EDITORIAL

Students, adults: Celebrate graduation by acting responsibly

Graduation can seem like the best of times and the worst for graduating high school seniors. While they face the exciting prospect of advancing to college or entering the workforce, they also will let slack the lines that have steadied their lives for many years. They'll make new friends, lose touch with old ones, enjoy triumphs and rue failures, and to the consternation of their parents — make many mistakes on their way to independent lives and careers.

One mistake they must avoid is putting themselves and their friends at risk by driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Every year at this time, parties are held to honor graduates and toast their accomplishments. Sometimes, whether parents know it or not, alcohol is consumed by young people who underestimate its effects, and who may end up driving in an impaired condition. This is not cool, this is careless and stupid, not the behavior we are celebrating during this season.

A valid argument can be made that someone old enough to carry a gun in service to his or her nation should be able to hoist a beer or sip a glass of wine. But there is no good reason for that same person — or anyone of any age — to get behind the wheel of a 4,000 lb. vehicle, perhaps with others inside, and become a menace to everyone on the

If you are hosting a party this year, make sure your guests know the simple rule about drinking a driving; don't do it. And if you're attending, don't rely on anyone else to force you to act responsibly.

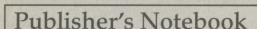
Exercise your new maturity and independence by doing the right thing for yourself and your companions. Don't drive drunk, and don't let anyone else do it either.

From Shavertown, with love

The parishioners of St. Therese's Church in Shavertown are doing their part to bring hope to impoverished Liberian children who would otherwise be abandoned by their own families. Their support for the mission of

Sister Sponsa Beltran, a Franciscan nun with roots in Wilkes-Barre, is helping to provide food, shelter, medical care and education for 100 children who might be considered "witched" in the superstitious society of their homeland.

It's a long way from Shavertown to Monrovia, but the distance hasn't reduced the desire of Back Mountain residents to contribute to the well-being of children, regardless of their color or culture.



Ron Bartizek



My son Carl and I joined hundreds of other volunteers last week to help put on the Steamtown Classic golf tournament at Glenmaura National Golf Club, otherwise known as Hades to most of the players who participated.

While we had only to contend with wind, rain and miles of hillsides to trudge up and down, they had to do all that and play golf too. Their performances made it all worthwhile for duffers like me, who would be happy to make par every other hole, particularly at a course where there appears to be more rock, water and swamp than fairway. Still, I had to marvel at the tee shots they fired off, especially the ones over a couple of hundred yards of waste area between the tee and fairway, where I'd be inclined to drop and take a penalty stroke rather than lose a \$4 golf ball.

The tournament is part of the Buy.com Tour, named for a generous but now nearly bankrupt sponsor that sells electronics and other items over the internet. The company's stock chart looks like a ski jumping hill that is unfortunately going to the right, and the latest price is 30 cents. This sponsorship deal sounds a lot like the company whose name is on the new stadium for the Baltimore Ravens football team, and which vowed to fulfill its 10-year "naming rights" deal despite posting hundreds of millions in losses.

But maybe these companies can come back, and so too some of the golfers at the Steamtown Classic. We were surprised at the number of players here who had once been on the regular PGA tour, where purses are 10 times larger and courses flatter and more forgiving. May they get out of the rough of life to prosper again.

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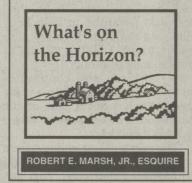
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Is it lunchtime yet? Photo by Monica Marzani



This is a monthly column written by members of the North Branch Land Trust which is headquartered in Trucksville.

What an amazing opportunity! By employing the use of a Conservation Easement, a rural or suburban landowner with acreage suitable for nature preservation purposes can help protect and conserve the natural environment which sur-

Conservation easements: effective tax planning

rounds us while at the same individuals could be referred Inheritance Taxes!

large holding of land of nat- developed. ural beauty possessing valuated value of the property

time possibly reducing in- to as "cash poor." The loss come taxes and Estate and of valuable green and open spaces as a result make all Often we hear or read of of us "poorer" when natural the unfortunate situation or wild environments are where a family farm or other permanently subdivided and

Conservation Easements able flora and fauna habitat protect wildlife, watersheds, or unique wildlife qualities and the scenic views around must be split up or devel- us. A Conservation Easeoped upon the death of a ment is an interest in land, family member due to the which can be created and the property owner as a gift need to raise funds for Es- transferred in favor of a tate or Inheritance Taxes. charitable, nonprofit, tax-dition, since the land owner In such circumstances, fam- exempt organization, such ilies are required to sell or as, for example, the North ment rights through a Condispose of farms or other Branch Land Trust with an servation Easement, the fair land because of the appreci- office in Trucksville, Penn- market value of the property sylvania, or any other simiwhen they have insufficient lar IRS qualified not-forcash to discharge tax liens profit 501(c)(3) organization. created upon death. Such A land trust can either ac-

quire a Conservation Easement from a land owner and purchase finance the through donor gifts, endowments, grant monies or otherwise, or it may acquire an easement by outright gift. A gift of a Conservation Easement by the landowner may provide important tax saving opportunities to the property owner. Such a gift may be income tax deductible to to a qualified charity. In ad-"gives up" future developwill be diminished and,

See HORIZON, page 5



.70 Years Ago - June 5, 1931

FIRST NATIONAL BANK TO HAVE NEW

Negotiations were started for the purchase of the Reese property on Main Street, Dallas, by First National Bank. erected the new home of First National Bank will be the same dimensions as the present Reese building. It will be modern and house new equipment including one of the most up-to-date bank vaults obtainable. Catherine Rice, daughter of Jacob Rice, of Trucksville, was graduated from Mansfield Teachers' College with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Home Economics. Miss Rice has been elected teacher of Home Economics in Benton vocational high School. At your local A&P market you could purchase butter, 2 lbs. 55¢; full 15-lb peck, 35¢; new laid eggs, 23¢ a dozen; Lux soap flakes, lge. pkg., 21¢; soda crackers, 2 lb. pkg., 27¢; Gold Medal cake flour, pkg., 29¢.

60 Years Ago - June 6, 1941

BUY YOUR STAMPS IN DALLAS IF YOU

WANT NEW POSTOFFICE After a conference with Congressman J. Harold Flannery, a committee composed of James F. Besecker, John Roberts and Burgess H. A. Smith urged a campaign to have all local residents buy their stamps from and ner's mate, USN, husband of transact postal business with the local office. They believe increased receipts from now to the first of July will have great bearing upon the favorable reaction of postal authorities when efforts are made to include a new postoffice building for Dallas in the Federal budget.

Dallas Junior Womens' Club is completing plans to open a dental clinic for school children from the Back Mountain area under the direction of Dr. Robert M. Bodycomb. Children in grades 1 to 4 in Kingston Township, Dallas Borough and Lehman school districts will receive dental care at the clinic.

At the Himmler Theatre in Dallas, some of the movies that were playing: "Men of Boy's Town" with Spencer Tracy and Mickie Rooney; "Bad man" with Wallace Beery; "That Night in Rio" with Alice Faye and Don Ameche; "Strawberry Blonde" with James

50 Years Ago - June 8, 1951

LAKE TOWNSHIP PEDDLERS MUST HAVE LICENSES

Lake Township Supervisors have passed an ordinance requiring all vendors to obtain a license before they can peddle in Lake Township. License fees are \$50 per year, \$25 per month or \$5

Barbara W. Clark, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter D. Clark, Dallas, has been elected president of residence hall at Wilson College for the coming academic year. In that office Barbara will be both the social and governmental head of students in the Library side of Main Hall.

Andrew Kozemchak chief gun-

Mrs. Olga Kozemchak of Overbrook Avenue, is serving aboard destroyer USS Buckley with the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean. On this cruise the Buckley crewmen will be conducted on special tours to Rome; Italy; Paris; France; and Switzerland.

40 Years Ago - June 8, 1961

MIDNIGHT MOTORCADE GREETS PRIZE-WINNING LAKE-LEHMAN BAND

A jubilant crowd greeted Lake-Lehman Band late Saturday night, over 100 cars driving out highway 309 to wait for the four buses coming in. The award winning band took top honors in tough competition against all AA bands in Sherburne N. Y., in the marching contest, and third place in orchestral competition.

Dr. Aaron Lisses, Dallas optometrist, has the distinction of having his paper on contact lenses selected for publication in the August Pennsylvania Optometrist. His paper dealt with the scientific approach to fitting with contact lenses patients who had submitted to cataract opera-

The Back Mountain Library Auction is arranging a ponynaming contest. O'Malia Laundry is contributing one of the Bednarski farm ponies to the auction. The pony's name is Boots, and every time a child takes a ride on Boots, he or she is entitled to an entry blank to guess a name for the little baby pony which Boots had recently.

30 Years Ago - June 10, 1971

DR. EUGENE S. FARLEY GETS HON-**ORARY DEGREE**

Dr. Eugene S. Farley, Beau-

mont and Wilkes-Barre chancellor of Wilkes College, was one of four recipients of honorary degrees at Bucknell University's 121st annual commencement.

The Harveys Lake Municipal Authority voted to accept Phase II of the five-phase sewage disposal plan formulated by the firm of Glace & Glace, consulting engineers. The second phase is a 'formal interim report"

Dawn Morgan, 13, Trucksville, and Helen Harabin, Chase Manor, were the winners of the popular vote awards in the recent art show at the Shavertown Office of The Wyoming National Bank. They each received a \$10 savings account.

20 Years Ago - May 27, 1981

FIRST-TIME CANDIDATES SHARE EXPE-

A large number of first-time candidates ran for various nominations in recent primary elections in the Back Mountain area. Two big winners in their first time out were Douglas Ide and John McCafferty. "I was very surprised", sad a happy Ide. "I expected to do well", said McCaf-

ferty. Harveys Lake Borough will not tolerate speeding, loud parties late at night, or dangerous use of motorboats on the lake this summer. Borough mayor Al Zim said that his police department is now making extensive use of the speed machine.

Beginning soon, First Eastern Bank customers will be able to bank 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 12 Automatic Teller Machines. The announcement was made by Richard M. Ross, Jr., president and chief executive