

EDITORIALS

Smart kids, and adults, will heed drunk driving message

Thankfully, the injuries and deaths weren't real when a group of Abington Heights students staged a mock accident last week. But the message couldn't have been more clear — drinking and driving don't mix.

Anyone who has been tempted to write off that message needs only observe the carnage that is caused daily by heedless drunk drivers to be startled back into reality. And it's not just students who need to take the advice seriously; some of the worst tragedies are caused by adults who lack either the concern or self-control to hand the keys over when they've had too much to drink.

This is one of the worst times of the year for drunken driving, when graduation parties and proms seem to spark the fires of irresponsibility, and teens who want desperately to be grown up follow the example of adults who may never have developed beyond adolescence. If you're a teen or young adult, show your maturity by acting to protect your own life and those of others. If you've been drinking, stay where you are until you sober up. If you're with someone else who has had too much, don't let them get behind the wheel until they're in a condition to do so.

There is simply no good reason to put yourself and others at risk of injury or death when such an obvious alternative is at hand. If you drink, don't drive, and don't let a friend drive if they're not able to do so competently.

To the victors belong the work

Last week's primary election for local township and school board offices was the end of the contest for most races, since so few of our communities have two viable parties. But that doesn't diminish the task for the winners, who will go on to serve their communities in various ways, receiving little but criticism in return.

We shouldn't forget that most local office holders go through the rigors of a campaign and the ups and downs of incumbency with the interest of their communities at heart. While few of us support every one of their positions on issues, we can respect their willingness to devote hours and attention to public business that could as easily be spent relaxing in comfort. The winners deserve our congratulations, and the runners-up our gratitude for making an effort to raise awareness of problems and opportunities that often affect us more deeply than the goings-on in Washington or even Harrisburg.

Publisher's Notebook

Ron Bartizek



Those of us who live in the Northeast U.S. face challenging conditions in which to grow grass and landscape plants around our homes. Cold winters, alternating dry and sopping summers, ice and snow make the American Dream lawn achievable only with the application of great effort and expense, not to mention fertilizer. Then there are fools like me who wonder why it's so difficult to get grass to look like a Masters fairway when our houses are set on shelves of rock ledge dressed with six inches of soil that can only in jest be considered "top."

So, what are we to do if we don't want our yards to stand out in stark brown contrast to the lush, manicured grounds idealized by legions of advertising men and film producers? There seem to be only two options: Devote at least 12 of each 24 hours in a weekend day to trimming, feeding, mowing, weeding and worrying that our hue of green is inferior to the neighbors'; or, hire a lawn service to stop by once a week and spread chemicals that - like a neutron bomb - kill all the bad things while making grass feel good all over. In truth, I'm not convinced they don't just spray green paint, but I'm still checking that one out.

I've chosen, as Bill Clinton used to be fond of saying, a third way. I figure, if the lawn looks pretty good as I pull into the driveway, unless they're flying over in a helicopter no one else will notice the bare spots, so don't worry, be happy. As for the portion that's now about 18 inches high, that's a butterfly preserve, thank you. And I think dandelions are among the most beautiful flowers in the world.

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The floating party. Photo by Jim Phillips

Lest we forget

As we live in a mostly peaceful time, it is so easy to forget why we are a free people. So it is our duty, as Americans and patriots who love this land, to ensure that every one that breathes the fresh air of freedom is reminded of the price paid and those who made the ultimate sacrifice. The young and idealistic doughboy of World War I. His country needed him and he went willingly. More than one hundred sixteen thousand Americans lost their lives in that war.

During World War II, Americans again fought, not just for themselves, but for the entire world. Four hundred thousand died. Then came the biting

cold of Korea. There, on a frozen peninsula, thirty-seven thousand Americans paid the price.

In Vietnam, fifty-eight thousand lost their lives and thousands more remain unaccounted for to this very day.

And during the mercifully short Persian Gulf War, another 300 Americans died to preserve someone else's freedom, to save someone else's homeland.

Memorial Day is the day we remember and honor those who lost their lives fighting for our nation. But more than day to decorate the graves of honored dead, Memorial Day is a reaffirmation of faith.

Faith in a Creator who intended all people to be free. Faith that those who fight for freedom will prevail over those who fight for tyranny. Faith in the natural and universal pursuits of mankind—freedom, justice and democracy, will remain attainable because free people will fight for them.

Memorial Day is not only about remembering the men and women who made the supreme sacrifice. It is about acknowledging and protecting the ideals they died for; so their sacrifice shall not be in vain.

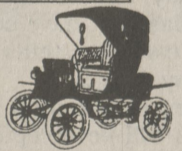
Through our efforts, America's faith in freedom, justice and democracy will remain intact. And so will the blanket of

freedom that our honored dead bequeathed to us.

"We do not know one promise these men made, one pledge they gave, one word they spoke, but we do know they summed up and perfected, by one supreme act, the highest virtues of men and citizens. For love of country they accepted death, and thus resolved all doubts, and made immortal their patriotism and virtue." General James A. Garfield, 1868.

The American Legion
12th District
Walter W. Bartend,
Commander
Peter Baler, Adjutant

ONLY YESTERDAY



70 Years Ago - May 22, 1931

ELSTON ELECTED NEW CHIEF OF POLICE

Elwood Elston was elected Chief of Police at a salary of \$125 per month at the meeting of Dallas Borough Council. Mr. Elston's duties will continue until October.

The first open air ceremonial for 1931 of Irem Temple, A.A.O.N.S., will be held at the Irem Temple Country Club, at Shrine View. Irem will also conduct a pilgrimage to Cleveland and Yellowstone Park.

Idetown got back in the winning column by taking one from Shavertown. Pete Kocher was in rare form allowing but six scattered hits. "Lefty" Thomas was a little off and allowed Idetown to pile up a lead they were unable to overtake.

60 Years Ago - May 23, 1941

NEW HIGHWAY MAY OPEN ON MEMORIAL DAY

With weather permitting and State inspectors lenient, Trucksville-Dallas highway will be opened for traffic on Memorial Day. Two of the three lanes

of concrete have been finished for some time and the third is rapidly approaching completion.

Thirteen girls and ten boys, members of the Class of 1941 will receive diplomas at the annual Commencement exercises of Dallas Borough High School subject to the completion of present work. T.A. Williams, supervising principal told Dallas Borough School Board.

Arrangements are being made to accommodate a crowd of more than 3,000 spectators when Kingston Township schools present their annual May Day and Field program.

50 Years Ago - May 25, 1951

OFFICIAL FLAG RAISING AFTER MEMORIAL PARADE

A flagpole and a large outdoor flag, gift of American Legion Auxiliary and Daddow Isaac Post, will be presented to Dallas Borough school immediately following the memorial Day Parade. Chairman of Memorial Day observance is Paul Shaver; arrangements for the flag ceremony, Mrs. Frank Ferry.

Dean S. Dodson, son of Mr. and Mrs. George L. Dodson, Lehigh St., Shavertown, has been promoted to sergeant, his commanding officer announced at the base.

Ann Peterson, Norton Avenue, has been elected head of the National Students' Association at Pembroke College. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

Henry Peterson, is a graduate of Wyoming Seminary.

40 Years Ago - May 25, 1961

LAKE-LEHMAN PREPARES FOR COMMENCEMENT

Lake-Lehman will give diplomas to 96 seniors at Commencement June 13. The school's top ranking honor students will be giving a five minute speech each. They are: John Norman Landis, Oak Hill; Donna Meeker, Noxen; Sandra Slimak, Plymouth; and Jacquelyn Ruff, Noxen.

Roy Hall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Hall, Shavertown, will receive the coveted Eagle Scout award at the fifteenth annual Father and son Banquet of Troop 232, at St. Therese's Auditorium.

Despite a 14-hit attack, Beaumont dropped a 10 inning 5-4 affair to Forkston on the winners diamond. Carl Crispell and Bob Harris each collected three for Beaumont, while Brobst, Cook and Larry Crispell each came along with two each.

30 Years Ago - May 27, 1971

LAKE-LEHMAN APPROVES TENTATIVE 1971-72 BUDGET

A tentative budget of \$1,758,972 for 1971-72 was approved by the Lake-Lehman School Board at an adjourned meeting. Teacher salaries, an expenditure accounting for \$899,069 of the budget, was the single largest item in the proposed budget.

Cub Scout Pack 233 of St.

Paul's Church, Shavertown, recently held a pinewood derby at Westmoreland Elementary School. The event, supervised by Ted Newcomb and Bob Rosencrans, was judged by Jim Zamba, superintendent of Frances Slocum Park.

Penn State University headcage coach, John Bach, will join the Camp St. Andrew basketball clinic staff for his third consecutive year, it was announced by the Rev. Francis J. Houston, campdirector.

20 Years Ago - May 20, 1981

AWARENESS PROGRAM HELPS YOUTH AVOID ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROBLEMS

Father Robert Caparelli, executive director of Awareness began in September, 1978 to search for a program that would cope with difficult problems, abusive behavior, delinquency, truancy, drug and alcohol abuse. This program is called Awareness and is the only total prevention program in Northeast Pennsylvania that is schooled-based.

Back Mountain students receiving degrees this month include Shippensburg State College seniors Gregory G. Parsons, Dallas; Marie Terese Gomba, Shavertown; and Paul J. Moran, Trucksville.

Brian Muldoon drove out a double, gave up only two hits and struck out six at the plate to lead the Dallas Mountaineers to a 10-2 win over Lake-Lehman Knights.