

EDITORIALS

Lehman school board makes good choice on technology

After some lively discussion, members of the Lake-Lehman school board made the wise decision to support a long-range technology plan for the district. But first, the ghosts of prior administrations had to be exorcised from the plan, specifically a reference to previous school boards' one-track emphasis on fiscal restraint even if it meant depriving students of necessary programs or equipment.

No matter what endeavor today's high school students choose to pursue after graduation, they will need to possess technological literacy in order to succeed. Computers and other forms of modern technology are spreading into every level of business and organization, and they are generally making life and work more efficient and enjoyable. Slow, tedious, dirty and dangerous jobs are being handed over to mechanical and electronic marvels, and people who used to do them must learn to control their new assistants. At the same time, complex scientific and medical tasks are being performed by high-capacity computers, adding technological prowess to the skills required of professionals.

Let's hope this school board never has to make a choice between reasonable tax rates and adequate equipment for students. But if it does, members have shown a welcome desire to keep students' needs at the top of their priority list.

Town cleanups a great service

For all their growing sophistication, town governments in the Back Mountain maintain a firm grasp on their responsibility to fulfill basic needs. The roads are repaired and cleaned as quickly and completely as possible, police protection is first-rate, and this time of year, we can

look forward to spring cleanup. This might seem a quaint tradition to jaded residents of major cities, but spring cleanup is a sort of marking point for us, a reminder that with the arrival of longer days and warmer temperatures (well, maybe soon), it's time to clean out our nests.

In a way, spring cleanup is disheartening when we realize how much of throwaway society we have become. But, if we're going to run through all this stuff, we at least have the opportunity to dispose of it properly, and not let it pile up in our yards or basements, or drop it by the roadside in the dark of night.

There is one other option for your good used items, though; you can bring them to the Back Mountain Memorial Library and donate them to the 55th annual auction, which takes place in July. Every penny paid for them will be used to operate this critical institution and you'll be free of throwaway guilt. Just drop by the library at 96 Huntsville Road in Dallas during daytime hours and someone will help take the items. Then be sure to come to the auction so you can buy someone else's contributions.

Publisher's Notebook

Ron Bartizek



It's one of the great mysteries of life: Why do I, whose desk usually looks like the office collection point for paper recycling, so love to clean up and throw things out? Just the other day I was moving from a desk in one corner of the office to another, and took great delight in chucking scraps of paper, note pads with two pages left in them and other assorted junk into the trash can.

Heaven knows it's not the novelty that makes me enjoy cleaning up, since I'm perpetually trying to stay below three or four layers of unfinished work. I have an idea, though, thanks to modern educational theory, which postulates there are different types of learners. If that's the case, I'm surely a visual person, because I live in fear of losing contact with important or even trivial items, particularly if they have to do with customers or my boss. I figure if I lose sight of anything, it will drop forever from memory and I'll be in trouble with someone. Other people are blessed with the ability to place papers in file drawers, and actually remember where they put them. It must take the right genetic mix for that talent to surface, since I've never been able to do it no matter how hard I try.

Still, I've decided it's time to turn over a new leaf. Starting next week I'm swearing off my old life as a messy-desk person and becoming a poster boy for office neatness. I know this won't be easy, and backsliding is to be expected, so I'm asking co-workers for support in this attempt to overcome a lifetime of sloppiness. As for anyone who is waiting for a return phone call, well, you may want to give me a reminder, since your note will be at the bottom of a file folder, which may mean out of mind as well as out of sight.

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Donora Hillard

I know it has been a while since my last column, and for that I apologize. So much has gone on recently, and while I know that is the common excuse for the shortcomings of humanity, this busy time bears a certain significance. For the first time, I truly feel ready to move on. School, sadly enough, has lost its luster and excitement. There are upcoming events—the

Graduation Day is near: I'm ready

prom, AP tests, the senior trip to Washington—all exciting in their own right but not really worth writing about. At this point, they seem like little fun-filled speed bumps on the road to graduation. The coming weeks will fly by, I know, but it appears that even though we have come so far, there is still much to do with the little time we have left. All of this can try one's patience. Though jaded by any means, I am anxious now; anxious to spread my wings and see what else is out there.

T.S. Eliot writes: "In a minute there is time for decisions and revisions which a minute will reverse." Truer words were never spoken. Now my greatest deliberation is pondering how the de-

isions I make now will affect me in the future. I do not want to look back on my high-school years with anything resembling regret. I am fearful of this because now, even subconsciously, I can see myself pushing people away, friends whom I've known for years. I do not feel badly about this yet—it is a natural occurrence for people to begin distancing themselves in order to prepare for an impending transition. I see others doing the same, and this helps to redeem my own behavior, but I cannot help but wonder if I am missing out on what is supposed to be my main source of happiness in these closing weeks. When it gets to be too much to handle, I remember the words of

another wonderful poet, Alane Rollings: "For too much feeling, breathe deeply." This is all I can do, for now. I have no way of knowing where I will be in a decade, or even where I will be tomorrow. The most I can guarantee is that I have tried my best over these last four years to be a worthy student, daughter and friend, and will continue to do so for as long as the time is afforded me.

For any students reading this, I will tell you what I constantly tell myself: hang in there. It has been a rough ride for all of us, but it will certainly be a joy to receive that diploma. With the clock running down, let me offer my congratulations on your job well done. Let's keep it up.



Carol King

Book discussion group The Monday morning group reviewed "Keeping Faith", by Jodi Picoult, at its last meeting. The book

Thanks, thanks for your luncheon publicity!

deals with an unusual theme, to which representatives of different faiths reacted in the story, and in our discussion. There was general agreement that the main message was that everyone has the right to believe as she or he wishes. We found that the research done by the author was impressive, the characters well defined, and the book well written and absorbing.

The final meeting of the season will be held on May 21, when the group will discuss

"The Sun Also Rises", by Ernest Hemingway. The group will lunch together at the Castle Inn after the meeting.

Display for Antique Show The committee for the Prince of Peace Episcopal Church's annual Antique Show has put on display at the library a selection of amber glass pieces. The show will be held May 8, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and May 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost of admission is \$2.50 per person and includes free parking. There will

be food available.

Library luncheon The 13th annual "Luncheon with a Special Author", sponsored by the Friends of the library and held on April 26th, was well-attended and a very pleasant occasion. The speaker, Catherine Gourley, delighted the audience with her comments and readings from her books. The Friends wish to thank the Dallas Post for their extensive advance publicity for the event.



70 Years Ago - May 1, 1931

IREM TEMPLE COUNTRY CLUB TO OPEN SEASON

Formal opening of the season at Irem Temple Country Club, Shrine View, is scheduled to open soon. Additional nine holes will be added to the regular eighteen holes which will be used for the first time in match play. For this occasion Fred J. Wechesser, who donated the additional holes, has offered a special prize which will be competed for annually until one person has won it three times.

Dallas now has a complete 5, 10 and 25¢ store. Mrs. John A. Williams has opened it at 48 Main street, Dallas, and calls it The American Home Shop. In-

cluded in the line are novelties, hosiery, candy, party favors, office supplies and many items in drugs.

Three of the outstanding motion pictures produced recently will be featured on Himmler's Theatre banner week program. They are "Follow the Leader," starring Ed Wynn; "Hell's Angels" was produced by young millionaire, Howard Hughes, and "Great Meadow" which is a tale of romance, Indian fights and frontier adventures in the Daniel Boone country. Also showing will be "Paid" starring Joan Crawford.

60 Years Ago - May 2, 1941

BACK MOUNTAIN OSCAR AWARDED TO RALPH ROOD

Ralph H. Rood, teacher in the public schools and public-spirited Dallas citizen of many years, received the "Back Mountain Oscar", gift of Joseph MacVeigh, for the outstanding performance in this year's fire company show at a dinner for the cast and friends in the Borough High School Building.

Trevor Griffiths, 21-year-old nephew of David Richards, Lehman avenue, Dallas, is one of twenty British seamen rescued from an open boat and taken to Lisbon, Portugal, when the merchantman Western Chief was torpedoed and sunk some days ago in mid-Atlantic, according to letters reaching relatives in New York. According to information available, Trevor with nineteen others of the crew managed to secure a place in an open boat which drifted for two days on the Atlantic before being picked up by a friendly ship and taken to Lisbon.

Students of Lehman Township schools dedicated two pin oak trees to "Youth" and "Peace" at Arbor Day ceremonies held on the school grounds. Dedication was part of a larger program during which students, teachers and townsfolk joined in a community beautification project. In all, five pin oak trees were named and planted along the highway in front of the school building.

50 Years Ago - May 4, 1951

MARION COMER, BLIND SINCE 18, FLIES TO DETROIT FOR GUIDE DOG

Marion Comer, left for a four-week training course at the Pathfinder Guide dog Training School. This was the first airplane trip of her life time. Marion, a graduate of Dallas Borough High School and blind since eighteen, will spend four weeks in Detroit, where she will become acquainted and trained with the Pathfinder dog awarded to her by Harveys Lake Lions club and Back Mountain Kennel Club. The dog she will receive will be pure bred, probably a Doberman Pinscher.

Massive Chest X-Ray will take place at Harveys Lake, under auspices of Harveys Lake Women's Service Club. The mobile unit from Wyoming Valley Tuberculosis Society will be at Lake Township School and Lehman-Jackson School. Mrs. Barbara Shriner is chairman of

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