

EDITORIALS

Good wishes small and large at Thanksgiving

Thank goodness for small favors, the saying goes. In that spirit, here's a lighthearted look at some things we have to be thankful for this season.

- That Bill Clinton, not Saddam Hussein is president. We may have to put up with lying and skirt-chasing, but that's preferable to starvation.
- That Newt Gingrich is leaving the Congress, and we won't have to be subjected to any more doctrinaire 10-point plans to save the Republic.
- That Christmas comes but once a year. Although the season seems to grow to about 10 months long.
- That turkey is low-fat, low-cholesterol food. That way we can have a double helping of stuffing without feeling guilty.
- That Ted Jackson, once you get past the gruff profanity, has about 10 times the class of George "I don't shake hands" Curry.
- That the new Cellular One tower off Rt. 309 in Dallas Township is "only" 180 feet high, not 280 as originally planned. That makes it "only" 64 percent as ugly.

Okay, we've had some fun, which is just one benefit we have inherited from those dour Pilgrims who observed the first Thanksgiving in Plymouth. Now, we wish you and yours a happy Thanksgiving, and hope that no matter what your circumstances, you can find peace and comfort on this most American holiday, when we celebrate our good fortune, or look forward to a better day ahead.

Hearings not much better than Clinton's behavior

The big media players fell all over themselves touting the "historic" impeachment hearings in Washington, desperate to drum up interest in the next tawdry chapter in a sordid tale. But the few people who tuned in saw or heard just another partisan bickering session, with a couple of new faces thrown in for interest.

Bill Clinton's behavior with Monica Lewinsky was foolish, reckless, distasteful and disgusting. His lying to the American people, his family, his staff and Cabinet was wrong, and probably illegal in some respect. His use of government agencies and resources to cover up his repugnant behavior was clearly an abuse of power. Anyone with common human decency would have resigned either before or after the truth came out, but Clinton did not.

On the other side, Kenneth Starr's motives are questionable and his tactics were often seamy, and if not illegal, certainly skirted the edge of acceptable practice.

In the end, it's clear that, while highly objectionable, Clinton's actions are not the stuff of "high crimes and misdemeanors," and the hearings draw little interest because the public understands that fact.

The most sensible track for dealing with this matter was offered by U.S. Sen. Arlen Specter, when he suggested the impeachment proceedings be halted, and Clinton be prosecuted as a private citizen when he leaves office. That would allow the Congress to move on to more important matters, and would spare us the spectacle of a meaningless sideshow that serves only to further diminish our respect for the political process and, ultimately, the Constitution is the basis of our national life.

Publisher's notebook

Ron Bartizek



Perhaps you read that my home state has mortgaged itself halfway into the next century to attract the New England Patriots. Connecticut's governor says this brilliant move will in one swell foop turn Hartford from one of America's poorest cities into a shining beacon of prosperity and opportunity. I guess Fred Williams will be moving there soon once he gets wind of that kind of talk.

Anyway, all the excitement got me to thinking: why don't our communities do more to attract and keep landmark businesses, like the local newspaper. I mean, we bring traffic into town, create jobs and add a certain cachet to the region. Then it hit me; we're already linked to our towns, by name and history. But we can fix that.

First, we're going to change the name of the paper. No more "The Dallas Post." Now, we're just going to be "The Post." If memory serves, the Patriots began as the "Boston Patriots," and only when they realized the need for fans from a larger area became the "New England Patriots."

Next, we're going to find some other town to say they'd like us to move there. Maybe Shavertown or Harveys Lake would like the prestige of having the newspaper office and the accompanying fame and fortune. Once we get some interest, we'll go back to the town fathers in Dallas and threaten that if they don't match the incentives being offered — maybe a pizza from Grotto or Pizza Perfect once a week — we're packing up and moving out.

Oh, and one other thing: luxury seats. Every sports team owner uses luxury boxes as the excuse for needing a new stadium. Here's our deal; we won't come to your town unless the publisher gets a new office, say about 50' by 50' with a pool table and wet bar, all of which can be paid for by adding just a mill or two to the tax rate.

How about it, fellas? Any takers?

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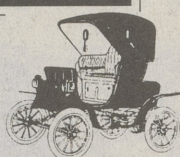
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ONLY YESTERDAY



60 Years Ago - Dec. 2, 1938 QUARANTINE FOR MUMPS LIFTED BY DOCTOR

A 10-day quarantine which closed Noxen schools, churches and caused cancelling of many Thanksgiving activities was lifted this week and Dr. L.T. MacDougal, Wyoming County medical director, expressed opinion the epidemic of mumps which provoked the quarantine is under control.

Official tabulation of returns from Luzerne County in the November election will remain unsettled until Dec. 19 when the court en banc will hear the Democratic County Committee's appeal from Board of Election's actions in throwing out the vote of two election districts. Until the court acts upon it, it is impossible to say whether Judge Arthur H. James, Republican or Charles Alvin Jones, Democrat carried Luzerne County.

50 Years Ago - Dec. 3, 1948 SEWAGE PLANT AT MISERICORDIA NOW IN USE

The newly constructed sewage treatment plant at College Misericordia has recently been placed in complete operation, providing abatement of pollution at the head waters of Toby's Creek. Sewage treatment at the college was previously accomplished by the use of septic tanks. The plant is designated to provide sewage treatment for a college population of 500 persons. It was constructed at an approximate cost of \$32,000.

You could get - Center cut pork chops, 59¢ lb.; standing rib roast, 59¢ lb.; snow white mushrooms, 45¢ lb.; Supreme bread, lg. loaf, 13¢; Beechnut Strained Foods, 6 jars, 57¢; Orange ring cake, ea. 59¢.

40 Years Ago - Nov. 28, 1958 ROBERT PICKETT BAGS 375 LB. BLACK BEAR

Robert Pickett, East Dallas, got a 375 lb. black bear in the mountains back of Forkston Fire Tower, two hours after bear season opened Monday morning. The kill was made with a 348 Winchester. It took seven shots to insure a kill,

the bear was so large and powerful.

In order to maintain its high scholastic standards in the face of inflationary costs, Wilkes College has announced tuition costs will be increased to \$650 per year starting September, 1959.

Now playing at the Himmeler Theatre, "The Big Country" with Gregory Peck and Jean Simmons.

30 Years Ago - Dec. 5, 1968 LAKE-LEHMAN WINS TURKEY DAY GAME

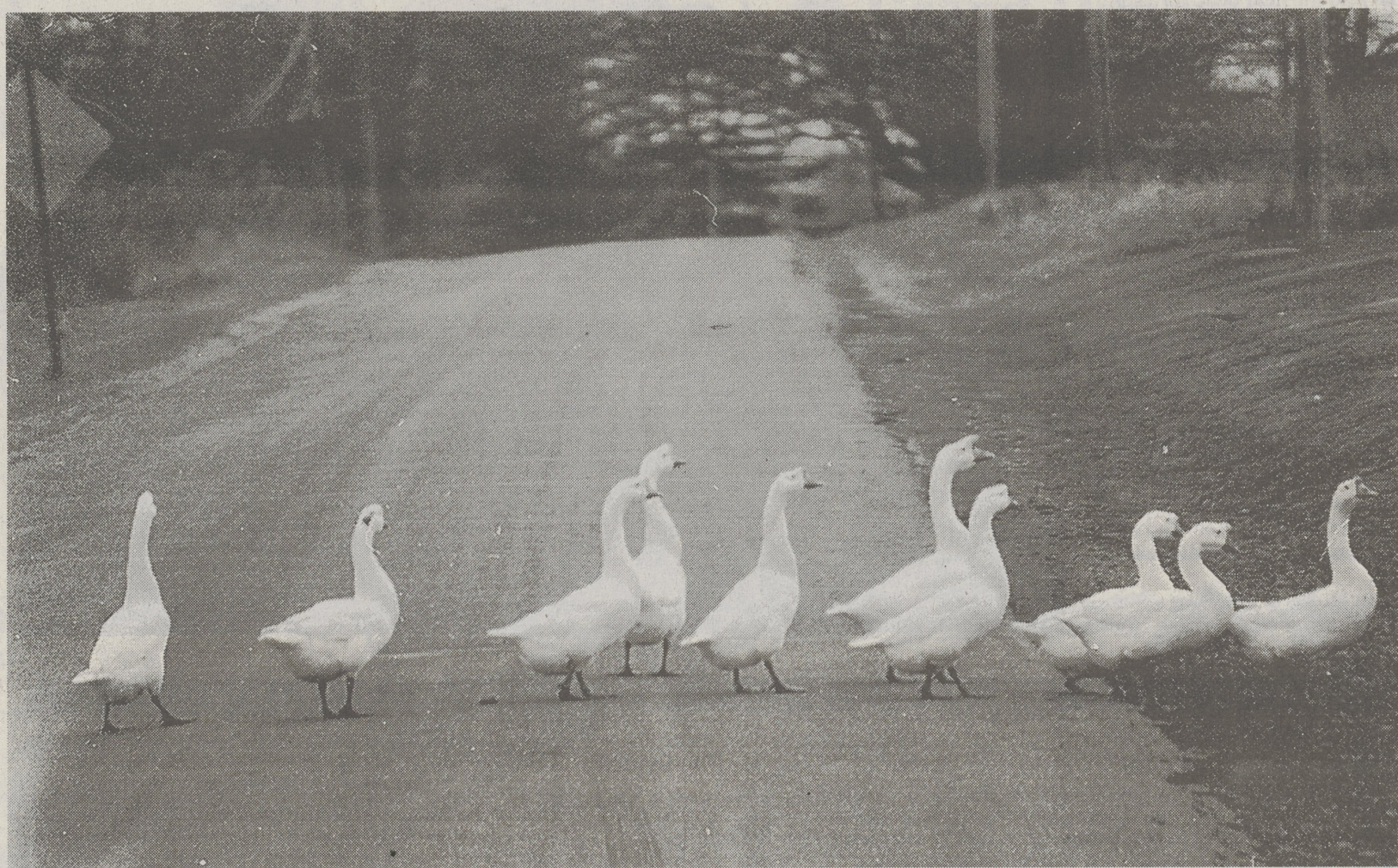
The Mounts of Dallas, bowed to the strong defense of Lake-Lehman Knights 23-0 Turkey Day. This was the second straight downfall of the Mounts at the hands of Knights in their annual Thanksgiving battle. For the Mountaineers this was the first Homecoming Game and during half time Senior Class President Jeff Eyt crowned student elected queen Joan Nelson.

William Moss and his wife Gertrude were honored by Dallas Kiwanis Club at a Thanksgiving Eve Dinner meeting at Irem Temple Country Club. Lured by Don Anthony chairman of '68 Auction into attending "an auction meet-

ing", Bill was astounded when a bronze plaque bearing the inscription "Presented to William and Gertrude Moss in appreciation of their many years of faithful and devoted service to the Back Mountain Community 1968" was handed to him.

20 Years Ago - Nov. 30, 1978 HARVEYS LAKE TO STAY WITH BMT TELECABLE CO.

Harveys Lake Borough residents will continue to receive cable television service from Back Mountain Telecable Co. despite the fact that borough council awarded the cable franchise to Gamma Corp., newly formed company headed by Robert Hosey of Plymouth, according to statements from a telecable spokesperson this week. Harveys Lake Council waived the original 30-day clause in the franchise by amendment after the borough was sued by Telecable. Under amended franchise Gamma will not have to provide service until 30 days after the suit is settled in court. In the past Telecable Co. had no franchise with Harveys Lake Borough but installed service to borough residents.



How, but not why, geese cross the road. Photo by Charlotte Bartizek.

Library news



Nancy Kozemchak

The Book Club of the Back Mountain Memorial Library met in the community room of the library for the November meeting. The total spent for book club books for 1998 to date is \$1,953.28. These books remain on the book club shelf in the library for six months and then become part of the library general collection. The

Kids' cookbook, Santa bricks for holidays

book club membership dues is used to purchase the books and they are restricted to book club member use for the six months. The December meeting will be a luncheon meeting on Monday, Dec. 21. The dues notice for 1999 membership will be mailed out soon.

The library is selling a children's cookbook for \$9.50, which includes recipes submitted by children and interesting art work. Also, the "Santa Brick" is selling for \$100. A commemorative engraved brick, a gift that will last forever, with a special message will be placed in the walkway entrance to the library. These items would make nice Christmas gifts for someone special.

The "Slightly Read Book Store" has been well attended since it opened on November 7.

The original coordinators of the store and the many volunteer helpers that run the store have been busy keeping the collection up to date. The store will remain open on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

New books at the library: "All Through the Night" by Mary Higgins Clark is a celebration of the Christmas season with a tale of suspense that will keep readers turning the pages—all through the night. Alvirah and Willy are at the center of the novel, which calls on their deductive powers and common sense.

"To The Limit" is the untold story of the Eagles; the most popular and enduring rock band in America.

It traces the unauthorized story from the early years through the breakup, the solos and the 1994 reunion.

At turns revealing, inspiring, funny and shocking, it is a chronicle of a time and a place.

"Mirage Image" by Danielle Steel explores one of life's most powerful and mysterious relationships—the bond between identical twins. It tells a story of the lives of two sisters, and takes us on an unforgettable journey. It is of two vastly different sisters as we follow their destinies and lives.



He: The Dallas Post, May 11, 1972, pg 3

Dallas Post, matchmaker?

It was 1972 - Nixon was President, bell bottoms were the style and Kathy Rave and Christopher Michael appeared in the May 11 issue of The Dallas Post. Perhaps fate drew them together, after they appeared on pages 3 and 11. They were married Nov. 26, 1993.



She: The Dallas Post, May 11, 1972, pg 11

Newspaper office closed for holiday

The office of The Dallas Post newspaper will be closed all day Thursday, Nov. 26 and Friday, Nov. 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

News items for the Dec. 2 issue should be submitted by 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25. They may also be left in the drop box at the front of the office.

Classified and display advertising will be accepted until the normal deadlines of 4 p.m. Monday.

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