

THE DALLAS POST

VOL. 81 NO. 3

DALLAS, PA. THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1970

TEN CENTS

area to pay tribute to Hix, Post editor

by JANE BOLGER

An official "Mrs. Hicks Day" was proclaimed this week by Dallas Mayor Stephen Hartman in honor of Mrs. T.M.B. Hicks, editor emerita of The Dallas Post, to give tribute to the famed journalist. Mayor Hartman, by proclamation, designated Sunday, Jan. 25, for the special occasion inviting the entire Back Mountain community to participate in the open house day in honor of Mrs. Hicks at College Misericordia from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in Kennedy Lounge.

During the years since Mrs. Hicks assumed duties at The Post in 1939, she has been an influential part of life in the Back Mountain area.

Many organizations in the area are working together with Mrs. Hicks' friends to make Sunday's festivities a memorable occasion for the semi-retired editor. Clubs participating include the Dallas Senior Women's Club, Women of Kiwanis, Rotary Ann's, Dallas Junior Women's Club, Harveys Lake Women's Club, Dallas Kiwanis Club, the Dallas Lions Club, Dallas Rotary and the Bowman Creek Lions Club.

During the ceremony at the college, a tribute will be given Mrs. Hicks by the Rev. Andrew Pillarella, representative Frank O'Connell and Mayor Hartman. Tea will be poured by a committee of women from the Dallas Senior Women's Club headed by Mrs. Lawrence Newheart.

Also highlighting the occasion will be a special award presented in Mrs. Hicks' name by Northeastern Newspapers, Inc., publishers of The Dallas Post, The Abington Journal and The Mountaintop Eagle. Sister Miriam Therese, R.S.M., college president, on behalf of College Misericordia, will accept the \$100 to be used for The Dallas Post Hix Writing Award. The annual award will be given to students in three separate prizes. An award of \$50 will be given to the student achieving excellence in the creative writing workshop. Awards of \$25 each will be given for top writing on Miss Recordia, the college newspaper, and Instress, the literary magazine, with faculty members to be judges.

Also included in the activities in tribute to the 78-year-old journalist will be a cash purse to make possible Mrs. Hicks' long-time goal—a trip to the Holy Land. Chairman of this aspect of the program is Mrs. Frederick W. Anderson, with cochairmen Mrs. Paul Rodda and Mrs. James Kozemchak. The fund raising committee include Mrs. Andrew Pillarella, Mrs. Thomas Reese, Patricia Reynolds, Mrs. Leonard Cowett and Earl Phillips.

Mrs. Hicks, known to her affectionate readers as HIX, retired three months ago from her post as editor of this newspaper. She began her career over 30 years ago, writing her first column as a

favor to her son, Warren, then editor of The Post. Through the years since then, Mrs. Hicks has become the personification of journalism in the Back Mountain area. Her writing showed it was the people she cared about and they in turn have come to love and respect her.

A graduate of Goucher College, Mrs. Hicks became associate editor of The Post in 1950. After the death of publisher Howard Risley in 1962, she became editor. During these years she also wrote, in addition to her articles and columns, a book of poetry and many children's stories. She is currently writing two books, as well as continuing her regular Post feature, Pillar to Post.

Her fame was not confined only to this area, in that Mrs. Hicks has long been recognized as an outstanding newspaper woman by other members of her profession. Included in her many honors,

continued on PAGE 8



Mrs. T.M.B. Hicks, who will be featured in the Hix Day ceremonies Sunday at College Misericordia.

Kingston board petitioned

At the Kingston Township Board of Supervisors meeting Jan. 14, secretary Michael Stanley was authorized to send a letter to Dr. Hugo Mailey, director of the Institute of Regional Affairs at Wilkes College, requesting a meeting on the long proposed Back Mountain police merger.

Two petitions were received by the board. The first, signed by 51 percent of the residents of Midway Manor requested mercury vapor street lights for the development. Chairman E.W. Hall stated that there will definitely be lights installed but the date for installation has not been set. U.G.I. Corp. is conducting a survey on lighting needs for Midway Manor, Carverton Heights and Brown Manor. Action will be taken by the board on the recommendations made by U.G.I., the board said.

The second petition requested a public thoroughfare at Hilltop Acres. The supervisors will investigate the matter.

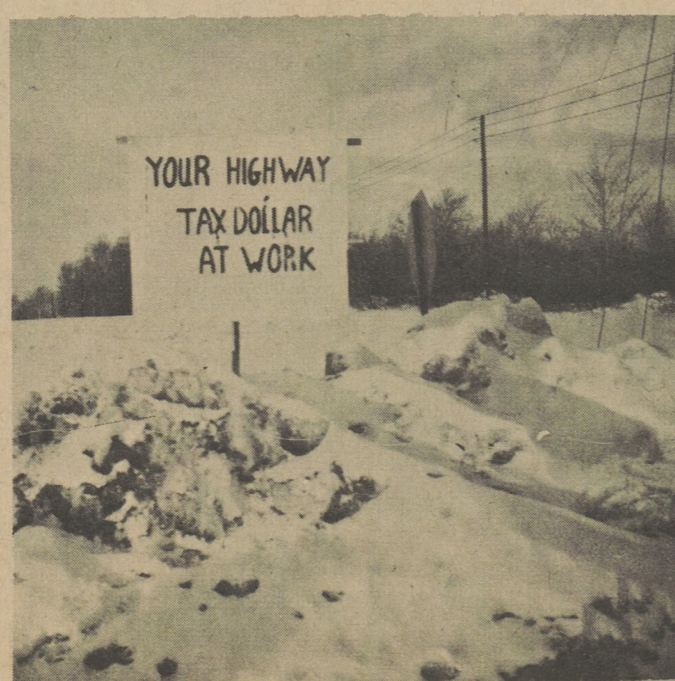
Correspondence was received from the water commission stating that they had reviewed a bill submitted by solicitor Merton Jones for \$1480. Secretary Joan Lenahan stated in the letter that the water commission had no information to substantiate the expenditure. A request was made for copies of all briefs, correspondence and an itemized listing of fees. Township secretary Michael Stanley was instructed to follow up the matter.

Police officer Clifford Culver was appointed juvenile officer for Kingston Township. Police report for the month of December listed 241 miscellaneous calls made and 2346 miles traveled by the cruiser.

Supervisors approved a weight limit of five tons being placed on Church Road. The road is being used as a detour while the Huntsville Bridge to Route 309 is being constructed. A question has arisen over who will assume responsibility for the road, the county or the township.

The board approved the use of the municipal building on Mondays from 4 to 5:15 p.m. by a newly formed Brownie Scout Troop. The request was made by Mrs. Elwood Swingle, neighborhood director. Permission was also granted for the Brownies to maintain filing cabinets in the building.

Treasurer's report was given by Michael Stan-



An unknown regional resident made this visual protest of the slow snow removal situation. The sign was found jammed in the snow across the street from a state highway garage.

road use disgruntles businesses

A five-ton weight limit placed on Church Road, Trucksville, by the Kingston Township supervisors last week has effected at least three local businesses, The Post learned this week. Many trucks from the Singer Co., American Asphalt Paving Co., and Techweld, Inc., used the road regularly before the ban was enacted. Use has been heavier than usual because the road is being used as a detour while the bridge from Huntsville to the Memorial Highway is being constructed.

The supervisors said they enacted the measure because they were concerned about safety on the road. Chairman E.W. Hall stated that the Luzerne County Commissioners passed a resolution in 1968 naming the road an official detour. Kingston Township officials had therefore assumed that the road was the county's responsibility.

Following the recent snowstorm, chairman Hall said he contacted county engineer Bernard J. Gallagher about the condition of the road and was told it was not the county's responsibility. Kingston Township supervisors felt that the hill was too dangerous for heavy vehicles to maneuver and therefore put the truck ban on in order to force the county to accept its responsibility.

After road supervisor Lawton Culver placed the signs on the road, Kingston Township police began giving warnings to truckers using the route. Some trucks attempted to find alternate routes, some turned back and others just went ahead. Consequently the companies whose trucks were involved sent representatives to meet with the supervisors in an attempt to have the ban lifted.

Bernard Banks, vice president of American Asphalt Co. said that the road is the main access to the company's plant in Chase and that the truckers were complaining. He said he felt that the county had taken care of the road Friday and he had fully expected that the signs would be down Monday. Mr. Banks said that this was his understanding following the meeting with the supervisors that he had attended. He was attempting to reach Kingston Township solicitor Benjamin R. Jones III to find out why the signs were still there.

Hanford Eckman, plant manager of the Singer Co., Trucksville, said that the weight ban was certainly inconveniencing the company and he was hopeful that the matter would be cleared up soon. Mr. Eckman had also met with the supervisors Friday night and commented that he noticed that the road was now widened and cindered.

Harry Swebston of Techweld, Inc., distributors for Air Reduction Sales Co., also attended the meeting. Mr. Swebston said that his company's trucks only traveled the route one day a week, Thursday, and they hoped that the ban would be lifted and the road free and clear this week.

Kingston Township chairman E.W. Hall was contacted Monday, and told The Post that the weight signs will stay in place until the township is satisfied as to what the county will do.

construction delay on Carverton Road

The Carverton Road Project Association was formed last week in an effort to delay construction of a new state highway along the present route. The group met at the Kingston Township Municipal Building Jan. 13 after notifying listed property owners on Carverton Road by letter of the meeting. Approximately 30 residents of Trucksville and Carverton attended.

The group from Trucksville is interested in delaying the proposed highway until sewers are installed in the area. Some of the residents have told The Post that it would not be in the best interest of taxpayers in the community to have a new road built and then torn up for sewer installation.

The residents from Carverton indicated that they do not want the project delayed. Many of their homes have been condemned by the state and they cannot rent, sell or improve them, therefore they indicated that the sooner the matter is settled the better. Due to the difference in view point they will have no part in the delaying action.

Officers were elected to represent the Trucksville group. They are president, Jacob Harrison; vice president, Howard Marquat, and secretary-treasurer William Moss. \$10 has been suggested as a membership fee for any resident wishing to join the association. The Post was told that over \$200 has already been pledged.

Officers of the group met Saturday with attorney James Brown to seek counsel on proceeding with the delay. Attorney Brown will attempt to get further information on the project from the state highway commission in Scranton and will report to the association at a public meeting to be held Feb. 10, he said.

school resolutions passed

The Dallas School Board held a special meeting Monday night primarily for the purpose of paying bills that were not available at the regular meeting last week.

After the bills were approved, two resolutions were passed by the board. The first will permit the Pennsylvania State Police to conduct a basic police procedures series of classes at the Dallas Senior High School. The classes will be conducted Mondays and Thursdays from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. for ten weeks beginning Feb. 9.

The second resolution adopted permits the Dallas Senior High School varsity cheerleaders to participate in the annual cheerleaders meeting at the Catholic Youth Center, Wilkes-Barre, Wednesday, Jan. 28, and Tuesday, Feb. 3.

It was announced that a representative of Berkheimer Associates will speak at the February meeting of the school board. He will explain the procedure for wage tax collecting and the reimbursement to the different municipalities. The question arose about how Berkheimer regulates self-employed persons. Snyder and Clemente, accounting firm, Kingston, are currently auditing the books of the company.

It was announced by president John LaBerge that he had made an unannounced visit to high

school classrooms last week. He was well pleased with his observations and thought class participation was excellent and that teachers were putting matters across in the proper manner. Mr. LaBerge said he will try to visit the schools once a month.

It was reported that 225 students registered for the Saturday morning recreation program for intermediate students last week. There were 65 from grade 4, 68 from grade 5, and 92 from grade 6.

A report was received from the Back Mountain Memorial Library Association on the number of books taken out by students from the Dallas School District during the month of November. A total of 1922 books were borrowed, with Dallas Senior High using 144 books, Dallas Junior High using 264, Dallas Intermediate 235, Dallas Elementary, 1052, Shavertown Elementary, 67, Trucksville Elementary, 49, and Westmoreland Elementary 111.

Results were received from the N.E.D.T. percentile tests that were taken by 217 Dallas students. The average attained was 73, the national media is 50. The feeling is that Dallas students are being well educated when the scores that they received in the tests are compared with the national average.