

THE DALLAS POST

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New owner to operate Dallas Post 'to serve'

Greenstreet News Company, Dallas-based publishers of the Abington Journal, The Dallas Post and The Mountaintop Eagle, today announced that Pennaprint Inc., a new company organized by Ohio newspaper publisher Ray Carlsen, was the successful bidder for assets of the firm.

Bruce E. McCarthy, vice president and general manager of Greenstreet, said that Pennaprint would assume control of the three newspapers immediately and said the former ownership extended their best wishes to the new firm as it prepared to re-establish publication of the newspapers.

Carlsen, who will serve as editor and publisher of the new company, said he hoped to have the papers return to the service of their various communities within the next week. He noted that the renewal of operations will be from an essentially "zero" start since only the business assets of the former publishers were included in the transactions and the recruitment of an employee force would be necessary for his company.

The three weekly newspapers operated by Greenstreet discontinued

operations the day after Christmas after continued financial losses. The new ownership has agreed to fulfill all circulation obligations of the three papers and is presently reviewing advertising and editorial policies to see where improvements can and should be made, Carlsen said.

The new publisher said he welcomed comments and suggestions from the readership and advertisers. He said it was Pennaprint's goal to develop the kind of local news and service emphasis which is the "exclusive domain" of a good weekly newspaper.

Carlsen is a former resident of Tunkhannock, Pa., where he lived while employed as public relations manager for The Charmin Paper Products Company.

"We have returned to business in the area because we like it here," Carlsen noted. "We think we are fortunate to have this opportunity to get re-acquainted in an area we like so well."

After leaving Tunkhannock, Carlsen returned to Cincinnati, Ohio, with Charmin's parent firm, Procter and Gamble, where he served as manager of divisional public relations for the paper, coffee, food and industrial products divisions.

He purchased three weekly newspapers in financial difficulty in Northwest Ohio in late 1970 and left P & G in August of 1971 to invest full time nursing the three papers back toward their potential. In 1972, he added The Pandora Times to his initial three papers, The Putnam County Vidette, The North Baltimore News and The Liberty Press.

The firm Ohioprint Publications grew out of the ownership and, in the fall of 1973, initiated a fifth community newspaper called The Maumee Valley Free Press. The company also operates a small plastic sign fabricating business in Columbus Grove, Ohio.

Carlsen, a 1960 graduate of Wheaton (Ill.) College, is active in the National Newspaper Association and the Ohio Newspaper Association. He is an accredited member of the Public Relations Society of America, an elder in the Presbyterian Church, and has been an active member in Rotary, Jaycees and Lions Clubs.

He is married to the former Freda Poland, a former area leader for the Hampton-Pocono Council of the Girl Scouts and teacher at Tunkhannock High School. The couple has three

children, Joel, 4; Kay Lynn, 2; and Kristi Ann, three months.

The new publisher said it is his intent to become personally involved in the day-to-day management of the newspapers. He said his Ohio staff was in a position to handle operations of the papers in that state although he intended to keep in close touch with the business there.

"The opportunity in Dallas, Clark's Summit and Mountaintop required quick action," Carlsen said. "Good local newspapers can provide a valuable service to their communities and the newspapers must get back in service as quickly as possible."



FUTURE PLANS--New owner of The Dallas Post, Ray Carlsen, right, and Ed Rees of the advertising department discuss plans for the newspaper now that it is back in production.

Local educators see no impact from Supreme Court rule

Local public educators and school administrators see little, if any, change in the procedures they follow resulting from last week's Supreme Court decision concerning the right of students in U.S. public schools.

In that decision, the high court ruled that public school students in the nation have a constitutional right not to be expelled for misbehavior unless school authorities inform them why and allow them a chance to explain their conduct. It was a closely divided decision. The vote was 5 to 4.

The justices held that pupils have what they labeled an "entitlement" to schooling that cannot be taken away unless due process of law has been adhered to.

Judging from the local school officials we talked to, the above decision will have little effect in this area, mostly because of farsighted administrators and the provisions of the state Bill of Rights and Responsibilities of public students which passed the legislature October 3, 1974. That legislation lays out responsibilities of students and also emphasizes their right to the due process of law.

"The provisions of this state law are just about the same as what the Supreme Court said," says Wyoming Valley West high school principal John Yonkody. He is principal of 632 eighth grade students there.

Yonkody states that 95 percent of his students are well-behaved but the ones who get into trouble "have always and will in the future have a chance to have their side of the story told."

"When a student who has misbehaved comes to me and says 'I have my rights' I always point out to him that he also has responsibilities that are spelled out in the state law," Yonkody says. Those consist of, among others, attendance, promptness, respect for school regulations, respect for equipment and supplies, persuasion of courses to the best of one's ability, and adherence to dress and grooming rules.

Yonkody sees to it that a copy of the State Bill of Rights and Responsibilities for Students is posted in each of his classrooms.

Dallas Junior High School principal John Rosser agrees that most of what the Supreme Court said in last week's decision is contained in the Pennsylvania regulations.

"We never suspend a student without a hearing and without contacting the parents," he says.

"We are fortunate here that our problems are not numerous, but we do have some. Because of the type of community Dallas is, most of my students are well behaved and eager to learn," he says.

Anthony Marchakitas, principal of Lake Lehman High School, points out

that "we try to do what is right, proper, and just and will continue to do so."

"Of course, we will abide by the Supreme Court decision, but it will not alter our conduct to any great degree," Marchakitas says.

He maintains that much disrespect for students rights is committed in the interest of time. "The Supreme Court ruling is good because usually when a student's rights have been overlooked, it is due to a hasty administrative decision."

Marchakitas is proud of the fact that there has never been a permanent expulsion at Lake Lehman. "Education is a slow process and we try to be patient," he says.

Although unaware of the high court decision, Crestwood High School Principal Andrew Patterson says that there is always a hearing before a student is expelled at Crestwood.

Under Patterson's direction, teachers at Crestwood meet weekly to discuss disciplinary problems and methods of dealing with them.

Robert Dolbear is principal of the 760 students at Dallas Senior High School.

"We have made it a practice always to have a hearing before a student is suspended and to contact and work with the parents of the student in trouble," he says. Dolbear maintains that suspensions have always been used "conservatively" at Dallas Senior High School.

Although it does not have to do directly with the subject at hand, the Anti-Smoking program at Dallas High deserves mention. Principal Dolbear points with pride to this program which, to date this year, has helped nearly 25 students quit smoking.

The clinic is a special class in anti-smoking which is available to those first time offenders of the smoking rules. "Although some students have quit the clinic, we think it is working very well; at least there have been no repeaters," Dolbear says.

"We are fortunate that Pennsylvania has had the student rights law, which we think is pretty good," says Crestwood School District Superintendent William Smodic.

"The Supreme Court decision will not really alter our manner of administering our schools because we have always made a practice of scheduling hearings to allow students to express their feelings when a violation has been committed," Smodic says.

"We've been following the Supreme Court rulings rights along, suspending very few pupils and always bringing the parents in on the problem," says Wyoming Valley West High School Principal Benjamin Davis.

"I meet on a scheduled basis with students to discuss anything they wish to talk about. We work together with

our students. We even have instituted courses here that have been suggested by our students," Davis says.

All in all, it can be said that area public educators have always been deeply concerned about student rights. At Wyoming Valley West District Supervisor Abram Morgan says "we have always been concerned especially with the student records. We watch very carefully what is entered into those records - you never know, because they are permanent, an unfair entry could jeopardize the student in many ways."

It can be said that the Supreme Court decision grew out of an extreme case, that of racial unrest in the Columbus, Ohio junior and senior high schools.

Pupils in that case maintained that they were sent home for as long as ten days without explanation. The fact that many of these students had no hearings, was the Court said, a "denial of due process."

Public students in this area are fortunate - for the most part they've had due process all along.

DEA to solve 'preparation' dispute in contract talks

The Dallas Education Association (DEA) will attempt to settle differences with the school district over preparation periods for department chairmen during negotiations for next year's contract, a DEA spokesman said Tuesday.

William Helgemo, DEA president, said a verbal agreement between the DEA negotiating team and the school board had been made for the current contract, but the administration "apparently forgot the agreement."

The dispute is over the number of preparation periods per week for teachers. Several weeks ago the DEA filed a grievance with Dr. Linford Werkheiser, superintendent of the Dallas school district. The "normal" number of preparation periods was interpreted to be five plus one per week, Helgemo said, and added that the board found "no grounds for grievance."

But Helgemo said that the verbal agreement in the current contract defined "normal" as the number of free periods the teacher had in 1972 plus one

period. In most cases, he said, the total would be eight; in one instance it would be nine.

In negotiations already under way for next year's contract the DEA has presented a "very clear definition" of normal, Helgemo said, but could not

say what that definition was because the terms of the negotiations are confidential.

Helgemo added that in the past the school board has been "very cooperative" with the DEA and said he expects "good working relationships."

Four die in Dallas fire

Three children of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Miller and their 78-year-old great-grandmother perished in an early morning fire, Saturday in their mobile home. Firemen from the Dallas Fire Department arrived on the scene at the Valley View Trailer Park on Ryman Road, Dallas Twp., at 5:30 a.m. after being summoned by the police.

Fire Chief Don Schaffer said the whole front half of the trailer was on fire when the company reached the scene. The fireman were informed that there were people inside the home and when they entered, they found the four bodies, victims of asphyxiation.

The blaze was discovered by Mrs. Miller who fled from the trailer to a neighbors for help. Mr. Miller was enroute to work and unaware of the fire.

Shavertown and Franklin Twp., fire companies assisted the Dallas fire fighters.

The deceased are Lola Miller, age five, Robert Miller, age four and Dale Miller age, three. All children of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Miller, and Mrs. Emma Miller 78, their great-grandmother.

An investigation was conducted by State Fire Marshal Paul Cotler, with Chief Deputy Coroner Joseph Shaver



FOUR DIE--Three children of the Robert Miller family, Dallas, and their great-grandmother perished when a fire broke out in this trailer, early Saturday morning.

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