

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Better traffic control needed on Route 309

Now that most of the major improvements to the Dallas Highway have been completed, it's time for state and local officials to consider how to make the road safer and more convenient for drivers.

As anyone who has travelled this route lately knows, traffic moves at a brisk pace, often well above the posted speed limits. The improved surface seems to invite us to drive faster than we did before. And as anyone who has tried to enter the road from the Dallas Shopping Center or many other points can tell you, it becomes nearly impossible to safely join traffic if you must cross a lane. We are concerned that driver impatience coupled with excessive speed will someday result in a serious or fatal accident at one of these intersections.

We think this heavily travelled road now needs more and better traffic control signals so that motorists may safely enter, exit and travel on it. For starters, we would like to see more traffic lights installed at the points of major entrance and egress. These could include the Dallas Shopping Center, near the Fernwood Plaza and Mister Donut, and at the Shavertown Shopping Center.

What we don't need is to have new lights uncoordinated with each other or the existing ones. Most of us have had the pleasure of driving in an area similar to ours in which all traffic signals have been coordinated so that traffic flows smoothly for those who observe the speed limits. It seems to us that a similar system here would solve two problems at once - slowing down the traffic while making the roadway safely accessible to incoming cars.

We know that traffic signals are very costly. But we also know that people have died on this highway before, and more are likely to in the future unless action is taken to make it as safe as it can be. The signals seem to us to be worth the cost.

Best wishes to our public officials

Now that many of our municipal and school governing bodies have held their elections and reorganizations, it's time to wish our officials well for the coming year.

Probably too often, we take public officials to task for their perceived shortcomings and failures, while we seldom take the time to thank them for their contribution to the welfare of our communities. In many cases, the job is a thankless one that requires an official to make decisions that satisfy no one. In others, the responsibilities are heavy and the compensation - either monetary or emotional - is slight, if it exists at all.

Anyone who has served on a board or committee of a volunteer organization knows the frustrations that such a body faces as it considers the needs and wants of diverse groups of people. Often, decisions that one thinks should be made aren't, and some that shouldn't move ahead only too quickly.

Municipal service is like that, too, only the pressures and frustrations are multiplied. Since we pay taxes, residents feel that our officials should always be responsive to our desires. Of course, even if they try to be, we don't all have the same wants and many of us feel unsatisfied.

We ask only for officials who take their task seriously and who put the good of the community above that of individuals. We are confident that in most cases we get just that. And we wish them good judgement and lots of foresight in the coming year.

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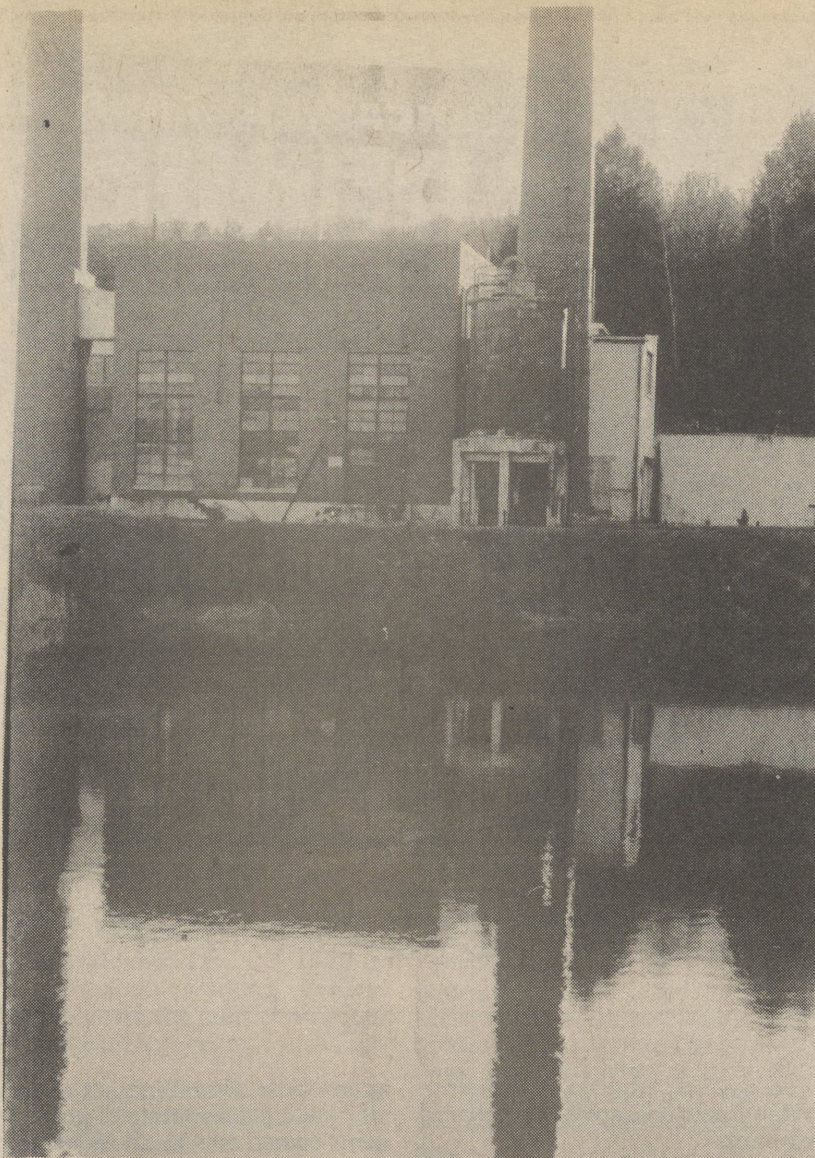
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Factory pond

This pond in front of Native Textiles in Dallas stands quiet and still. (Photo by Linda Shurmaitis)

Letters

Borough Preservation leader explains the group's position

Editor:
Our intent is to protect our environment, resources, quality of life and character of the Borough through managed and planned growth.

We are in favor of growth, however, the burden should be on the developers and not on the community.

The Dallas Borough Council has placed the burden on its citizens by straining water resources, roads, essential services and schools. Inevitably, large tax, service and utility increases would result.

Additionally, population of this density, in the watershed of this Huntsville reservoir, would adversely affect the eco-systems of this public water supply.

The Dallas Borough Preservation Association believes the council has acted contrary to the public welfare and safety by their decision and is appealing to the Luzerne County Courts in the hope that the community's interest will be protected.

Joan C. Hiller
Dallas Borough Preservation Association

Old cards help fight cancer - bring them to The Dallas Post

Now there's a way to dispose of those many greeting cards you receive each year while helping others in the process. The Indian Cancer Society "recycles" old greeting cards and sells them to raise funds for the treatment of cancer among its communities.

They don't recycle the whole card - just the picture portion - so you don't have to send the message part. And it's easy to send your cards for this use because

The Dallas Post has agreed to be a drop-off point for them. Representatives of the Cancer Society will pick them up here. Or you can send your old cards to: Office of International Activities, c/o American Cancer Society, Tower Place, 3340 Peachtree Road N.E., Atlanta, GA 30026.

The Post will be accepting cards until January 31st at its office in the Route 309-415 Plaza in Dallas.

Wilson is new councilman

By SARA J. LUNDBERG

The Harveys Lake borough council named a seventh person to fill in for Thomas Kehler, the former president of the council who resigned in December for personal reasons.

William Wilson will fill the vacant spot, and he will finish the remainder of Kehler's term, which expires in 1989. Councilman Rich-

ard Boice made the motion to appoint Wilson, which was seconded by Councilman George Gwilliam.

Wilson was a member of the borough zoning board. A motion to name a replacement on the zoning board was tabled to the January 9 reorganization meeting. It is expected that the council will vote on a new president at that time.

Only yesterday

50 Years Ago - Jan. 6, 1939 Killer is still on the loose

Margaret Martin's slayer still free as clues collapse but police press relentless search.

Postal service considers revision of rural routes of Dallas Post Office from four to three routes and transfer of one carrier.

Married - Elizabeth Williams and Walter David; Mary E. Heltzel and Richard Mathers.

Ground broken at Lehman as work starts on new \$100,000 high school.

40 Years Ago - Jan. 7, 1949

First National Bank to expand its offices

Natona Mills now finishing goods manufactured in six plants of Native Textiles & Laces.

Earl H. Monk, Dallas, has the heating contract for the new Sweet Valley Frocks dress plant at Sweet Valley.

First National Bank, Main Street, Dallas, announces it will expand its banking house.

Married - Evelyn Boice and Louis Kelly; Elsie Cardenis and Shermit Sickler.

Dallas Junior Woman's Club observes fifth anniversary.

30 Years Ago - Jan. 2, 1959

Dorothy Anderson is new Postmaster

Mrs. Dorothy Anderson, Pioneer Avenue, is sworn in as acting postmaster in Shavertown replacing Irvin Davis, who resigned in October after 30 years of service.

Anderson and Shavertown teams

top the Church Basketball League with 3-0 records.

Engaged - Madalyn Beline and William Young.

Married - Priscilla Ann Boston and Dana Westbrook Swan 2nd.

20 Years Ago - Jan. 9, 1969

Township to get 24 hour police

It was announced Monday night that Dallas Township residents would now have 24 hour police protection. The police will be housed in one of the Van Horn homes until the new municipal building is completed.

Henry Stefanowicz was retained as Lake Township chief of police.

Engaged - Joan Spangenberg and 2nd Lt. Robert Belles; Myra Schoer and Joseph Skirchak; Linda Mary Cook and Clark Van Orden.

Lake-Lehman's Ron Sorber took the 133-lb. title at the Williamsport Holiday Tournament.

10 years Ago - Jan. 4, 1979

Dungey home wins grand prize

Home of Mr. and Mrs. John Dungey won the grand prize in the Post's Back Mountain Holiday Decorations contest.

Harveys Lake Borough Council adopted a \$306,210.71 budget for 1979.

Lake-Lehman Knights win Crestwood Invitational Basketball Tournament title.

Commonwealth Telephone Company customers will notice a drop in the federal excise tax in their bills this month.

Library news

Registration for children's story hours next week

BY NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The children's story hours have concluded for the fall season. A registration will be held in the children's room from January 9-14 for the new sessions which will resume on February 1. Contact the library for further information. The library staff is very happy to welcome Millie Zarambo to the library as a volunteer for us through the Office of the Aging. Her position here is funded through this organization, which is a two-fold endeavor. The organization is able to financially help someone who needs it and the library is very appreciative of the work being done by the volunteer. Millie helps out at the circulation desk, alphabetizes the daily circulation cards, helps with new borrowers cards and re-registrations and shelves books in the children's room. She drives to the library each day from West Nanticoke.

New books at the library: "The Samaritan" by Chaz Brenchley is a psychological thriller that examines the way violence damages not only its direct victims, but also anyone who comes into contact with it. It is a book about victims and heroes caught up in a terror beyond their wildest nightmares. It is an auspicious and chilling debut.

"A Different Kind of Christmas" by Alex Haley is the intense drama

of a white Southerner and a black slave who work toward a mutual goal. This is a moving story of physical and moral courage, and an unforgettable tale of spiritual regeneration. Rendered with a matchless sense of time and place, a poetic humanness, and a rich, robust humor, the story will delight and inspire readers of all ages and faiths for generations to come.

"Control" by Jack Anderson is a hair-raising and highly provocative thriller, which could easily become tomorrow's headlines. It is the story of delicate financial underpinnings of today's world as well as the power of the American media. A street-smart investigative journalist and sometime freelancer for The Wall Street Journal tries to answer questions about the foreign powers buying control of the American people. Who owns America and how is the U.S. being taken over by other countries without a single shot fired?

"Fast Copy" by Dan Jenkins is a Book Club purchase and is a novel of the rambunctious saga of Betsy Throckmorton, the feistiest and most beautiful reporter this side of the Rio Grande. Betsy discovers a shocking personal tragedy that launches her on an investigation that will strip bare the secrets of her hometown. A nostalgic portrait of a woman ahead of her time.

Letters invited

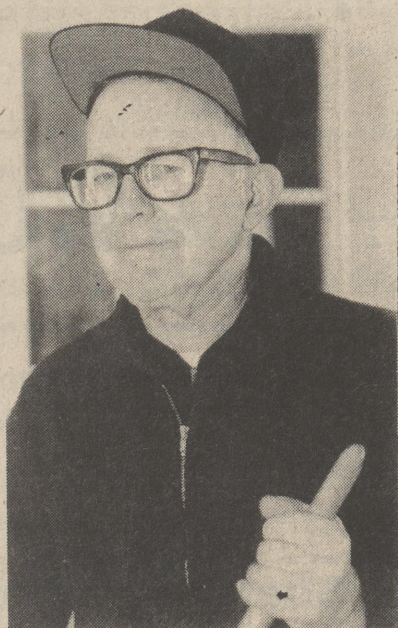
The Dallas Post encourages readers to share their opinions with the community by writing a letter to the editor. All letters for publication must be signed and include a telephone number so that we may verify authenticity. We will not publish anonymous letters. Send letters to: The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas PA 18612. Letters received by Noon on Monday may be included in that week's issue.

The Post asks: "Is a mandatory non-smoking law fair?"



Chris Vogel

Nursing Asst.
Lake Silkworth
"Yes, I do, just as long as they provide an area for smokers to smoke."



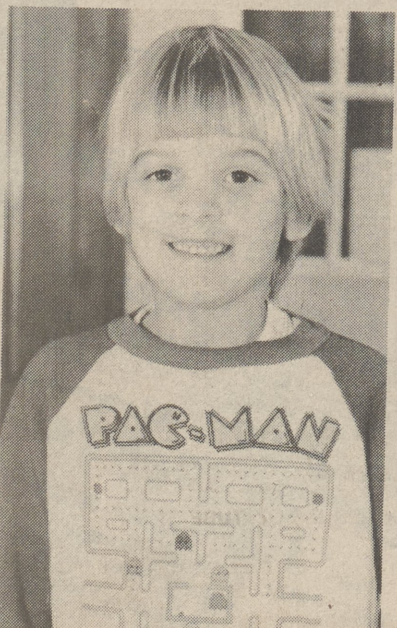
August Walters

Retired
Dallas
"That should have been done years and years ago, it's more than fair."



Esther Young

Housewife
Lake Township
"Yes, I do, I think it should be optional like that, I think it's a good law."



Warren Vogel

Student
Lake Silkworth
"Yes, I think it's a good law because smoke is bad for your lungs."



David W. Simon

Owner-operator Country Side Inn
Dallas
"I think it's extremely fair. I think anyone who smokes an aromatic pipe or cigar in a public place is rude. Twenty years ago people would ask first, do you mind if I smoke?"



Karen Williams

Housewife
Falls
"Yes, they should have it, I don't smoke, it's a disgusting habit. My husband smokes and my son and I always yell at him about it."