

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Call us, but only us, please

This is The Post. It is only The Post. It is nothing but The Post.

This message — as clearly as I can state it — is to the befuddled callers whose pleas to stop their mail, find a package or look up a Zip code reach our office.

WE ARE NOT THE POST OFFICE!



RON BARTZEK

I'm really not angry at these folks; most of the time I feel sorry that they'll have to make another phone call to get questions answered or their mail delivered. There are a lot of them, and it seems there are more lately than ever, probably an average of two or three a day. Some have looked in the white pages of the phone book, seen the listing, "Dallas

Post," and dialed our number. They have no one to blame but themselves for not knowing that government offices are listed in the blue pages.

But others have been sent down the road to perdition by outside forces. Now and again, I've asked callers why they're calling the newspaper when they want the post office, and some have said they were referred to our number by directory assistance. And they paid 75¢ for the "help," too.

Actually, we're not even "The Dallas Post" any more, just "The Post." In its inscrutable wisdom, the company that bought the newspaper a few years ago dropped "Dallas" out of concern that it might lead people in other towns to think there wasn't any news in it for them. That concern may be valid, but it's hard to change more than a century of habit, so most people still call us The "Dallas" Post, and that's why our phone listing reads that way.

We get other wrong number calls pretty consistently, such as Dallas Family Practice and the Dallas School District, but those are usually just a dialing error. Here's a handy guide to stick on your refrigerator, right next to the decade-old pictures of your kids:

The Post: 675-5211

The Dallas Post Office: 675-0131

Dallas Family Practice: 675-2111

Dallas School District: 675-5201

If you're still unsure of the correct number, don't call directory assistance! Just check the number and dial again.

MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

• On June 3, 1864, Union General Ulysses S. Grant makes what he later recognizes to be his greatest mistake of the Civil War by ordering a frontal assault on entrenched Confederates at Cold Harbor in Virginia. The result was some 7,000 Union casualties in less than an hour of fighting.

• On June 5, 1883, John Maynard Keynes, the groundbreaking economist who argued for the benefits of full employment and active government involvement in economic matters, is born in Cambridge, England.

• On May 30, 1908, Mel Blanc, the voice of Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Road Runner, Tweety Bird and countless other cartoon characters during his 50-year career at Warner Bros., is born in San Francisco. Blanc also provided for other studios the voices of Barney Rubble in "The Flintstones," Mr. Spacely for "The Jetsons" and Woody Woodpecker's laugh.

• On June 4, 1940, the evacuation of Allied forces from Dunkirk on the Belgian coast ends as German forces capture the beach port. The nine-day evacuation, the largest of its kind in history and an unexpected success, saved 338,000 Allied troops from capture by the Nazis.

• On June 1, 1967, the Beatles release the album "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band." The album, which took four months to record, sold more than eight million copies and spent 15 weeks at No. 1.

• On June 2, 1970, car racer, designer and manufacturer Bruce McLaren of New Zealand is killed while testing his newest Can-Am car, the M8D, at Goodwood racetrack in England. McLaren still holds the record as the youngest driver (age 22) ever to win a Formula One Grand Prix race.

• On May 31, 1990, the sitcom "Seinfeld" debuts. Produced and sometimes co-written by comedian Jerry Seinfeld, the show gradually gained popularity, reaching first place in the Nielsen rankings during the 1994-95 season. Some 76 million viewers tuned in to watch the final episode of "Seinfeld" on May 14, 1998.

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Letters are welcome

Letters to the editor are welcome and will be published, subject to the following guidelines:

- Letters should not exceed 500 words.
- Letters must be signed and include the writer's home town and a daytime telephone number for verification.
- Names will be withheld only if there exists a clear and verifiable threat to the writer.

Letters can be sent many ways:

By e-mail to: thepost@leader.net

By mail to: The Post, 15 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre PA 18711.

By using the drop box located in the Uni-Mart convenience store on Route 309 in Dallas, across from the Dallas Shopping Center.

THE POST

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Sunday strollers. Photo by Charlotte Bartzek.

Breeding Bird Atlas survey seeks volunteers

Help is especially needed in rural areas.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission and Carnegie Museum of Natural History are looking for both casual and avid birdwatchers to help monitor nesting wild birds as part of the second Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas.

Dan Brauning, Game Commission Wildlife Diversity Program supervisor, said help is particularly needed in more rural areas.

"If you're interested in helping in a rural area — one that you live in or are willing to travel to — we'd like to hear from you," Brauning said. "Even if you haven't watched birds much before now, there still is plenty of time to learn how to observe and identify them and to help in this important survey."

The atlas is the most extensive survey of the state's nesting birds ever attempted. Started this spring, the grid-based survey will continue for the next five years and aims to

track changes that have occurred in bird populations since the first atlas was completed in 1989. Since that time, eagles, ospreys and peregrine falcons have expanded their breeding numbers substantially. Also of interest will be charting whether long-term declines of many of songbirds reported in the first atlas continues.

"The new survey incorporates new methods to document secretive and rare species, and will provide a new look at distribution patterns as they relate to species abundance," Brauning explained. "The second atlas also will provide new information that will aid in the management of all bird species, and will include a special focus to update the historic locations of species of special concern statewide."

Although it follows and largely replicates the first atlas, which was conducted in Pennsylvania from 1983 to 1989, the second atlas project will provide new levels of understanding for the state's bird populations that will help to ensure their conservation

now and in the future. It is funded largely with federal State Wildlife Grant monies through the Game Commission and organized and coordinated by the Carnegie Museum of Natural History through offices at the museum's Powdermill Nature Reserve.

"Right now, the second Atlas is looking for as much help as it can muster from Pennsylvania's estimated 2.7 million birdwatchers," noted Bob Mulvihill, a field ornithologist at Carnegie Museum's Powdermill Nature Reserve, who is serving as the Atlas project coordinator. "This project's success depends on the participation of thousands of volunteer bird watchers."

The original Atlas was done with help from more than 2,000 volunteers. But there are more than 4,900 blocks to cover Pennsylvania's nearly 45,000 square miles, more volunteer assistance would help this important effort.

When it's finished in 2008, the second atlas will show changes in the occurrence and distribution of the state's nearly 200 species of nesting birds,

and promises to provide much additional information about the state's breeding birds. Success in getting to the finish line and the quantity and quality of data collected will be directly influenced by the number of volunteers who participate, especially covering blocks in rural Pennsylvania.

Individuals interested in volunteering for Atlas survey work may register on the atlas website

at www.pabirdatlas.org, or call atlas project coordinators 724-593-6022. On the website, volunteers will be able to find out which region they're in and which regional coordinator to contact for help; print instructions, block maps, field cards and other forms needed for doing the Atlas; get birdwatching and bird identification tips; view complete results from the first Atlas; follow the progress of the second Atlas; and enter their observations of breeding birds.

To date, about 750 volunteers have registered and begun helping in more than 1,400 blocks in the second survey.

70 Years Ago
May 31, 1935

GOATS GIVEN HOME, OWNER GETS A JOB

Chief of Police Leonard O'Kane had the goat and zoning ordinance situation well in hand this week. He had not



ONLY YESTERDAY

only secured a happy home for the orphaned goats which were left in his care but he had arranged for a job for their owner, Joseph Yuronchick, aged 57, who was jailed when he refused to destroy a shack which violated the borough's zoning ordinance.

Flames swept over 1,000 acres of scrub timber this week up Root Hollow, near Evans Falls, not far from the main Tunkhannock-Dallas highway. Because the territory ordinarily abounds in huckleberries there was a suspicion that the blaze had been started by persons wanting to burn over a tract to promote growth of berry plants.

Schindeler's Bakery advertised its bread, made with Eaco and Sunburst Flour. "Just try one loaf and you'll know why our bread business has doubled and re-doubled in the past six weeks" read the ad.

60 Years Ago
June 1, 1945

SIX WALTER FAMILY MEMBERS ARE IN NAVAL RESERVE

The blood of the Walter family of Trucksville must contain more "salt" than is usual. One daughter and five grandsons of these early residents proudly

wear the uniform of the United States Naval Reserve. They are Norma Ross Walter, William Oberst, Sealer Oberst, Alan Oberst, Marvin Sweezy and Frank Gordon.

Among the veterans of the war in Europe who are sweating out the return of a bride taken overseas is M-Sgt. Lawrence F. Fritz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Fritz, Route 1, Dallas. The Sergeant's wife, Mrs. Bernadette Fritz, is in England at the present time.

In Ruggles, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Grey and family, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Grey have moved to the L.H. Kocher farm. Mrs. Ann Kraft and son, Tony moved to the Picnic Grounds, Noxen Road.

50 Years Ago
May 27, 1955

WHEN THERE WAS AN AIR BASE AT RED ROCK

Lt. Keith M. McDonald, Radar Control Section of the United States Air Force Base at Red Rock, gave a most interesting talk on operations of the installation before 58 men attending the Corporate Communion service at Prince of Peace Episcopal Church.

Marcia Elston was crowned Queen of the May Wednesday afternoon before the largest crowd ever assembled at Lehman-Jackson-Ross for May-Day exercises. Marcia was crowned by the Lady in Waiting, Jeanne Casterline. William Conyngham, first grade, carried the crown.

Seven teenagers, four boys and three girls, escaped death Tuesday night at 11 when the car in which they were returning from Wolf's Grove roller

skating rink struck another car almost head-on at Pikes Creek, rolled down the road, and hit a utility pole. The car, driven at high speed, left the road at the curve near Charles Updyke's barn, swerved back from the shoulder, crashed into the second car with the left front and rolled over.

40 Years Ago
May 27, 1965

BOLTONS SELL DINER, RETIRE AFTER 25 YEARS

Bolton's Diner, Shavertown, has been sold by owners Helen and Don Bolton to L. Vern Groff, Shrineview, and will be opened by manager William "Bill" DiBuo in the near future. Retiring after 25 years, the Boltons express gratitude to their patrons and wish the new owners luck.

A parking lot raid at Hanson's Park and a roadblock by the police station netted eighteen juveniles (under 18), two minors (18-20) and a 22-year-old, starting about 9:30 p.m. Friday. The officers started the round-up when reportedly seeing a 17-year-old buy beer at the Anchor after two 14-year-olds tried and were turned away.

A special evening has been planned to bring to a close the second regular season of the Dallas-Lettermen-Booster Club, Thursday at the Brothers 4. Ned Hartman has been elected president for the next two years.

30 Years Ago
May 29, 1975

TWO MEDALS AT STATES

Two Dallas athletes copped medals at the state-wide track

and field competition at Penn State. John Majewski, a junior, took second place in the high jump with 6-5 1/2. Neil Cross took fourth in the 100-yard dash with a time of 10.3. A senior, Cross had a major leg operation in October, and did not begin to do any running until March.

Cynthia "Cricket" Smith of Dallas, a senior at Juniata College, has been selected as "The Juniata Woman of 1975." Miss Smith is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. DeWitt Smith, Goodleigh Farm, and a 1971 graduate of Dallas High School.

Participating in this year's Memorial Day ceremonies in Dallas were A.J. Bittner, Little League; Rena Tomchak, Girl Scout Troop 930; and Mark Miller, Boy Scout Troop 281.

20 Years Ago
May 29, 1985

WALSH PEDALS HOME FROM EDINBORO

When the academic year ended, James Walsh of Dallas rode his Schwinn World Sport 10-speed bicycle from Edinboro University to Harveys Lake, a distance of 300 miles. The trip took three days, and ended at Villa Roma restaurant, which financed his trip.

Lake-Lehman's Dave Janiczek brought home the 800 meter run gold medal from the Class 2A state track and field championships. Dallas star Amy Aston, expected to win the 3200 meter, was unable to compete due to injury.

Drury's restaurant at Harveys Lake advertised the opening of its Sunday brunch, a generous menu of omelettes, quiche pastries and pastries for the grand price of \$3.25.