

EDITORIALS

## Recycling works, but more workers are needed

Out in Lake Township, there's a small band of people who take responsibilities to their families and the Earth seriously, so much so that they gladly give time and effort to run a voluntary recycling program for the community. They should be getting more help.

Their motivations are worth noting — to help the environment and to set an example for their children and other young people. As the saying goes, "We all live down stream," and we all have an interest in taking care of the places we live, both for ourselves and those who will follow us.

In many communities, including Dallas and Kingston townships and Dallas and Harveys Lake boroughs, the state has mandated that municipalities step in to assure that recyclable materials are recovered for re-use. But smaller townships, like Lake, are exempt, and cannot affordably run a home pickup program. Lake Township is fortunate to have a group of residents who make such a program available for everyone in town.

But even the most dedicated volunteers get tired of carrying the load all the time and the Lake Township Recycling program could use more helpers to spread the work around. At present two to five people take time the second Saturday of each month to man the recycling station and see that items are sorted properly, then take them to a recycling center in Wilkes-Barre. With more volunteers, the work would be less daunting, and more services could be offered.

Anyone who would like to volunteer, or seeks other information about the program can call 477-2479.

Having been a Yankee fan at the time Roger Maris hit 61 homers in a season, I've enjoyed keeping up with the progress Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa have made toward topping that mark. And I couldn't be more happy that Big Mac swatted No. 61 in only 144 games, because he erased any controversy about who really hit the most homers in a season.

Maris has carried the stigma of an asterisk since 1961, because it took him 162 games to beat Ruth, who smacked 60 in a 154 game season. I've always felt Maris's mark was tainted, and he didn't really beat Ruth. There's no telling how many more round-trippers the Babe would have hit in eight more games. But chances are it wouldn't have been as many as McGwire is likely to end up with.

Like many Yankee fans, I also resented Maris getting all the attention when Mickey Mantle was clearly the superior player. Maris was a mediocre hitter overall, and it's still a mystery to me how he emerged from obscurity to be the MVP two consecutive seasons. Mantle, on the other hand, was an all-around star, despite being hampered by legs that required hours of taping before each game.

But that's all past. Now I like the Red Sox, who are performing their usual late-season swoon, but may be far enough ahead to claim a wild card playoff spot. Then I can watch my new hero, Mo Vaughn, although I can't figure out how he gets the bat around on a fast ball.



Geraniums up, geraniums down. Photo by Charlotte Bartizek.



### 60 Years Ago - Sept. 16, 1938 VOTERS WILL DECIDE ON NEW LEHMAN HIGH SCHOOL

Interest in Lehman school problems waxed strong this week as voters prepared to go to the polls Sept. 23, to vote on a \$55,000 bond issue proposed to finance a new high school building. A number of meetings were held this week by both proponents and opponents of the plan and although sentiment seemed to be in favor of the bond issue there were indications that the special election next week, will be marked by spirited campaigning on both sides.

The resignation of W. J. White, commercial teacher in Kingston Township High School was read and accepted at a meeting of the township school board Tuesday evening.

### 50 Years Ago - Sept. 17, 1948 NATIVE TEXTILES AWARDS BID FOR HOUSING

Burn-Dale Realty Corp., real estate subsidiary of Native Laces and Textiles this week awarded a \$100,000 contract for nine, new houses to be constructed in Dallas Township by Douglas Kulp, Goss Manor building contractor. The homes will be rented to employees of Natona Mills at nominal rentals and will include all modern conveniences.

Directing their fire at Milk Control Commission, 300 farmer milk producers of Luzerne and Wyoming counties met at Lehman High School Monday. The meeting set the tempo of action when a resolution was unanimously passed calling upon all producer groups throughout the state to use every legal means possible to assure that the Senate of Pa. will not confirm the appointment of John Snyder and Charles O'Loughlin as members of the Milk Control Commission.

### 40 Years Ago - Sept. 12, 1958 TRANSCONTINENTAL GAS PIPELINE TO SUPPLY AREA

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corp. has launched a \$32,000,000 construction program in New Jersey and Northeast Pennsylvania to provide additional supplies of natural gas to the Philadelphia, New Jersey-New York City metropolitan area this winter. The program is part of an overall \$167,000,000 expansion program in 12 states just authorized by the Federal Power Commission Program which will not be completed until 1959.

You could get - Rib roast, 59¢ lb.; boneless chuck roast, 59¢ lb.; potatoes, U.S. #1, 50-lb. bag, 89¢; sweet potatoes, 4 lbs., 19¢; lettuce, 2 lg. hds. 19¢; Pineapple pie, 45¢ ea.

### 30 Years Ago - Sept. 19, 1968 SNAKE HANDLER BITTEN ON FINGER AT FALL FAIR

Open House at the new addition to Dallas Senior High School is scheduled for Sept. 29 from 4-6 p.m. The addition includes 11 classrooms, two biology labs, a large group instruction room, an extension of the cafeteria, a choral room, a remedial gymnasium, two team rooms, public lavatories, storage rooms and garages.

Rotary Fair goes watching Dr. Charles Kuschel of Pittston, pull out one rattlesnake after another from his wire cage, extracting venom from them, when one of the snakes head slipped out of the operator's hand and sunk his fangs into his finger. Lehman Township Chief of Police rushed the victim, hand rapidly swelling to Nesbitt Hospital in the patrol car. The following morning he was reported as doing well.

### 20 Years Ago - Sept. 14, 1978 SCHOOL DIRECTORS VOTE TO CLOSE NOXEN SCHOOL

Holding firm Tuesday on their decision to close Noxen Elementary School, Lake-Lehman School Directors voted 6-3 to keep the building closed and bus Noxen students to the Lake School. Shortly after confirming their decision to close the school the directors voted 8-1 to give the building to Noxen Twp. without charge.

The award-winning Lake-Lehman High School Band directed by John Miliuskas will perform at the Philadelphia Eagles-Miami Dolphins pro football game at Veterans Stadium, Philadelphia, Sept. 24. This will be the second time for the nationally known band to appear at Veterans Stadium.

LETTERS

## Staggered bus times better for Lake-Noxen

Editor,  
When I spoke to Mr. David McLaughlin-Smith about the time change at Lake-Noxen, my main concern was for those parents with jobs with an 8:00 a.m. starting time. After the first week of school, I've come to realize that this affects more than just parents.

I am familiar with the fine "Wee Care" program offered at Lake-Noxen. Not everyone, however, chooses to take advantage of this program. Some, I have been told, don't feel they can fit this added expense in their budget. Others have jobs in the opposite direction from the school. To drop their children at "Wee Care" would be an inconvenience they cannot justify. The other alternative is to leave the child home alone. These are elementary children.

Because of parent concern, buses are required to make additional stops to pick up children who are now left unattended at bus stops.

Breakfast is served from 8:25 until 8:45. (The students aren't allowed in the building before 8:25.) There is no way the cafeteria staff can serve breakfast to all our students in less than 20 minutes. To extend breakfast would take away preparation time needed to get ready for lunch.

Think about it! You can't take your family to a fast-food restaurant, go from the parking lot, through the line, sit and eat, and clear your table in 20 minutes. Yet, this is what is expected of the hundreds of students who may depend on breakfast at school. When time runs out, unopened cartons of milk and juice and other breakfast items with one or two bites will be thrown in the trash.

Many children will start their day with no breakfast. Instead of having the entire student population converge on the doors at 8:25, I propose that the first bus drop the students at 8:10, with subsequent buses scheduled at two minute inter-

vals. The final bus would drop students at 8:24, allowing all the children to be in the building by 8:25.

This will allow for a more uniform flow of students both into the building and the cafeteria for breakfast. Even dismissal at 3:05 is done systematically. There would be a great deal of confusion if all walkers and bus students were to be dismissed at one time.

I understand that the teachers' morning planning time is scheduled to end at 8:15. My proposal would require the two teachers scheduled for breakfast duty to leave just five minutes early. With a teaching and learning support staff of 31 at Lake-Noxen, this seems to me to be a small adjustment to make when considering the benefits.

Sometimes, what looks good on paper, may need to be revised to make it an actual, effective working plan.

Teresa Harris  
Noxen

## Tightly controlled schools teach bad lesson

Editor:  
School is Open, Drive Carefully is a message most all people are highly aware of because of the unremitting campaign promoting the safety and welfare of our children. Yet very few of us question whether school may be unsafe for the mental well-being of our children. We should question why our schools are looking more and more like prisons and what that environment is doing to students and the community. We have fences, guards, guard dogs, cameras on buses and in hallways; we have shakedowns and body searches, the result of which may be we are turning out on the streets children who have learned some really bad lessons which have killed their natural creativity and wonderful spontaneity, all because of the need for the "screws"

to maintain law and order.

Children are being conditioned to respond to bells and whistles, strict discipline and stifling conformity, items deemed necessary to a good education, and now we are adding uniforms as though that will improve on the failure of a moribund system designed to control and profit a growing monopolistic industry. Pepsi and Coke wars in the halls of academe and now General Motors as a teaching aid at vocational schools and colleges. What next, ATM machines in every school? We know you kids get an allowance. In short, stifle the little children - what we need are robotic consumers. More money means more schools and more schools means more money.

Well, thanks for listening, but if any of the forgoing strikes a

chord, you now have an opportunity to attend a lecture on September 17 from 7 to 9 p.m. at King's College, Burke Auditorium and hear John Taylor Gatto, author of "Dumbing Us Down" the hidden curriculum of compulsory schooling; "The Exhausted School," and "The Empty Child". Thirty years a teacher, Mr. Gatto has been honored as New York State Teacher of the Year and three times as New York City Teacher of the Year. Mr. Gatto's appearance is being sponsored by The Circle of Light Foundation, a local non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life through health and education. Mr. Gatto's lecture is open to the public and a small contribution will be greatly appreciated.

John Allen  
Sweet Valley

## Publisher's notebook

Ron Bartizek



This may be the last column of mine you read for a while. I'm going back to college. You see, I was one of those students with enough smarts to get A's in high school and score high on SAT's, but had study habits that make a sloth look positively energetic. As a result, I, well, let's just say I never quite completed my degree requirements.

But all that has changed. I've been inspired by Ohio State linebacker Andy Katzenmoyer's gallant effort to earn his way onto the No. 1 ranked Buckeyes roster. If he can take time out from daily football practice, by golly I can run a couple of newspapers and get my degree at the same time.

Even better, I plan to follow much the same track Katzenmoyer is taking in his quest to achieve a grade point average above 2.0. If you've been following this compelling saga, you know that Andy's not taking the easy way out. Oh no, he had to take three summer courses to make up for his, shall we say, hands-off approach to the books last spring. Summer courses, being short, are intense, so handling a trio of them is quite impressive.

I'm not sure I care about two of the three Andy's taking — music and AIDS awareness. I'm not much for listening to tunes all day, and AIDS kind of gives me the willies. I think I'll major in his third subject; golf. Now there's something I can sink my five iron into.

Just imagine it; since the summer schedule lasts only six weeks, poor Andy must have been dragged kicking and screaming out onto the greens three, maybe four times a week. It must have been hell for someone whose real interest is in breaking opponents' ribs. After all, there's no contact in golf, except when the club meets the ball. I wonder if there was even any of that kind of contact with Andy.

But that's not my problem. I'm looking forward to classes like Sand Wedge Theory, Driving Like Tiger Woods and Three Iron Technique. I can guarantee you I'll be paying attention, and will be ready — even eager — to put in all the extra study time that's required to earn a D. That's passing, right?

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## The Dallas Post

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

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