

EDITORIALS

Burial grounds carry gentle lessons of history

In the whirl of our busy lives, history, whether local, national or worldwide, seldom captures our attention. Like every generation before us, we imagine that we have broken new ground, and few lessons are to be learned by studying the lives of our ancestors. How often have you heard it said that children's lives, for example, are much more difficult than our own only a few decades past.

But we are wrong to ignore the past, for it has much to teach us. Studying the ancient Greeks and Romans, for example, we are amazed to learn they had central heating, democratic government (up to a point), farmers' markets and many other expressions of life that persist to this day. Closer to home, and in time, a stroll through the Huntsville Cemetery is a lesson in 200 years of Back Mountain life, starting with the gravestone of 16-year-old Philetus Fuller, the first person to be buried there in 1778, at the height of the American Revolution.

Starting at that point, a walk leads by the graves of veterans of the Civil War, the bloodiest in our nation's history, the two great world wars and countless other conflicts. You'll come across names familiar and forgotten, each with its own story to tell about life in the Back Mountain, and most from much more difficult times than the present, despite our conceit to the contrary.

Huntsville Cemetery, like all the places we bury our dead, is a repository of our past wisdom and folly, heroism and cowardice. We owe a debt of gratitude to people like Beatrice Ray and her son, Walter Billings, and others who see to it that these seats of our past is preserved and maintained, for the present and future.


School's in, please be careful

As you drive around the Back Mountain the next few days, take a fresh look at the roads, intersections and shoulders, so that you are prepared when school opens next week. Nearly all of us have a tendency now and then to drive a little too fast, or a little too carelessly, and most of the time we get away with it. But that may not be true once our roadsides are populated by children going to or from school.

Let's remember that children aren't just small adults, they are still learning the rules of life, and lack full appreciation for the hazards posed by speeding cars and trucks. Add to that the likelihood they will be distracted by friends or thoughts of after-school activities, and the onus is on us, the drivers, to be especially careful. It may be fashionable to treat pre-teen children as adults, but they are not; they still depend on older folks to watch out for them. And even if you don't agree with that sentiment, you surely don't want to carry "if only" guilt around for the rest of your life because of a moment's lapse.

School's in - drive carefully. It sounds trite, but it's a good sentiment to keep in mind this time of year.

Publisher's notebook
Ron Bartizek



The most important holiday of the summer is almost here. Independence Day wasn't the biggest day of the season, nor will it be Labor Day, although that is close to the Big Day. No, the biggest holiday for many parents is The First Day of School, when the little - and not so little - munchkins head off to class, leaving a mercifully empty and quiet house behind. It's not that we don't love our children, but the long summer vacation can get pretty trying, in both practical and personal terms. We've been fortunate to be able to adapt our schedules the school year, so the kids aren't left alone or with a babysitter for endless hours. But in families where both parents work, it's a different story, since I haven't heard about many employers who give mom or dad the summer off to watch the children.

Even if that was possible, you have to wonder how much togetherness is a good thing. It seems the joy of time spent together soon pales, replaced by heartfelt pleas to go to Hershey Park, the beach or to have a friend sleep over, not necessarily in that order. Since the sleepover is the cheapest, it often wins out, although it doesn't come without cost, at least in the quality of rest.

A lot of this conflict is caused by adherence to a school calendar based on our agrarian heritage. I don't know about you, but the kids haven't been helping bring in the hay at our house this summer. I think we, and their education, would be much better served by a school year that was longer - say 200 days - and broken up more evenly, with perhaps a month off in the summer. As it is, they'll spend until December relearning all the stuff they forgot since June. But at least they'll be doing it at school.

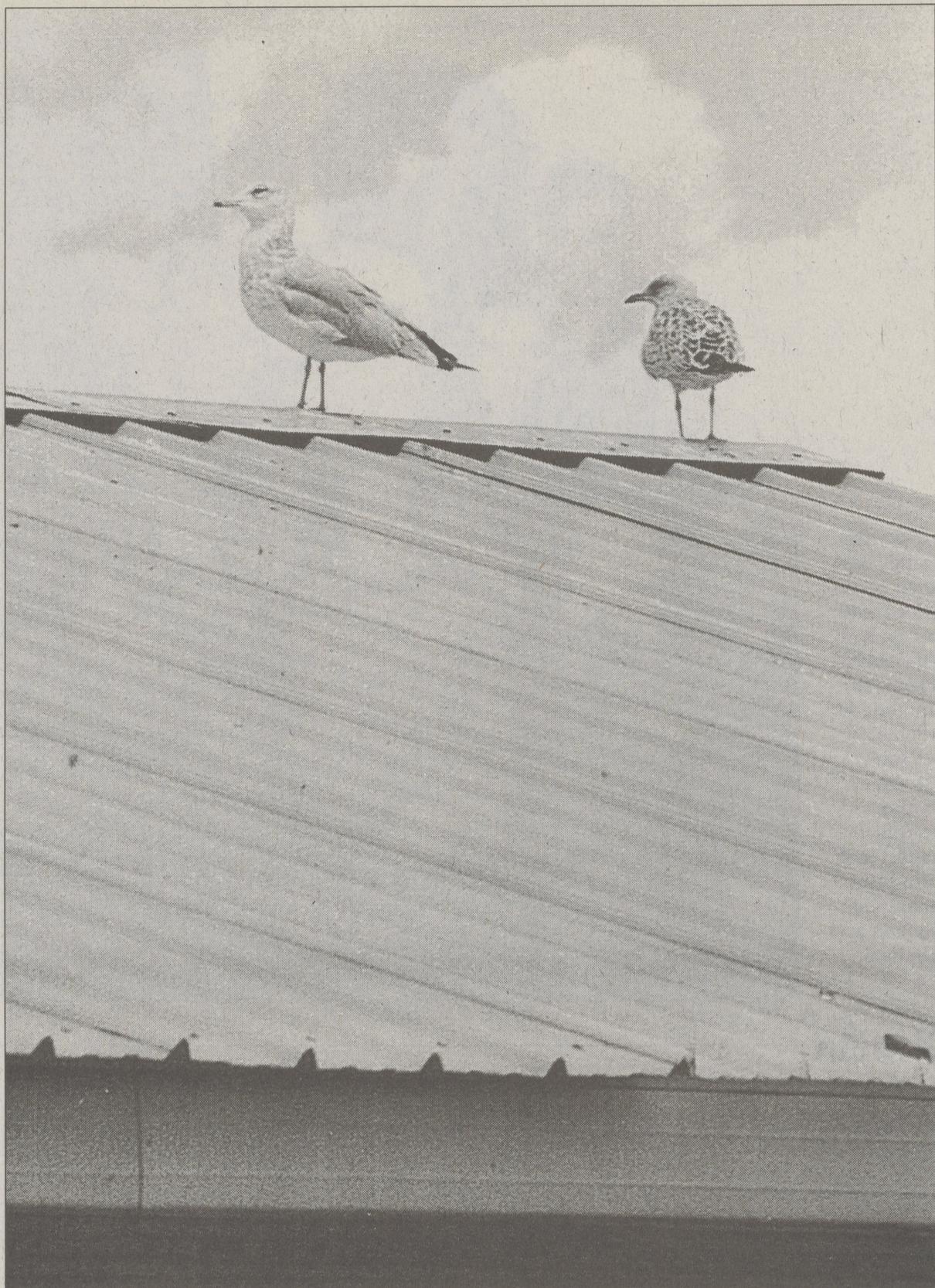
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A few stray Herring gulls keep watch at Harveys Lake. Photo by Charlotte Bartizek.

LETTERS

Jobsons thankful for community support

Editor:
The Paul Jobson, Jr. family would like to thank everyone who attended the square dance at College Misericordia on Friday, August 14, and also those who sent monetary donations, baked items for the bake sale, donated raffle items and volunteered their time to work the different areas of the square dance. A special thanks

goes to Bill Jones and Red Jones for all their time and effort in organizing this event, and to Red, Joe McKeown and the Polka Dukes for the wonderful night of music and dancing! It was truly a memorable night and will be treasured by us forever!

We would like to thank each and every one for their overwhelming generosity, kindness and sup-

port of our family, both for the square dance and throughout this challenging time.

Also, we'd like to acknowledge and thank members of the Dallas United Methodist Church for their ongoing encouragement and support. The Jobson family is truly blessed by giving, thoughtful and wonderful friends.

The Jobson Family

Library news



Nancy Kozemchak

The book store in the lower level of the library is currently being set up for the on-going book sale during the year. Ruth Tetschner has consented to coordinate the organization. Hopefully, by October, the room will be ready for the sale of fiction, non-fiction and paperbacks with a schedule of days when it will be open to the public. In the meantime, there are books and paperbacks for sale in the lobby of the library.

The Back Mountain Memorial Library summer reading program concluded on August 14, after nine weeks of activities and reading during the 1998 state ori-

Basement book store in works

ented program, titled 'Click on Adventure'. The Northeast Junior Players gave a witty, wicked and winning performance of 'The Further Adventures of Maid Marian', which coincided with the program's medieval theme.

The hand-picked gang taken from the summer reading group helped Robin Hood save Maid Marian. The outdoor activities were being set up by Jaqui Prothero and her helper, Elizabeth Kozemchak, when alas, it started to rain and the outdoor program had to be cancelled. The program continued inside the children's wing where the refreshments were served. There were 81 children attending the program.

New books: "Gifts of Nature" by Marie Barber was presented by Dr. and Mrs. Karl F. Arbogast in memory of Irene L. Thomas. The book is an American Sampler, Gifts of Nature. It is the seventh volume in the series of distinctive cross-stitch books. The projects

are presented in captivating photographs, with clear directions and easy-to-read charts, including stitching basics.

"Just Loons: A Wildlife Watchers' Guide" by Alan Hutchinson, with photos by Bill Silliker, Jr. was presented by The Verbylas in memory of Irene Thomas. It is more than a look at the biology of these fascinating creatures; it also tells how to get the most enjoyment out of watching them, while respecting the habitat they occupy and need to hunt for fish, nest and raise their young.

"Country Life" a handbook for realists and dreamers, by Paul Heiney is given in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Edward Nork, on their 40th wedding anniversary by Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Mackall.

The book begins with the premise that anyone can bring an element of home farming, however small, into their life. It shows how to grow and harvest the fruits of the earth with traditional secrets.

WORD ON THE STREET

Q.: What was your favorite summer movie and why?
Where asked: Subway in Dallas



MARIE FAILACE
Harveys Lake

"Halloween H20." It was really suspenseful."



LORI LONG
Harveys Lake

"The Wedding Singer." Adam Sandler is gorgeous."



FLO HARRIS
Harveys Lake

"Lethal Weapon 4." I like Mel Gibson."

ONLY YESTERDAY



60 Years Ago - Sept. 2, 1938

HENRY LAING FIRE CO. TO ASK FOR TAX INCREASE

Disgusted with charity methods, members of Henry M. Laing Fire Co. department will probably ask for an increase in the Dallas Borough rate of one mill, Clyde Lapp, chairman of the drive of funds, announced yesterday. The resolution will be presented at the next meeting of the company tonight and will probably be acted upon, Lapp stated.

With the completion of the Machell Avenue WPA project the latter part of October, a total of \$13,000 will have been brought into the borough in WPA payrolls since last November. Machell Avenue project which calls for the construction of curbing on both sides of the road and the building of a covered ditch on the west side has employed 14 men regularly for six weeks and this week gave work to a full crew of 28 men. Appropriation for the project amounts to \$5,500.

50 Years Ago - Nov. 2, 1948

ZEL GARINGER PROTESTS WATER RATE HIKE

Zel Garinger in Colonial costume acted as Town Crier heralding the Town Meeting in Dallas Borough High School last Friday to protest increased water rates asked by Dallas Shavertown Water Co. Garinger walked several miles along sweltering Dallas and Shavertown streets on the hottest afternoon to ring his bell and notify citizens of the meeting.

One of the most attractive new auto sales rooms in the county was thrown open for inspection last night when Howard Isaacs entertained Chrysler-Plymouth dealers and officials of Chrysler Corp. in his newly completed building in Trucksville. The concrete building, 60x40 was constructed by Earl Johnson, Beaumont contractor.

40 Years Ago - Aug. 29, 1958

SCHOOL BUSES TO GET EMERGENCY LIGHTS

The Commonwealth is taking additional precautions to insure safe transportation for Pennsylvania's school children. Each school bus will be equipped with brilliant red emergency warning lights, used to alert other drivers that the bus is about to stop and discharge children. New type lights are now required by law as a result of legislature enacted by the 1957 session of the legislature.

Lehman School District took delivery on its new 60 passenger bus last night. Driven in from Richmond, IN, by Lewis V. Ide and Edwin Wright, the bus spent the weekend at Motor Twins having minor adjustments after its shake-down cruise. The bus is intended for use in extra-curricular activities will be housed in the Lehman Fire Hall.

30 Years Ago - Sept. 5, 1968

DALLAS TOWNSHIP STILL SHOPPING FOR LAND

While Dallas Township officials are anxious for erection of a new municipal building and garage before the winter, no sale has yet been consummated for the ground necessary. Working under near-impossible conditions in present quarters, Fred Lamoreaux road superintendent, hopes for acquisition to come about quickly.

Mr. and Mrs. William N. Sorber of Outlet observed their 62nd Wedding Anniversary on Sept. 4. The Sorbers have a daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Milbrodt, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A son, Robert W. Sorber, 32, died Sept. 19, 1958.

You could get - Center cut pork roast, 89¢ lb.; Little Neck Clams, 3 doz., \$1.19; country style spare ribs, 49¢ lb.; Grade A eggs, 3 doz., 79¢; A & P Coffee, 2 lb. can \$1.29.

20 Years Ago - Aug. 31, 1978

NOXEN ELEMENTARY CLOSED FOR VIOLATIONS

Noxen Elementary School will be closed and Noxen students will be transported to the Lake Elementary School, Lake-Lehman School Directors decided at a special meeting Tuesday. The decision to close the Noxen building which will be effective immediately was prompted by an inspection for the school by Department of Labor and Industry this month. According to the inspectors' report, fire and safety violation at both Noxen and Lake schools prohibited the use of the second floors in both buildings.