

EDITORIALS

Secrecy uncalled for, risky at Harveys Lake

At last week's meeting, members of the Harveys Lake Borough Council tried to calm residents' fears that the borough's police department would be disbanded, or merged into another community's department. Acknowledging that discussions had taken place, Council President Martin Noon said "There haven't been any changes made or proposed."

There are many reasons why a small community like Harveys Lake might want to join forces for police protection with another municipality. Such an arrangement might save money for both towns, since personnel and equipment could be shared. Coverage might even be more consistent, since a larger department could offer more backup, or could cover for ill or vacationing officers more easily. These are all potential advantages, but they should not have to be dragged out of public officials only when questions are raised about rumored changes.

It is well known that some council members have not been particularly supportive of the Harveys Lake chief of police or officers, now or in the past. Controversy has swirled around the department for years, and many questions have never been answered. But that is no reason for the council to go skulking around in secret trying to make a deal to merge the department, or purchase outside coverage. Even if they have the right idea — and there is no way to tell at this point if they do — an important part of their job is to bring the public into such an important discussion.

Members of the Harveys Lake Protective Association, which founded the police department in 1920, are rightfully upset that they and the rest of the public have been left out of whatever negotiations are going on. Contrary to the opinion of too many elected officials in this region, their job is not to run things as they see fit, it is to identify and pursue the course of action that appears to offer the most benefits, and that has the support of the people who are footing the bill.

By acting in secret, Harveys Lake Borough Council is creating mistrust where just the opposite should prevail, and could create dissension where there should be cooperation. If they have a better plan for the police department, let them present it to the people who live in the borough, and depend on the police for the safety of their property and families.

Publisher's notebook



Ron Bartizek

Now, children, today's lesson will be excerpts from the dictionary our President, William Jefferson Clinton, uses. The first definitions will be from a standard dictionary. In the last, you will learn new meanings for words that you may have heard in the news lately, and at the end there will be a quiz.

alone, adj. 1. not with others. 2. how you feel about being alone. "There were a lot of times when we were alone, but I never really thought we were alone." In other words, Washington hadn't been evacuated.

truthful, n. 1. habitually telling the truth. 2. habitually telling as little of the truth as possible, mixed with words that confuse the issue. Useful when addressing groups with different points of view, so that each believes you are on their side.

sex, n. 1. either of the two main groups (*male* and *female*) into which living things are placed according to their reproductive functions. 2. sexual feelings or impulses, attraction between members of the two sexes. 3. must be lying down.

lie, v. 1. a statement that the speaker knows to be untrue. 2. a thing that deceives. 3. when you get caught, but even then, there may be a way out if people are too lazy to care.

contrite adj. 1. penitent, feeling guilty. 2. looking like you're penitent and feeling guilty by biting your lower lip.

punishment n. 1. that which an offender is made to suffer because of his wrongdoing. 2. doesn't apply to me, it's only for suckers.

Now, the quiz ... oh, the heck with it, since you'd all want to follow the President's example and make up your own answers.

About letters, columns and editorials

The Dallas Post attempts to publish opinions on a variety of topics in many forms.

Editorials, which are the opinion of the management of The Post, appear on the editorial page and are written by the editor unless otherwise indicated. Any artwork represents the opinion of the cartoonist, and columns are the opinion of the author.

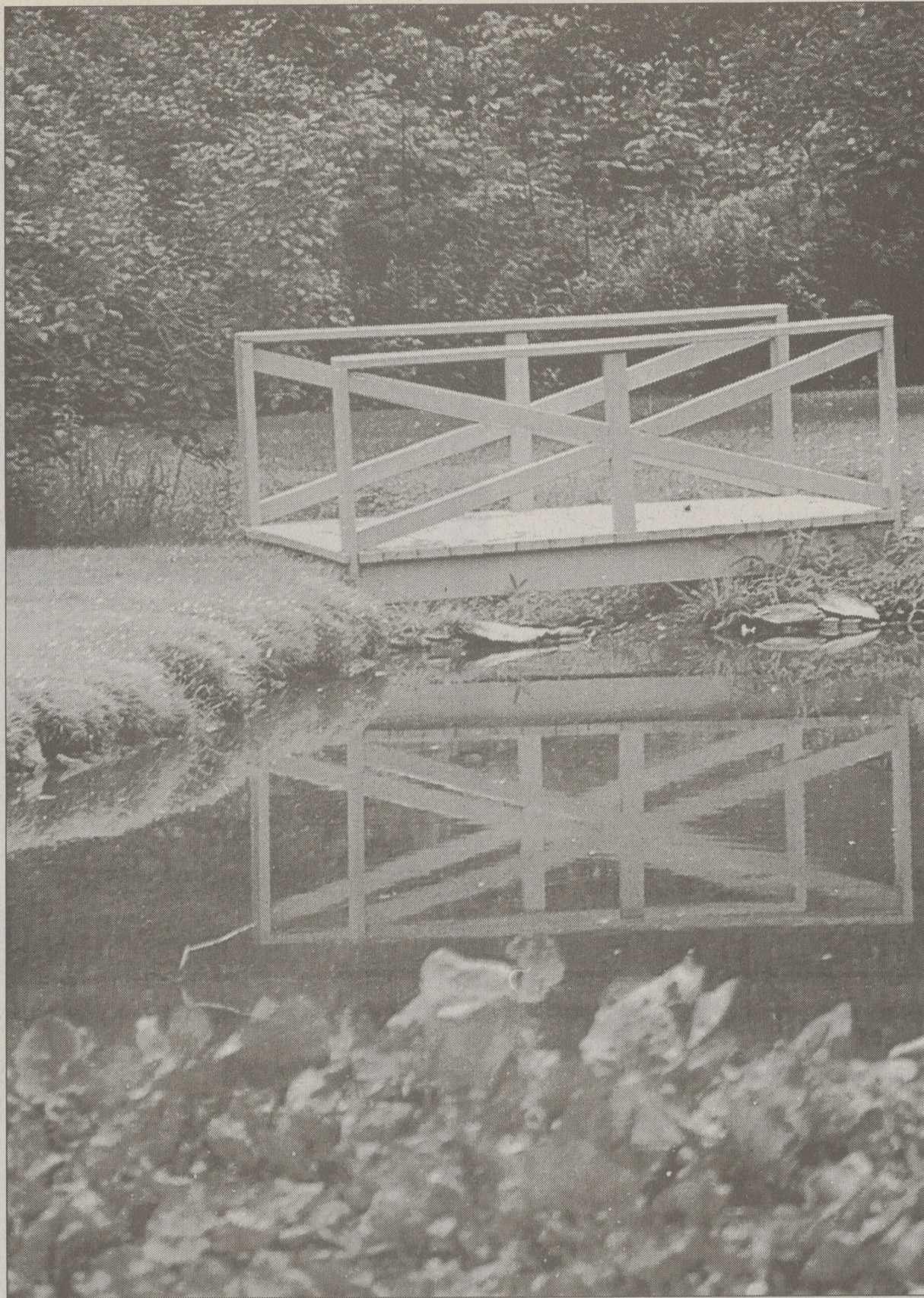
Letters to the editor are welcome and will be published, subject to the following guidelines:

- Letters should not exceed 500 words.
- No writer may have more than one letter published during a 30-day period, except as a reply to another letter.

- Letters must be signed and include the writer's home town and a telephone number for verification.
- Names will be withheld only if there exists a clear threat to the writer.

• The Post retains the right to accept or reject any letter, and to edit letters for grammar and spelling, as well as to eliminate any libel, slander or objectionable wording.

In addition to letters, we welcome longer pieces that may run as columns. The author or subject's relevance to the Back Mountain will be the prime consideration when selecting material for publication.



Summer's end at Frances Slocum State Park. Photo by Charlotte Bartizek.

Library news



Nancy Kozemchak

The Back Mountain Memorial Library announces that the fall story hours are filled. However, children may be signed up for the waiting list. The Wednesday morning 10:45 session will be led by story lady, Mrs. Kocher.

The Tuesday toddler session for two year olds and early threes will be directed by story lady, Mrs. Crompton. The Wednesday story hours are held at 9:30, 10:45 and 1:00. The Tuesday toddler begins at 11:00 and finishes at 11:30.

The second "brick campaign" is under way. The cost of each brick is \$100 which includes the en-

Brick campaign underway

graving. The Friends of the Library are sponsoring this second campaign. Forms are available at the front desk in the library.

An additional "Friends" sponsored activity is the sale of Entertainment Books which sell for \$25 each, which includes a membership card.

New children's books: "The Lenapes" by Robert S. Grumet is a new addition to the children's room from the "Indians of North America" series. The Lenapes traditionally lived along the Middle Atlantic coast in what are now New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. There they tended crops, fished, hunted, and traded with neighboring tribes. They were among the first Indians to encounter the English, French and Dutch in eastern North America in the 1600s.

"Pablo Neruda" by Joseph Roman is from the "Hispanics of Achievement" series. Pablo writes

his poetry and life have advanced like an American river, who was truly an American phenomenon. He lived an adventurous life and his adventures moved many people with the works of his poetry. He had changed his name while a teenager to conceal his poetry writing from a disapproving father. Although he deeply loved the forests and lakes, his passion took him far from home.

"Roberto Clemente" by Thomas W. Gilbert was the first Puerto Rican to achieve stardom in the major baseball leagues.

A relentless line-drive hitter and a fleet-footed, sure-handed outfielder with a rifle arm, he was one of the best athletes to ever compete on a baseball diamond.

He grew up in poverty but he learned from his devoted parents the virtues of hard work, discipline, and self-respect. He fell in love with baseball at an early age and joined the Dodgers.

WORD ON THE STREET

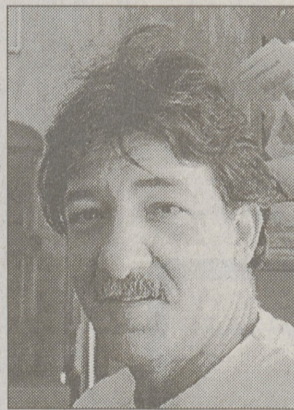
Q.: What is your favorite band and why?

Where asked: Around town



MICHELL LORD
Sweet Valley

"Hootie and the Blowfish. They are excellent in concert."



JOHN GARDNER
Trucksville

"The Righteous Brothers. I grew up with them."



EUGENE ZIEMBA, SR.
Upper Gwynnd, PA

"The Beatles."



SKIP DIEHL
Harding

"J. Giles Band. I just like their music."

LEGISLATORS' DIRECTORY

Federal Officials

Representative Paul E. Kanjorski
(Democrat)
Wilkes-Barre: 825-2200
Washington: (202) 225-6511
e-mail: paul.kanjorski@hr.house.gov
400M, 7 N. Wilkes-Barre Blvd., Wilkes-Barre PA 18702
or 2353 Rayburn Building, Washington, DC 20515

Senator Arlen Specter
(Republican)
Wilkes-Barre: 826-6265

Washington: (202) 224-4254
e-mail: senator_specter@specter.senate.gov
116 South Main Street, Wilkes-Barre PA 18701
or 711 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20510

Senator Rick Santorum
(Republican)
Scranton: 344-8799
Washington: (202) 224-6324
Fax: (202) 228-4991
e-mail: senator@santorum.senate.gov
527 Linden St., Scranton, PA 18503
120 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

ONLY YESTERDAY



60 Years - Sept. 30, 1938

VOTERS TO DECIDE ON NEW SCHOOL ADDITION

When Dallas Township voters go to the polls on Nov. 8 to vote in the gubernatorial election they will also decide whether an addition is to be built to the present high school building to replace the Old Goss schoolhouse. The Township School Board announced yesterday it will refer the current controversy over the old school building to the voters by permitting them to decide whether the district shall float \$15,000 worth of bonds to finance the annex.

LaVerne L. Richardson and Andrew Lumley have announced the opening of a Dodge and Plymouth sales agency in the former Besecker Garage building in Dallas. Richardson will have charge of sales and Lumley will handle the service end.

50 Years - Oct. 1, 1948

LOCAL LEGION TO GET MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Daddow-Isaacs Post American Legion has approved plans submitted by former Burgess H.A. Smith for a permanent memorial plaque and inscription to be placed on the Borough Honor Roll. The Legion favors removal from the roll of all names of servicemen except those who were killed or died in service.

Ken Grose, manager of the parts department for Oliver Motors, Kingston Borough embarked in the service station business near the Old Toll Gate on Memorial Highway in Trucksville. The new station built by Joe Blaze is one of the most modern and complete in this area and handles a complete line of Mobil products including tires and batteries. Ken calls his station "Ken Grose's Friendly Service."

40 Years - Sept. 26, 1958

HOUSEWIVES ATTEND ACME GRAND OPENING

The fate of the "Old Shoe" trophy award for the Back Mountain High School Football Championship will be determined tomorrow at 2 p.m. on the Lehman High School gridiron when the Scotties of Lehman meet the Mountaineers of Westmoreland. Both teams are at the peak of condition, Lehman with a 21-20 victory over Forty Fort last Friday will enter the contest as the favorite.

Throngs of Back Mountain housewives attended the Grand Opening Wednesday morning of the new Acme Market in the Back Mountain Shopping Center in Shavertown. Shoppers were impressed with the size and the many conveniences of the newest market in the Acme chain.

30 Years - Oct. 3, 1968

EDWARD BUCKLEY RECEIVES SERVICE AWARD

The tenth annual Dallas American Legion "Community Service Award" has been presented to Edward M. Buckley, Dallas Postmaster and Thomas E. Reese, Dallas Borough Tax Collector. The double presentation, the second of its kind was made on Sept 21 at Post 672 on Memorial Hwy. This year's recipients have been active in Legion affairs since their discharge from military service and both have served as commander of the post.

A pair of borrowed boats may have saved the life of Jim Davis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Davis, Dallas, who was hunting on Noxen Mountain area Saturday when a rattlesnake struck the toe of his boat. With three other companions, Davis was able to unlodge the snake and kill it with stones. The snake measured four feet and one inch long and had four rattlers.

20 Years - Sept. 28, 1978

CABLE T.V. DISPUTES PLAY OUT IN AREA

Will Dallas Borough television viewers be treated to an "instant replay" of the battle for Harveys Lake cable television rights? Not unless Dallas Borough Council decides to raise the subject of a formal franchise, require one and solicit bids from interested cable television firms, which so far it has refused to do. In fact, the scenario that was played out in Harveys Lake Borough during the spring and summer months could be repeated in Dallas only if the borough council makes a complete about-face from its stated policy of opposition to franchise based operations and preference for open competition.

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P.O. Box 366, Dallas PA 18612
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Ronald A. Bartizek
PUBLISHER

Charlotte E. Bartizek
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

Jessica Appolo
ADVERTISING ACCT. EXEC

Kylie Shafferkoetter
REPORTER

Ruth Proietto
PRODUCTION MANAGER

Olga Kostrobala
CLASSIFIED/TYPESSETTING

Jill Gruver
OFFICE MANAGER

