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From Wales to Lehman, with antiques

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

LEHMAN - Everything has a story. That's what Glyndwr Bessant says about antiques. He should know, he and his wife, Mary, have been collecting them for almost 30 years.

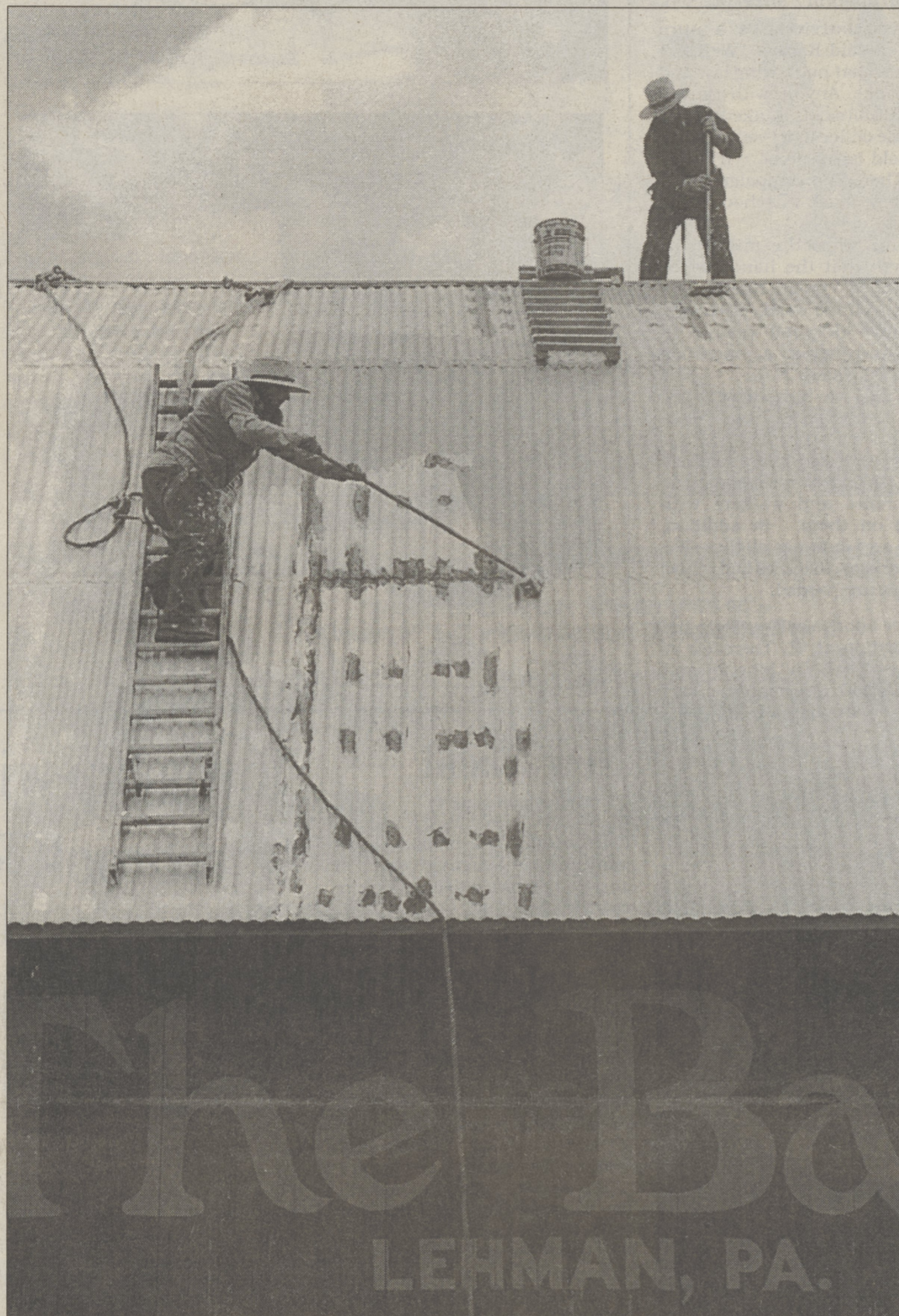
Mr. Bessant, who is originally from Wales and an avid lover of antique clocks, tells a particular 'diamond in the rough' story that pinpoints the thrill of discovering antiques.

He would often visit a Welsh dealer in hopes of finding a grandfather's clock. Each time he came to see the dealer, he was always out of luck. Finally, one day, Mr. Bessant walked into the shop and saw the long sought grandfather's clock. Although it was black with grime, he knew he would buy it right then and there. But, he played it cool and pretended not to notice. (If you're too excited about something, the price seems to rise for the occasion.) When he asked his usual question, the dealer informed him about the clock he had just passed.

Mr. Bessant bought it on the spot and with a little elbow grease and polish, turned it into a majestic piece of functional art that now stands dutifully in one room of The Barn, their antique shop in Lehman.

"Whenever I would see that man, he would always say, 'I sold that clock for too cheap,'" said Mr. Bessant

See THE BARN, pg 7



Amish roofers repaired and repainted the metal roof on The Barn in Lehman. Under new ownership, the shop continues to sell antiques.

POST PHOTO/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

'No. 1 Trucker Buddy' visits his Lake-Noxen penpals

By CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK
Post Staff

HARVEYS LAKE - Standing tall and rigid in the front of the classroom, Wayne Frederici stoops uncomfortably and strains to hear the small voices, the sometimes "silly" questions that come from the first graders at Lake-Noxen Elementary School.

Wayne is more comfortable rolling down the interstate at all hours of the day and night, hauling cheese to Maine for instance, or sometimes even hauling candy,

he explains to the delight of these children. But today he has come for a special visit to Lake Noxen Elementary School.

Frederici, a long distance truck driver for Transtar, a hauling company in Wisconsin, is part of a unique program set up by the company in conjunction with schools. The intent is to familiarize children with the transportation industry while providing drivers a back-home connection while they are on the road.

The program also promotes reading and writing in the schools.

"But just how fast can this truck go?"

Deanna Dragon
Lake-Noxen first grader

Wayne writes and sends the children postcards from each state that he passes through. He tells the children what he is carrying in his truck, talks about the road and the weather.

The postcards came from New York, Ohio, Florida, Virginia, and

the Carolinas, says first grade teacher Mary Foltz. "How many times has your truck broken down?" asks Matthew Lucarino. "Have you ever had an accident and do you ever run out of gas?"

Wayne assures the audience that breakdowns rarely occur since the trucks are never more than two years old and are in excellent repair. And he hasn't run out of gas since he was a very young man. Besides the truck is

See TRUCKER, pg 7

Missionary thanks local church for support in Africa

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

SHAVERTOWN - Many of us wish we could help end the wars in the world. We see images on our television sets of young men shooting and dying and refugee children left hungry and lost.

Some people may feel they couldn't possibly do anything to help others so far away, especially when their countries are in such political unrest. Or maybe the images cease to seem real anymore with the line between tragedy and entertainment being blurred on the small screen in recent years.

One unique woman proves that we can make a difference and stands as proof that the images

"The love of good people in Shavertown helped a generation or two."

Sr. Sponsa Beltran
Franciscan sister who operates a clinic and school in Liberia

seen on our televisions are very real. Sister Sponsa Beltran, 72, a Franciscan sister, has run a clinic for the poor in Liberia, West Africa for the past 20 years. Born in Wilkes-Barre, she graduated with a nursing degree from College Misericordia in 1962. By 1970 she found herself working as a

See MISSIONARY, pg 2

Teen works way to stint at Tanglewood Institute

By JENNIFER JUDGE
Post Correspondent

SHAVERTOWN - Brianna Winters is just \$600 away from reaching her goal to raise \$3,600 to attend Boston University's Tanglewood Institute. Tanglewood Institute is a six week summer music camp held in Lenox, Massachusetts. The camp, which is open to students age 13-18, begins June 21.

Winters, 17, who lives in Shavertown with her mother, bubbles with excitement as she describes the camp. Along with attending classes and rehearsals, she will attend master classes, which are "small groups of people taught by a wonderful

teacher," she explained. Students will also have the opportunity to see many well-known musicians play in the vicinity during their stay. "Someone performs every night and a lot of learning comes out of that."

The recent graduate of Wyoming Valley West will have the opportunity to have her singing critiqued by peers and by a teacher in a classroom setting. "They work

See TANGLEWOOD, pg 8



BRIANNA WINTERS

School board gets floor plan for new elementary school

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

DALLAS - Paul Degillio of Quad Three Group, Inc. presented the Dallas School Board with a preliminary floor plan of the new Gerald Wycallis Elementary School at its regular meeting on June 9. The proposed plan is designed with room for expansion and is subject to change.

"We're starting to work with the plan now," said Degillio. An Act 34 public hearing will be held on

June 30 at 7 p.m. at the administration building. Everyone will be given a four minute time period to give their opinion of the plan. Design Development Booklets that list every single room, its square footage and use, are now available to the public.

The board voted 4-3 to allow Reilly Associates to survey all the underground utilities in the entire site. Board members John Litz, James Richardson and Reese

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Commonwealth at 100

Employees enjoyed the challenge of keeping up with technology

By KYLIE SHAFFERKOETTER
Post Staff

DALLAS - It's breathtaking to think that in just 100 years technology has come so far. As Commonwealth Telephone marks its centennial year, some past employees took a look back and shed light on just how much has changed.

When Betty Hutchenson of Dallas started working as an operator in 1938, a streetcar ran where Rt. 309 is today and people generated their own energy to reach the operator with a hand crank on the side of rectangular wooden box phone of the time. "Anything that you do today on your phone was all done manually then," explained Hutchenson, who retired 11 years ago. "The operator used to do everything for you."

It's hard for us now to imagine a

party line, in which many families were on the same line. "You might have 13 or 14 people on one line," said Hutchenson. "Today there might be a phone in every room. But, back then there might be one phone on a street. Back then it was a luxury, now it's a necessity."

Commonwealth was one of the first phone companies to become 100 percent digital. But long before that happened the operator had quite a busy job that required patience. Hutchenson likens connecting a long distance call to figuring out a road map. If someone wanted to make a call from Dallas to Chicago, the operator would have to connect with many switchboards along the way in order to get to the destination. "Sometimes lines were busy and it took a lot of

See COMMONWEALTH, pg 8



Placing calls, in the Dallas "toll center."



Hats Off!

to Dallas and Lake-Lehman graduates, and the Top of the Class. Coverage on pages 4-5 and in a special tabloid section.

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