

EDITORIAL

Supervisors make right decision to protect property

People who live in and around The Pines development in Lehman Township have had enough, and so have the township supervisors, who are threatening action against the developer if he does not address drainage and roadway issues. The Pines is extended off of the Oak Hill subdivision, and alleged improper land development has sent storm water runoff into the older section as well as the new.

People who live in Oak Hill have suffered enough over the years at the hands of National Utilities, the now defunct water utility that provided poor quality water and worse service. While the township's powers against a state-regulated utility may have been limited, it has the ability to take strong action against these apparent abuses, and the supervisors shouldn't hesitate any longer. They have given the developer a 60-day window in which to begin remediation, after which they threaten to take over the property and sell it, using the proceeds to correct the problems.

The American free market economy is designed to reward initiative and investment, but not without regard to the public good. It is the supervisors' responsibility to safeguard the life and property of township residents, and they shouldn't hesitate to do so.

Now, can we talk about sensible gun control measures?

It is ultimately true that people kill people, not guns without human intervention. But the last three weeks of horror in the Washington D.C. area clearly demonstrate that when monstrous persons snuff out lives in an instant, society needs the tools to fight back. One of those tools is "ballistic fingerprinting," a term for registering the bore marks of every weapon before it leaves the factory so that police have a better chance at tracking down a killer. The gun lobby fights this reasonable legislation, as it does every single attempt to license, register or compile records on weapons, and it's time for responsible people in the public and private arenas to fight back.

We have registrations for our cars, licenses under which we drive, even tags for our pets, but the National Rifle Association and other powerful lobbies keep politicians at bay whenever they feel the public benefit might impinge on their Second Amendment right to bear arms. Sparing the argument about the Founding Fathers' intent, it is becoming ominously clear that segments of our society are willing to put far too many people at risk rather than take steps that could protect innocent people from harm.

Publisher's Notebook

Ron Bartizek



Tiger Woods is getting a lot of heat from people who complain that he has not supported the admission of a female member at Augusta National Golf Club strongly enough to suit their tastes. The club is the site of the annual Masters tournament, perhaps the best-known of all golf events, at least for Americans.

The criticism is to be expected, I suppose, given Tiger's position as The Most Recognized Athlete in the World, a title he has claimed from Michael Jordan. His latest comment on the Masters brouhaha was a lukewarm, "Why can't they just get along" type remark, and that's not good enough for Martha Burk, chairwoman of the National Council of Women's Organizations. (Notice she's referred to as "chairwoman," and not "chairperson," or the annoyingly stolid "chair?") Ms. Burk has mounted a remarkably effective campaign to get a woman admitted to Augusta, which has a membership roster that reads like a Who's Who of the rich and powerful. She has been helped enormously by the head of the club, William "Hootie" Johnson, whose first response was to drop all commercial sponsorship of the tournament so that huge companies don't face boycotts by putter-wielding women. Obviously, Mr. Johnson is at a tremendous disadvantage in this spat, since anyone nicknamed Hootie is assumed to live in a double-wide and be married to his first cousin.

I don't understand why Tiger Woods is expected to lend his name to every black/minority/women's issue anyway. He's obviously a smart guy, but he's only 26 years old, not even a member at Augusta National, and not a woman, at least I hope not, given how much farther than me he can hit a golf ball. If Ms. Burk wants a big-name golfer's endorsement, she ought to draft Jack Nicklaus or Arnold Palmer — both Augusta National members.

In the end, even if she succeeds in her quest, I doubt it will result in a quantum leap for women's equality. After all, when Augusta National accepts a female, it's not going to be a suburban soccer mom or a single mother on welfare. No, the first woman to carry a member's badge will be a rich, powerful type, or the wife of a rich, powerful guy. Big progress that will be.



Dog day at Harveys Lake. Photo contributed.



Carol King

Fruit and cheesecake sale: The Friends of the library will hold their annual Citrus Fruit Sale this month. After a favorable reception last year, gourmet cheesecakes will also be available again. The pickup dates of December 13 and 14 make the items particularly appropriate for business firms to give as holiday gifts to their employees.

Fruit and cheesecake sale kicks off

The selection of fruits is as follows: 2/5 bushel quantities of red grapefruit and navel oranges, \$12 each; 2/5 b. mixed grapefruit and oranges, \$13; 2/5 b. tangerines, \$16.50; and a boxed fresh fruit sampler, \$18. The 7" (20 oz.) cheesecakes are \$8 each, and come in the following flavors: plain, cherry, blueberry, chocolate swirl, and cookies and cream.

Prepaid orders must be received at the library by Friday, November 22. ENCON is again assisting with the delivery of the sale items, for which the Friends are very grateful. Pickup times at the library are Friday, Decem-

ber 13, 7 to 9 p.m. (note: cheesecakes must be picked up on Friday to assure the highest quality); and Saturday, December 14, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. No reminders will be sent, so please mark your calendars with these times as soon as you place your orders.

Slightly Used Bookstore: Fred Krohle, manager of the bookstore, announces a cookbook clearance starting October 28. Prices will be drastically reduced.

Fall cleaning: The library is asking that your fall cleaning discards be donated to the Odds

and Ends Booth for next year's auction. How's that for looking ahead? Give a good future to your cast-off household items, toys, appliances in good working condition, knick-knacks and Christmas decorations, and help the library at the same time. The Book Booth will also welcome paperbacks, children's books and crafts, etc. Items can be dropped off at the library at any time. Call the library, 675-1182, for further information.

Entertainment books: These popular books are again available at the front desk, still priced at \$25. They make great holiday gifts.



70 Years Ago - October 21, 1932

BOROUGH SCHOOL BOARD HAS PLAN TO PAINT SCHOOL

Dallas Borough school board authorized a plan to have the poor board supply labor to be used in painting the old school house, adjoining the high school, under the system as provided by the Talbot relief act.

Some of the items you could get at American Stores Co. were: bread, 10¢; gelatin desserts, 4 pkgs., 19¢; stringless beans, 3 cans, 24¢; cut beets, 3 cans, 25¢.

School directors of Kingston township elected Daniel N. Tiffin, as a commercial course teacher, at the new high school at Trucksville, at a salary of \$150 per month.

60 Years Ago - October 16, 1942

THREE BANDS TO OPEN MARDI GRAS

Plans were made for the second annual Halloween parade and Mardi gras for school children to be held in Dallas for one

night in October. Lehman Township, Dallas Borough and Township bands will take part in the parade.

James Murray of Dallas had been appointed ticket agent at the Wilkes-Barre station of the Lehigh Valley Railroad. Prior to his promotion, Mr. Murray served as ticket clerk.

Sheldon Cheney, famous American art critic, author, and lecturer, discussed current trends in art in a lecture at College Misericordia.

50 Years Ago - October 31, 1952

MITCHELL, WEAVER WILL HEAD BOY SCOUT COUNCIL

Two Back Mountain men will assume high offices in Wyoming Valley Council. They are John Mitchell, Orange and H. Robert Weaver, Dallas.

Purchase of an American La France 750-gallon capacity pumper was decided upon at a meeting of Dr. Henry M. Laing Fire Company.

Harry L. Ohlman, Dallas Borough school director, was elected a member of the five-man County School Board at the sixty-third annual meeting of Luzerne County School Directors. Mr. Ohlman replaces Russell Hoover formerly a member of Lake Township School Board.

40 Years Ago - October 25, 1962

COLLEGE CAMPUS HUMS WITH NEW CONSTRUCTION

A one and one-quarter million

dollar general entrance for the construction of a single story student union building and a three story dormitory on the College Misericordia campus has been awarded to Raymon R. Hedden Company. The dormitory to be known as Alumnae Hall will house 150 students.

Back Mountain Republican women and committeemen are making plans for two big rallies to be held to the further the candidates of a local man, Robert Fleming, and the entire Republican ticket. According to one leader, "The Back Mountain holds the key to this election in Luzerne County."

Two Harveys Lake boys reported for duty with the U. S. Navy. They are Hency C. Stefanowicz, Jr., airman apprentice and Gordon A. Dersheimer, seaman apprentice.

30 Years Ago - October 19, 1972

SERIOUS WATER PROBLEMS PLAGUE KINGSTON TWP.

The new Back Mountain sewer system has not solved all the water problems. A group of residents, represented by Joseph Salatino, appeared before the Kingston Township Board of Supervisors to inform the supervisors of what they called a serious water problem plaguing the Terrace Avenue area in Trucksville. Mr. Salatino stated that water is coming off the mountain, over the road into residents' properties, washing out lawns and freeways.

William H. Long, Trucksville,

was promoted to district sales manager for Continental Coffee Co., Chicago. Long will head the Elmira, Binghamton Wilkes-Barre, Scranton Allentown and Harrisburg areas.

Almost 14,000 enrollees in the Special Program for Emergency Employment Development (SPEED) have received approximately \$4.1 million for their labors in the flood devastated areas of Pennsylvania. Enrollees were permitted a maximum of eight weeks work for which they were given stipends of \$2 an hour take home money.

20 Years Ago - October 20, 1982

NEW FACES AT DALLAS AREA

Three new professional employees joined the staff of Dalals Senior High School. They are: Pamela Bird Hargas, appointed Sophomore Guidance Counselor; Paul Brown is the new helath and physical education teacher and Frank Galicki, assistant high school principal.

After 16 years as head hockey coach at Lake-Lehman, Jane Morris will be a part of her final game when the Lady Knights end their 1982 season. Morris resigned her post for health reasons.

John C. Crispell, of Lehman, has been promoted to the grade of Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force. Staff Sergeant Crispell is a continuous photographic processing specialist.

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Q: Where do you find the most Back Mountain news each week?

A: Only in The Dallas Post