

# THE VALLEY VOICE

SAUCON VALLEY'S WEEKLY PAPER 75¢

## Revamped cop reports criticized

By Amy Leap  
Of The Valley Voice

Accident report forms that are expanding from two pages to at least 14 pages have local police officers flustered.

"It doesn't seem like a good use of time," said Lower Saucon Township Police Chief Guy Lesser.

Starting this summer, Pennsylvania police departments will be required to replace current two page accident forms in favor of so-called easier forms requiring officers to fill out as many as 14 pages.

Gone will be a standard fill-in-the-blanks form in favor of a detail-oriented form. Some of the data required for a routine accident will include the color of the car, whether it is owned, rented or leased, and a checkoff list of "harmful events" that include, among other choices, whether a driver struck a building, pothole, culvert, fire hydrant or shrubbery.

The State Police Bethlehem barracks expects to start using the new forms in July.

"Everyone has to be trained in the new procedure before we can use them," Trooper Mark Allen said.

The state Department of Transportation claims that even though the forms are longer it will be easier for the officer to fill out because they will only have to check boxes instead of writing everything out.

Local police forces that operate on a smaller budget do not agree. It means officers have to use even more of their work day filling out forms and not being out on the road doing their jobs.

(continued from page 5)

## Summer fun for kids

Saucon Valley Community Center's Summer Recreation Program began Monday at township parks. Four-week sessions of sports, games and craftmaking are held weekdays at Lower Saucon Park, Southeastern Park and Steel City Park. To register, call 610-838-0722 or stop at one of the parks.



Above, at Steel City Park, Samantha Polgar makes a bag puppet. She and a few other youngsters decided to hold a puppet show for other playmates. Left, Dawn Parker helped children make macaroni necklaces at Southeastern Park.

## Township dumps cell tower, approves landfill deal

By Paul Bealer  
Of The Valley Voice

Lower Saucon Township Council Tuesday breezed through a conditional use hearing for a proposed cellular tower to approve a host agreement amendment with owners of the Applebutter Road landfill.

After representatives from Cingular Wireless failed to show up for the hearing, council unanimously rejected a plan for a second cell phone tower at 4105 Sherry Hill Road.

The township expects a court battle with Cingular, who considers its proposal approved since more than 60 days passed from the time the cell tower plan was filed. The township contends that Cingular's plans were not considered complete until April 27, giving Lower Saucon until June 26 to hear the proposal.

Earlier this month, township planners rejected Cingular's proposal based on a list, provided by Hanover Engineering Associates, of potential violations the plan would incur on a township ordinance regulating cell towers.

Cingular's tower would be 160 feet high with a curbside setback of 60 feet. The minimum curbside setback requirement is 240 feet.

"We go with what we got," was Councilwoman Priscilla deLeon's comment to IESI Corp. landfill attorneys after almost two hours of more haggling

(see related story on page 5) over a host agreement amendment.

Council approved 4-1 a pact to limit the landfill's daily intake of trash to 1,250 tons and set its maximum daily volume at 1,750 tons.

Visibly frustrated as both sides ran in circles to reach agreement, Councilman Neil Ortwein voted against the deal.

This came after IESI attorney Christopher Della Pietra and other officials threw out proposals to raise the tonnage limits that included setting a cap of 1,500 tons allowed daily and 2,000 maximum tons. IESI attorney David Brooman argued a lower cap setting would limit "reasonable ability [for IESI landfill] to have future growth."

Councilwoman Tina Krasnansky shot down the idea, fearing the state Department of Environmental Protection would laugh off a future request for an increase.

Della Pietra offered another proposal: set tonnage amounts at 1,350 (average daily and 1,800 (maximum). That would lower the landfill life by about 18 months and about five more trucks would travel Applebutter Road to the landfill each day.

It sounded good, but council still refused to accept the new proposal without a traffic study. Both sides butted heads a few more minutes before deLeon made a motion to accept the amendment hammered out last week.

## STEPPIN' OUT

### Dewey Carnival fun returns July 10-14

One of Hellertown's biggest traditions, Dewey Fire Company Carnival, will run Tuesday, July 10 through Saturday, July 14.

This is the volunteer company's main fund-raising event and will feature fun rides and great food. Also included will be a display of emergency equipment from Saucon Valley area fire, rescue, E.M.S. squads and police departments.

One Price Ride Night will be held from 6 to 10 p.m. on Wednesday, July 11. Cost will be \$8 for all the rides.

The 10th Annual Carnival Cruise Night will be held from 6 to 10 p.m. on Thursday, July 12. All types of collectible cars, street rods and muscle cars of the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s will be featured.

On Friday July 13 at 9:30 p.m. more than 2,000 fireworks will burst in the main ballfield. The ending, named "Star Wars Battle in the Clouds" will feature more than 1,000 aerial shells bursting into a floating umbrella of our national colors. The rain date for fire works is Saturday, July 14.

And the annual raffle will begin at 10 p.m., Friday, July 14 at the park pavilion.

Proceeds are used to maintain the building which houses the fire equipment.

## NOTE TO READERS

### Voice takes a summer break

The Valley Voice will not publish during the week of July 1-6 because of the Fourth of July holiday. The next issue will appear July 13.

The Valley Voice office will be closed from Sunday, July 1 through Sunday, July 8. The office will reopen at 9 a.m. on Monday, July 9.

A KEYSTONE & PENNSYLVANIA PRESS CLUB AWARD-WINNING NEWSPAPER

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## AROUND SAUCON VALLEY

### Youth Ballet group holds summer dance workshops

Dance students 9 and older are invited to join the Pennsylvania Youth Ballet's Summer Dance Intensive program. Classes are held 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday through July 27.

Intermediate and advanced curriculum includes ballet with emphasis on building a strong technique, including variations and pointe, an introduction to Irish step dance, modern dance, dance history and "Meet the Artist" interviews.

One six-week program is also available for beginners, including adults and teens and a Music and Movement class for ages 3 and 4.

Classes are held Tuesdays

through July 24.

Call 610-865-0353 or e-mail ythballet@aol.com

The Borough of Hellertown will receive a \$10,000 state grant for its community development project.

The grant, announced by State Sen. Lisa Boscola, is funded through the Community Revitalization Program, which supports local groups and projects that improve and enhance communities and their local economies.

The Senior Wheels USA Program has electric wheelchairs available for senior citizens and the permanently disabled

people, at no cost to the recipient. For more information, call toll free 1-800-246-6010.

The Saucon Valley Conservancy has applied for a Keystone Historic Preservation Grant to assist with the restoration of the Widow's House.

The application was prepared by Deb Ross, Lower Saucon Township's director of Community Development with input

from Conservancy members and Alvin H. Butz Inc.

Friedens Lutheran Church, Center Valley will hold its annual Peach Festival from 2 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 11.

Refreshments will be available, as well as a quilting display and kids' crafts.

The Mel-O-Dee Aces will provide entertainment from 2:30-5:30 p.m.

## WEDDING

### Weaver

Hellertown residents Kimberly Ann Harris and James David Weaver were married Feb. 9 in Packer Memorial Church, Lehigh University, Bethlehem.

Danielle Leary, sister of the bride, was matron of honor and Shawn Boylan was best man. Michael and Jean Harris of Bethlehem and James and Marie Weaver of Easton are the couple's parents.

A graduate of Liberty High

School and Allentown Business School, the bride is employed by Northampton County.

The groom, who graduated from Wilson High School and Moravian College, received a master's degree from Temple University. Weaver is employed in Oley Valley School District.

## BIRTHS

A son was born to Lisa and Joseph Holub on June 8 at St. Luke's Hospital, Fountain Hill.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Jose Coronado on June 16 at St. Luke's Hospital, Fountain Hill.

## Bulletin Board

July 5

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Meet with State Rep. Bob Freeman, Borough Hall.

Noon, 60-Plus Club meets, Kunsman Pavilion, 1615 Easton Road, Hellertown. Bring bagged lunch.

July 9

7 p.m. Saucon Valley Jaycees meets, Wagner Grist Mill.

July 10

6:30 p.m., Hellertown Area Library Board of Trustees meets, library.

July 10-14

6 to 10 p.m., Dewey Fire Company, Carnival, Dimmick Park, Durham Street, Hellertown.

July 11

7 p.m., Hellertown Historical Society meets, Wagner Grist Mill.

7 p.m., Bingo, Springtown Volunteer Fire Co.

8 p.m., Saucon Valley Soccer League meets, Hellertown American Legion.

July 12

6:30 p.m., Hellertown Lions Club meet, Wagner Grist Mill.

July 14

8 a.m. to noon, Hellertown Lions Club aluminum recycling/hog sale, First Union Bank.

## Government Meetings

July 2

7:30 p.m., Hellertown Council meets, Borough Hall.

July 9

7 p.m., Lower Saucon Planning Commission meets, Town Hall.

July 10

7 p.m., Hellertown Planning Commission meets, Borough Hall.

July 11

7:30 p.m., Hellertown Water Authority meets, Authority Building, 501 Durham St.

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# Academy to keep home at Reinhard

By Ann Marie Gonsalves  
Of The Valley Voice

Saucon Valley School District will not transfer ownership of Reinhard School to the Saucon Valley Community Center.

School board members agreed Monday, June 25 to keep the building and terminate an agreement to give the school to the center.

The school is being rented by the Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 to house its Second Chance Academy, a program for troubled area students.

"Our intent is not to terminate the use of this facility but to find a way to address need, board member David DeRemer said. "Perhaps some of the center's programs could be housed in the building."

When the use of Reinhard arose in discussions on the need for more classroom space, parents said they would have no problem sending kindergarten children to Reinhard—but they wanted the Second Chance Academy to be ousted.

Saucon Valley resident Bruce Davis said many residents are outraged at the nearly 14 percent tax hike and plans to restore the former

"Books, not Bricks" group to seek a meeting with Superintendent Ralph Tarola and the business manager. Davis said although nothing can be done about this year's tax hike the group plans to monitor next year's budget.

During a session in which directors reviewed its goals, Tarola said 1991 to 1994 were "negative times."

He said the district "had the highest ability to pay in Northampton County, the lowest amount of tax rate and the highest amount of children going to private schools."

"We have gained credibility," Tarola said.

Of next year's budget, Tarola again said he does not expect the tax increase to be as high.

"We've come a long way and next year's tax increase will be lower," he said.

DeRemer called for a collection of information that would show where the district stands in context with other Lehigh Valley districts.

"We know what we are accomplishing and what it costs," he said. "We need to communicate where we are in the Lehigh Valley."



Hellertown workers Lance Eure, Joe Luybli and Bruce Yonney paint the crosswalk at Linden and Main streets. The new design paint job will help make Hellertown's streets, especially Main Street, more pedestrian friendly.

## Suspended bus driver back to work

The Saucon Valley School District bus driver charged with five counts of endangering the welfare of children when he left them unattended has been reinstated.

District Justice Diane Repyneck dismissed the charges in April at a preliminary hearing.

She said the actions of Louis Stephen Zenz, 72, did not rise to the level of criminal intent.

Zenz was spotted March 22 by Lower Saucon Township Police Officer Thomas Barndt

after he parked his bus behind the Hess Mart at Black River Plaza with five children on board. Zenz, who was transporting the children to The Swain School in Allentown, said he had to use the restroom.

Barndt testified at the preliminary hearing that he found the bus unlocked and some children were climbing over seats, so he arrested Zenz.

Zenz was reinstated after an informal hearing before the school board. He was penalized three days pay, but re-

ceived back pay for the rest of the suspension. Zenz will have the same bus route he had when the incident occurred.

### LOST & FOUND

**Found:** Well mannered, female white German-Shepherd mix near Detweiler Street in Hellertown on Saturday.

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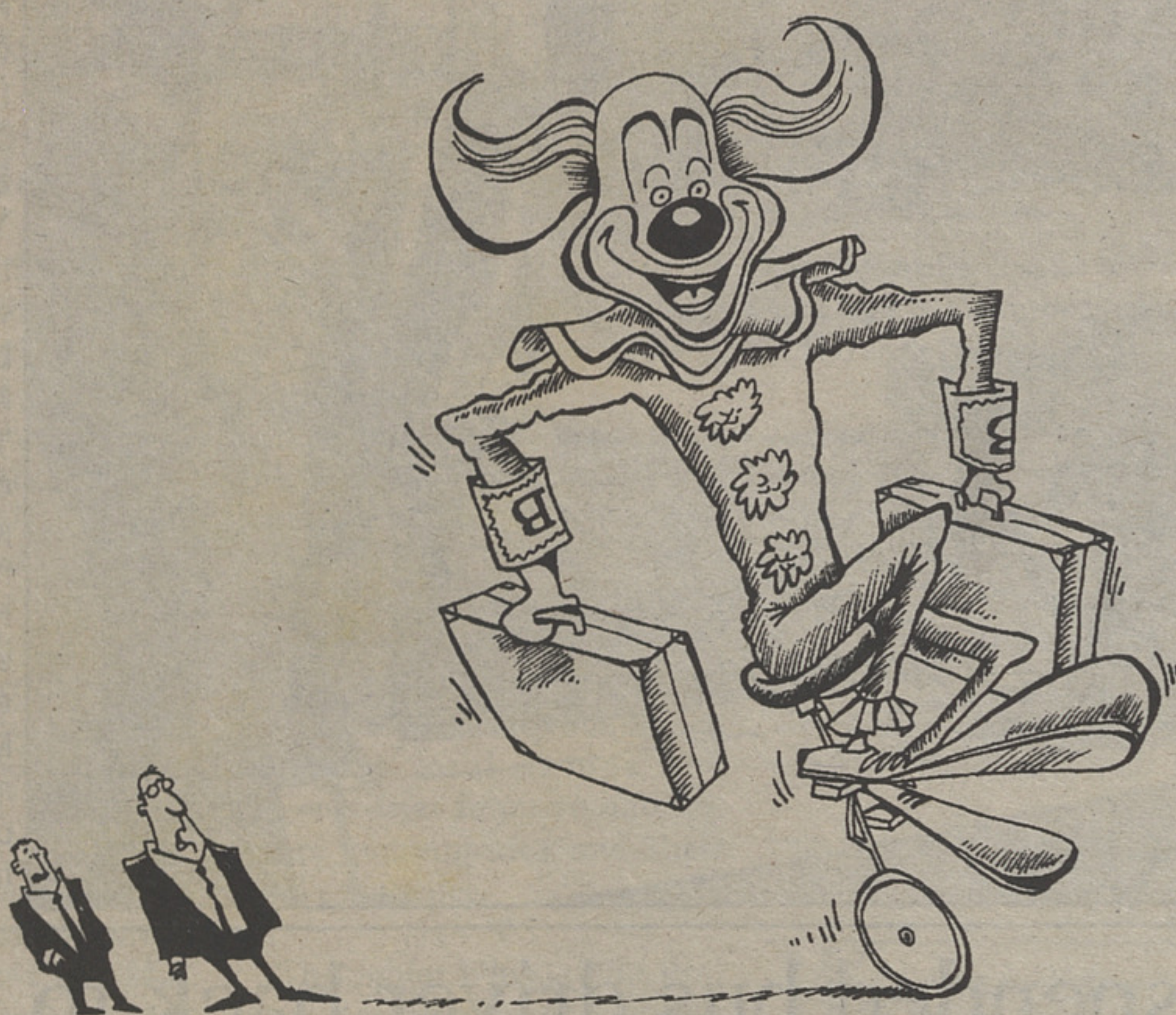
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## Memories of summer

**O**K, I'M FINALLY ABLE TO admit to at least a portion of my misspent youth during those elementary school days of the '50s. I used to "pack heat" in today's jargon.

Yes, during the summers before we thought of girls, our gang members carried loaded guns during many sultry summer days.

They were called, as I remember, Weegees, squirt guns or as Grandpa said, water guns, although it was definitely not cool to call these secretly concealed weapons, water guns. The proper term was squirt gun, and the Weegee was the most powerful, although, due to its diminutive size, we carried them inside our pockets.

The main problem with the Weegee was its very low ammunition capacity, about a quarter cup of water. Therefore, we needed a handy source to refill quickly. This source was, most of the time, a bucket of water into which we would immerse these deadly black firearms, or sometimes there was an outside faucet handy, under which was kept a large sprinkling can so as to avoid wasting ammo. The overflow ammo would later be used to water the tomato plants. We rarely wasted anything.

From the end of school in June, we waged war. The Weegee was small, but the stream of water emitted was the most powerful at short range. When our firearm leaked inside our pocket, it appeared that we had wet our pants, but who cared? It was stifling, and no one had an air conditioner at home.

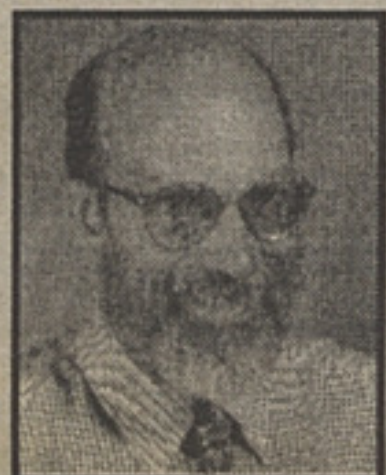
We cooled off under shade trees or inside the empty one car garages, since Dad had left for work in the early morning to drive to his job at Bethlehem Steel.

He wouldn't be home until four or five o'clock, when the fire siren atop Wolf School would summon us home for supper prepared by Mom or Grandma who didn't, for the most part, have a job outside the home.

Sometimes, for a break, we would sneak inside to page through National Geographic magazines behind Grandpa's smoking chair. It always smelled of tobacco from his discarded Phillies Blunts.

We'd be looking for far away peoples who didn't believe in wearing clothing because of the climate. When we'd find a good group of photos, we'd all laugh or snicker so as not to be heard by nearby busy moms.

The time of day was early afternoon before Mom and Grandma would take a break to watch the Kate Smith Hour on those round black and white TV screens where we only received channels 3, 6 and 10 from Philadelphia.



### BY THE BACK FENCE

By Lee Weidner  
Valley Voice columnist

The TV antennas couldn't pick up any New York channels, and I don't remember any local channels.

We boys would make ourselves scarce when Kate began singing, "When the moon comes over the mountain." It was then back outside to resume our battles or maybe we'd switch to Wiffle Ball, the greatest invention during the '50s.

We no longer had to worry about breaking windows because they, also, were plastic, and we could use a broom stick to blast the ball as far as we could. The neat thing about the Wiffle Ball was the design.

The well-placed holes would allow us to throw a nasty curve, an in-shoot, or outshoot, depending upon which side we placed the holes.

Back in those days we never heard of drive-by shootings, although we all had either squirt guns, cap-guns or Big Bang cannons. Did we get complaints from neighbors? Seldom! However, sometimes our Wiffle Ball would hurtle into someone's yard, and that someone would occasionally confiscate it when it landed in her flower garden.

We eventually moved to the street to play Wiffle Ball, probably when we reached the mature age of 11 or so. There were few cars on these summer afternoons, for most cars were at work, or the men without cars or carpools would either walk or take the trolley car.

These days were not always carefree. Sometimes a game would turn into a fistfight, but more likely it would be a rolling wrestling match, and we always were friends again the next day.

There were no grudges held for long.

We could always race our bikes over to the basketball court behind Wolf School and shoot hoops at non-netted rims. The nets had always deteriorated by school's end, but we didn't care.

Unfortunately the janitors had usually taken down the swings before school ended, I guess to prevent unsupervised injury. Even the red and green seesaws had been detached and stored for the summer.

We always had the baseball backstop at the northeast corner of the playground, so we'd get a bat and baseball, both usually taped together by summer's end.

Nearly everyone in our gang owned a baseball glove, which, with the help of Dad, had already been oiled with Kneet's foot oil to make the gloves pliable and preserve the cowhide.

There goes the siren—time to go home until after supper.

## THE VALLEY VOICE

SAUCON VALLEY'S WEEKLY PAPER

Ann Marie Gonsalves,  
Publisher

Paul Bealer  
Editor

Lee Weidner, Editorial

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### Letters to the Editor

Letters on any topic are welcome. They may be edited and they must be signed. Letters must be submitted exclusively to *The Valley Voice*. Letters will not be repeated, either when they are from the same writer or from a group of writers making the same points. You must include your phone number — not for publication, but so we can verify the letter. Send to: Letters to The Editor, *The Valley Voice*, P.O. Box 147, Hellertown, PA 18055.

### About Opinions

Only those articles with the "Viewpoint" heading express *this newspaper's* opinions. An article with someone's name as its heading is called a "column" or "personal piece" and expresses that writer's *personal* opinions. We run opinion pieces not because we necessarily agree with the writers but because they write well and have something to say.

### A Jewish Proverb:

"If you can't get over, you  
must go under."



### AS I SEE IT

By Bud Prosser  
Valley Voice columnist

## Nature: something wonderful to enjoy

**I** HAVE A WOODED AREA BORDERING my backyard and, because of that, I have a great amount of bird and animal activity to observe as I sit on my patio.

Over the years I have seen many deer, squirrels, chipmunks, groundhogs and I used to see pheasants until construction forced them out. About a month ago, we even had a turkey in our yard.

I suspect if you live in the country, all of this is not too exciting, but for us "city folks," there is still an air of excitement when we see a deer or a turkey, or watch squirrels chase each other.

I sit there sometimes in amazement as I watch a robin hop along the grass and turn its head to listen for a worm. And when it hears one, it just pecks its bill in the ground and pulls a worm out. The robin will do this despite the noise of lawn mowers or traffic on the street.

I will feed the birds throughout the winter, but stop during the summer except for my peanut stand for the woodpeckers. They will come take one peanut and fly to a branch and then return for another.

Nature is a wonderful thing and it is there for all of us to enjoy if we only take the time to enjoy it.

And this is As I See It!



## Council haggles over landfill host agreement

By Ann Marie Gonsalves  
Of The Valley Voice

Much to the dismay of others on the June 20 agenda, Lower Saucon Township Council ran a fine-tooth comb through the host agreement draft for the use of the IESI Bethlehem Landfill.

The host agreement is one of three separate documents concerning the proposed expansion.

With folks on the agenda waiting patiently, the session took over three hours of editing language and haggling over sentence structure.

Both parties have been trying to reach accord on hours of operation and the amount of garbage that can be dumped.

In a related matter, council agreed to advertise an ordinance that would attempt to reduce IESI's landfill operations and limit its daily intake.

Meanwhile, council has sent its comments and concerns about the expansion plan to the state Department of Environmental Protection.

State Sen. Lisa Boscola

introduced legislation June 20 that calls for a two-year moratorium on new or expanded landfills in the state.

Boscola said, "We cannot idly stand by and watch neighboring states use Pennsylvania as their dumpster. My bill would provide us with time to enact reasonable and rational legislation to control this alarming landfill expansion in our state."

It was an eye-opener for several council members to learn that IESI can stage, or line up, 40 tractor trailer trucks as early as 6:30 a.m.

Those trucks, many from New Jersey, are prepared to dump promptly at 7 a.m. when the landfill opens.

On June 22, the DEP denied a request for a 52-acre municipal waste landfill in St. Thomas Township, Franklin County. But that company can resubmit its application.

A state mandated moratorium likely will not affect Lower Saucon Township because the local landfill has less than three years worth of capacity.

## Boro to send out water quality report

Over the next several weeks the Hellertown Water Authority will mail its annual water quality report with the third quarter bill to customers.

Also note that with this billing period the rate-increase goes into effect.

Customers that do not receive a bill by late July should call the Authority office at 610-838-8051.

Customers who do not receive the quality report or would like extra copies can also call the Authority office.

## COP REPORTS (continued from page 1)

"The accident reports we use now take a fair amount of time to fill out. I am concerned about how much time my men will have to spend of filling out the new form," Lesser said.

Other area police departments have criticized the forms, often stating that it appears police are getting useless information for an accident investigation. Instead some departments have quipped that it seems like they are doing the work of insurance companies.

According to PennDOT, the redesigned reports came after it received requests for more details. The department then formed a committee of police officers, safety professionals and engineers to study the forms and make changes.

The state began distributing the forms in December.

Hellertown Police Depart-

ment has the new forms but is not using them. Calls to the department on when they will use the form or how they like the form went unanswered.

Lesser hopes PennDOT will heed criticism and revamp the new form.

"I don't know who is responsible for designing the new accident report or why but I don't think it was a good idea," Lesser replied.

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Kira Gilman in her winning derby car. Gilman's mother said Kira's skill has improved over the past three years.



KIRA GILMAN

## Gilman nabs second in Easton Soap Box Derby

Hellertown's Kira Gilman, 11, won second place last week in the stock car division of Easton's Soap Box Derby.

This is the third year in a row that Gilman has participated in the event. In her first year, Gilman finished ninth and last year she finished fifth. This is the only race sponsored by the Lehigh Valley Soap Box Derby Association, that Gilman participates in each year with a car that she assembled last year.

About 100 races were held among 26 racers as they competed to go onto national competition.

Brooke Finkbeiner of Palmer Township was named champion of the division and will

compete next month in the national derby in Akron, Ohio. If she cannot attend, Gilman will represent the Lehigh Valley in the national race.

Typically the top three winners have faced-off in many rallies before the Easton race to develop their skills. They have also spent countless hours fine-tuning their cars.

"Kira believes it is not the amount of effort and time spent on the car—she and her dad spent only a couple hours this year and did not even oil the wheels—but the driver's ability, concentration and skill," mother Claudia Gilman said. "The main idea is to have fun. Winning is an extra."

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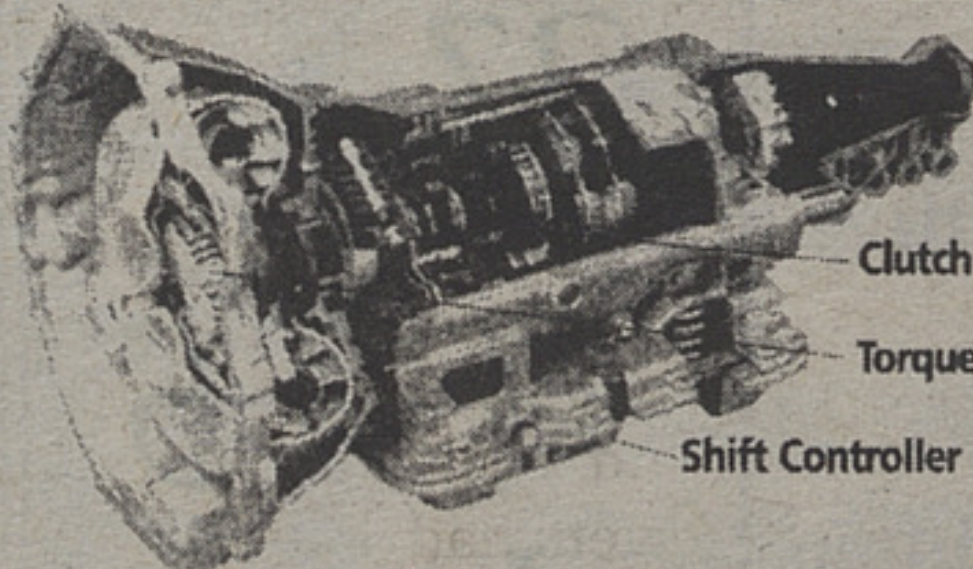


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# Park Hotel bar given new home

The wooden bar sat 25 years in city basement

By Lee Weidner  
Of The Valley Voice

The Park Hotel on Main Street stood as a Hellertown landmark for more than a century. A Northampton County map from before the Civil War shows its location, across from the current Detwiller Plaza. It was then operated by O.H. Dersh.

If only anecdotes were available now to bring back to life that earlier era. By 1876 and 1886 the hotel had changed names to Hellertown Hotel, but later in the 19th century it reverted to its former name.

In 1908 the Park Hotel was owned and operated by Harvey F. Myers. One photograph taken then shows the proprietor standing in the doorway behind one of the kerosene street lights that had been erected in the borough during the 1880s. Recently, Steve and

Ann Mesko of Bethlehem placed an advertisement in *The Valley Voice* asking for any photos of the hotel's interior. While the Hellertown Historical Society owns many photos of the exterior, there was only one available of the barroom.

The Meskos purchased the hotel's bar about 25 years ago at an auction and kept it dismantled in their basement since then. They recently decided to sell the bar through Dotta Auction Company of Nazareth. Its new owner, Robert Duda of New Jersey, reassembled the bar to its original luster and hopes to place it in a restaurant in the near future.

Several photos of the exterior of the hotel show the four-story building decked out in red, white and blue bunting for a national holiday with neatly dressed men and women standing on the porch and sidewalk. One photo appears to have been taken during the 1920s with Geyer Atlantic Gasoline that "puts pep in your motor" in the foreground. Ear-

lier photos depict horse and buggy visitors at the hotel, which plainly displays its livery sign hanging from the porch roof.

One source has revealed that for a short time there was a miniature golf course on the grounds to the north. Also Ed Weisel of the harness shop across the street would occasionally take a break for a beer at the hotel. He always made arrangements with other men to staff his cash register during these brief sojourns.

One later photo depicts the unnamed bartender in front of the liquor, chewing tobacco, and cigar displays, along with the beautiful cash register. On the wall is a sign reading "Edgar J Madden for Coroner." Another advertisement shows "Haney's Cab Service. Call 83441."

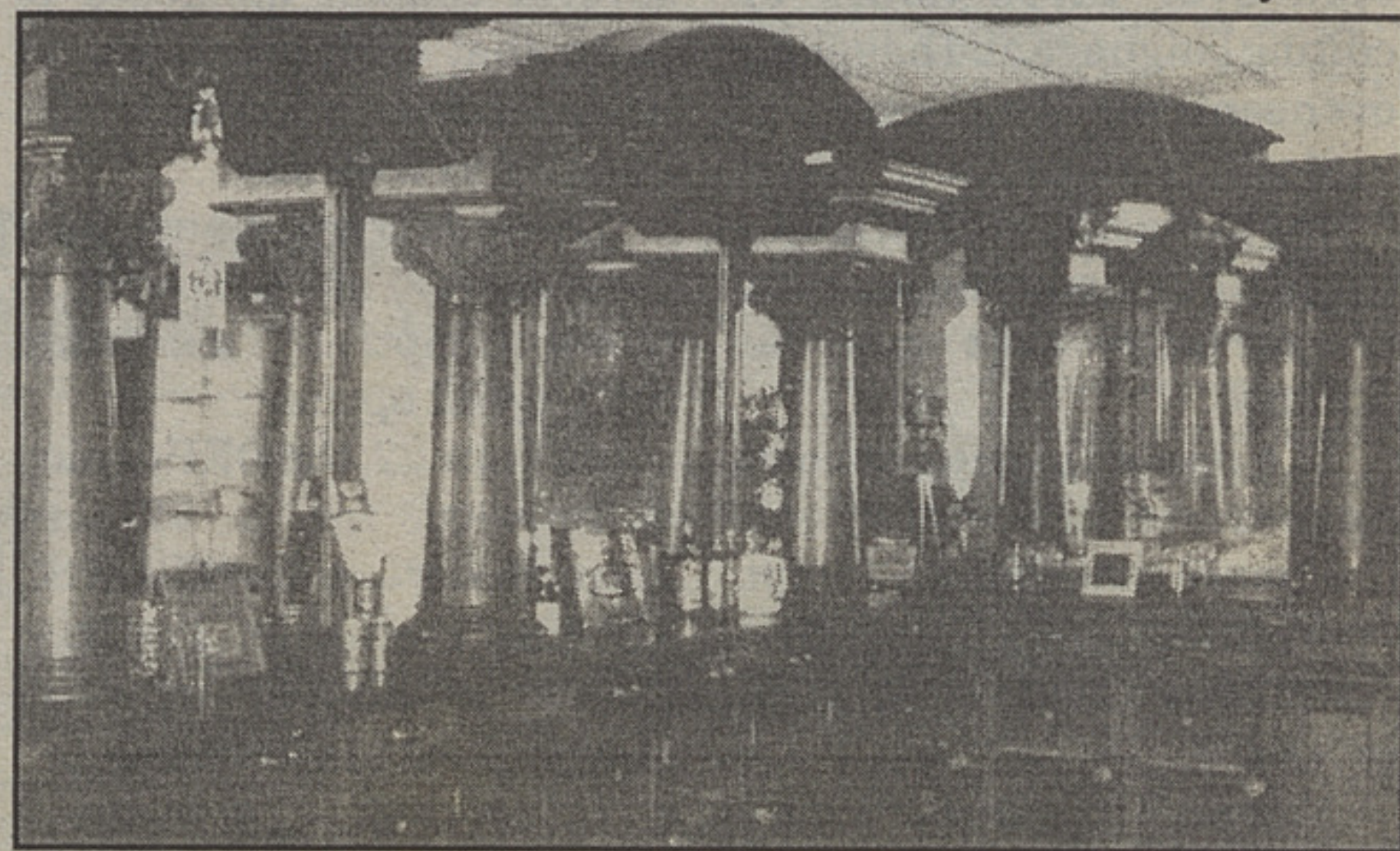
There are some anecdotes that bring the Park Hotel back to life—some rumor and some fact.

Long ago it was rumored

(continued from page 11)



Hellertown's Park Hotel was demolished in 1973 but its wooden bar (below) was saved. The latest owners, Steve and Ann Mesko of Bethlehem, sold the disassembled bar to a New Jersey man.





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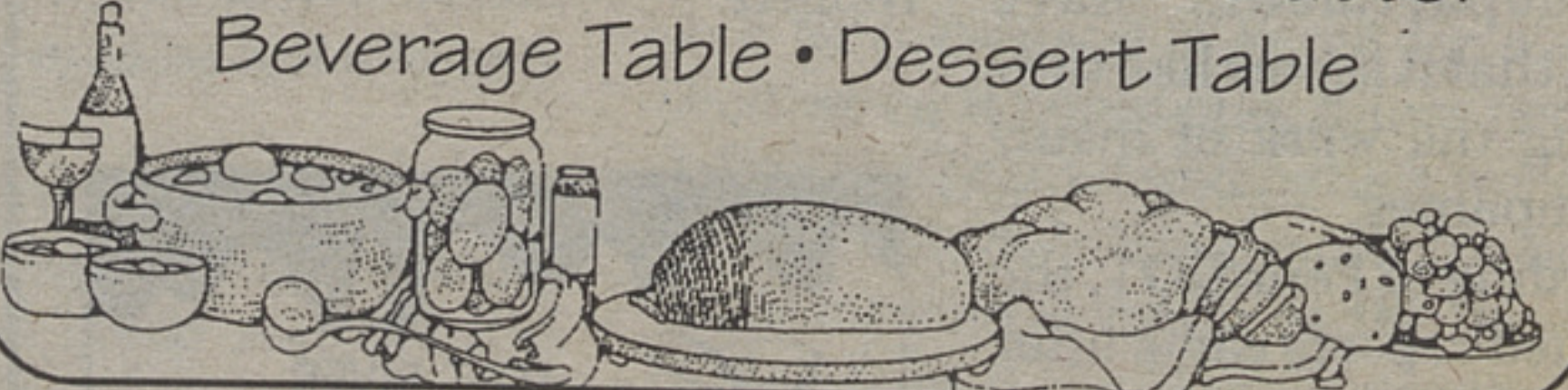
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Macaroni Salad • Three-Potato Salad  
Summer Pasta Salad • Rolls & Butter  
Beverage Table • Dessert Table



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Elizabeth Hahn and other Peace Corps members participated in a talent show. Hahn, left, wore a Mayan wedding dress and performed the traditional Mayan dance, "The Son of St. Lucia," for the show.

Photo courtesy/  
Liz Hahn

## Hahn teaches computer basics in Guatemala

By Lee Weidner  
Of The Valley Voice

Recent Lafayette College graduate Elizabeth Hahn, a Hellertown native, has accomplished some amazing things in her short life.

She graduated from Saucon Valley High School with honors, and while there was bitten by the long-distance running bug. Having fought through allergies and typical injuries, she was able to perform in state competition as a junior. At Lafayette she completed a double major and spent time living in Spain to improve her Spanish while training with the men's Olympic marathon team.

After graduation, Liz decided to join the Peace Corps.

She is working with many illiterate women on computer skills, with the long-range goal being to promulgate small businesses in the town of Tecpan, Guatemala. It's similar to teaching computer in kinder-

garten.

In spring she wrote to her parents. "Winter here is mostly a lot of rain. Every day it starts to rain here at around 3 pm and then it pours all night. Since my road is dirt, walking home at 5 p.m. is not all that fun."

She continues. "Have I told you that I have to wash my clothes by hand? A big sink that's located outside of my house is called a pila. The water enters the center section. The left section is for dishwashing only, and on the right one must wash clothes, which take forever to dry due to the rain and high humidity. The chorro (spigot) I open every night so I get water, which only runs between 5 and 5:30 am every day."

Volunteering to live alone in a third world country for two years is an awesome challenge. *The Valley Voice* will attempt to update Hellertown readers about her progress.

## St. Michael School reaccrated

Saint Michael the Archangel School, Limeport recently received 10 year reaccration by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

The school's Class of 2001 graduates include James J. Balf, Theodore R. Chiaparas, Christopher R. Cochrane, Stephen N. DeTurk, Lauren H. Faulkner and Michael A. Fritz.

Also, Megan A. Koneski, Jilly Lynn Lewandowski,

Nicholas J. Majczan, Vincent D. Nigito, Dimitris G. Paxos, Richard R. Sagl, Justin P. Talago, Jenna E. Berninger, Kristen Clymer and Carla M. Colella.

Also, Matthew J. Faragasso, Lauren E. Flanelly, Marisa C. Jones, Derek K. Kuyper, Peter D. Magat, Kathryn A. Misero, Jessica P. O'Hare, Jennifer M. Richter, Treissa E. Seigfried and Chris W. Watts.

• The Academic Bowl team finished fourth in the regional

competition held at Central Catholic.

• MacKenzie Barth performed "A Stone in the Road," a message on helping instead of being selfish, at Limeport, Quakertown Christian Elementary School and Lower

Milford Elementary.

• May Authors of the Month: Jillian Loomis, Lauren Joyce, Jared Gerhard, Colleen Topper, Janelle Maskulka, Andrea Houck, Amber Gerst, Laura Hoffstetter, Kyle Kelechava and Alexandra Freeman.

• Saints of the Month are: Elissa Schatz, Bradley Woroniak, Chelsea Horvath, Kaitlyn Higgins, Kaitlyn Orr, Rachel Schnalzer, Katie Steele, Katie Zaharchuk, Caitlyn Kane and Stefanie Zumas.

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## Score Card

The first inning of the Hellertown Royals' matchup with Martins Creek saw both teams combine for nine runs, with Hellertown posting four. But Martins Creek held on to score in all but three innings to post a 10-6 win.

Phil Clinese went 2-for-3 with a grand slam homer in the first inning and a follow-up homer. He also led the team with five RBIs. Rocky Gencarelli also added an RBI.

Clinese's power attack in the Royals' next game helped lead the team to a 9-4 win over Lower Nazareth. He nailed a three-run homer and an RBI single to help post the win. Teammate Mark Nicholas had two singles, an RBI and a double. Hank Reifsnnyder added two hits and two RBIs.

Nicholas led the team with eight RBIs Sunday in a 12-5 beating of Limeport. He went 4-for-4 and had two home runs. Reifsnnyder added a two-run homer for the Royals, who scored in all but two innings.

Gencarelli also had an RBI.

### LEGION BASEBALL

Hellertown could only score runs in the first and fourth innings in a NorCo American Legion baseball loss to Wilson.

Ryan Kulp went 2-for-3 for the borough team and added an RBI. Teammate Ryan Snyder went 3-for-3 and had an RBI.

Hellertown posted six runs in the first inning of a 14-4 pounding of Easton. Doug Malitsch scored three runs and had two hits. Matt Ruhe had two runs and two RBIs and Greg Peters went 2-for-2 with three RBIs and a home run. Ryan Kulp and Dan Williamson added RBIs.

### NORCO ALL STARS

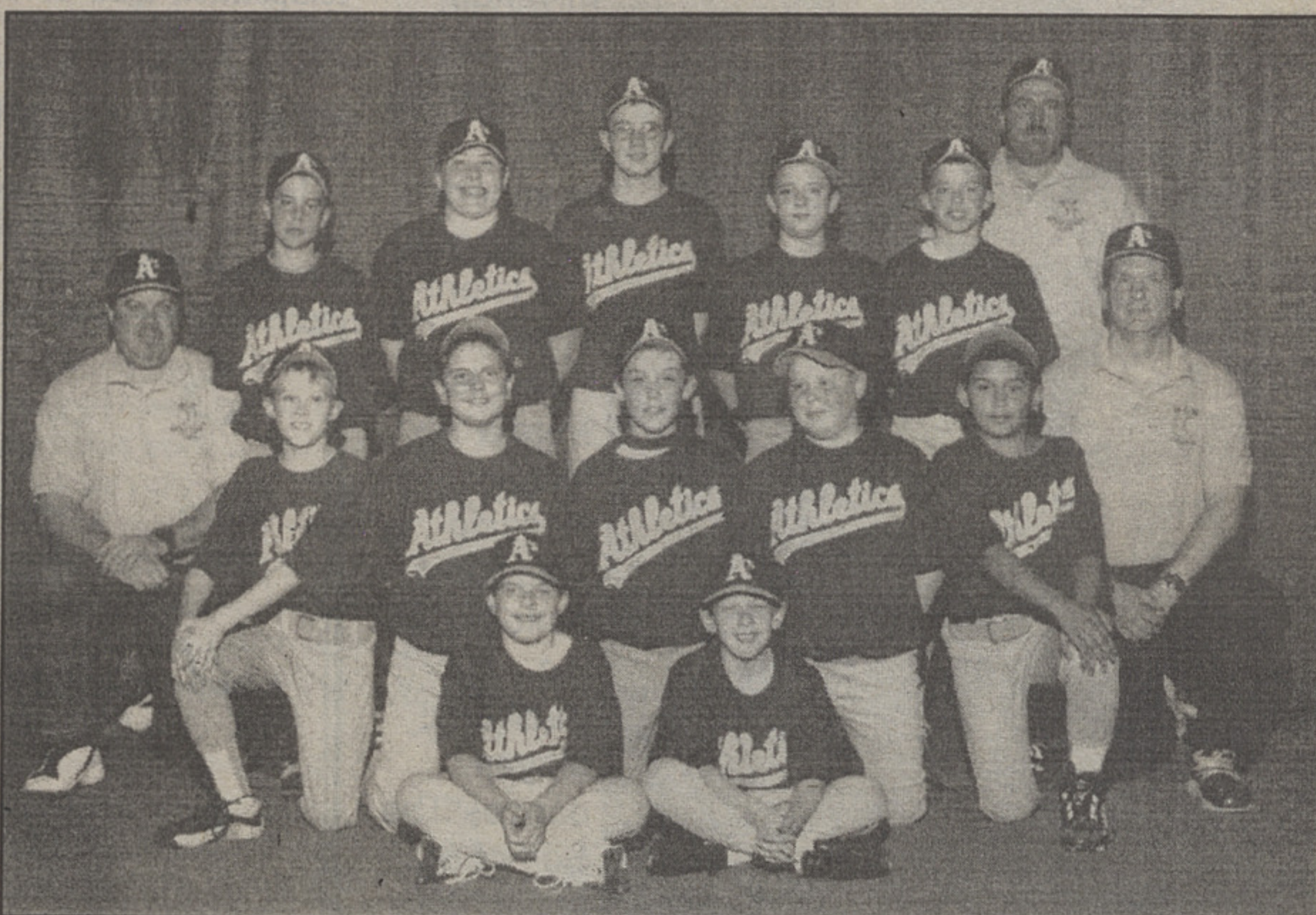
Two Hellertown baseball players participated in the Northampton County American Legion Baseball All-Star game held Thursday, June 28 in Emmaus.

Greg Peters was named a shortstop All-Star and Adam Kovacs was named an outfield All-Star.

## Undefeated season

The Hellertown-Lower Saucon Little League Athletics (10-12 year olds) were named Major Boys champions after posting a 15-0 record this season. Sitting are Bryan Wolst and Ricky Flesher. Kneeling are manager John Strauss, Steven Mowrey, Michael Scholl, Eric Strauss, Bryan Finlay, Julian Laslo and coach Ed Flok. Standing are Josh Amelio, Paul Bohan, Keith Flok, Eric Gimbar, Connor Topper and coach Joe Amelio.

Photo courtesy of Pittman Photography



## Saucon graduate fulfills marathon dream

**■ Meg Weaver raises \$4,000 for cancer research & patient care**

By Barbara Billings  
Of The Valley Voice

Yearning to run a marathon, Meg Weaver participated in the fourth annual Suzuki Rock 'n' Roll Marathon, breaking her fund-raising goal in the race against fighting blood related cancers.

In her marathon debut earlier this month, the 1994 Saucon Valley High School graduate ran with Team in Training for Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in San Diego, Calif. Starting with 20,000 runners on a chilly Sunday morning at 6:45 a.m., she crossed the finish line in 4 hours, 40 minutes.

Thrilled to fulfill her dream of running a marathon, Weaver said supporting the cause was what motivated her.

In January she began training and asked friends and family for monetary support to meet her \$3,500 pledge to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. By April, she raised \$4,000.

"People I knew since I was a little girl, people my parents knew, friends in college who don't have any money to spare, were giving," she said.

The money is used for research and to help cancer patients attain care as they undergo treatment.

She joined about 35 men and women on the New York City team which raised \$180,000.

During the marathon Weaver said her toughest time came in the 10th mile.

"The road surface was different than what I was used



Meg Weaver relaxes with friend Steven Franco after running her first marathon in San Diego, Calif.

to running on. I had pain in my knee, but I kept going," Weaver said. Most of her training was at Central Park or along the Hudson River, close to her home in New York City where she works for a publishing company.

Hearing her name shouted from the crowd, read from the letters painted on her purple singlet, encouraged her to keep going, she said.

"When people call out your name, it really makes a difference," Weaver added.

Having her parents, Linda and Walter Weaver, and her friend Steven Franco in the crowd also gave her strength to finish she said.

During the race, they went in a car to different points along the course to see Weaver run, but it was hard to find her. With her strawberry blond curls bundled in a ponytail, Weaver looked like many other runners clad in purple, they discovered.

Weaver's smile broke into a grin when she said this was not the first time her father followed her running.

"I was about 12-years-old when I began running around the neighborhood. My father felt it wasn't safe for me to run alone, so he would follow me in his car," she said.

Marathon runners sporting Wonder Woman and Spiderman costumes added a vision of safety when they ran past her on the course. At about every half-mile, she heard guitars blast from about 40 bands, which is the mark of the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon.

By the time she hit the 22nd mile, supporters on the sidelines were giving out beer and holding up signs saying, "We'll make your last four miles feel like a breeze," she said.

Racing up scenic Highway 163, by Sea World and around San Diego's beach and bay communities, Weaver finished on the Parade Deck at the

historic Marine Corps Recruit Depot.

Skirting around the city on foot Weaver saw many of San Diego's highlights over the 26 mile course.

"It's amazing what you can do before lunch," Weaver said at the finish line.

### Registration open for baseball camp

The third annual Chuck Ciganick Baseball Camp will be held Tuesday, July 10 through Thursday, July 12 at the Silver Creek Athletic Association grounds, Route 412, Springtown.

The training camp is open to children ages 8 to 12 and costs \$75 for all three days.

A one-day camp for young adults ages 13 to 16 will be held Friday, July 13. Cost is \$25.

For information, call 610-838-1219 or email mejkc01@moravian.edu



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## DEAN'S LISTS & AWARDS

The following students were named to Northampton Community College's spring semester dean's list.

The list recognizes students who have maintained a minimum grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.

**Hellertown:** Robert Bergey, Lisa Cody, David Coleman, Donald Dennis, Miranda Fritchman, Stephen Galgocy, Kelly Girton, Stacey Hajdinyak and Christopher Heiserman.

Also, Lisa Johnson, Diane Kempf, Sarah Kepner, Chad Kish, Rachael Kudara, Christina Lightner, Kelly Mahan, Deborah Panariello, Dawn Parker, Melissa Post, Craig Richebacher, Cynthia Segaline, Serena Stauffer and Sarah Wynn.

**Lower Saucon Township:** Shannon Albright, Farhad Anvari, Tina Brown, Matthew Carlson, Alyssa Chuck, Amparo Colon, Aura Corado-Palomo, Paul Dakay, Deana DiJirolanio, Carlos Figueroa, Micah Flores, Peter Gaughran, Jennifer Hassick, Nicholas Hess, Lucy Hobar, Haluk Ismen and Nathan Laudenslager.

Also, Alexander Lemheney, Nicole Lopez, Diana Lugo, Enid Marrero, Norma Ocasio, Denise Ortiz, Violet Ortiz, Oluseun Otulaja, John Pequeno, Jonathan Perry, Paul Pimenta, Aixa Pinto, Liliya Reichl, Robert Rossell, Sonya Salim, Brian Szoke, Gregory Torrales, Rocky Urich, Evett Vega, Daniel

Vogel and Laura Yundt.

**Bath:** Barbara Gildner.

DeSales University released the following list of Hellertown students who were omitted from an earlier posting of the university's spring dean's list.

Also receiving the honor were Katherine M. Elliott, an elementary education student and Ellen M. Price, a psychology student.

Widener University announced that Kelly Deily of Lower Saucon Township was named to the spring dean's list.

Students must attain at least a 3.5 grade point average to receive the honor.

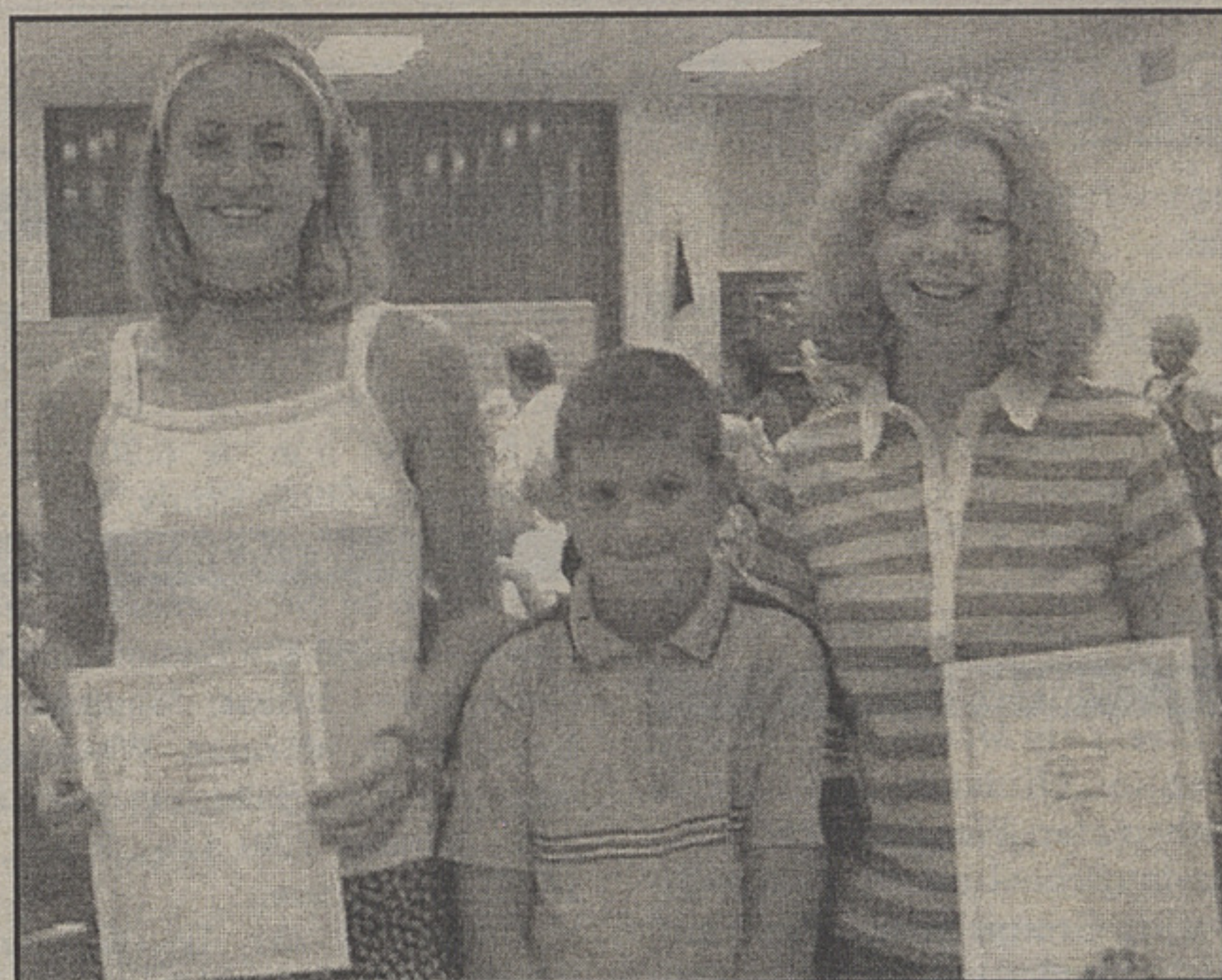
Lower Saucon Township college students Michael W. Davis and Dana M. Peters were named to the spring semester dean's list at Mansfield University.

Students must earn a 3.5 grade average for the honor.

Stephanie Hahn of Hellertown received the Class of 1904 Scholarship Award given to an outstanding junior at Lehigh University.

Hellertown Borough Solicitor Michael Corriere recently received the Bethlehem Catholic High School Distinguished Graduate Award.

He graduated in 1984 from



During its June meeting, the Woman's Club of Hellertown presented Saucon Valley students with several awards. High school senior Kelly Haymaker, left, received a \$1,000 scholarship. Second grader Jason Molinaro, center, received a \$25 prize for a Christmas poem that won second place in the GFWC state poetry contest. High school student Amy DeRemer, along with Richard Bailey, received a \$100 vo-tech award. Bailey did not attend the meeting. Photo by Ann Marie Gonsalves

## Holum earns academy appointment

Marc Holum has been offered an appointment to the U.S. Service Academy Air Force Prep. Earlier this year,

U.S. Rep. Pat Toomey nominated Holum to the academy. He is the son of Ron and Elaine Holum of Hellertown.

## Students to have poetry published

Three students from Saint Michael the Archangel School in Limeport were recently honored for their poetry writing skills.

They are Daniel Hoffstetter,

Elizabeth Berezny and Patrick Kitchen.

The students' poetry will be published in "Teacher's Selections: Anthology of Fifth Grade Poetry."

## Academy posts middle school honor roll

The following Moravian Academy Middle School students have been named to the Bethlehem school's third trimester honor roll.

**Sixth grade:** Nina Jain, Erin Kara and Christopher Puleo, all of Lower Saucon Township, and Rebecca Pottenger, Hellertown.

**Seventh grade:** Hadley Garrettson and Yush Gupta, of Lower Saucon Township and Jessica Pottenger, of Hellertown.

**Eighth grade:** Alexandra Bausch, Lower Saucon Township.

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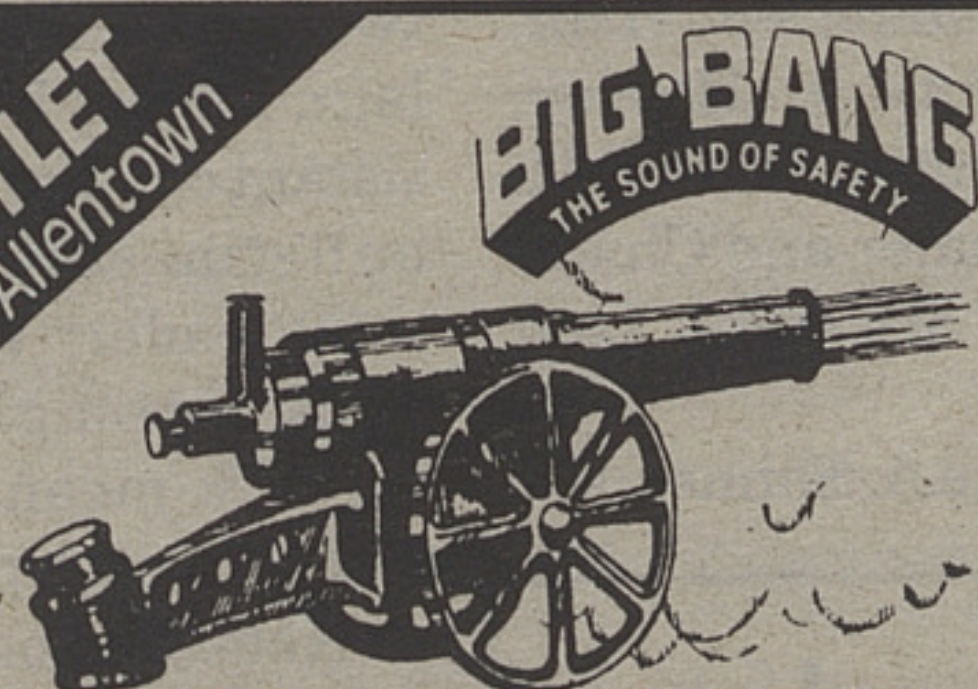
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| SUN. JUNE 24, ... 9-3   | SAT. JUNE 30, ... 9-3 |
| MON. JUNE 25, ... 9-7   | SUN. JULY 1, ... 9-3  |
| TUES. JUNE 26, ... 9-7  | MON. JULY 2, ... 9-7  |
| WED. JUNE 27, ... 9-7   | TUES. JULY 3, ... 9-7 |
| THURS. JUNE 28, ... 9-7 | WED. JULY 4, ... 9-3  |

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## WORSHIP SERVICES

### ASSEMBLY OF GOD

*Hellertown Assembly of God*, 2065 Apple St., Hellertown. Minister, Rev. Thomas S. Appleba. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday prayer meeting/Bible study, 7 p.m.

### EPISCOPAL

*St. George's Episcopal*, 735 Delaware Ave., Hellertown. Pastor, Rev. Lois Bartlett. Worship and Holy Eucharist, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.; Youth service, one or two times each month. Nursery care through age three.

### LUTHERAN

*New Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran*, 3233 Apples Church Road, Bethlehem. Pastor, Rev. Tricia McMackin. Contemporary worship, 6 p.m. Saturday; Sunday worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

*Christ Lutheran of Lower Saucon*, Easton Road, Hellertown. Pastor, Rev. Thomas Vega-Neel. Contemporary Worship/Communion, Sunday School, 9 a.m.; traditional worship 10:30 a.m.; Nursery available.

*Christ Lutheran*, 69 S. Main St., Hellertown. Pastor, Rev. Philip C. Spohn. Worship service, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School is suspended for the summer.

*Friedens Evangelical Lutheran*, 2451 Saucon Valley Road, Center Valley. Pastor, Rev. Elaine Quincey. Sunday School, 9 a.m. Holy Communion, 10:15 a.m.

*St. Luke's (Old Williams) Lutheran*, 20 Church Road, Hellertown. Pastor, John Hart. Worship, 9 a.m. and noon. Suffrages

service followed by Bible study, 7 p.m.

*Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church*, 2170 Route 212, Pleasant Valley (Springfield Township). Pastor, Donald C. Hagey. Holy Communion, 8 a.m.; Contemporary worship, 9:30 a.m. with "Summer Story Time" for children during the worship service.

### MENNONITE

*Steel City Mennonite*, Mixsell Avenue. Minister, Rev. David Kochsmeier. Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School follows. Home Fellowship Groups meet second and fourth Sunday evenings; call 610-865-4899 for time and locations.

### METHODIST

*St. Paul United Methodist*, 645 Main St., Hellertown. Pastor, Rev. Glenn Brown. Worship, 9 a.m.; Nursery provided; Weekly Bible study, Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

*Salem United Methodist Church*, Route 212, Springtown. Pastor, Rev. Michael S. Netznik. Traditional worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; Contemporary worship, 10:30 a.m.; Adult Bible study, Tuesday, 10 a.m.

### MORAVIAN

*Mountainview Moravian*, Constitution Avenue and Magnolia Road, Hellertown. Rev. Derek French. Morning worship, 9:30 a.m.; Nursery is provided. Adult Bible study, 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School and collections for Trinity Soup Kitchen is suspended for the summer.

*Grace Moravian*, Old Bethlehem Pike and Preston Lane, Center Valley. Pastor, Rev. Marge Hassler. Worship and Sunday School 9:30 & 10:45 a.m.

### NEW REFORMED

*Ebenezer New Reformed Church*, 3221 Bingen Road, Bethlehem. Pastor, Keith Easley. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m.

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

*Church of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus*, 1408 Easton Road, Hellertown. Priest, Monsignor Raymond F. Merman. Weekday masses, 8 a.m.; Saturday mass, 5 p.m.; Sunday 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & noon.

*Church of the Assumption*, B.V.M., 4101 Old Bethlehem Pike (off Route 378 on Colesville Road), Bethlehem. Priest, Monsignor John J. Martin. Weekday mass 8:15 a.m.; Saturday mass 5 p.m.; Sunday masses 7:30 a.m., 10 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

*Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley*, 424 Center St., Bethlehem. Rev. Sue Turner. Adult Forum, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.; community conversation, 11:30 a.m. Child care provided. E-mail: members.aol.com/uucv

### UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Lower Saucon U.C.C.*, 1375 Third Ave., Hellertown. Worship service, 9:30 a.m.

The church is handicapped accessible.

*First U.C.C.*, 501 Northampton St., Hellertown. Pastor, Rev. Kevin Fruchtl. Worship, 9:30 a.m.

*Trinity U.C.C.*, 1990 Route 212, Pleasant Valley (Springfield Township). Pastor, Rev. Carl E. Siegfried. Sunday School, 9:15 p.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Bible study, 7 p.m., Wednesdays.

Send weekly service changes to *The Valley Voice*, 1188 Main St., Hellertown, PA 18055 or e-mail them to us at [atvalleyvoice@earthlink.net](mailto:atvalleyvoice@earthlink.net)

## DEATHS

### Dorothy V. Weber

Dorothy V. Weber, 80, of Willowbrook Drive, Bethlehem, died June 25, in St. Luke's Hospital, Fountain Hill. She was the wife of the late John T. Weber.

She worked in the accounts payable department at Bethlehem Steel Corp. for six years.

Born in Hellertown, she was a daughter of the late J. Milton and Viola (LaBar) Fluck.

Weber was a member of Christ Lutheran Church, Hellertown.

She was a charter member of the Order of Eastern Star, Saucon Valley Chapter.

Survivors: Daughters, Sharon W. Garner of Somerville, N.J., Diane J. Wampole of North Wales; sister, Evelyn H. Folenta of Hellertown and three grandchildren.

Arrangements, Heintzelman Funeral Home, Hellertown.

### Michael J. Tapajcik

Michael J. Tapajcik, 84, of Magnolia Road, Hellertown, died June 22, in Blough Health Care Services, Bethlehem. He was the husband of Margaret A. (Kukoda) Tapajcik.

He was a laborer at Bethlehem Steel Corp. for 40 years, retiring in 1980.

Born in Bethlehem, he was a son of the late John and Mary (Miklos) Tapajcik.

Tapajcik was a member of Church of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, Hellertown.

He was a Navy veteran of World War II.

Tapajcik was a member of Edward H. Ackerman Post 397 and Dewey Fire Company.

Survivors: Wife; daughter, Frances M. Kauffman, and son, John M., both of Alexandria, Va.; sister, Martha Houck of Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Arrangements, Heintzelman

Funeral Home, Hellertown.

### Raymond Macarro

Raymond Macarro, 75, of Westfield, Tioga County, died June 22, in Vencor Hospital-Central, Tampa, Fla.

He was a draftsman at Bethlehem Steel Corp. for many years before retiring.

Born in Bethlehem, he was a son of the late Eufemio and Reinaldo (Martin) Macarro.

Macarro was a Navy veteran of World War II, serving in the Pacific Rim.

Survivors: Son, Thomas J. of Hellertown; daughter, Cynthia Ortwein of Memphis, Tenn.; brother, Thomas G. of Hellertown; sister, Teresa Farrer of Winter Haven, Fla. and five grandchildren.

Arrangements, Heintzelman Funeral Home, Hellertown.

### Steve Chegezy

Steve Chegezy, 80, of ManorCare Health Services, Palmer Township, died June 20, in ManorCare. He was the husband of the late Doris V. (Altemose) Chegezy.

He was a brick layer for many years at Bethlehem Steel Corp, retiring in 1977.

Born in Bethlehem, he was a son of the late Zoltan and Winnie (Shuvikruha) Chegezy. Chegezy was a member of United Church of Christ, Farmersville.

He was an Army veteran of World War II, serving with the 630th Coast Artillery Battery C in Italy, Sicily and North Africa.

Chegezy was a member of Model A Restorers Club and Model A Ford Club.

Survivors: Son, Nelson S. of Lower Saucon Township; daughter, Janet D. Muffley of Danielsville; sister, Anna Repscher of Bethlehem and three grandchildren.

Arrangements, Curran-Finegan Funeral Home, Wilson.

## Hellertown Lions name new officers

The Hellertown Lions Club recently announced its club officers for 2001-02. They are: David A. Stauffer, president; David J. Heintzelman, first vice president; Robert A. Bassett, second vice president; Joseph J. Chunko, third vice president; Heintzelman, sec-

retary; Bassett, assistant secretary; Edwin L. Laub, financial secretary; James R. Hein, treasurer; Louis R. Hassey, assistant treasurer; Donald M. Miller, Lion tamer and Chadd A. Hamman, assistant Lion tamer.

Also, William A. Shimer, tail

twister; Maynard Underkoffler, assistant tail twister; C. Sheldon Hill, chaplain; Robert F. Thompson, assistant chaplain; Heintzelman, bulletin editor; Thompson, song leader; William Koczen, assistant song leader; Chunko, ways & means; Chunko, immediate past president.

Named to one year board of directors term are: John Herman, Carl A. Laub, Thompson and Carl L. Werly. Two year term members are: Christopher Reilly, Keith Zweifel, Hill and Hassey. Membership committee members are: John DelRe, David A. Stauffer and Chunko.

The following Lions received Chevrons for years of service: Frank Gutshall, 50 years; Maynard Underkoffler, 45 years; Robert Thompson, 40 years; James Hein, 35 years; Robert Hollowell, 30 years and Frank Wilk, 25 years.



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## Trinity Lutheran sets Bible school

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Route 212, Pleasant Valley invites children ages 3 through sixth grade to participate in its Vacation Bible School.

"SonCreek Junction" will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. July 9 to July 13.

This program will give children an opportunity to study the Bible while enjoying a program centered around adventures in a western gold-mining town.

For registration information, call 610-346-7282.

## PARK HOTEL (continued from page 6)

that an inebriated doctor, after riding his horse up and down Main Street, decided to enter the bar still on horseback. Children from the first ward who seldom had traveled farther than Bethlehem viewed the four-floor Park Hotel as a massive structure.

The Dewey Fire Company used the hotel as a sample for the specifications of a new fire truck.

This resulted in the "Big Bertha" fiasco.

One attraction at the establishment featured a human spider who scaled the exterior

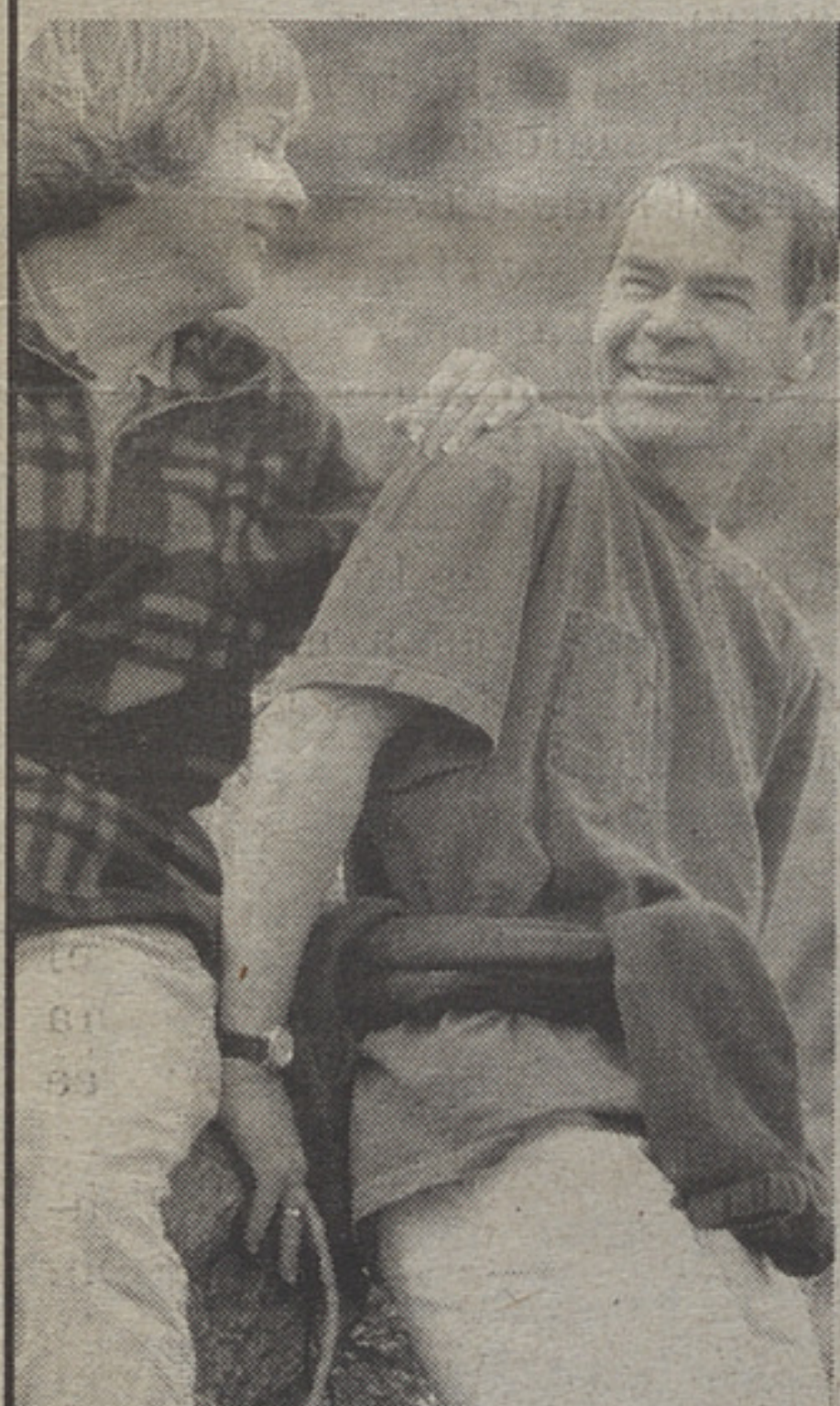
of the hotel without any safety apparatus. Many years before that cowboys from Texas, known as drovers, stopped at the hotel briefly while driving a herd of cattle through town.

There was once an artesian well that provided water for the various pools of the fish hatchery on the grounds. Also, nearby was Geyer's quoit course.

As former owner, Mrs. Mesko, said of the antique bar that sold for \$19,000, "It's a shame it didn't remain in Hellertown as a lasting part of its history."

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specialists in urology, radiation oncology, medical oncology, and oncology nursing. In a single visit, our urologic cancer experts will meet with you, conduct a physical exam, discuss your treatment options and provide a written recommendation.

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- Our Cancer Center treats more new cancer patients than any other hospital in our region and has **patient satisfaction** ratings among the **top 1%** nationwide.

- The Cancer Center of Lehigh Valley Hospital is a founding member of the **Penn State Cancer Institute**.
- Cancer services at Lehigh Valley Hospital—Muhlenberg are part of the Lehigh Valley Hospital Cancer Center.
- LVH physicians participate in ground-breaking cancer research, giving our patients the opportunity to participate in **national cancer research trials**.

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# An American Experience

## Student ambassador recalls year with Hellertown family



The Weidners of Hellertown included Venezuelan teen Mirian Vasquez in its family during the past year.

**By Mirian Vasquez**

*Special to The Valley Voice*

When you receive a person in your house and are approached as a son or daughter it is something noble and hard to describe. A family is a bond or union that develops through time. It is indestructible. Families get stronger with bad times and good times. Family is forever.

Being a host family is not easy, I guess. But the actual issue of making a person feel at home is great.

My host family, my family here in the United States, has been wonderful. The Weidners welcomed me as member of their family. I called them Mom, Dad, Laura, Lynn and Bobby. My host brother and sisters are my brother and sisters. A perfect family is not one without problems. It is the one that as a unit solves those problems. American families are different from

Venezuelan families, but in their way the Weidners make me feel like one of them. It is something impressive that I have not told until now.

In one of my applications for school activities, I wrote my name followed by "Weid." In that moment I figured out that I was signing with their last name and I knew that I was completely feeling like one of them. I think about the moment of my departure and I feel sad already, but I want to go back to Venezuela where my family and friends are waiting for me. But part of me

wants to stay here, because they make me feel like one of them.

If a family is that great with treating me as a member of their love union, why not say that they are the best host family of this year?



Vasquez played high school soccer & volleyball.



In mid-spring, Vasquez visited Harvard University and other sites in Massachusetts during a PEACE Student Ambassador program tour.



Graduation day with Lynn Weidner.



Vasquez and fellow ambassador Manuel Polanco enjoyed a Boston Red Sox baseball game.

## A dad's prologue on special visitor

**By Lee Weidner**

*Of The Valley Voice*

It's hard to believe that the roses are in bloom, and that it's only a little more than a week that Mirian will return to Venezuela.

The jonquils have long ceased their bloom, the magnolia and dogwood have turned back to their summer green, and it's time to plant annuals.

Soon July 6th will be here and a South American family gets anxious to see their girl again after a year's stay in Hellertown.

My family readies itself for goodbye tears as Mirian's loved ones ready themselves for welcome back tears.

Mirian has blossomed as a flower and obviously will be missed. Fortunately, there is such a thing as e-mail. There are favorite photos, remembrances of holidays and everyday routines, great times and difficult times. Let's look at this as a growing relationship rather than the end of one.

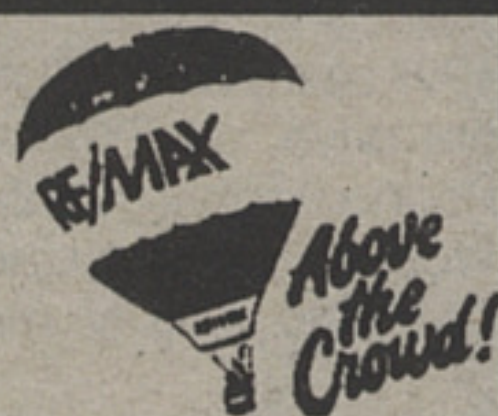
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