

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Meetings were good, now's time for action

The second community meeting to discuss growth and planning, held last week, gave residents more information about the issues and ideas with which to work in addressing the subject. But, as Ed Schechter so wisely pointed out, the easy part has been accomplished.

There is general agreement in the community about what the problems are and in what direction the Back Mountain should go. Concerns about open space, housing availability, transportation and natural resource preservation have been clearly voiced. Now the process of managing the region's growth must move into another phase.

We think leaders are now needed who will take these concerns before municipal governments. We like the idea of organizing groups of citizens by community better than doing so by subject. It seems to us that residents of each community who will organize meetings between themselves and elected officials could be more effective than a floating group of advocates traveling to meetings throughout the area could be. For one thing, many municipal meetings occur on the same night, so a single group could attend only one at a time. We also think elected officials will more likely act on the recommendations of their own residents than on those from other communities.

If all of the community groups got together and laid out a common agenda of specific actions that are needed, then each worked to achieve change within its governmental unit, the chances for success would be greater than could be accomplished through a regional approach alone.

That's not to say that regional planning isn't needed desperately. It is. Certainly one of the major topics of discussion within each township and borough should be more cooperation and less competition with its neighbors. With the coming connection of route 309 to Interstate 81, the pressures on the Back Mountain will multiply many times over. There will be more than enough growth to go around, if it's handled properly.

We look forward to reporting on the continued efforts of citizens to mold their communities in the shape they desire. The talent, as evidenced by the persons attending these two meetings, is clearly here. Now it's time to put it to work.

A good zoning ruling

We are pleased that Dallas Borough turned down an application to rezone part of the land known as the Bird Sanctuary. Allowing development on this land would have been one more blow to the effort to preserve the character of the community.

We would like to see this piece of property protected permanently, and perhaps developed in a different way. It would make a wonderful park for the use and education of our community. Use as a quiet area for residents to hike and picnic in. Education for our young people as a place to learn about nature and the interdependence of the many forms of life that inhabit woodlands and fields. Only if they understand the relationship of different species will they care about their preservation.

With the present concern about open space in the Back Mountain, we hope this land, dedicated to the protection of nature's gifts, remains for all to enjoy.

Let's hope the arson fires are out for good

We hope that the arrest of John Tibus for setting at least one of the fires that have plagued the Back Mountain during the past 15 months signals the end of this reign of terror. But we have no way of knowing if it will, so we urge all residents to continue to be vigilant.

Even if one person has been responsible for the fires, there is no guarantee that another demented soul won't pick up where he left off. It would not be the first time that "copycat" crimes were perpetrated.

This arrest came because of cooperation between police, fire officials and private citizens. More of that spirit is needed so that residents of the Back Mountain can again sleep well knowing that arson fires are no longer a part of their daily lives.

Our thanks to all the persons whose hard work and investigative powers went into this arrest. We hope you will keep it up until you're certain this case is closed.



Green, green

Seen along Ransom Road in Poverty Hollow, a tree is in verdant summer foliage. (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Only yesterday

50 Years Ago - Aug. 26, 1938 Big Apple dance not for steamship

A radiator cap was the clue in solving a two car accident and a hit and run driver when Police Chief Ira Stevenson and a patrolman found the cap with the hit and run driver's name on it at Harveys Lake last Friday.

Dallas Council impressed by Clarks Summit sewage system but say they must investigate the entire proposition from all angles before making any definite decision.

The Big Apple dance was claimed to be the nemesis of the Harveys Lake Steamship Natoma by the owner, who said the ship was built to withstand 30 or 40 couples doing the popular dance on it.

Mrs. G.S. Sawyer wins 35 awards with her giant white gladioli at the Wyoming Valley Flower Club Show.

Construction of the Luzerne Bypass is to start in the Fall and be finished by next summer, according to the report of the state highway department.

Lutheran Pastor Rev. Herbert E. Frankfort to wed Miss Emma Fenner of Lancaster this Saturday in Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Lancaster.

You could buy - Pink Salmon 2 cans 23c; coffee 15c lb.; sweet potatoes 5c lb.; sugar 10 lbs. 45c.

40 Years Ago - Aug. 27, 1948 Bernie Banks named to electoral college

Rev. Frederick Reinfurt is chairman of the committee, who will select the Back Mountain citizen-man or woman, who will receive the Frank L. Hemmelright Memorial Award and \$50 Savings Bond for community service. It will be presented in October at a joint meeting of service clubs.

Bernard C. Banks of Harveys Lake is named as a Luzerne County member of the Pennsylvania Electoral College. Banks is native of Wilkes-Barre and permanent resident of the lake.

Married - Mildred Price and Theodore Lavelle; Joan Phillips and Donald Naylor; Felice Miers and James Curthvert.

Playoffs begin in the Bi-County League this Sunday with fourth place Noxen meeting second place East Dallas, and Orange meeting Beaumont at Beaumont.

You could buy - Short ribs 45c lb.; cracked wheat bread 15c loaf; Ritz crackers 30c lb. pkg.; margarine 39c lb.

30 Years Ago - Aug. 29, 1958 Boy Scouts canoe down river 80 miles

Three Red Rock men were killed as their car hit a tree on their way back to the air base.

Members of Boys Scout Troop 232 and their leader, John Butler, assisted by Dale Parry, are canoeing down the river 80 miles from Athens to Tunkhannock and are to arrive there sometime today.

Willard Jones, former Noxen man, now living in Fort Lauderdale, has invented a safe sparkler device for baton twirlers.

Four thousand children will enroll in Back Mountain Schools.

Married - Kathleen Kern and A/2C Ardeae Richardson; Regina Sedler and Lewis Powell; Virginia Jane Bolen and Kenneth P. Wenz; Patricia Ann Smith and Stephen R. Waldow.

You could buy - Lean smoked picnics 35c lb.; Bartlett pears 2 lbs. 25c; American cheese 2-lb. loaf 89c; stuffed olives 2 jars 69c.

20 Years Ago - Aug. 29, 1968 Fernbrook wins Little League title

Thieves pulled the second Dallas Township break and entry robbery of the week on Monday night or Tuesday morning at Harveys Lake Rod and Gun Club, rifling three refrigerators of provisions.

Dallas Rotary Fair to feature Susan Robinson of Hershey, Miss Pennsylvania, at the Fall Fair, September 14 and 15.

Fernbrook team wins the Back Mountain Little League championship under the direction of Paul Kunkle and Tex Wilson.

Married - Gloria Dolbear and Arno Miller; Margaret A. Perkins and David Lee Williams.

Engaged - Kathleen Connell and Donald Casey; Marie Swire and Donald Marth; Mary Agnes Derhammer and William Arnold Patton.

Dallas School District adds 17 professional employees to its staff.

You could buy - Rib roast 83c lb.; green peppers 2 lbs. 29c; frozen strawberries 2 lb. pkgs. 69c; raisin bread 29c loaf.

10 Years Ago - Aug. 24, 1978 Swimming banned at Lake Silkworth

Back Mountain communities are among the strongest backers of the Luzerne County Police Information and Retrieval System, according to John Swim, captain of special services in the Wilkes-Barre Police Department and secretary of the system's committee.

Lake Silkworth swimming banned pending results of state tests of the water.

Dallas Township needs appraisal of the recreation land site in order to get an additional \$11,000 grant.

Married - Gwyneth Jenkins and Paul Adams.

Grott Pizza of Harveys Lake took league honors in the winners division of the annual slo-pitch Softball Tournament at Noxen.

You could buy - Port butts \$1.09 lb.; radishes 2 pkgs. 29c; orange juice (frozen) 89c 12-oz. can; tuna fish 6 1/2 oz. can 69c.

Jackson Township school tax due

Jacqueline Latosek, Jackson Township Tax Collector, announces that the 1988 School District tax statements were issued on July 1. She would like to remind taxpayers that rebate value will end on August 30 and face value will end on October 31.

In addition, to her regular office

Letters

Thanks Post for article on barbecue

Editor,

Thank you for printing the fine article about our bar-b-q and auction, written by Charlotte Denmon. It was quite a success. We served 700 dinners on Friday and almost 600 on Saturday. The turnout on Saturday was a little disappointing but I think the heat was a factor.

Anyway I just wanted to thank you for your support, and the headline on the front page was super. Thanks to you and your staff.

L. Mildred Schray
Centermoreland United
Methodist Church

Grateful to firemen, friends after barn fire

Editor,

Our deepest gratitude and appreciation goes out to all the fire personnel and friends who helped with our barn fire on July 26 in Lehman Township.

The Caverlys

P.S. If anyone out there has any telephone poles that they might want to sell or give away, please call 675-5603.

Kiwanis wheelchair program appreciated

Editor,

I wish to publicly thank the Dallas Kiwanis Club and the Back Mountain Library for supplying a wheelchair for my wife. My son, Ronald, picked up the chair at the library and now my wife is able to go from room to room in our house, something she was unable to do before.

Only those of us who need this program really know how valuable it is. Please keep it going so that others may benefit from it.

Al Mahler
Dallas

Letters invited

The Dallas 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 include a telephone number so that we may verify authenticity. We will not publish anonymous letters. Send letters to: The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas PA 18612. Letters received by Noon on Monday may be included in that week's issue.

The Dallas Post

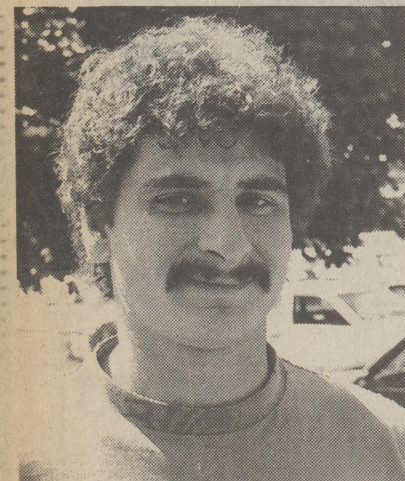
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The Post asks: What do you think of Dan Qualye for vice-president?



Eric Vrhel

Eric Vrhel
Self-employed
Clarks Summit
"I only watched about 15 minutes of him, he seems young and energetic. Considering the other alternatives I don't think he'd be that bad."



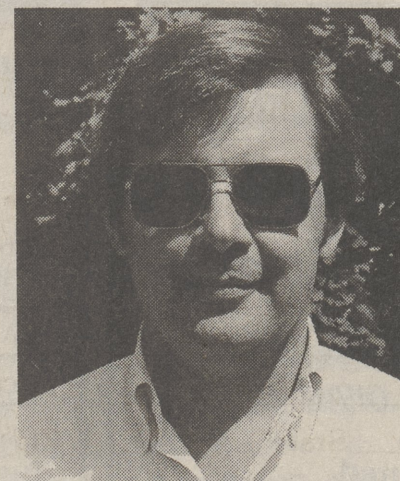
Nora Derhammer

Nora Derhammer
Retired
Tunkhannock
"I'm from Ireland but I'm interested and I watch. I think we need new blood in the White House. The country is progressing and we need new ideas. I think going into the man's past is wrong, I believe he'd be a good choice."



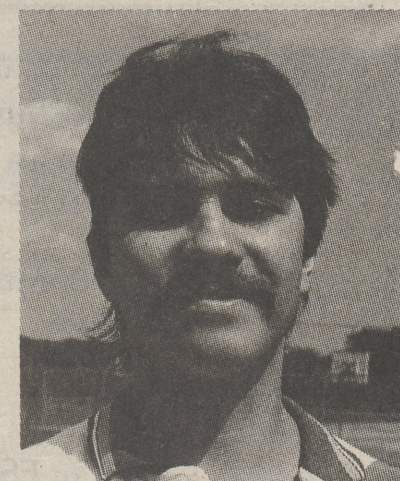
Bob Chase

Bob Chase
Computer operations
Bowmans Creek
"I have no idea, really, I don't know much about him. I'm waiting to hear and read more about him before I decide."



Peter Petokas

Peter Petokas
College Professor
Centermoreland
"I don't think we have enough information about the man yet."



Dave Baloga

Dave Baloga
Printer
Lake Township
"I think they could have found a better candidate, the only thing I've heard about him is his questionable means of getting an easy tour of duty during the Vietnam War."