

CHANGE IN THE WAY AMERICANS INTERPRET THE PAST



DOWNTOWN MARKETING & DEVELOPMENT

By Barry Cassidy

Change is random. One might say that one random event leads to another. Recently something happened that gave me pause, as the Philadelphia Flyers removed the statue of Kate Smith as part of an effort to respond to people outraged that she sang a song in 1931 which had racist lyrics.

Kate Smith was a big part of my childhood. I remember every time someone said, "God Bless America," I would always chime in "and Kate Smith." My World War II Disabled Veteran Uncle Frank taught me to say that when I was very young. He also taught me how to hit a baseball to right field where the worst kid always plays. So, to see her banned was a little too close for me not to experience some level of outrage.

My Uncle would tell me stories of her raising money by selling war bonds. She sold \$600 million in war bonds during a series of marathon broadcasts. She was given the Medal of Freedom by President Reagan. The President said, "The voice of Kate Smith is known and loved by millions of Americans, young and old. In war and peace, it has been an inspiration. Those simple but deeply moving words, 'God bless America,' have taken on added meaning for all of us because of the way Kate Smith sang them."

Drake University honored her for "outstanding contributions to radio and the people." She became a member of the Radio Hall of Fame in 1999. A Kate Smith U.S. commemorative stamp was issued based on a photograph of Smith taken in

the 1960s. She led a full life and was adored by the masses as a symbol of what was good and right about our country.

She did her part for the Flyers singing at the home opener in 1973, and by the time game 6 of the Stanley Cup Finals came about she had a 36-3-1 "Smith's Flyer Record" and she delivered on that night in May of 1974. In 1975 she delivered again by singing before a 4-1 game 7 victory. She ended up 100-29. So good that, 10 years later they gave her a statue.

My outrage turned quickly to questions on why this happened. Who could be behind something like this? I always think back to the fall of the Soviet Union and how they removed statues of people because they were no longer in power. There has been no revolution in America, but there has been a change in the lexicon. The politically correct way to speak and act.

I believe this is where political correctness runs afoul of my sensibilities. We are imposing a standard on a past era that likely is impossible for many to meet if you looked hard into someone's past.

(Continued on page 56)



Hureka Technologies Inc.
www.hurekatek.com
215.816.8300 randy@hurekatek.com

-  **Web Design & Brand Identity**
-  **SEO**
-  **Fully Managed Services**
-  **Mobile**
-  **Machine Learning**
-  **eCommerce Solutions**




FACE



Need a little lift without surgery?



Absorbable Threads & Dermal Fillers

Call for your Free Consultation!

635 North Broad Street
Lansdale
215.DOC.SKIN (362-7546)



4025 West Hopewell Road
Center Valley
610.798.SKIN (7546)

YoungMedicalSpa.com

Dr. Thomas E. Young is the Region's Leading Aesthetic Physician when it comes to the latest and most effective aesthetic technologies for your face and body!



Congratulations on Boyertown's 150

BE SURE TO ASK THESE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS!

<p>How Do I know if I need a Building Permit Plan?</p> <p>What does the typical Building Permit Plan consist of?</p> <p>What grading or elevation needs to be shown?</p>	<p>What other Agencies will be involved?</p> <p>How long of a process is this?</p> <p>How much does a Building Permit Plan cost?</p>
---	---

Where do I find the help I need to get a Building Permit Plan done? You need to look no further than All County & Associates, Inc. (ACA). ACA is a professional Land Surveying, Civil Engineering and Environmental Permitting firm located in southeastern Pennsylvania ready to serve your Building Permit needs. Our experienced staff works throughout Pennsylvania and has done so since our inception in 1992. As a full service company, ACA has the knowledge and experience to make your goals become a reality.

We offer many other services, including:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subdivision/Land Development Design • Environmental Permitting • Hydraulic Load Testing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-site Sewage Disposal System Inspections • Boundary Surveys • Wetland Investigations
---	--

On-site Sewage Disposal System Inspections...Let it flow.

BE SURE TO ASK THESE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS!

<p>Are you buying a house served by a septic system?</p> <p>What type of Septic System do I have?</p> <p>Where are the components of my Septic System located?</p> <p>What is a septic tank?</p>	<p>What is a drainfield?</p> <p>Should the septic system be inspected?</p> <p>How much does an On-Site Sewage Disposal System Inspection cost?</p>
--	---

Where do I find the help I need to get an On-site Sewage Disposal System Inspection done? You need to look no further than All County & Associates, Inc. (ACA). ACA is a professional Land Surveying, Civil Engineering and Environmental Permitting firm located in southeastern Pennsylvania ready to serve your On-site Sewage Disposal System Inspection needs. Our experienced staff performs inspections throughout eastern Pennsylvania and has done so since our inception in 1992. As a full-service company, ACA has the knowledge and experience to make your goals become a reality.

We offer many other services, including:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subdivision/Land Development Design • Boundary Surveys • Wetland Investigations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Permitting • Hydraulic Load Testing • Building Permit Plans
---	---


Land Surveying • Civil Engineering • Environmental Permitting

www.all-county-assoc.com

e-mail: info@all-county-assoc.com • 1-800-220-9165

P.O. Box 472, St. Peters, PA 19470: 610-469-3830 • fax: 610-469-6385

610-987-9165 • fax: 610-987-9787



Is Your Business Prepared for a financially sound future?



Business Accounting Services

Payroll Services

Start-up Consulting

**Business & Individual
Tax Preparation & Planning**

A.MAZZO
ACCOUNTING SERVICES

901 Fern Avenue Kenhorst PA 19607 AMazzoAccounting.com **610-775-9216**



LAWN & LANDSCAPING SERVICE

Ron Buttarò
Owner/President

phone 610.495.6399
cell 610.334.8603

285 Linfield Road P.O. Box 1100, Parker Ford, PA 19457
cleancutlawnsvc1987@gmail.com

LAWN SERVICES

Mowing
New Lawn Installation
Seed or Sod
Lawn Renovations
Mulching & Edging
Shrub trimming
Maintenance Contracts

LANDSCAPING SERVICES

Creative Designs
Trees & Shrub Installation
Patios & Walkways
Retaining Walls
Enhancement Lighting
Irrigation Systems
Ponds & Waterfalls
Fencing

DOWNTOWN MARKETING & DEVELOPMENT

(Continued from page 55)

Here is an incident of one of the most beloved figures of my time sang a song that was racially insensitive. Another one of my historical role models, Paul Robson also sang the same song. I don't see anyone trying to remove his statues. It was satire. Satire from one era becomes egregious racism in another.

Is this just about words or is this more of a systematic attempt to undermine America? One way to defeat the greatest republic and functioning democracy in the world is to attack the leaders. The first wave of "statue banning" was the civil war images in the South. It gets a little crazy when you look at that avenue because many of those statues were erected to remind people of the history of the area. If you apply it across a wide scale of the populous at that time you will find the many of the leaders of the time at one point owned slaves or were interpreted to be racist in some manner.

So, when those statues started coming down, I immediately started to wonder who would be next? We could get a big eraser out and ban many of the signers of the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution. At the time

slavery was legal, and was not even banned internationally until 1808.

As I mulled this over in my mind, I thought again about how did the banning of Kate Smith happen? The Flyers followed suit on what the New York Yankees had done. Eliminated Kate Smith from memory. They responded to complaints. Think about this... you have an obscure song that was done as a satire in the 1930s sung by Ms. Smith that bis suddenly a cause celeb.

(Continued on page 58)

ROUTE 422 Business Advisor

**Promote your business in the
Route 422 Business Advisor!**

Call (610) 323-6253



422bizmag.com



Dreaming of flight?

Dream no longer and spread your wings with Fly Elite.



For only \$99 for 30 minutes, or \$199 for an hour, YOU can take the controls of an airplane and experience the thrill and excitement of flight. You and one passenger can go along for this ride of a lifetime as you get to take the controls and fly the airplane yourself!

We offer flight instruction and aircraft rentals for all flying levels. We also have a full service maintenance facility to meet all of your aviation needs.

Contact us- Office: **610.495.6366** or check out our website at **Fly-Elite.com**



610.924.2744

black lab



landscape supply

A BME Inc. Company

Black Mulch • Red Mulch • Brown Mulch

Triple Ground Bark • Mushroom Soil

Screened Topsoil • Gravel

River Jacks • Sand • Crushed Stone

www.blacklabsupply.com

100 Warwick Road, Elverson, PA

DOWNTOWN MARKETING & DEVELOPMENT

(Continued from page 56)

This does not happen normally. I believe it is an attack on America as an institution and as a country by those trying to reinterpret our democracy.

So, I researched who was the group complaining? As a public sports team you rely on ALL fans and try to avoid controversy, so no one boycotts your team or some similar action. Here there does not seem to be an antagonist visible... just a shadow. Am I alone in this? Am I seeing something here that simply does not add up logically?

In the wars of culture and politics you always find a group that will take credit for some action. In the hills of Afghanistan when they kill or kidnap an evil member of the oligarch or a random tourist, usually there is notice to who effectuated the action. In this instance no one seems to have taken credit for this action. That does not fit the profile. What that would mean is that many people unconnected to each other, researched an obscure song and complained to a sports team in New York. Not only is that scenario highly unlikely, it adds credence to my thinking.

The Yankees have been notified of a boycott in favor of Ms. Smith. I plan on advocating for Kate Smith in the future when someone says something bad about her, not only for my own well-being, but the memory of my Uncle Frank who made me a hitting star in little league and for America. God Bless America, and Kate Smith, RIP Uncle Frank I got your back.

Barry Cassidy is a freelance grant and economic development consultant. He can be reached at barrycassidy@comcast.net.

ROUTE 422 BusinessAdvisor

Visit us online to view valuable supplemental content - it's FREE!



422bizmag.com