

The Dallas Post

EDITORIALS

Eagle Scouts embody youthful achievement

Boy Scout Troop 232 held a remarkable ceremony last Sunday, when five troop members were awarded the rank of Eagle Scout. It's news when one young man reaches this goal; five Eagles in one year is a tremendous accomplishment, and the Scouts, their families and their leaders can be justifiably proud of the mark they have set.

Douglas Roberts, Bradford Kozick, Benjamin Stravinski, Thomas Keating, and Adam Hoover had to meet the high standards set for Eagle Scouts, which takes at least three years and a variety of achievements. The final — and perhaps most important — qualifier is completion of a project that benefits people other than the Scout. That is fitting, as Eagle Scouts have an inordinate propensity to gain positions of authority and importance later in life.

We hear often about the failures of youth in our time; by their example, these young persons show such comments to be exaggerated. Congratulations to them, their families and their fellow Scouts.

Good luck to Dallas High cheerleaders

Once again, the Dallas High School cheerleaders will head to Orlando, Florida to compete in the National High School Cheerleading championships, the Super Bowl of cheerleading. Coach Sheila Bonawitz will lead her young squad, which includes only one senior, in competition with teams from throughout the nation.

This team already has demonstrated its mettle, having won the Eastern Regional Championship to qualify for the national meet, which will be held February 18-23. Now they face an additional challenge — raising their own money to pay for the trip, which costs \$613 for each member. In the next few weeks, they will be holding fundraisers and seeking donations with which to pay the fee.

We're sure these young women will overcome this obstacle and then put forth a fine effort in Florida. And we wish them the best of luck along the way.

Time for Mr. Clinton to make tough calls

William Jefferson Clinton was elected President of the United States of America primarily because he promised change — change from the established order of political chicanery, change from the disdainful approach the White House had taken to ordinary folks, and change from the cycle of promised fiscal responsibility followed by announcements of ever-growing deficits. Now that the campaign is over, reality must replace theory, backbone must push aside desire if this nation is to regain its financial balance.

America has been careening down a dangerous road for the past 20 years, and the majority of citizens know it. Their reaction may vary from speculators who seek personal gain in the midst of national ruin to families who trust their leaders to get us out of the mess. But deep inside they all understand that firm action taken now can avert drastic measures in the future.

It is frequently written that Bill Clinton doesn't like to disappoint people who expect his help. Perhaps that's akin to the feeling most parents have about their children, wishing that they didn't have to learn life's lessons the hard way. But good parents and good leaders know that shielding their charges from the truth only makes their eventual discovery more painful. The best of each cushion hard reality with affection and faith in the future, demonstrating how discipline and effort pay big dividends.

If the American people have behaved a bit like children the last decade or so, buying toys and expecting someone else to pay the bill, our leaders have played the part of indulgent parents afraid to tell the truth about the nation's financial state. Along the way, the government itself has become hopelessly bloated and inefficient as political agendas have replaced national benefit at the top of bureaucrats' in-boxes.

Bill Clinton has a big job ahead, and if he does what's right he'll say no to a lot of people. But many more will support a President who tells us the truth about our nation's present-day health and the prognosis for the future. The American people are a lot smarter and tougher than they're given credit for, and they'll pay more or take less if the choices are presented clearly and honestly.

Would you like to write a column?

The Dallas Post attempts to publish a wide range of opinion and information. We welcome material from local authors with expertise in or an opinion about a particular issue. If you would like to submit an item for publication, send it to The Dallas Post at P.O. Box 366, Dallas PA 18612, or drop it off at our office at 45 Main Road, Dallas Township (across from Offset Paperback). Be sure to include an address and phone number where you can be reached. If you want the material back, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Only Yesterday

60 Years Ago - Jan. 20, 1933 PHEASANTS RELEASED AT COUNTRY CLUB

At a special meeting of Dallas Borough School Board, Monday, Homer E. Nelson, of Chochochron, Crawford County, was elected from a list of 50 applicants for the position on the school faculty left vacant by the resignation of Donald Wormsley.

A party of local sportsmen including John Yaple, Warden Kunkle and Clifford Ide released 13 Reeves pheasants in the neighborhood of Irem Temple Country Club. Although only 22 of the birds were received in the county, Dallas Club United Sportsmen received 13 of them through the cooperation of Games Protector Harry Miess.

You could get - Gold Seal eggs, 32¢ doz.; Louella Butter, 2 lbs., 55¢; Pure Vanilla Extract, 15¢ bottle; Apricots, 2 lbs., 25¢.

50 Years Ago - Jan. 15, 1943 NO NEW TAXES FOR DALLAS BOROUGH

A tentative budget based on the same millage as last year but carrying provisions for increases, in salary of the Chief of Police, Superintendent of Roads and Borough Council will be presented to Dallas Borough Council for adoption Friday night by the Finance Committee.

Majority of the selectees who will make up the quota of 114 men to be called for induction into the Army in February by Draft Board #1, of Wyoming will be from the 18-20 age group according to Joseph MacVeigh, chairman of the board.

Cheered by an OPA ruling that permits basketball teams to be transported in private autos of paid employees of the school district, teams of the Back Mountain Basketball League will play tonight, Lehman at Kingston Township; Dallas Borough at Dallas Township; and Harter at Laketon. "Little Tokyo U.S.A." starring Preston Foster now playing at Shaver Theatre.

40 Years Ago - Jan. 16, 1953 VALENTINE APPOINTED TO D.A.'S OFFICE

More contributions are needed for Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire Company's new American La France fire truck scheduled for delivery in February. Harold Smith, drive chairman states that many of the solid citizenry have pledged but haven't come forward with the cash, though the date for payment is now overdue.

Atty. Jonathan Valentine, Truckville, has been appointed Assistant District Attorney by Louis G. Feldman succeeding Atty. Joseph Saporito. He will take office February 1. Valentine is the third member of his family to serve in the prosecutor's office.

After rolling along to four straight victories, St. Therese's was finally knocked off its lofty perch by Shavertown Methodist 54-52 in one of the best games of the season in the Back Mountain Church League.

30 Years Ago - Jan. 17, 1963 GRAL POLIO VACCINE DISTRIBUTED

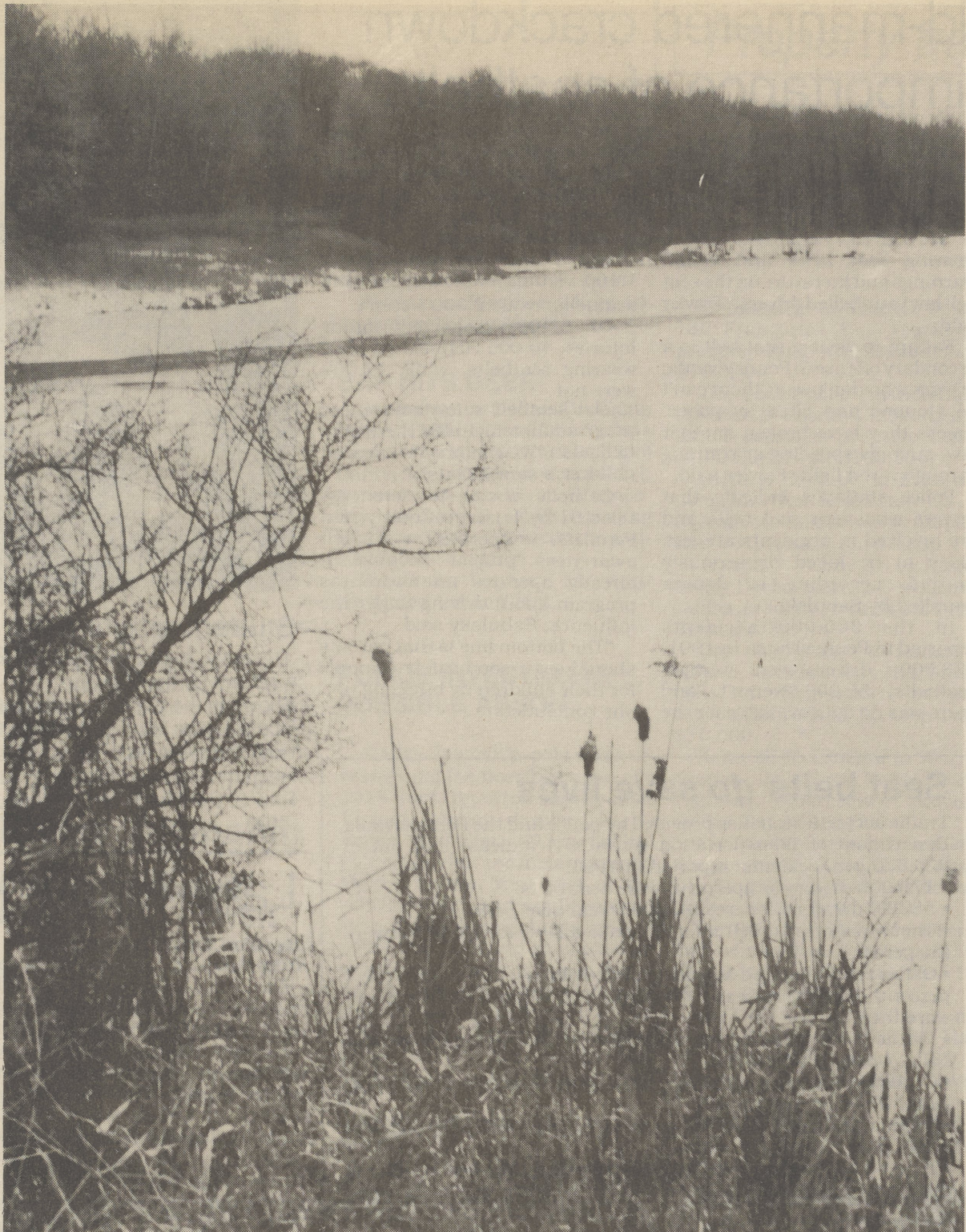
Dr. Lester E. Jordan, sparkplug for Rotary Student Exchange announced that two Dallas Area students Charlotte Roberts and Pauline Farrar have been selected for placement to spend one year in a foreign county living in Rotary homes and attending local schools.

"Sabin Sunday" polio vaccine distribution gained popular support in Noxen, Centermoreland and Beaumont areas. The three centers which serviced all of southern Wyoming County distributed Type II Vaccine to 247 more than the 1st effort November 11.

20 Years Ago - Jan. 18, 1973 ELDERLY TO GET FREE BUS PASSES

Pennsylvania senior citizens should be pleased to hear that soon the state government will begin paying for free bus and train rides around their hometowns. Governor Milton Shapp recently signed legislation providing free mass transit for all those residents 65 and older. Expected to go into effect June 1, 1973, free rides will be available any time of day except peak rush hours on any intracity mass transportation system in Pennsylvania.

Wet weather hampered construction of the \$1 1/4 million 23-classroom building which will house 690 elementary students. Wet ground hampered grading and pouring concrete footings. Mud and more mud has been the problem since the beginning of excavation. It has rained for three of the weeks since Nov. 1



Pond in winter

Photo by Charlotte Bartizek

Library news

Brownie memorabilia featured at library

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The display case at the Back Mountain Memorial Library is featuring a collection of Girl Scout memorabilia set up by Brownie Troop 649, sponsored by Dallas Elementary School. These Brownies will be visiting the library next Wednesday, January 13 to work on their Try-It badge, listening to the past and studying Dallas of years gone by.

There is a Brownie uniform with a sash including badges and a Brownie cap. Also included are the things they like to do: Brownies learn to cook, make music, make great crafts, like to explore nature and science; respect the environment. There are various handbooks, compass, wild flowers and several pictures of the troop.

Troop members are Jennifer Palachek, Erin Swepton, Laura Vanderhook, Julena Hains, Lynn Kirkwood, Lindsey Kelly, Janelle Dickson, Jamie Sulewski, Rachel Kukosky, Cassie Michanski,

Amanda Kates, Kaitlyn Musto, Leah Bolton and Angela Duris. Co-leaders are Nancy Vanderhook and Kathy Swepton. A cheerful display which will be at the library until February 3.

An interesting story and a great tie-in with books and libraries. Pastor Jim and Gene Wert have a daughter Kathy, who lives in Tampa, Florida where she was shopping during the Christmas season. She took a coffee break, bought a cup of cappuccino, sat down at a small table to rest. A nice grandfatherly looking gentleman was sitting alone at a table next to her and they began to chat.

Suddenly, Kathy stopped talking as she looked more closely at him. She became so excited and tried to ask, "Are you who I think you are?" He laughed and replied, "I suppose so, but don't stop talking. It was General Norman Schwarzkopf who lives in the Tampa area.

She asked if he would wait while she went to a bookstore to buy a copy of his book, "It Doesn't Take a

Hero" and asked if he would autograph it. He gladly agreed. She told the cashier in the bookstore what was going on; three others in the store heard, bought books and went along for the signature. Kathy apologized for the attention she caused him and he said, "It's okay. I'm getting used to this". The General autographed the book "To Jim and Gene Wert" and signed his name and Kathy presented the book to them for Christmas. Not an ordinary person. The hero of Operation Desert Storm; known all over the world.

New book at the library: "Dragon Tears" by Dean Koontz is a masterpiece of suspense from a best-selling author. Police detective Harry Lyon is a perfectionist who likes his condo immaculate, his suits well tailored, and his homicide files typed error-free. His partner, embraces chaos and urges him to 'get in touch with rhythms of destruction'. When they have to kill in the line of duty, it makes the cynical world view seem all too accurate.

Conserving our Common Wealth

Homes also generate hazardous wastes

There's been a lot of controversy recently surrounding the issue of hazardous waste disposal. But there's one point we can all agree on—the need to reduce the amount of waste we produce.

Pennsylvania businesses generate nearly 800,000 tons of hazardous waste annually. But we, as consumers, contribute to that number when we buy the products that businesses manufacture or heat our homes with the power that they supply.

With that in mind, the 800,000 tons translates into 150 pounds of hazardous waste generated each year for every person in the Commonwealth.

But waste that is hazardous also can be produced in each of our homes, and end up untreated in our municipal landfills if carelessly discarded. According to *Governing Magazine*, researchers sorting through garbage have calculated that the average American home throws out 15 pounds of household hazardous waste each year, not counting the liquids that are poured into stormwater and sewage

systems. The impact of that untreated waste could produce a serious health hazard of damage to the environment.

One solution to this problem is to reduce the amount of hazardous wastes in your home. When you buy insecticides, drain cleaners, paint, and other hazardous products, buy only what you need and use all of what you buy. Read the label before you buy any household product to make sure it's what you really need, and check to see if a safer substitute is available. For example, maybe a simple soap solution would keep the insects off your flowers as effectively as a commercial insecticide.

Second, learn what to do with the leftovers. Used motor oil can be taken to an oil recycling facility, or to a local garage that recycles its oil. Keep an eye out for community hazardous waste collection days, or better yet, share your surplus products with a friend or neighbor who can use them.

Finally, never dump any household waste that may be

hazardous down the drain unless you check with your local sewage plant operator. And if your house has a septic system, never pour any hazardous chemicals down the drain. Also, never pour surplus chemicals down a storm drain or on the ground.

We encourage you to learn more about hazardous waste in the home. For information on the safe use, storage, and disposal of hazardous products, read the label, contact the manufacturer (many companies have toll-free information numbers), or contact the DER regional office nearest you for a brochure on household hazardous waste, or write to: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, Bureau of Waste Management, P.O. Box 2063, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2063.

"Conserving Our Common Wealth" is provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources. This week's column was written by Susan Rickens, DER Assistant Press Secretary.

New books at Back Mountain Library

The Back Mountain Memorial Library, 96 Huntsville Road, Dallas announces the addition of the following books to their collection.

NON-FICTION
Collector's Guide to American Toy Trains by Susan D. Bagdade
The World Almanac and Book of Facts 1993 (Ref.)

FICTION
Dunster by John Mortimer
The Man Who Was Late by Louis Begley
My Beloved Son by Catherine Cookson
Storyville by Lois Battle
YOUNG ADULT
The Big Wander by Will Hobbs

Child of an Ancient City by Tad Williams
Dragon's Plunder by Brad Strickland
Drifting Snow by James Houston
Mississippi Challenge by Mildred Pitts Walter
Shadow Man by Cynthia D. Grant

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Ronald A. Bartizek
Editor and Publisher

Charlotte E. Bartizek
Associate Publisher

Peggy Young
Advertising Acct. Exec.

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