

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Low police salaries could stand a boost

We have reported several times recently on the resignation of area police officers, generally because they have taken better paying jobs. Aside from the cost of filling a vacant position, the attendant lessening of police coverage causes us concern.

Charlot Denmon's story this week points out that a patrolman's starting salary in the Back Mountain ranges anywhere from \$11,900 to \$14,138 annually. That doesn't seem to us to be a great deal of money in today's economy.

The Back Mountain is growing, and with that growth comes the need for more and better emergency services. To this point, the growth has also meant higher prices for housing, which has an effect on officers who must live in or near the communities they serve.

It seems that local governments could loosen the purse strings on police salaries a bit, in the interest of attracting and retaining the best qualified people for the jobs. We expect this is an area where the taxpayers would have no quarrel with a little more spending.

Dallas computers are good investment

We had expected to write an editorial this week taking the Dallas School District to task for spending \$300,000 of taxpayer money on computers without bidding the contract.

This, however, is one of those happy occasions when the school board and administrators should be commended for their quick action and wise decision.

It turns out that the computers were quite a bargain - 35 per cent below the retail price. We know because we called the vendor to check their regular selling prices.

In addition to saving money, the early order will insure that the computers are actually in place and ready for use when the school year begins. It seems that bidding can slow down the process to the point that students might have been deprived of the computers at the start of the year.

We have experienced firsthand the power that computer knowledge can add to a person's abilities, and we are glad to see an enhanced program coming to the Dallas district. It will keep our young people in touch with the fast moving times in which we live.

Congratulations to the Class of '89

Congratulations are in order for the graduates of our high schools. They have shown that they can reach valuable goals, and are ready to move on to the next stage of their lives.

Many will continue their academic careers at college and other post high school institutions. Some of those will go even farther with their educational interests, and we look forward to publishing the notices of their achievements four or more years from now.

Others will move directly into the world of work, where the discipline and training they received during their school years will provide the building blocks for success and advancement.

All the graduates still have plenty of time to choose the path of their greatest interest and ability, and we need to accept that they will take a few twists and turns along the way. Many of us didn't settle on our true vocation until much later in life.

But isn't that part of being a thinking person? Life would be pretty dull if we didn't change our opinions and direction now and then.

We wish the graduates well, and trust they will move on with anticipation into the future.

The Dallas Post

Published Weekly by Bartsen Media, Inc.
P.O. Box 366, Dallas PA 18612
Telephone: 717-675-5211

Ronald A. Bartzek
Editor and Publisher

Charlotte E. Bartzek
Associate Publisher

Tami Britton
Advertising Acct. Exec.

Charlot M. Denmon
Reporter

Rob Zapotoski
Composition

Jean Hillard
Office Manager

Olga Kostrobala
Classified/typesetting

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



When nature sings the blues

Stately blooms of lavender and purple can be seen in the Back Mountain this week. These are on the corner of Main Street and Huntsville Road. (Photo by Charlotte Bartzek)

Library news

Library's summer reading program includes games

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Back Mountain Memorial Library Children's Room will be participating in M.E.L.V.I.L.'s Magical Mystery Mansion Summer Reading Club, which will begin June 19 and conclude on August 11. There will be gameboards given to each child as they begin the program and areas of the mansion where they will be directed to begin their quest. To complete the gameboard, a child should read at least one book from eight different rooms. Normally, one room per visit will be the rule with the object being to have fun reading your way through the mansion. Children who have Summer Reading Lists from school may substitute titles from that list in up to four categories. Pre-school children up to sixth grade may join the club. Certificates will be awarded to children who complete the gameboard at the Summer Reading Club party at the end of the summer. Most of the libraries in the Luzerne County Library System will be doing this summer reading program.

The first annual library horse show will be held Sunday, June 25 at the Luzerne County Fall Fair Grounds beginning at 8:30 a.m., rain or shine. Judge of the show will be Jeffrey Ayers. There will be a \$200 Hunter Triumph Class and championship coolers awarded. Included will be schooling in the

ring before 8:15 and lunch break. Some of the divisions include: Children's hunter, pony hunter, warm up class and lead line class with trophies and ribbons. There will also be a junior and senior equitation division and a beginner rider division. Other divisions include adult hunter, open hunter, English pleasure, baby hunter and non-thoroughbred division. There will be a Tony Bogdon Memorial Hunter Triumph. Kathy Shaskas is chairman of the horse show. The Dallas Rotary Club will have food available at the refreshment stand.

The Back Mountain Memorial Library receives mail addressed to many unusual versions of our name. Most common are Black, Bark, Dark, and Park. Two really different ones were Bach and Back Mount Ain. One letter was addressed to the library, 96 Huntsville Rd., College Miser, Pa. 18612 and we received it. I guess it's hard to believe there could be a place called Back Mountain; however, we who live here know there is.

We do get a lot of reference questions at the library. The top question for last week was, "Why won't the grass come out of the chute on the lawn mower?" Our staff member said maybe the grass is too wet. As it turns out, the person dialed the wrong number and really was trying to call Caddie LaBar's of 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.

Only yesterday

50 Years Ago - June 23, 1939 DALLAS FEATURED ON MORNING PROGRAM

WABC's Phil Cook will feature Dallas on his morning program June 30 using information compiled by Burgess H.A. Smith and Ralph Rood.

The roof of Governor Arthur James' Harveys Lake cottage was damaged by fire Monday afternoon.

The new section of the Luzerne Bypass will open for travel soon.

Eggleston's apple orchards in Vernon market 7,000 bushels annually.

Wed - Elma A. Robbins and Phillip H. Anderson; Vera Bellas and Stephen Welitchko; Evelyn Grace Ryman and George Moore; Marie Hoover and Lewis Burkett; Eleanor Machell and William Austin Brickel.

40 Years Ago - June 24, 1949 CLYDESDALES APPEAR IN LOCAL HORSE SHOW

Dr. Henry G. Gallagher, recently with the U.S. Army, will open his office for the practice of medicine at 33 Lake Street, Dallas, about July 1.

Hayfield Farm's Clydesdale horses will be in the Lehman Horse Show Parade.

Back Mountain Lumber and Coal Co., Shavertown, will open one of the most modern establishments ever projected for this area, June 30.

Dallas Outdoor Theatre, one of the most slightly open air theatres in Pennsylvania will open next Wednesday night on the former Van Horn property opposite the Dallas Township High School.

Wed - Alberta Jean Race and John Rosser Cook; Shirley M. Swan and Elwood C. Ide; Ruth Cornell and Samuel Balick; Lucille Van Tuyle and James Crisman Hutchison.

30 Years Ago - June 25, 1959 LOLLYPOP RACEWAY OPENS ON RT.118

Dallas School District adopted a budget of \$894,891 and levied a tax of 45 mills on real estate and a \$10 per capita tax for the 1959-1960 school year.

Lollypop quarter midget raceway will open Saturday night located on the Route 118 highway.

Fred Getz, Sr., rescued his two-year-old son Fred, Jr. from a deep well on the property where they lived at Lake Catalpa.

Dallas Key Club Drill Team wins second place at the Wellsboro Laurel Festival Parade.

Little Leaguers raised \$928 on doorbell night June 15.

St. Therese's Crusaders bowling team won this season's championship in the George Shupp League.

Engaged - Melba Lorraine Parsons and Thomas Coburn, Jr.; Gladys C. Foss and Herbert J. Reese.

20 Years Ago - June 26, 1969 SEWER SYSTEM PLANS DELAYED BY CEILING

Back Mountain Municipal Authority has been delayed in its effort to establish a sewer system because of the ceiling imposed by the State on the amount of interest municipality can pay on bonds it sells.

The Lehman Horse Show this year will feature three-gaited horses, one a chestnut gelding owned by Harold Tretheway of Wilkes-Barre.

Mrs. Eleanor Hardisky of Dallas won the 20-inch colored television offered as first prize at the Trucksville Fire Company at their recent Fair.

Wed - Cheryl Lee Siegal and Frederick M. Javer; Mary F. Lemon and John C. Sholtis; Pamela Judith Cully and Raymond Charles McDonald.

10 Years Ago - June 21, 1979 DALLAS PURCHASES A NEW 1979 AMBULANCE

At a meeting of the Dallas Township supervisors, Joseph Schroeder, contractor and owner of Brookfield Apartments, requested a letter stating that there is a need for rental housing in Dallas Township. The letter will be forwarded to the FHA who will help finance the project.

The Harveys Lake Taxpayers Association and the majority faction of Harveys Lake Borough Council are waiting a decision by Luzerne County Judge Peter Paul Olzewski on the association's request for an injunction against council's attempt to arrange the purchase of a building and two parcels of land for use as a borough building and public recreation spot.

Harveys Lake Council passed an amendment to the borough zoning law to prohibit construction of lakeside structures more than 14 feet tall.

The Back Mountain Hawks split during the week to tie with Millinville for second place in the Tri-County League.

Dallas American Legion team upsets Swoyersville 3-1.

Report from Harrisburg

Here is a summary of important events that occurred on Capitol Hill last week from Rep. Scott Diatterick, 120th Legislative District:

INSURANCE ADVOCATE BILL

Legislation to establish an Office of Insurance Advocate to protect the interests of consumers in rate-making and policy decisions was overwhelmingly approved by the full House this week. Although an attempt was made to put the insurance advocate under the control of the governor's office, the effort was defeated. The bill was sent to the Senate for consideration. It is one of a lengthy list of bills to be considered by the Legislature to reform the state's insurance system. A second bill approved by the House and sent to the Senate would require the insurance commissioner to conduct a study into insurance company profits and competition in the industry.

PAYING THE PRICE - Individuals who "scalp" tickets to sporting or entertainment events in Penn-

sylvania would be risking substantial penalties under legislation approved by the House this week. Sponsored by Rep. John J. Taylor (R-Phila.), the bill is designed to cripple well-organized scalping rings which purchase huge blocks of tickets and resell them for exorbitant prices. The measure would increase first offense penalties from \$100 to \$300 and from \$1,000 to \$5,000 for repeat offenders. Taylor said authorities suspect drug dealers use teenagers to scalp tickets. The bill has been sent to the Senate for consideration.

SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING

Legislation to improve services for mental health patients has been introduced by Reps. George E. Saurman and Jon D. Fox (both R-Montgomery). The measure is designed to provide families caring for handicapped family members in their homes with the same services available to individuals in institutions. "It's almost as though the state is promoting institutionalization over home care. And institutionalization is far more expensive," Saurman said.

The Post asks: Where is the most dangerous intersection in the Back Mountain?



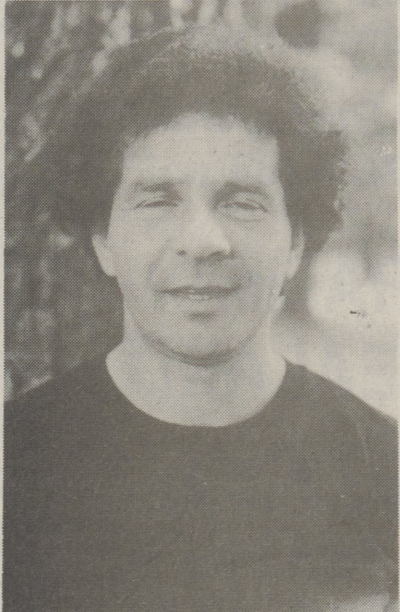
Elaine Hudak
Dallas

"Rt. 415 and Rt. 118 because I work near there. Especially with the new mini-mart going in there. I see a lot of accidents."



Grace Ide
Lehman Township

"Rt 118 and Outlet road intersection is dangerous. You have to pull out before you can see what is coming."



Danny Lazar
Harveys Lake

"From IGA to Franklins in Dallas. All those intersections are dangerous. Cars are always coming through fast."



Laura Tracy
Dallas

"The intersection near Burger King in Shavertown. The lights are often out. It becomes a free-for-all."



Donna Fowler
Shavertown

"The spot where Franklins comes out onto Rt. 309 in Dallas."



Denise Tracy
Dallas

"The center of Dallas is the most dangerous. You have cars coming from all directions."