

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

After all is said and done, put Dallas first

Last week's "town meeting" in Dallas Borough marked both the high and low points for local politics this election year. The meeting did not turn out the way it was intended, but it wasn't without merit or usefulness.

One thing that can't be denied is that the voters of Dallas Borough are being given more choices in individuals and issues than they have had in years, and the points being raised are worthy of voters' consideration.

Both incumbent officeholders and challengers have gained a broader perspective on the concerns of borough residents as a result of the public discussion of issues at the meeting and in the media. We expect that no matter who is elected to the borough council, they will bring with them a greater appreciation for the needs of all the residents of the community.

Even though all the candidates did not attend the meeting, their views and attitudes will be more widely known this year than ever before. That, in itself, is progress. The process is often uncomfortable and sometimes hurtful, but in the long run openness is preferable to secrecy, and an informed electorate makes the best decisions.

Our fondest hope is that after the election - and the primary is for all practical purposes the election this year - all parties will come together in an effort to serve the borough in the way they know best. This won't be easy, since some of the campaign rhetoric has been too personal. But we're sure the candidates' maturity and concern for the borough will overcome any words spoken in haste.

Rather than make endorsements, we would like to point out the issues we feel should be addressed by the next Dallas Borough administration.

First among these is establishing better communication with the residents of the borough. In the past, too many important issues were decided too quickly and without adequate public discussion. Residents share some blame for this, since they haven't attended meetings to voice their opinions often enough. It has been easy for the administration to assume that no one cared as much as they did.

We think it's time the borough went out of its way to invite public comment and discussion on important issues. There are great human resources here to help the council face critical issues, and they should be tapped. The Back Mountain Citizens' Council has shown that concerned, capable people are willing to offer their assistance if asked. The Dallas Post will make every effort to see that important issues brought to our attention will be published.

Many of the hard issues that confront the borough result from housing and population growth. Residents have real and legitimate concerns about traffic congestion and safety, pollution and water supplies, and potential deterioration of the very qualities they like best about the borough. Whoever is elected must be prepared to address those concerns with action or comprehensive study.

Perhaps the most constructive action the new council could take would be to invite their election opponents to participate in setting an agenda for the next four years. Aside from gaining some free expertise, they might find some common ground of concern. At the least, they could come to realize that they can agree to disagree on some issues while doing what's right for the borough.



Daffodil or narcissus?

By whatever name you call them, these beauties are popping up in backyards all over the Back Mountain. (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Susquehanna is half of water-and pollution in Chesapeake

Editor's note: The following article was provided by Pennsylvanians for a Clean Chesapeake Bay.

Winding 440 miles, through Pennsylvania and down into Maryland, the Susquehanna River is a familiar sight to most people in this state. But few realize that Pennsylvania has more land in the Chesapeake Basin than any other state.

More than a third of the basin lies within the Commonwealth. National Soil and Water Stewardship Week, April 30 - May 7, is an appropriate time to remember this vital link between Pennsylvania and the largest, most valuable estuary in the Western Hemisphere.

Over three million Pennsylvanians live in the Chesapeake Basin. Most of these people frequently drive by, swim, boat or fish in, or simply live on the banks of the Susquehanna River. This river accounts for over half of the fresh water entering the Chesapeake Bay. Thus, polluting the Susquehanna River and the streams feeding the river, is polluting the Chesapeake Bay.

After a seven year, \$27 million dollar study the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released a report inextricably linking Pennsylvanians to the future of the Chesapeake Bay. Manure and commercial fertilizer run off from cropland into streams in the Susquehanna River Basin were identified as a major cause of the Bay's pollution problems.

Library news

Agnes Buchko is one of library's helpful volunteers

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

One of the reasons the Back Mountain Memorial Library can keep ahead of the many tasks that are required to maintain an efficient library and keep control of the collection, are the many faithful volunteers who come in on a regular basis and perform their particular duties for us. One of those volunteers is Agnes Buchko of Dallas, who retired from Commonwealth Telephone Company after having worked there for 40 years. She was then looking for something to do as a volunteer and was not really interested in hospital work when she came upon a brochure explaining the needs of the library. She became interested and was interviewed by our volunteer coordinator at that time, Cynthia Eckman, and decided she would like to work in our children's room. She now spends every Tuesday afternoon at the library in the children's department, filing new catalog cards, removing out-dated cards and shelving children's books. She has learned very quickly the most important thing about shelving books is to make sure the number on the book card matches the accession number on the book pocket. She and the children's librarian, Marilyn Rudolph, are also working on a special E project pertaining to the children's books. Agnes started with us two years ago and we look forward to her time spent here on Tuesdays and we appreciate so much the work she does.

Grace Martin and Frances Linskill, two of our faithful library patrons and Book Club participants, have recently returned from Sanibel Island, Florida where they spent three months, away from the northern cold and snow. Frances came into the library one day last week and presented me with a special gift. It was a rather large shell which she had found on the shore, which is called an Episcopalian Miter. This is a unique shell, with an ivory colored base with the fancy designs of orange-brown. This is a very common Indo-Pacific shell that dwells in coral reefs. Frances brought her shell book in with her and explained the intricacies of this, including the cut-away picture showing the six miters that are formed inside the shell. This is a beautiful shell and a very lovely and thoughtful gift. Frances knew I would appreciate this shell; something to do with being an Episcopalian.

Spring must be here! The library planters at the entrance to the library are alive with red and yellow tulips. These were planted a few years ago by our local brownie troops and each year when they grow and bloom, we repeat a sincere thank you to these young girls.

The Wednesday story hour children created tiny May flower baskets during their creative time and then proceeded outside with them where they had a colorful May Pole dance.

Only yesterday

50 Years Ago - May 5, 1939 WATER COMPANY STARTS ON NEW WELL

Dallas Water Company begins work on new well at Center Hill Road and Columbia Avenue this morning.

Kingston Township meets Laketon today in opening game of the season.

Lehman Odd Fellows plan a colorful parade for Memorial Day followed by a program at Lehman High School.

New busses speed service between Dallas and Wilkes-Barre.

Dallas Borough athletes were honored at a dinner by the PTA last Thursday.

Engaged - Muriel Craft and Judson Bailey.

40 Years Ago - May 9, 1949 ST. PAUL'S SALUTES 24TH ANNIVERSARY

Residents of Pioneer Avenue and Druid Hills filed a complaint with the PUC against Dallas-Shaver-

town Water Company due to a shortage of water for several weeks.

St. Paul's will celebrate its 24th anniversary with the burning of the mortgage on Sunday morning.

Two hundred business and civic leaders inspected the new Fernbrook plant of Bloomsburg Mills Saturday morning.

Lehman High School Band prepares for concert under band director Bernard Gerrity.

Wed - Margaret Ann Karns and Earl Kerchner; Helen Louise Roberts and Harry Long; Isabel Wilkins and Robert J. Gabel.

30 Years Ago - April 30, 1959 SIDING SCAMS HIT BACK MOUNTAIN

Better Business Bureau warns against out of town salesmen with a scheme on aluminum siding.

Dallas Senior Women's Club to move meetings from Library Annex to Prince of Peace due to annex being converted to children's library.

Dallas Ben Franklin Store will move to new quarters in what was once Dallas Hardware Store on Church Street.

Folks will audition for the PTA amateur show tonight and Sunday, according to Clayton Evans, chairman.

Engaged - Anne Dickson Jones and F. Treney Dolbear; Carol Jane Bennett and Pvt. Gary Guenter Blich; Suzanne Bishop and Russell Foss; Mary Sue Parsons and Frederick Mead.

20 Years Ago - May 1, 1969 TINY GOULD SHOWS OFF CAR COLLECTION

New owner is sought for the Linear Plant at Fernbrook.

Kingston Township seeks a playground supervisor.

Milford 'Tiny' Gould of Trucksville owned nearly 50 classic, antique and racing cars including the first Dusenbergs every manufactured.

Education office opened and started providing farmers, students, homeowners, industry and government agencies with information on how they can help protect the Bay.

National Soil and Water Stewardship week is designed to remind people why they should protect their environment. Stewardship means "guardianship" or "care for". Pennsylvanians are starting to respond to the Susquehanna River and in turn Chesapeake Bay in this manner, realizing it needs their protection and care to survive.

For more information about the Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay Program, contact the Bay Education Office, 225 Pine Street, Harrisburg, Pa. 17101, or call 717-236-1006.

Captain Lenora Swan, former Lehman resident, recently completed a 24-week adjutant general advanced course at the U.S. Adjutant General School at Fort Benjamin, Harrison, Indiana.

Engaged - Deborah Carruthers and Graham Watson.

Nanticoke Trojans defeat Dallas Mountaineers 14-4 at Nanticoke.

Trojans defeat Lake-Lehman Knights 11-0.

Bicentennial is theme of the Dallas High School concert.

10 Years Ago - May 3, 1979 HOT TIME AT LAKE CANDIDATES' NIGHT

Dallas Post Homemaker Show is scheduled for May 3 at College Misericordia.

Accusations and harsh language filled the air as Harveys Lake Taxpayers Association held its "Meet the Candidates Night" last week and the controversial Sandy Beach subject became the main topic.

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.

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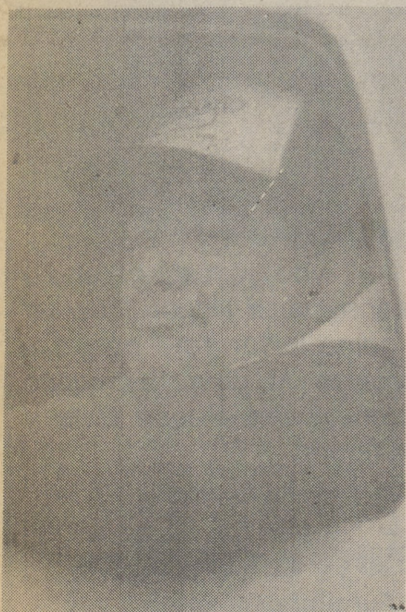
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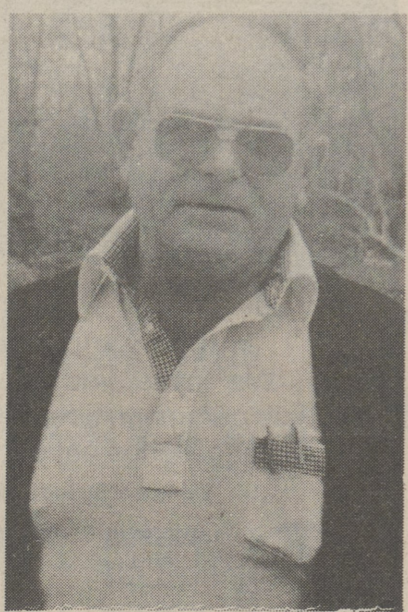
MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION AND THE PENNSYLVANIA NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER'S ASSOCIATION

The Post asks: "How can dangerous brush fires be prevented?"



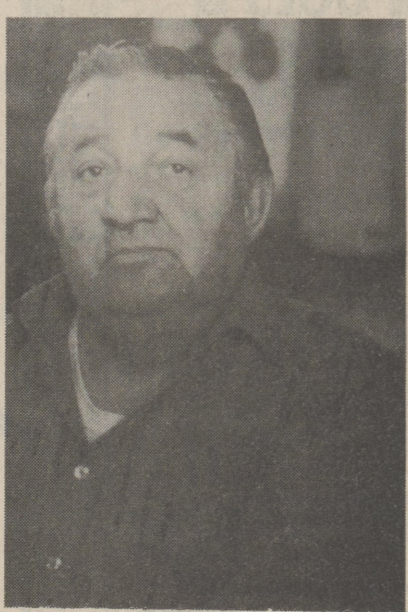
Ron Schwartz Truck Driver Dallas

"Stop burning until we have had enough rain."



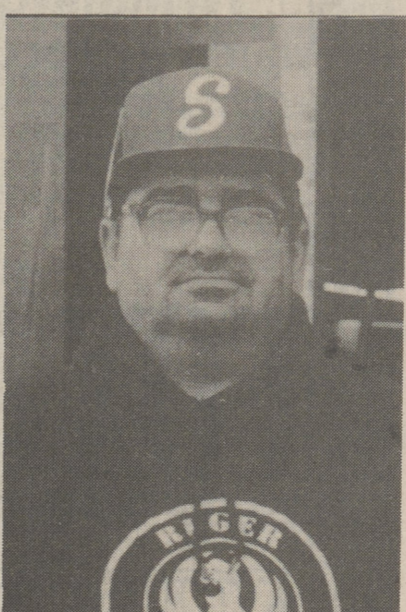
Frank Wagner Supervisor Dallas

"Use common sense when burning and don't burn in dry areas."



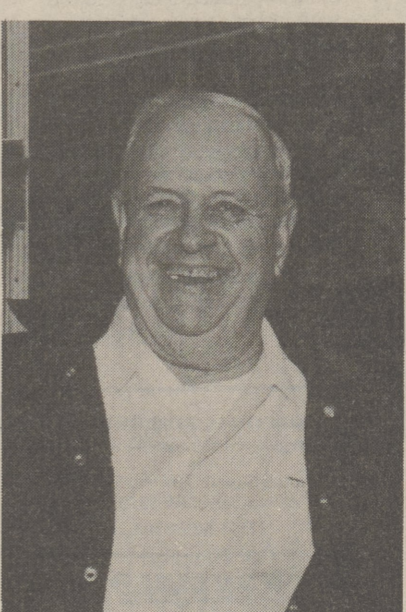
Mike Kozick Businessman Dallas

"People should not be allowed to burn trash unless the burning is properly supervised."



Steve Maceiko Self-employed Harveys Lake

"People should burn in a metal container with a grated top to contain the flames."



Don Smith Retired Dallas

"Don't burn when it is too dry and when burning supervise the fire and keep a hose nearby."



Don LaBar Boat mechanic Dallas

"Burn only in a cleared area and in a regular fire container. Keep water within reach."