

100 *****MIXED STATES
BRIGHTON BINDERY CO 37
BOX 336
BRIGHTON, IA 52540

THE DALLAS POST

Vol. 99 No. 41 Dallas, PA Wednesday, October 19, 1988 25 Cents

SERVING THE BACK MOUNTAIN SINCE 1889

Water group will survey wells in area

BY CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Representatives from six of the eight Back Mountain municipalities attended the Back Mountain Water Commission Thursday, October 13, agreed that one of the first orders of business should be to inventory private and public wells in the region. Doug Ide of Lehman Township will be in charge of obtaining logs of wells installed many years ago. Jim Ward, Kingston Township, will talk with commission representative Dr. Brian Redmond about organizing a group of Wilkes College work study students to assist in the tabulation. The group will attempt to locate wells and list their age and depth.

The meeting opened with election of Ward as chairman; Joseph Salla, Lake Township, vice chairman; and John Molski, Dallas Borough, as secretary-treasurer.

Molski and Bob Spencer are representatives from Dallas Borough; Joe Grimes and Walter Weir, Dallas Township; Charles Balavage and Joseph Salla, Lake Township; Ward and Ellie Rodda, Kingston Township; Joy Daubert, Franklin Township and Doug Ide, Lehman Township. David Abod, Harveys Lake Borough representative, did not attend and Jackson Township has not responded whether or not they will participate in the commission.

Members of the commission also discussed siting of new wells, problems of underground storage tanks and waste disposal areas.

The commission discussed the fact that there are private wells that could be contaminated by septic tanks or other contaminants without owners being aware of the fact.

Grimes suggested that the various townships and boroughs could start working on ordinances and restrictions requiring new subdivisions to hook up to public water systems where possible. Ward appointed Grimes as chairman of a committee to draw up a list of pro-

See Water, pg 3



When I grow up

Sean Donini, Centermoreland, Matt Casey and Brent Eyet, Falls, pay rapt attention to Martin Barry of the Dallas Volunteer Fire Department. The demonstration was arranged by Sr. Stella Maris of the Mercy Center Day Care Center in conjunction with National Fire Prevention Week. (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Many Back Mountain seniors citizens not for Democrats

BY SARA J. LUNDBERG
Managing Editor

Vice presidential candidate Lloyd Bentsen stopped in Wilkes-Barre for a few hours last Saturday and gave a short speech in front of a crowd of approximately 300 area senior citizens. The majority of the senior citizens present that day seemed impressed by the Democrat and the pledges that he made to protect Social Security, Medicare, and other programs; but many Back Mountain seniors who did not attend the luncheon have very different views about the Presidential race, and about politics.

When interviewed Monday, residents of Meadows Apartments in Dallas had various opinions on this year's presidential race, but many of the senior citizens interviewed do not plan to vote on election day.

"I don't plan to vote this year because I don't care for any of them, but I don't follow politics too much and don't feel I can pass judgment" said a woman who asked not to be identified.

"They are all crooked, and I don't plan to vote," said Meadows resident Florence Shively. Shively said she is a Democrat and is proud of it, but if she doesn't vote she won't complain about who becomes the next President of the United States.

During his address to the senior citizen audience Saturday, Bentsen told the crowd that Social Security is a creation of the Democratic party, and that Republicans only care about senior citizen's programs in an election year, but at the Meadows apartment complex not many seniors take that rhetoric seriously

enough to vote for Governor Michael Dukakis over Vice President George Bush.

"I will probably end up on the Bush side, but I'm not sure. If what the candidates are saying in the campaign about each other is true, it's hard to believe. All they seem to do is accuse each other of what the other is doing wrong and that is lousy," said a long time Back Mountain resident who lives at Meadows apartments.

Other residents said they wouldn't vote for Dukakis because of his views on certain issues such as capital punishment, abortion and gun control. One man said that he would always vote Republican and did not like Dukakis or his principles.

Dallas resident Don Williams had a lot to say about politicians and the current state of the country. He categorized all politicians as rich and dishonest, and felt the candidates didn't address any important issues in the debates. Williams says he will vote for Lyndon LaRoché, an Independent presidential candidate known for his radical views.

"It doesn't take a genius to be a politician, and LaRoché made more sense to me than the other candidates," said Williams.

Meadows resident Bessie Pelton says she has voted for the past 80 years, but doesn't want to say who she is voting for this year.

"It's a secret," said Pelton. Judging from interviews with the senior citizens who live in the Meadows apartment complex in Dallas one thing is certain; the enthusiastic crowd of Democrats who greeted Lloyd Bentsen at Wilkes College last Saturday do not represent the opinions of all area seniors.

Lake-Lehman High absences down 31%

BY CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

In district superintendent Dr. Charles Borchetta's report to the Lake-Lehman School Board at the October 11 meeting, held at Ross Township School, he stated that the administration has been monitor-

ing the new attendance policy for the senior high school and that it appears to be working.

During the month of September, Borchetta said there were 757 total absences in grades nine through 12 as compared to 1,099 a year ago, a difference of 342 students. The latter represents an average of 23 students per day in school or an

increase of three percent in student attendance.

Dr. Borchetta also reported that the professional staff, during its October 10 in-service day, spent time in small and large group meetings discussing changes anticipated, in the next five years in curriculum, teaching and technology and how the changes will impact on the school

buildings. The staff now faces the challenge of prioritizing their concerns vis-a-vis the group concerns.

Jean Holcomb, activities secretary at the senior high school, submitted her retirement resignation effective December 31, 1988, which was accepted by the board.

See Absences, pg 2

No trial date yet for confessed arsonist

An arraignment date has not yet been set for arson suspect John Tibus, a Kingston Township resident who has been charged with arson in connection with a fire that destroyed his neighbor's barn, and Luzerne County District Attorney Corry Stevens says an actual trial may not take place until the beginning of next year.

Tibus was released from The Luzerne County Correctional Institution in September and returned to his home in Kingston Township after

a preliminary hearing before District Justice Earl Gregory resulted in a 50 per cent bail reduction from \$101,000 to \$50,000.

When he was arrested on August 22, the 29 year old former volunteer firefighter admitted setting the August 14 fire that caused \$100,000 in damages to his neighbor Robert Steiner's barn on Mt. Olivet Road, as well as setting several other fires in Kingston Township, Dallas, Franklin Township, and other Luzerne County areas.

Attorney Stevens said he could not comment on whether or not an investigation was underway into Tibus's involvement in other arson fires. He has currently been charged only in connection with the August 14th fire, as well as a previous unsuccessful arson attempt at the same site in June of 1987.

An investigation continues by the State Police Fire Marshal's office into more than 20 arson fires which have plagued the Back Mountain in the past two years, said Stevens.

Tibus faces charges of arson, endangering persons and property and criminal mischief. He could face a maximum of 10 years in prison if convicted.

Day care growing in Back Mountain

By SARA J. LUNDBERG
Managing Editor

Parents who wish to place their children in a day care center in the Back Mountain area have various options available to them, and many day care centers are filling up quickly with kids.

"I'm sure there could be another bus load of kids waiting to attend this school, but we only have a certain amount of space," said Barbara Kohler, who is the administrator and owner of Little People Day Care School on Huntsville Road in Dallas.

Little People in Dallas like many other day care centers in the area, filled up quickly since it's start three years ago. Kohler said she gets inquiries from parents every day asking about the program.

"The problem in pre-school and day care placements isn't really the finances or which center has available enrollment space, for many parents the main concern is finding a school with the right philosophy," said Kohler.

Little People has an academic focus with a fairly structured educational program for each age group. A pre-school/nursery

and kindergarten are taught by Children have to be at least 2 1/2 years old to be enrolled into the program.

Little People's program includes basic subjects such as language, mathematics, and social studies, as well as physical development, music and art and crafts periods. The kindergarten classes visit the library every other week, and also go on field trips to the fire station, circus, movies and other places.

"The average day for a child at Little People is more or less structured, but the program is flexible, for instance I wouldn't want the children to have to stay inside studying when the first snow fall of the year arrives," state certified teachers, and the school works along with area public schools to prepare the children for a smooth transition into the public school system.

Kohler operates from 6:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and the services provided include before and after school program, pre-school/nursery, and kindergarten. The school has a capacity for 54 children. The rates charged depend on the hours of service; for instance a full-time pre-school enrollment costs \$55.00 per week but a part-time

enrollment fee would vary, said Kohler.

Wee Care, a day care facility on Center Street in Shavertown, is a slightly different environment from the structured atmosphere of the Little People School. The center is a remodeled home with an infant room, toddler space, and a pre-school upstairs; and less formal approach to child care and education.

"The thing that makes Wee Care different from other day care centers is our emphasis on the individual needs of the child and family; we aim to provide a consistent environment from the home to the day care center," said Sharon O'Connell, who is director and partner of the Wee Care center in Shavertown.

The Wee Care center gears the daily schedule around the children, and there is a lot of movement and flexibility in the program, said O'Connell. The center's capacity is for 29 children, with the infant rate at \$65.00 a week, toddlers (18 months to 3 years) costing \$60.00 per week, and pre-schoolers (3 to 5 years old) at \$55.00 per week.

The pre-school program See Day Care, pg 11



HAVING FUN - Amber Gelsleichter, 5, Trucksville and Stanley Oldenski, 4, Sweet Valley, enjoy outdoor play time at Wee Care day care center in Shavertown. (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Inside	
The Post	
Calendar.....	14
Classified.....	12,13
Editorials.....	4
Obituaries.....	2
Police News..	5
Property	
Transfers.....	2
Religion.....	6
School	11
Sports.....	10