

# Editorial/opinion

## Editorials

### Is long summer break the best schedule?

Now that the long summer school vacation is in full swing, it's a good time to relax and think about alternatives to the present academic schedule. It has always seemed to us that taking students out of school for 10 to 12 consecutive weeks impairs their ability to get the most from the succeeding year's curriculum.

One option being tried in places where overcrowding is a problem is to make school more or less year round. More, shorter vacations are combined with a shortened school day to allow the facilities to be used in a two shift arrangement. This means the buildings are in use more each day and more often throughout the year. While Back Mountain schools don't face the serious overcrowding that led to this system, it still makes some sense because it doesn't remove students from the educational process for the length of time that our summers off do.

Another option would be to take the longest vacation in the winter, when heating costs are highest. This would allow school budgets to be used more for education and less for buying oil or gas, or for clearing walks and parking lots. For obvious reasons, this one may not be very popular with students, but it makes dollar sense. After all, the summer vacation is only a throwback to America's agricultural heritage, when children were needed on the farm during harvest season.

Of the two possibilities we like the first best. Perhaps a combination of the two; shortening the summer break to six weeks and adding two or three additional vacations throughout the year, would be about right.

### Bargains in the Back Mountain this week

There will be bargains aplenty this week at stores throughout the Back Mountain as the annual summer sale season begins. Shoppers can find just about anything they want or need at special prices from now until Saturday. These traditional sales offer great values for consumers as merchants begin to clear out their summer stock to make room for fall and school merchandise. Check them out - you'll be pleased at the variety and quality of merchandise and the prices will make you smile.

### Back Mountain softball team was outstanding

Congratulations to the Back Mountain Girls' Senior Softball team on winning the District 16 tournament championship. They were superb on both offense and defense as they overwhelmed Avoca 16-3 to take the title. The combination of experience and true team play has served the team well thus far, and we expect will take them even further as they go into the interdistrict playoffs and then perhaps to the state championship. We wish them continued success.

### Legion team did us proud

And more congratulations to the Back Mountain American Legion baseball team for its outstanding season. Their record of 18-2 has put them at the top of their league, adding to the winning tradition of Back Mountain sports teams this year. We wish them more success in the Wyoming Valley playoffs starting today.



### Creatures that go up and down

These delightful denizens of the new Dallas Elementary playground will entertain children all summer and well into the fall. (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

## Only yesterday

### 50 Years Ago - July 29, 1938 Special committee to study Dallas sewers

Dallas Borough Council will name a special committee to study ways and means of financing a sewage system for Dallas. The committee will cooperate the joint sewage committee of the Rotary and Kiwanis clubs.

1938 fruit crop to be only half of last year's bumper crop.

Dallas Arrows will play a double-header at home with Factoryville which may determine the local club's position in the playoffs.

A Somerset judge this week handed down a ruling that the act requiring school mergers was not legal.

Friends of newlyweds, Mr. and Mrs. Zel Garinger, revived the ancient 'skimmelon' of the Pennsylvania Dutch to pay a noisy tribute to Zel and his wife at midnight this past week.

You could buy - Potatoes 23c peck; home grown sweet corn 25c doz.; puffed wheat 3 pkgs. 19c; applesauce 4 cans 25c.

### 40 Years Ago - July 30, 1948 Shiber's gladioli win first place at show

Back Mountain Library Auction shows profit of \$4,500.

Dr. Henry Laing Community Band schedules two concerts for August.

Lehman board of directors appoint Lester Squire of Nicholson as principal of Lehman Schools.

Atty. Arthur Silverblatt, guest speaker at Dallas Rotary Club, told the members the need for a Community Chest and a goal to be raised each year is badly needed.

Ray Shiber of Dallas, green gladiolus, he originated, won first

place in the 500 class held at the show by the American Gladioli Society in Baltimore, Md.

Six entrants registered for the Trucksville Firemen's soap box derby.

You could buy - Steaks 89c lb.; bread 13c loaf; eggs 75c doz.; cabbage 3c lb.

### 30 Years Ago - Aug. 1, 1958 Lightning causes three hour power outage

Raymon Hedden resigns from Dallas Borough Council after changing his residence to Loyallville.

Dallas residents were in the dark for three hours Monday night when lightning burned off two UGI cables on Lake Street.

Margaret Wood was named area representative of the Back Mountain for the Wyoming Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Tom Richardson joined his dad, L.L. Richardson, on the sales force of the family business.

Teenage All Stars took the first elimination game Monday by defeating Forty Fort 10-4.

Engaged - Nancy June Kreischer and Harry A. Smith; Carol Judge and Richard Fosko; Patricia Ann Smith and Stephen R. Waldow; Mary Patricia Ferry and William Kealy Richardson; Kathleen Kern and A2-CC A.J. Richardson; Virginia Morrow and E.J. Dress.

Deaths - Celia Shotwell, Beaumont; Mrs. Iona Eyt, Noxen.

You could buy - Leg of lamb 59c lb.; nectarines 19c lb.; Swiss cheese 59c lb.; tomato catsup, 23 bot. 35c.

### 20 Years Ago - Aug. 1, 1968 Rev. Bispels is installed at St. Paul's

Rev. William Charles Bispels was

## Letters to the editor

### Questions Borough Council on Deer Meadow rezoning

Dear Editor:

Sometimes it's hard to figure just what our politicians are trying to do. On July 19, the Dallas Borough Council passed an ordinance which clears the way for a sizable new housing development to be built on Deer Meadow. Land which had been zoned conservation was changed to residential.

Some 339 residents in the area adjacent to the proposed development were vigorously opposed to the zoning change. They observed that, originally, the reason for zoning the area "conservation" was to prevent the effects of intensive development from damaging the watershed of the Huntsville Reservoir. Also they were concerned with the fact that their presently precarious water supplies would dwindle even more if 52 new homes were built.

In the face of this substantial opposition from voters, it is difficult to understand the motives of the Borough Council. Perhaps they were swayed by the promise of increased tax revenues from potential development. However, bitter experience shows that any such revenues are a mere "drop in the bucket" compared to increased costs that such development will engender. Improvement of roads

and traffic control, extension of sewer and water facilities, and installation of utilities are all expensive and their costs will have to be borne by all of the electorate - not to mention increased school facilities which are already short. Unquestionably, intensive development will mean much higher taxes and utility costs for present residents. Older residents, living on fixed incomes, will be particularly hard hit and may be forced to sell out.

Of course, one sympathizes with the developers who, in good faith bought land on which they hope to make a profit by building new homes. But when they bought the land they were aware of the zoning restrictions which would put new housing on two-acre plots.

Why must we change zoning restrictions to accommodate these people? With a little luck, they will make a nice profit but stick us with a rapidly escalating tax bill and a host of other problems for many years to come.

Do we really need a Borough Council that is so short-sighted? In whose interest are they supposed to be working, anyhow?

Hugh P. King  
Dallas

### Unusual weather follows where she goes

Dear Editor:

"She's ba-ack" and we should all be glad!

People have said for years that bad weather follows my mother, Pearl Relyea and now it seems true.

When she arrived in Dallas in October, to escape the harsh Adirondack winters, it snowed that day.

All winter when things were bad we'd tell her, "It never used to be like this." And as we all know, she got to hear it a lot.

She left in mid-May just when we had our last rainfall, according to the local weatherman.

But Dallas isn't the only test

area. When she spent three months in Hawaii, they had a very rare thunderstorm and it even snowed on one of the high mountains, the first in over 100 years.

When she wintered in Alabama - you guessed it - it snowed. The first in 75 years.

The evening before our big storm she came back for a visit and it's rained every day since. Don't worry sunworshippers, it's a short visit.

Do you think we should send her for a stay in the farm belt next?

Judy Neil  
Dallas

installed as pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in special services last Sunday.

Clarence Schoonover is named chairman of the 13th annual auction and chicken barbecue of the Centermoreland Methodist Church.

Noxen residents staged a sheet collection afternoon raising \$176 toward a children's playground.

Dallas musicians will present a summer concert on the Dallas Junior High School athletic field.

Athletic directors and football coaches of Dallas and Lake-Lehman Senior High Schools are busy getting schedules in order for the coming football season.

Engaged - Alice Jane Hartzell and John Frederick Salada, Jr.

Married - Patricia A. Walter and William A. Schlosser; Donna L. Atherholt and William Cave.

You could buy - Veal roast 79c lb.; pineapples 3-\$1; cottage cheese 31c lb.; tuna fish 2 cans 67c.

### 10 Years Ago - July 27, 1978 UGI customers ask for rate decrease

Testimony filed Monday with the

Public Utilities Commission on behalf of the Consumer Advocate's Office says customers of UGI deserve a decrease not an increase in electrical rates.

Teleable and Gamma were both at the Dallas Borough Council meeting last week in pursuit of obtaining a franchise in the borough.

Dallas Township supervisors discussed the possibility of passing an ordinance that would require all licensed garbage haulers to use West Side Landfill.

Billy Mathers places second in the Grand National Freestyle Wrestling championship.

Legion team nips Heights 4-3.

Married - Carol Delavich and Allen K. Williams, Jr.

You could buy - Pork loin \$1.39 lb.; coffee \$2.29 lb.; green peppers 39c lb.; elbow macaroni 4 1-lb. boxes \$1.00.

Only Yesterday is compiled by Charlot M. Denmon.

## Letters invited

The Post encourages readers to share their opinions with the community by writing a letter to the editor. All letters for publication must be signed and contain a telephone number so that we may

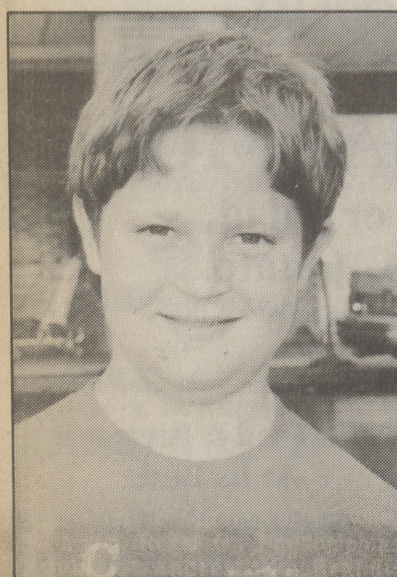
confirm their authenticity. Send letters to: Editor, The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas, PA 18612. Letters received by Monday will appear in that week's issue.

**THE DALLAS POST**

Published Weekly By Bartsen Media, Inc.  
P.O. Box 366, Dallas, PA. 18612

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## The Post asks: "What do you like best about summer?"



Mike Spencer

Mike Spencer, 10  
Student  
Shavertown  
"Swimming, fishing, playing baseball and football."



Kelly Spencer

Kelly Spencer, 8  
Student  
Shavertown  
"I like going swimming and riding horses at grandma's house in Lehman."



Chuckie Depiero

Chuckie Depiero, 6½  
Student  
Dallas  
"It's hot."



Frankie Depiero

Frankie Depiero, 8  
Student  
Dallas  
"Baseball."



Kelly Kostick

Kelly Kostick, 9  
Student  
Kingston  
"Camping, being off from school and going swimming."



Brian Kostick

Brian Kostick, 12  
Student  
Kingston  
"Going camping at Camp Onawandah in Tunkhannock."