

# The Dallas Post

## EDITORIALS

### Exercise your most precious right — vote

Next Tuesday's primary election gives members of political parties the opportunity to select candidates for the November general election. But in many cases, the primary will in practice be the final election because only one party is represented, or the candidates are "crossfiled" on both party tickets.

Voting is a right, but it's also a responsibility and the obligation each of us has to our free society. While a majority of Americans stay home from the polls, people elsewhere in the world fight and die in the hope of attaining the rights we seem to take for granted. Don't be one of those who fails to vote and then complains about the direction taken by your government.

Below is a list of the contested races in the Back Mountain, and the candidates:

#### DISTRICT MAGISTRATE

Carl Miers (R/D)  
James Tupper (R/D)

#### DALLAS SCHOOL DIRECTORS (4 seats open, all at-large)

Maureen Banks (R/D)  
Joseph Kunec (R/D)  
Thomas Landon (R/D)  
Pamela M. Langdon (R/D)  
John P. Litz (R/D)  
James L. Richardson (R/D)  
Thomas W. Russ (R/D)  
John R. Sobota (R)

#### LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DIRECTORS (By region)

##### Region 1: (Harveys Lake, Noxen, Lake Twp., 1 seat):

Irene Brislin (R/D)  
Allen P. Moss (R/D)

##### Region 2: (Ross Twp., Lehman Twp. middle and s.w. districts, 1 seat):

Patricia Gold (R/D)  
Samuel F. Rhodes III (R/D)

##### Region 3 (Oak Hill, Idetown, Lehman center, 2 seats):

John S. Bobersky (R/D)  
Joseph "Red" Jones (R/D)  
Martin D. McMahon (R/D)

#### DALLAS TOWNSHIP

##### Tax Collector:

Leonard Kozick (R)  
Clarence J. Michael (R)

#### FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

##### Supervisor (1 seat)

William H. Miller (R)  
Joseph J. O'Donnell (D)  
Andrew L. Prebola (R)

##### Tax Collector

Joy L. Daubert (R)  
Susan D. Vodzak (R)

#### HARVEYS LAKE BOROUGH

##### Mayor:

Richard H. Boice (D)  
George R. Gwilliam (R)

##### Borough Council (3 seats):

George P. Andrews (R)  
Edward Kelly (D)  
Francis Kopko (D)

William F. Purcell (R)  
Christine Tomulaitis (D)  
William J. Wilson (D)

##### Tax Collector:

Terry Jones (D)  
William F. Purcell (R)

#### JACKSON TOWNSHIP

##### Tax Collector

Jacqueline Latosek (D)  
JoAnn Wright (R)

#### KINGSTON TOWNSHIP

##### Supervisor (2 seats)

Ben Franklin (R)  
Shirley A. Moyer (R)  
Paul M. Sabol (R)  
Cyndi M. Sledziewski (R)



**Bright as the blooms**

Ian Blaum, 3 1/2, of Pikes Creek, checked out the flowers at a Harveys Lake garden shop. Photo by Charlotte Barizek.

### J.W.J.

## Second Amendment doesn't cover assault weapons

By J.W. JOHNSON

Gun owners are agreeing with gun control advocates, according to the results of a recent nationwide poll.

Some 88 percent of gun owners favor the Brady Bill, requiring a seven-day waiting period to buy a handgun. And while gun owners strongly oppose an outright ban on handguns, some 60 per cent of them favor an outright ban on so-called assault weapons, i.e., the AK-47 assault rifle. (New Jersey recently passed such a ban).

But, still, this nation persists in its militaristic mentality. If you doubt that, just look at the computer games our children are playing. Just look at the toys we manufacture and try to market to our young people. And just look at how the nation of Kenya (from that allegedly backward continent of Africa) has banned the sale of toy guns, whereas the sale of toy guns here flourishes.

Better still, listen to our language to hear this nation's love affair with the notion that might, backed by weaponry, is right. This nation is so wrapped up in the mental cavalry of force backed by

weaponry that our very language is littered with verbal shell casings.

Just listen to our militaristic national anthem... "the rockets red glare, the bombs bursting in air".

Or how about our entire sports mentality, when we're either "throwing the long bomb" or "rifling" singles to center field. We can't even have a casual, non-threatening conversation in this country without it being "shooting the bull." And, uh, lest there be accusations of "going off half cocked" or "shooting from the lip", read on...

Perhaps because of, and certainly in concert with our so-called entertainment industries of TV and movies being filled with incredible violence, the real killing continues, particularly among the young. Yet attempting to curb some violence receives only lip service until a famous person is involved, i.e., former Reagan press secretary, James Brady, (hence the Brady Bill).

And the killing continues.

During the years 1979-1987, handguns were involved in an average of 9,200 murders, 12,100 rapes, 210,000 robberies and 407,600 assaults, each of those

years.

On an average day, 10 children, 18 and under, are killed with handguns.

In 1988, 62 of the 78 law enforcement officers slain in the line of duty were killed with handguns.

And, according to this most recent poll, more than half of the nation's households has at least one gun, with an estimated 200 million firearms being in the possession of private U.S. citizens. Some 60 to 70 million of these weapons are handguns, a weapon which has only one legitimate purpose: to take human life.

Some of you are right about now trotting out the Second Amendment to our Constitution in argument against the call for a ban on handguns. The constitution says that citizens have a "right to keep and bear arms", doesn't it?

No it doesn't. What it says is the following:

"A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

Clearly, the writers of this amendment were preserving a

collective right, not an individual right. A review of the debate at the time reveals no doubt that the premise behind the Second Amendment was fear that individual states would be at the mercy of a federal army; hence the assertion of states' rights to mount its own army. That concept evolved into the National Guards and, at the local levels, constables, sheriffs and police departments...all for the security of a free state.

Anti-control advocates consistently torture the meaning of this amendment by only reading and asserting its second phrase. As well, the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled on several occasions that the Second Amendment does not guarantee individual rights to gun ownership.

Now if anti-control advocates want to assert the right of individual gun ownership as a matter of state, local or federal law, that's an entirely different question...a question which can be addressed in the political process, the proper forum for such debate.

But, please, do not seek refuge in the Second Amendment for an individual right of gun ownership. That right simply isn't there. It never was.

### Library news

## Summer story hour will run June 29 through August 4

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

Summer Story Hours at the Back Mountain Memorial Library will be held from June 29 through August 3 for Toddlers and June 30 to August 4 for the three to five year olds. Registration is required and will be held from June 1 through June 5. The library is looking for some volunteer Story Ladies; no experience is required; enjoyment of the children and the desire to entertain them is all that is needed. Contact may be made with Mrs. Rudolph in the Children's Room at the library.

The April meeting of the Book Club was held in the Reference Room with Erin Northrup, treasurer presiding in the absence of the president. The treasurer reported a balance of \$1,475.35 in

the bank and a membership of 202 to date. Members of the club presented book reviews and show and tell items, which delighted the group. Taking part in the program were: Audrey Farr, June MacCloskey, Grace Martin, Frances Linskill and Elin Northrup. A warm welcome was extended to Peggy Love, who had been away for over a year. A bountiful tea table loaded with goodies was enjoyed by all; with Peggy Love and Audrey Farr pouring coffee and tea. The next Book Club meeting will be held Monday, May 17 at 1:30 in the reference room at the library. Guests as well as members are always welcome.

Philip Kerr is a gripping and thought-provoking thriller with a

difference which takes the reader on a terrifying journey into the head of a serial killer and to the heart of murder itself. London in 2013 is a world of elaborate technology, aggression and squalor including serial murders.

"Mary, Mary" by Ed McBain is a novel with sizzling dialogue and drop-dead surprises. It is Christmas in Florida. The decorations are only slightly more false than the cheer, and a trial is going on—the kind of trial that grabs headlines and makes people wonder what kind of person could possibly represent the defendant. The accused is charged with three murders.

"Fall from Grace" by Andrew M. Greely is a controversial and

provocative novel about a prominent Chicago family and the winds of scandal and betrayal that threaten to bring it down. Kathleen has a handsome husband who is a senatorial hopeful; three beautiful children; and a promising professional future of her own. A startling phone call brings stunning reality.

"Summer Gloves" by Sarah Gilbert is about the modern American family. She explores the most loaded of all relationships, the one between mothers and daughters, and shows us that here indeed is a bond made with Krazy Glue. In some lives there comes one fateful day when things completely fall apart. An ordinary day, that leads to a horrible discovery.



### May Queen?

Could this be a May Queen Contest? They used to be very popular. "May Day" was a big event for seniors; a May Queen was chosen, etc. It was a big event for grade school too - remember

when the kids wrapped the May Poles?

Tell us what you know about this photo, who they are, what it's all about, and the date.

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