

Harveys Lake

(continued from page 1)

people and a playground nearby for the younger children," he said. "Right now they have to go out of town to find this type of facility."

Noon, the owner of Noon's Service Station, is seeking his second term on council and was president during the infamous winter of 1994.

He is proud of his work with the Department of Environmental Resources and the Outlet residents on the problem with beaver dams causing the creek to flood people's yards last year. He has worked on the municipal cleanup days, numerous road projects and improvements to the road department's equipment and scheduling.

He also initiated the new ordinance which limits boat speeds after dusk to no wake for safety.

We plan to rebuild the drainage system on Baird, Maple and Green streets and repave them this season with the help of state grants," he said. "I'm very proud that we haven't had to raise taxes, which are 21.5 mills, for several years."

He estimates he spends at least ten hours a week answering residents' questions and working on council business and projects.

If reelected, he plans to continue improving the roads, work to not increase taxes and be accountable to the residents.

The candidates have mixed opinions on the police department, which all of the candidates agree needs a larger office.

West, whose father was a police officer, and Callahan, support the department, while Eaton says, "The police don't protect the people."

"The department needs stronger leadership, more full-time officers and better equipment," she said. "They also need to be more professional."

Miscavage and Hinton also would like to see more officers on the force, especially during busy times in the summer, while Spock wants the borough to have all full-time officers.

"My work takes me to area police stations every week," Spock said. "I see how they're doing things. Many of our men are part-timers and don't live here. They don't have the opportunity to get to know the people and understand them."

While all candidates support the borough's businesses as valuable employers, Eaton believes an aggressive public relations campaign with the Luzerne County Tourist Promotion Agency would go a long way toward improving the borough's image and helping local businesses.

"We have many good people doing many good things out here, but they don't get much publicity," she said. "All you hear about are the negative things. People must know we're here for more than walk-a-thons."

Spock and Hinton support the Harveys Lake Business Association to help revitalize the residents' civic pride.

"It would take lots of cooperation and give-and-take between private parties and politicians to settle their minor grievances, so they could arrive at agreements beneficial to all parties involved," Hinton said. "We must make a mix that works - the people are more than capable of it."

"I'm very proud that we haven't had to raise taxes, which are 21.5 mills, for several years."

Martin Noon
Democrat incumbent

Callahan and Noon believe the borough should pay more attention to the special needs of businesses, such as the sewer fees they are charged.

"They pay very heavy fees," Callahan said. "It's almost a burden."

Noon made sure that the business people are represented on the municipal authority.



MARTIN NOON

"Sewer rates are a big expense for them," he said. "I understand things like this because I'm a businessman myself."

The controversial amphitheater also drew mixed opinions from the candidates, with West, Spock and Callahan suggesting that the Tijuana Bar be enclosed to help reduce noise.

Eaton has many questions about the entire operation, especially its security.

"When Thom Greco addressed the council last month, he offered lots of information but no documentation," she said. "I would like to see a copy of his contract with his security service, to verify that he actually has one, that it's being run by a retired state trooper and to verify they have enough personnel on duty. Providing

security is his responsibility."

"I agree with Mr. Greco that he has a right to operate a business here, but only as long as he obeys the borough's rules and ordinances and pays his sewage fees. How much will it cost Harveys Lake for him to hold concerts here?"

Hinton said the concert security force could use better management. "Our borough police should first do their job of protecting the residents," he said. "I'd like to see off-duty officers from neighboring communities hired for concert security. As I understand it, Mr. Greco hired borough officers to do security work for concerts. What would have happened if there had been an accident or a shooting - would we have had to call in officers from neighboring communities to handle it?"

All candidates are concerned about the safety of boaters, many of whom bring their boats from elsewhere to the public boat launch.

While Noon, whose family uses the lake, originated the recently enacted slow no-wake speed after dusk ordinance, West wants to ban high-speed and power boats from the lake.

Spock would like to see regular boat patrols by both police and Fish Commission officers during times of high use.

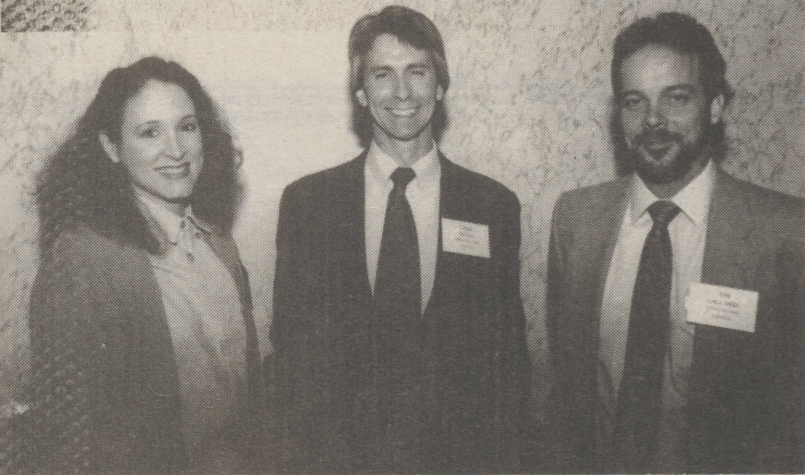
"We have a boat but don't use it at the lake," she said. "We take it elsewhere."

She also commended the Fish and Boat Commission's new water safety course, which she believes will help safety on the lake.

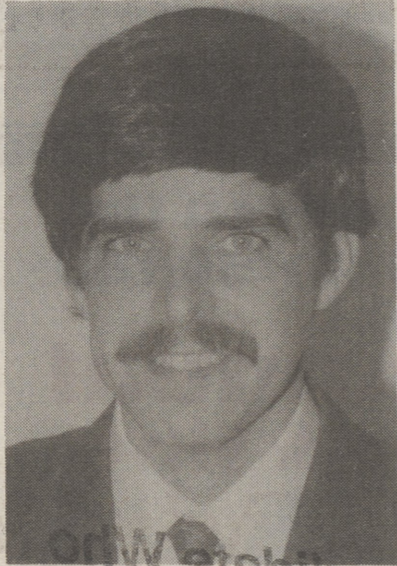
"The council members run in different directions."

Ruth Eaton
Republican candidate

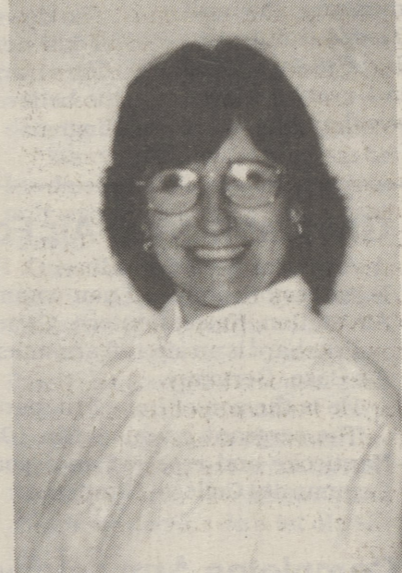
"Enforcement is the key - the laws are already on the books," Eaton said. "I would like to have the Fish Commission do a study to determine the maximum number of boats that can be safely on the water at one time, factoring in people's docks and marina slips. Then only a certain number of boats should be allowed to enter the water at one time. Most of the residents are very safety conscious. Many say they don't use their boats on weekends because the lake is so crowded."



A TEAM EFFORT - The Republican team of Thomas Callahan, right, Ruth Eaton and Christopher Hinton are running for Harveys Lake borough council.



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