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Harveys Lake Homecoming full of activity

By SARAH HITE
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HOMECOMING 2012

There's just one event in the Back Mountain where you are encouraged to buy locally-made crafts, eat as many wings as you can and take in a free-style Jet Ski competition all in one day.

The 2012 Harveys Lake Homecoming schedule of events for today is chock-full of activities for anyone and everyone looking to get involved in the lake community.

Mayor Clarence Hogan, chairman of the event, said it's a huge undertaking to continue the homecoming weekend, but he's dedicated to helping the community in any way he can.

"It's all about giving back to the community," said Hogan. "Whatever we do there, it goes right back into the borough. We're raising funds for the Harveys Lake Little League, for veterans. Anything else we do, it goes into the borough for something."

Hogan said the Harveys Lake Homecoming Committee is looking into purchasing a new sign to greet visitors to the lake. He'd like to see a digital sign that would announce events at the lake as well as the time and weather located at the entrance to the lake.

"Originally, we started off trying to purchase a clock, like in Dallas Borough ... but that was kind of expensive," he said. "... Now, we give everything back to the community, and we like to help whatever organization we can. Plus, it's a great time."

Resident Maureen Devine has helped with the homecoming for the last five years and said it's an opportunity for year-round residents to see the talents and personal interests of the community.

How does she know that? The former Lake-Lehman swim coach and Lake-Noxen Elementary third-grade teacher has been organizing all the water sports and children's activities for the event.

"I made a suggestion for having some activities for children, and to do things on the water because when they had it originally, there were no water activities and we're Harveys Lake," she said. "Clarence Hogan, the chairman, said they were good ideas and asked me if I'd like to come on board. I guess they say if you have an idea, to follow through you have to be a part of it."

This year there will be a Jet Ski competition organized by Shae Adamshick, whose family owns HL Powersports, that will feature participants racing around the lake and performing various tricks. Winners could receive prizes like life jackets, bathing suits, Harveys Lake beach towels and more.

"My family and I opened a shop at the lake called HL Powersports, and we specialize in Jet Ski repair," said Adamshick. "That's how I basically learned how to work on them—I used to work on Jet Ski races all over the country. We thought it would be a good tie-in to homecoming."

The "Kiss My Fish" contest

All Weekend Event - Harveys Lake Reflections
All residents are invited to light up their docks, boat houses and properties.

Sunday, Aug 12 at Hanson's Grove, Pole 120

Craft Show
at Harveys Lake Beach Club
Set up 8 to 9:30 a.m., show 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact Charlotte Williams at 639-5213 or Harveys Lake Borough at 639-3300.

Kayak Race
Starting at the Hanson's Beach 9 to 10 a.m. Check-in at 8:30 a.m. Pre-registration contact mdevine42@aol.com. Sponsored by Lakeside Skillet.

Car and Truck Show
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hanson's Grove. Registration will be held 10 a.m. to noon. Suggested vehicle donation of \$10 benefits Harveys Lake Little League

Veterans Relay
Benefit Motorcycle Run
Registration 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Starts at noon at Hanson's Grove

Jet Ski Freestyle Competition
Hanson's Beach at 11 a.m. Time trial buoy course, one-minute trick routine. Prizes for top finishers. All ages are welcome. Sign-up at HL Powersports or call 639-1000 for more information. Sponsored by HL Powersports.

Chicken Bar-B-Q
11 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$9 for dinner or \$4 for half chicken. For advanced tickets, call 639-1919. Sponsored by Harveys Lake Fire & Ambulance Co. and Kunkle Fire & Ambulance.

Firemen's Parade
2 p.m. Sponsored by Harveys Lake Fire & Ambulance Co.

Tug-of-War at Hanson's Grove
Police vs. fire company following the parade.

Children's Sack Race
After the parade

Three Legged Race
After the parade

Wing Eating Contest
3:30 p.m. Must pre-register. Five names will be drawn for contest. Contact 639-5867. Sponsored by Rich & Charlotte's.

Harveys Lake Cancellation Stamp
drawn by Harveys Lake artist Bonnie Coveleski

Harveys Lake Commemorative Postcard
drawn by Harveys Lake artist Lorraine Elias

Kiss the Fish
Mrs. Edkins - Lake-Noxen Elementary School principal at closing ceremonies 5 p.m.

Closing ceremony at 5 p.m. by homecoming committee chairman Mayor Clarence Hogan.

Sunday, Aug. 19
Homecoming Bass Challenge
6 a.m. to 2 p.m. at State Fish and Boat Commission boat launch.

Registration and boat check at 5 a.m. Sponsored by Fish Tales Bar and Grill, Grotto Pizza, Lau-meyers Landing.

has a new angle (that's a fish joke). The winner (or loser, whichever way you look at it) of the contest, which was once called "Kiss My Bass," is now determined by students at Lake-Noxen Elementary School.

Students voted on which of their teachers - or principal - would be eligible to kiss a bass from the lake. The lucky winner will smooch a sturgeon during the closing ceremonies at 5 p.m. today.

Devine wanted to find a way for the students to get more involved in the homecoming celebration.

"They even have a float in our parade now," she said.

Hogan is already looking for people to get involved in next year's event, and all ideas are encouraged. He also said residents can contact him at 793-5187 to enter into any of today's contests.

Partying in their pajamas



Children act out a song led by Dallas High School graduate Ashley Zerfoss during PJ Storytime at the Back Mountain Memorial Library.



Miss Luzerne County Outstanding Teen Maria Cinti, left, and Miss Northeastern Pennsylvania Lindsey Reichard react to a child during PJ Storytime at the Back Mountain Memorial Library.



Dallas High School graduate Ashley Zerfoss acts out a song as she sings with the children during PJ Storytime at the Back Mountain Memorial Library.

Children visit Back Mountain Memorial Library to hear guests sing and read to them.

Children flocked to the Back Mountain Memorial Library in their pajamas on Aug. 6 to hear guests sing and read to them. Miss Luzerne County Maria Cinti and Miss Northeast Pennsylvania Lindsey Reichard were there, along with Ashley Zerfoss, a recently Dallas High School graduate who wrote a book for her senior project. Zerfoss distributed copies of that book to the children.

RIGHT PHOTO: Linda Israel, retired children's librarian from Cornwall Public Library in New York now living in the Back Mountain, reads to the children during PJ Storytime at the Back Mountain Memorial Library.



Castle closes, recovery group moves in

Land where landmark restaurant stood was purchased in 1925; building was constructed in 1927.

By SARAH HITE
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The former Castle Inn has been sold to the Triangle 24 Hour Club, Inc. and will serve as meeting space for recovering alcoholics, addicts and their families.

According to county property records, the historical landmark located on State Route 415 was sold July 26 to the nonprofit recovery group for \$307,000.

Nick Colangelo, a Triangle 24

Hour Club, Inc. board member and chief executive officer at Clearbrook Treatment Centers, said the group has been holding meetings in Dallas Township at the former Dallas Nursery near Back Mountain Bowl since 2006.

"We're outgrowing it and our rent has been escalating," he said. "We've been looking for a piece of property up and down the highway, something with more room expansion and ownership."

Colangelo said the Triangle 24

Hour Club is a group of businessmen who formed to help those dealing with addiction.

The group plans to use the space solely for meeting purposes. Colangelo said the group did not purchase the Castle's liquor license and it plans to remove the kitchen in the building during renovations.

"It will basically be about three meeting rooms, and we'll provide meetings the same way we do at the clubhouse we rent now," said Colangelo. "There will be more parking, and we'll

be more out of the way. Where we're at now, we use the podiatrist's parking lot because we have grown so much."

Colangelo hopes the project will be completed by September.

The land for the Castle Inn was purchased by Elizabeth Huntzinger, a dressmaker from Wilkes-Barre, in 1925 and the building was constructed in 1927.

Valgarour Omar Hallson, an Icelandic chef who became an American citizen in 2005, had owned the inn since 1992.



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