. As for calling out Davis, he says that's already done.

It's possible to understand Mr. Latinski's concerns without agreeing with them. That seems to be the approach taken by council president Richard Boice, who asked, "Can we have too much fire protection?" Probably not, especially if you live at the southern end of Harveys Lake Borough, six miles from the Roberts fire house over twisty, narrow Lakeside Drive.

In the end, professionalism must triumph over lesser matters, as surely it will. That will be to the ultimate benefit of the entire Harveys Lake community.

On Literacy Day, ask
why we need one

It seems there's a day or week or month to celebrate just about anything these days, but one that's coming up is too important to miss. September 8 has been designated International Literacy Day, to recognize the volunteers who devote spare time to coaching people who want to learn to read. It's also a day to lament that they are so sorely needed in America 500 years after Columbus.

Reading is such a fundamental skill that it's easy for most people to take it for granted. After all, haven't we been doing it since first grade? Unfortunately, not everyone has been, and the number of our fellow citizens who haven't is growing every day. Literacy volunteers fight this scourge one-on-one, teaching both non-readers and those who speak their native language but not English.

This year, we must use this day not only as a beacon to attract more volunteers, but to rededicate our society and schools to the goal of turning out graduates who are competent and literate in every important way. If we don't, the foundation of our nation will crumble beneath us.

School's in, drive safely

School's in and that means it's time for motorists to be extra careful.

Don't let a moment's carelessness spawn a tragedy. If you are driving, keep a sharp eye out for youngsters getting on or off buses, or just walking home. And don't forget — cars heading in both directions must stop for a standing school bus. Parents can help by teaching safety rules along with other preparations for school.

Not all accidents are avoidable, but if a little extra care prevents just one, it will be worth the effort. Be alert, and be careful.

Do you agree? Disagree?

Editorials are the opinion of the management of The Dallas Post. We welcome your opinion on contemporary issues in the form of letters to the editor. If you don't write, the community may never hear a contrasting point of view. Send letters to: The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas, PA 18612. Please include your name, address and a daytime phone number so that we may verify authenticity. We do not publish anonymous letters, but will consider withholding the name in exceptional circumstances. We reserve the right to edit for length and grammar.

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Social notes

- Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Elston of Fort Lauderdale, Florida recently visited their aunt Mrs. Ruby Elston and cousin Harold Elston of Harveys Lake.
- Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dwyer of Clearwater, Fla., returned after visiting their cousin Mrs. Nettie Myers, Huntsville and other relatives in the area.
- Michael Sutrynowicz, Glenside, spent a weekend with his grandmother, Mrs. Helen Franklin, Jackson Township.



It's almost fair time

Photo by Ron Bartizek

Letters

Urges District Attorney to move quickly with HL audit

Editor:
According to the local news media, the District Attorney has made certain allegations concerning public accounts and public officials in Harveys Lake Borough.

This information came as a shock to the residents and officials of our community, the publicity has cast a blight on the Borough and a stigma on its elected and appointed officials.

The District Attorney made it

known that he has had contact with a representative of the Auditor General's Office and was arranging an audit of the Borough's accounts.

This is an excellent idea and the logical way to proceed.

The only way that this matter can be resolved is with the audit that the District Attorney has promised, an audit will either absolve all officials from any wrong

doing or else point out those officials who are culpable.

To this date the promised audit has not taken place. The District Attorney should not make comments concerning accounts and officials of any community without following through with the appropriate action. All public servants are accountable for their actions especially the District Attorney.

If the District Attorney does not follow through with an audit, the

blight remains on Harveys Lake Borough.

This would be an intolerable situation; the District Attorney should arrange a state conducted audit as soon as possible.

Peter Paul Olszewski, please do your job.

Bill Mann
Member of the
General Municipal
Authority of Harveys Lake

A. Case for Conservation

Sometimes the best authors are 'Anonymous'

By ALENE N. CASE

Green rushes with red shoots
Long leaves bending to the wind

You and I in the same boat
Plucking rushes at the Five
Lakes.

We started at dawn from the
orchid-island:

We rested under the elms till
noon.

You and I plucking rushes
Had not plucked a handful when
night came!

Thus an unnamed Chinese poet
from the fourth century A.D.
speaks to us in an entirely differ-
ent time and place.

We all have our favorite writers
and composers. But, I have come
to realize that some of the best
literature and music is of the

"authorship uncertain" variety. The
most obvious examples are the
proverbs and psalms of the Bible
about which theological scholars
write entire treatises. Then there
are the writings of one William
Shakespeare - or are they really?
None of the spirituals which are
so beloved by Americans have
specific authors. I have an entire
book of lullabies which gives words
and music for songs from all around
the world. Not one of them has a
composer or librettist! One mar-
velous line from a lullaby goes like
this: "The flowers are so sleepy
that their heads sway right and
left." All we know is that this song
comes from Hungary. What more
do we need to know?

One of the beauties of anony-
mous writings is that everyone can
enjoy them. They can be widely
quoted, sung, and modified be-

cause the restrictive copywrite
rules do not apply. Sometimes I
wonder if it is such a good idea to
put a by-line on everything one
writes. If an author really wants to
get the word to as many people as
possible, perhaps "author un-
known" would serve the purpose
best.

Consider the truth and beauty
of the following anonymous essay
that came in a recent mailing from
one of my favorite charitable/envi-
ronmental organizations:

If the earth were only a few feet
in diameter and floating a few feet
above a field somewhere, people
would come from everywhere to
marvel at it. People would walk
around it marveling at its big pools
of water, its little pools and the
water flowing between the pools.
People would marvel at the bumps
on it, and the holes in it, and they

would marvel at the very thin layer
of gas surrounding it and the water
suspended in the gas.

The people would marvel at all
the creatures around the surface
of the ball and at the creatures in
the water. The people would de-
clare it as sacred because it was
the only one of its kind, and they
would protect it so it would not be
hurt. The ball would be the great-
est wonder known, and the people
would come to pray to it, to be
healed by it, to gain knowledge of
beauty and to wonder how it could
be.

People would love it, and would
defend it with their lives, because
they would somehow know that
their lives, their own roundness
could be nothing without it.

If the Earth were only a few feet
in diameter.

Only Yesterday

60 Years Ago - Sept. 2, 1932
**BARN ON PIONEER AVE.
DESTROYED BY FIRE**

Effective September 1, mail will
leave Dallas about 11:30 a.m.
instead of 2 p.m. This will make it
possible to receive all first class
mail at Wilkes-Barre and nearby
towns for the afternoon delivery,
according to Mrs. Ruth Waters,
postmaster.

The old hotel barn, sheds and
ice house on the property adjoining
Kuehn's drug store, recently
purchased by Ira Cooke from rep-
resentatives handling the affairs of
the closed Dime Bank of Wilkes-
Barre has been torn down and the
grounds cleared for new building.

A fire of undetermined origin
totally destroyed a barn on the
property of the St. Nicholas Ceme-
tery Assn. on Pioneer Avenue,
Sunday afternoon. Mr. Metzgar,
caretaker at the cemetery, managed
to save all livestock in the barn.

50 years - Sept. 4, 1942
**TWO BOYS SAVED
FROM DROWNING
AT HARVEYS LAKE**

The lives of two youngsters were
saved when Leo George, 17-year
old kitchen boy at Lakeside Inn,

rescued them from drowning.
When the first youngster called for
help, his companion went in after
him but was clutched and dragged
to the bottom by the desperate
swimmer. George jumped off the
dock and broke the strangle hold
one of the children had on the
other.

The first Back Mountain physi-
cian to enter military service is Dr.
Charles A. Perkins of Trucksville,
who has been commissioned a 1st
Lieutenant in the U.S. Medical
Corps. Dr. Perkins will leave Labor
Day for several weeks of intensive
study and training at Carlisle
Barracks.

Fred M. Kiefer, Shrine View and
F. Gordon Mathers, Trucksville
were appointed as members of a
three man rationing board to serve
the Dallas area was approved this
week by the District office of the
O.P.A. in Philadelphia.

40 Years Ago - Sept. 5, 1952
**THE REV. WILLIAM
MCCLELLAND JR.
NAMED PRINCE OF
PEACE RECTOR**

Kindergarten children whose
parents reside outside limits of
Dallas Borough-Kingston Town-
ship School District will be charged
\$10 per month, payable in ad-

vance according to action taken at
Friday night's Joint School Board
meeting.

The Rev. William McClelland Jr.
will succeed the Rev. William R.
Williams as Rector of Prince of
Peace Episcopal Church, Dallas.
Rev. William will be Director of
Christian Education for the Dio-
cese of Rochester.

Dallas 5-10-\$1 Store changed
hands Aug. 31 when ownership
passed from Eugene Sick to his
cousin James Sick. Redesigning of
the Dallas store was planned by
Eugene and materials were pro-
cured. Work started on the project
Sept. 2.

30 Years Ago - Sept. 6, 1962
**J.R. DAVIS FIREMEN'S
FESTIVAL A SUCCESS**

Despite inclement weather,
Jonathan R. Davis Firemen's Festi-
val, Idetown, was a smashing
success. Although actual results
will not be known until this week-
end. It has been estimated that
two times as much money was
raised this year as last.

The last distribution of surplus
food in the Back Mountain will be
made September 13 at Trucksville
Fire Hall serving the entire area. In
October, the Federal Food Stamp
plan will go into effect in Luzerne

County. Eligible recipients will be
given instructions.

King For a Day on CBS last
Thursday gave viewers in the Back
Mountain a big thrill when Warren
Johnson rural mail carrier at
Harveys Lake, appeared on the
program.

20 Years Ago - Sept. 7, 1972
**ALL VOTERS MUST
RE-REGISTER BECAUSE
OF THE AGNES FLOOD**

Tallied proceeds from the gate of
the Lehman Horse Show postponed
from July 4 and held September 1,
2 and 3 showed that the gate ex-
ceeded that of July 4th a year ago.

All voters who were registered
before the flood must re-register
and vote in the district in which
they resided before the raging flood
waters destroyed all of the county's
voter records, Luzerne County
election officials said this week.

Wilkes College radio station
WCLH-FM 90 returned to the air
September 4, following a brief
period of suspended broadcasting
necessitated by the record flood-
ing of the Susquehanna River.
Continuous coverage of flood re-
lated news and meetings will be
part of the regular schedule.