

The Dallas Post

EDITORIALS

Harveys Lake is clean, make it accessible, also

The good news: A year-long study has found that Harveys Lake is very clean. "On a scale of one to 10, it's about 9 1/2," Al Timko told *The Post* last week. The bad news: Not many of the people reading this will have the chance to enjoy it.

It is an oddity of our region that the state's largest (or second-largest, depending on who you talk to) natural lake, which is owned by the citizens of Pennsylvania, has no public beach area, and very limited access for boaters. In fact, much of the private development around the lake, and all of it on the shore, is on public property, which extends to the high-water point. As last spring's rains demonstrated, that is higher than many of the docks that poke into the lake.

The Harveys Lake Environmental Advisory Council commissioned the study, then applied for and received grants to fund it. Water samples were taken from two spots in the lake, tributary streams and storm sewers and tested in laboratories at Wilkes University, the Kirby Health Center and Coastal Environmental Services, Inc., which led the study.

The biggest problem they turned up — and it wasn't earth-shaking — was a shortage of a particular type of plankton which eats the algae. The plankton levels have been depleted since a population of alewives was introduced in the 1970s. It seems the alewives ate most of the plankton, which in addition to keeping the algae in check was food for the lake's smelt. The net result is too much algae, which becomes most apparent during long, hot summers when "blooms" of the stuff appear, further choking off oxygen needed by the fish population.

All of that is a working model for the interdependence of species. It could also be a boon for trout fishermen, if the state heeds the study's conclusions and puts more large trout in the lake to eat the alewives. But that's another story. For now, it's worth asking just who will benefit from this study and what-ever action is taken as a result of it. Surely the people fortunate enough to own lakefront property will gain if the lake is made even healthier than it is now. Fishermen, at least the ones who like to catch trout, may find their outings more productive, although they may have to release their catch for a year or two.

But what about the other citizens of the region, and the state, for that matter? If they don't have a power boat, or don't like them, and aren't interested in fishing, they get nothing. It makes sense that a resource as valuable as Harveys Lake should be accessible to all, not just a privileged few, and that means the state should step in and create a public beach area. Aside from being the proper thing to do, adding a decent beach would bring more customers to nearby businesses than Thom Greco's "amphitheater" ever did, and with less noise and disruption.

Publisher's notebook

Ron Bartizek



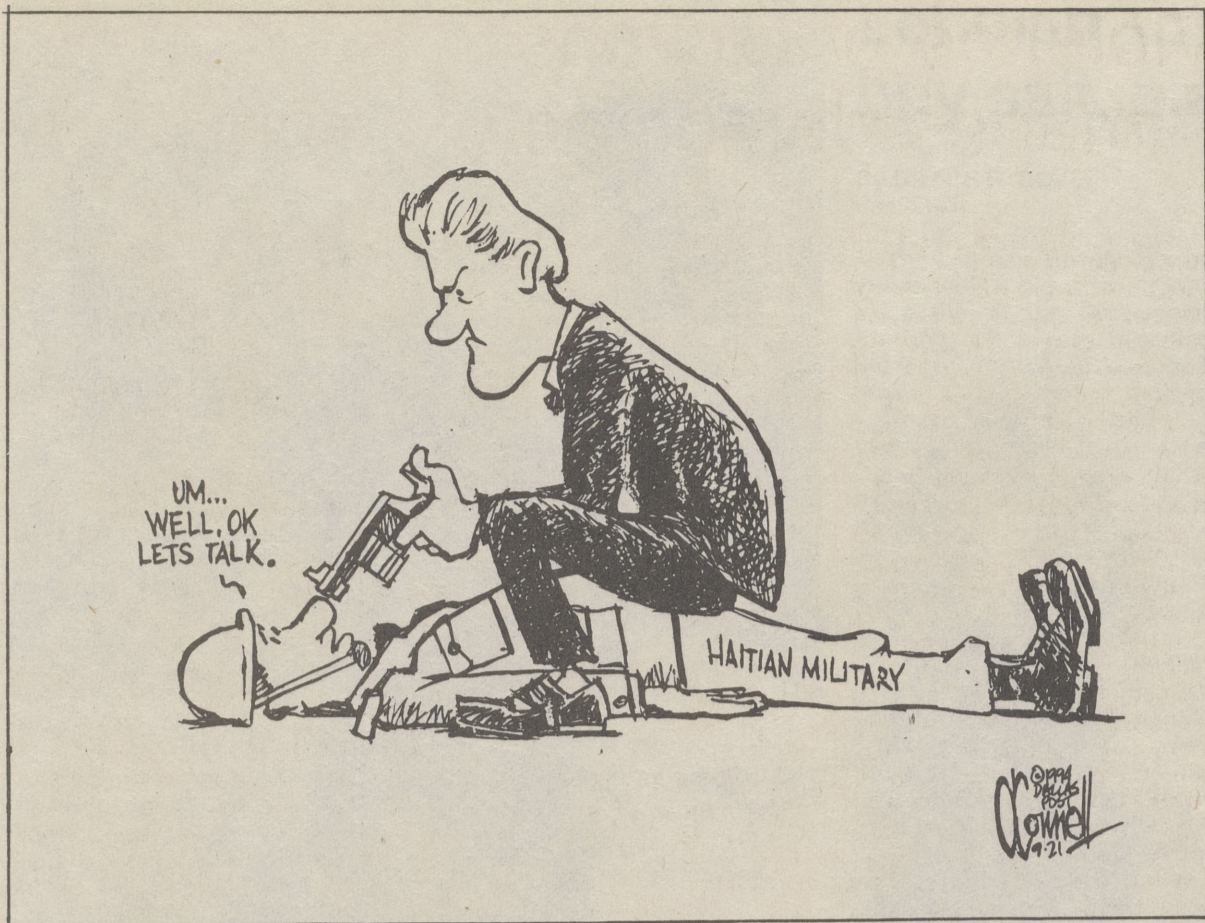
This week's *Post* carries an article about the ongoing trials of customers of Tammy Slater's bridal shop. While similar stories have appeared recently in daily newspapers, and on television and radio, sharp-minded readers will recall that Grace Dove broke this story in the July 28, 1993 issue of *The Post*. The initial article, from which all the subsequent coverage has evolved, has recounted the problems brides and attendants had with Slater, beginning when she had a shop in Shavertown.

I remember clearly our hesitation about running the story when we first were approached by one of the brides. After all, every business has an occasional unhappy customer, and that fact isn't news. Over several weeks, Grace interviewed customers, dress manufacturers, other stores, and Tammy Slater herself before we were comfortable that the women had a legitimate gripe, which wasn't being addressed.

We publish a fair number of exclusive articles in the course of a year. Not all of them become regional news, nor should they; in many cases they are of interest only to people who live here. That's one difference in how we approach the news. We are attempting to bring information to a hometown audience, not write stories that will titillate readers in another part of the county.

The Back Mountain Memorial Library's September Spectacular will put an exclamation point on this year's auction. The event will be held at the library Saturday beginning at 11 a.m. Items to be auctioned include antiques, new goods, and other stuff left over from the big auction in July. There also will be craft and flea market-type vendors, refreshments, and — of course — a book sale. If the weather will cooperate, the library hopes to raise a little extra money to offset its operating costs, a quarter of which is generated by the auction.

So, if you went away from the July auction with less than you hoped, or even if you didn't, stop by Saturday. It promises to be a great day for a great cause.



Letters

Trout Unlimited favors catch-and-release

Editor,
On behalf of the Stanley Cooper Sr. Chapter of Trout Unlimited, I can unequivocally state that we support any effort by the Harveys Lake Borough Council to have the lake designated a catch-and-release fishery for all trout/salmon species in an attempt to control the alewife population. Although this was the only recommendation of Coastal Environment Services which appeared in *The Dallas Post* September 14-20 issue (Lake study turns up only minor problems), I'm certain it is the most viable. However, it would be preferable to make this designation permanent rather than just for "a year or two."

As the largest coldwater conservation organization in the United States dedicated to conserving, protecting, and restoring coldwater fisheries and their watersheds, Trout Unlimited has always espoused the Catch-and-

Release ethic. It not only makes good economic sense, particularly in terms of sportsmen's dollars spent, but it also maintains a natural resource which would continue to control the alewife population. Anyone interested in TU is more than welcome to join us the second Tuesday of the month at the VFW Anthracite Post, 757 Wyoming Ave., Kingston where our meetings are free and open to the public, or you may call 675-0789 for more information.

On a somewhat different subject, with reference to your editorial in *The Dallas Post* of August 31, let me state that the Stan Cooper Chapter is one of those organizations which participate in the Adopt-A-Highway program that would be more than willing to give up this particular activity if the state were to pass a can and bottle redemption law and we saw the elimination of trash from our

roadsides.

However, my personal opinion is that we already have a solution to the highway cleanup problem right here in Chase, at the State Correctional Institute, and in Wilkes-Barre at the Luzerne County Correctional facility. The used-to-be terms were prison and jail for these places of incarceration and at one time it wasn't considered cruel and unusual punishment to use the least dangerous of their inmates to perform community service. Instead of pork barrel legislation that is destined to hit the old taxpayer pocketbook yet again, when are reason and common sense going to prevail at any level of government, and allow the taxpayer, law abiding citizen to benefit from a readily available (and renewable) human resource?

John P. Bergevin
Dallas

Thanks

Fair was great success thanks to you

Editor,
On behalf of the Luzerne County Fair Board and Association, I would like to thank all the people who participated in this year's Fall Fair at the Luzerne County Fairgrounds.

First, I would like to thank the many volunteers for the superb job they have done. We could not have done it without them from beginning to end.

I would also like to thank the people who attended this year's fair. Without them we would not be here year after year.

Also, to the vendors, a big thanks for providing all the services you provided to all the great people who attended the fair.

To the entertainment, you were outstanding this year. We wish the best of luck in your endeavors throughout the year.

To the service clubs, we hope

everyone fared well, as you are our backbone in our organization.

To the media, a very special thank-you for your tremendous support. The fair board truly appreciates all your efforts on our behalf.

I would also like to remind people that numerous events go on at the grounds throughout the

good weather, and that we provide rental space to store your summer equipment during winter months.

I wish all of you a good year and hope to see you next year at the Luzerne County Fair, September 6-10.

Clem Norman, president
Ed Kelly, general chairman
Luzerne County Fair Board

Raiders appreciate support

Editor,
Kingston Township Raiders Junior Football would like to thank all the people in the community who donated to their annual doorbell night.

Special thanks to the following businesses for allowing the children to collect in front of their

businesses: Shavertown Acme, Fox Video, Franklin First Federal, Cook's Pharmacy, Pizza Perfect, E.M. Video, Mr. Z's, Rite aid and Insalaco's.

Dorothy Larson, president
Kingston Township Raiders
Junior Football

Library news

Children's librarian completes 25 years

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

Congratulations are in order for Marilyn Rudolph, who will complete her first 25 years with the Back Mountain Memorial Library. She began her duties on September 23, 1969, and has served as children's librarian since that time; the first 16 years in the children's separate building on Main Street in Dallas and nine years in our new building on Huntsville Road, with the separate children's room.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the library staff, we say thanks to Marilyn for the super job she does in the children's room. The library circulated 9,579 books during the month of July; 4,732 adult titles and 4,847 children's. Book Club circulated 256 books; new books added 122; new borrowers 141; interlibrary loan 53 and re-registrations 270.

The month of July has always been the library's busiest month; summer reading program, summer story hours and more leisure

time for adult reading.

Our largest daily circulation set on July 7, 1987, was 789; however, on July 5, 1994, we set the all-time high for daily circulation of 832. A very busy July at the library.

The "Chefs and Artists" library cookbook has received additional requests for copies due to the Good Housekeeping article. Books have been sent to: Albuquerque, New Mexico; Bloomsburg, PA; Livermore, California; Cottage Grove, Minnesota; Norfolk, Nebraska; Bullard, Texas; Charlottesville, Virginia; Newport News, Virginia; Sierra Vista, Arizona; Pasadena, California; Torrance, California; McFarland, Wisconsin and Santa Maria, California. This brings the total cookbooks sold because of the Good Housekeeping ad to 70.

New books at the library: "Cold Cold Heart" by James Elliot is a twisting, relentless and superb realistic suspense novel; the debut of this author. It combines intricate procedural detail with

psychological suspense and shocking surprises. An unforgettable climax.

"Shameless" by Jennifer Blake is a breathlessly compelling novel, yet a tale of suspense and unbridled sensuality that is absolutely shameless. Amid torrid gossip and whispered suspicions, Reid Sayers has returned to his hometown and to his own private war with Camilla.

"Walking Shadow" by Robert B. Parker is a twisty, ambitious whodunit. A Massachusetts waterfront town. A small repertory theater with a big reputation. A soupcon of scandal. And Spenser is on hand to steal the scene. An actor is gunned down during a performance.

"Playland" by John Gregory Dunne is a tough, mordantly funny, splendidly layered novel about Hollywood in the 1940's and America in the 1990's, about fame and its excesses, honor and personal betrayal and a 50-year search for what may or may not be the truth.

Only yesterday

60 Years Ago - Sept. 28, 1934 DEMOCRATS GAIN POWER IN AREA

The drive for support of the Democratic candidates for state and federal offices in the forthcoming November election being put on by the Back Mountain Democratic Club is rapidly gaining momentum, judging by the large and enthusiastic crowd present at Fernbrook Inn, Monday at a regular meeting of the club.

The work of constructing Harveys Lake's new firehouse and community building was well underway this week and it's expected that the splendid new quarters of the Daniel C. Roberts Fire Co. will be completed about the first of the year.

Twenty-one tuition students from nearby communities are attending Dallas Borough High School this term. About \$1,000 is paid for the privilege of enrolling students at the local high school.

50 Years Ago - Sept. 22, 1944 LOCAL FAMILY CAUGHT IN EAST COAST STORM

Mr. and Mrs. D.L. Edwards and two children of Davis Street, Trucksville, were among those caught in a hurricane that swept the Atlantic Coast last Thursday and inundated Long Beach Island, a narrow 18-mile long strip of land off Monmouth County, New Jersey, where they were vacationing in a beach front home.

Two Back Mountain fliers reported missing over widely separated areas on the same day May 29, 1944 are now prisoners of war in the same prison camp in Germany. They are S/Sgt. Raymond Sutton, Trucksville and Lt. Peter Skopic of Lehman.

You could get - Pork liver, 21¢ lb.; skinless franks, 35¢ lb.; cauliflower, lg. hd. 25¢; apples, 3 lbs., 21¢; Jolly Time Popcorn, 17¢ can.

40 Years Ago - Sept. 24, 1954 NOXEN GETS M.D.'S

Dr. Irvin Jacobs, following the modern trend toward the rural areas and general practice rather than specializing in a city, set up practice with Dr. Lester Saldman in the newly remodeled former Tanners Bank Building in Noxen.

Fire supposedly due to defective wiring gutted the attic at the home of Oran Lamb. Dr. Henry M. Laing fire company battled the blaze for an hour confining it to the third floor.

First reunion of the Class of 1942 Dallas Borough High School will be held at the Beaumont Inn, Oct. 2.

30 Years Ago - Sept. 24, 1964 GROUND BROKEN FOR NEW O.E.S. BUILDING

Years of labor and planning bore fruit September 19, when scores of members and friends gathered to see Mrs. Myrtle Rine-man, Past Matron of the Dallas Chapter #396, Order of the Eastern Star break ground for the Eastern Star Building to be erected on Foster St. by Russell Ide, contractor.

Good weather is hoped for Saturday evening, when two neighboring grid teams, Lake-Lehman and Dallas go at it on the Lake-Lehman gridiron at 2 p.m. With such great rivalry in this contest, a large turnout is expected to more than fill the new bleachers installed at the senior high field.

You could get - Pork butts, 37¢ lb.; beef roast, 55¢ lb.; Tokay grapes, 12¢ lb.; sweet potatoes, 3 lbs., 19¢; Maxwell House Coffee, 85¢ lb. can.

20 Years Ago - Sept. 26, 1974 NO CONDOS FOR BORO

A public meeting was held Sept. 17 to discuss a township building to house maintenance equipment and possibly serve as a fire house and meeting hall for Lake Township.

Resistance to the condo-style buildings planned for Luzerne Avenue, Dallas, has been mounting steadily since developer Alvin Rothstein unveiled his architects' drawing at a zoning board hearing September 3. Rothstein confounded all his would-be critics Monday morning when he withdrew his application for a building permit.

You could get - Seven bone pot roast, 88¢ lb.; ground beef, 89¢ lb.; bananas, 15¢ lb.; Maxwell House Coffee, 2 lb. can, \$1.89; Betty Crocker cake mixes, 2 - 18 1/2 oz. pkgs. 79¢.

The Dallas Post

Published Weekly by Bartsen Media, Inc.
P.O. Box 366, Dallas PA 18612
Telephone: 717-675-5211

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MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION
AND PENNSYLVANIA NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION
VOTED 3rd BEST SMALL WEEKLY IN THE U.S., 1993

Please write. We'd love to hear from you. Send letters to *The Dallas Post*, P.O. Box 366, Dallas, PA 18612. Letters must be signed and include a daytime telephone number for verification.