

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

# Water concerns wash away with record rain

Whatever the source of the contamination, the recent report of tainted water in private wells at Harveys Lake should be a reminder that the Back Mountain's precious water resources need more monitoring and protection.

At this time last year we were in the midst of a severe drought. That circumstance brought concern about water resources to the forefront of our attention, as many residents were without water for several weeks. The situation spawned the Back Mountain Water Commission, and was instrumental in the formation of a citizens' council.

What a difference a year makes. This year a record amount of rain may fall on our region, and it seems to have washed away last year's concerns. The water commission, which seemed such a necessity, has not drawn a quorum of members for the past two meetings and usually attracts only the barest attention from residents.

But the problems and their causes have not disappeared. The Dallas-Shavertown Water Company has a new manager and a new policy of talking as little as possible with residents and the press - or even the water commission. Developers still want to build more homes, and in one case, plan to drill 31 new wells that will tax an already overburdened supply. And we suspect many residents still don't see conservation of water - especially this year - as much of a priority.

Will it take another record drought to focus our attention on this most valuable resource and the need to plan for its use? We expect and encourage responsible growth in the Back Mountain, but think it should be accompanied by realistic appraisals of the available resources along with the responsible development of new supplies. Let's hope we can move in that direction before it is too late.

# Underage sellers set the worst example

If last week's testimony by youths against "Jigger" Jones is true, it illustrates the worst possible attitude toward consumption of alcohol that an adult could offer to a youngster.

The youths said that Jones urged them to live it up and have a good time - partly by drinking the liquor he was selling - since they had just graduated from high school and should make the most of it.

The concept that getting drunk is a meaningful part of any celebration is left over from a former, meaner, time. Some people may believe that when men in this part of the country earned their meager livings by going into the bowels of the earth to dig coal, the release offered by alcohol had a place in their lives. But for most of us, that day never was, or is long past.

More likely, the men and women who broke away and went on to improve their lives didn't overindulge then, as they don't now.

We doubt that anyone who sells liquor to young people has any interest in their customers' enjoyment of a moment in their lives. They're just out to make a buck in a most despicable way.

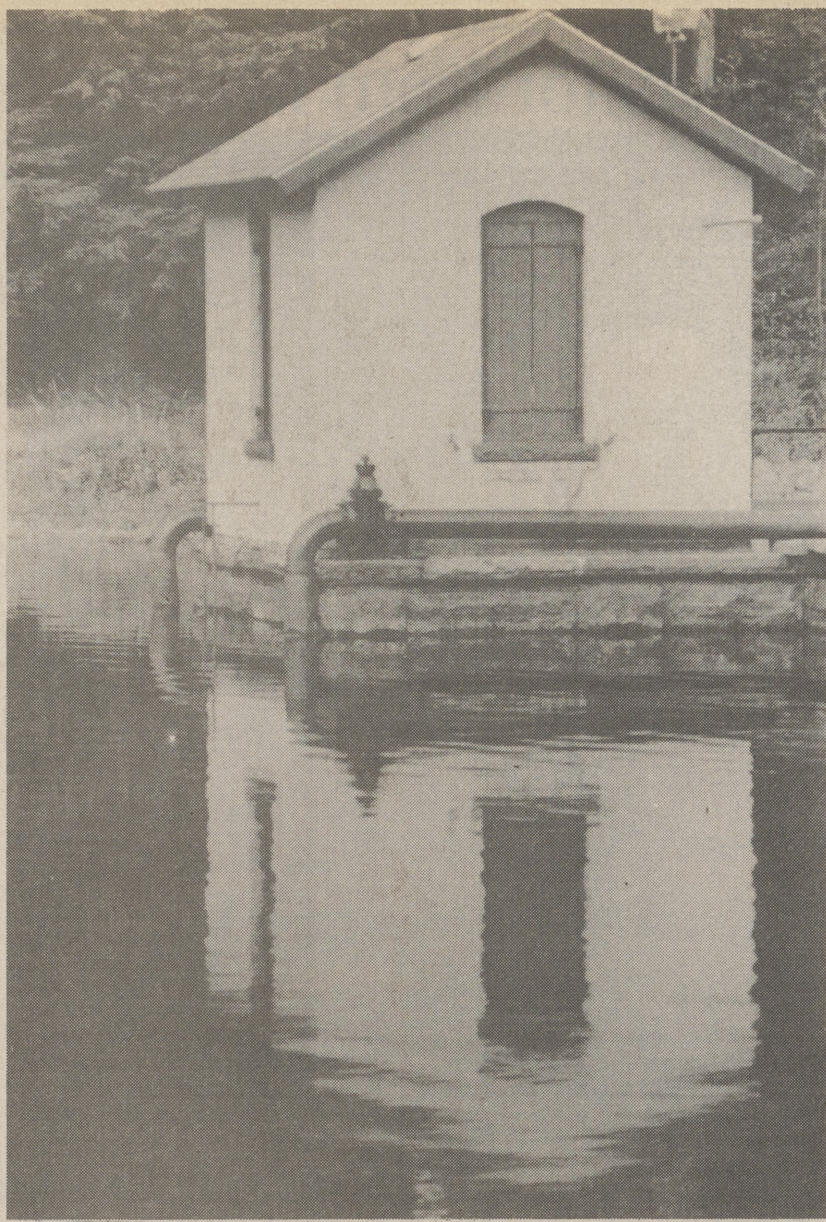
We hope the authorities pursue cases like this to their strictest end. Then let's begin teaching our children a mature attitude about the use of alcoholic beverages.

# Clean-ups help us all

Last weekend, the Harveys Lake Environmental Action Council collected old appliances and scrap metal for recycling. Two weekends before, a group of volunteers cleaned up the Arboretum on the Penn State campus in Lehman.

These worthwhile projects and many others like them, such as annual clean-up days in many communities, are examples of what a little concern and action can accomplish. Many residents take advantage of them to properly dispose of material that might otherwise spoil the appearance and safety of our environment.

Unfortunately, not everyone seems to care, so a drive around the region reveals too many littered roadsides and yards. We hope the message that a clean community reflects well on all of us will reach some of the property owners who haven't yet taken the time to tidy up. It really does matter.



Lots of water now, but?

Huntsville Dam Reservoir is full, but can we keep it full of clean unpolluted water? (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

## Library news

### Library Book Club tops membership goal

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Book Club of the Back Mountain Memorial Library has exceeded its membership goal for 1989 by 6 members. The budgeted goal was set at 215 and the present membership stands at 223. This membership represents exactly \$2,000, which is used for the purchase of new books exclusively for the Book Club shelf in the library. The Book Club selection committee meets once a month to study the new book library reviews and select their choices for the Book Club. The Book Club dues are \$10.00 for a single and \$15.00 for a double membership, and entitle the member to borrow two Book Club books each time they are in the library. We will gladly accept any new Book Club members.

An interesting library story! A mother of a ten-year-old boy was experiencing a bad time with the boy's allergies. She had reached a

point where the doctors said they could not help her. She borrowed a book from the library about allergies and took it home and studied it. It seems one of the boy's problems had something to do with colored dyes. After studying the book, the mother put to use some of the suggestions and helps that she discovered and the last time she was in, she said the boy was doing fantastic. He is doing so much better. I understand the boy's doctor was also thrilled with the progress the boy has made. This incident proves a well-known theory: there is a wealth of information to be found in books. Your library has 56,440 books in its collection.

The doll house in the reading room borrowed from Brighid O'Neil is receiving a lot of attention by interested persons, adult and children alike. It will be at the library until September 5. Another busy place these days in the library is

## Only yesterday

50 Years Ago - Aug. 25, 1939  
**'THE LADY'S SHOP' OPENS IN DALLAS**

The Lady's Shop, a new store for women, opens for business in the Sullivan Building, 40 Main St., Dallas, under the ownership of Miss Grace Cave.

Burgess Herbert Smith urged all men of Dallas to attend an open forum meeting of the Dr. Henry Laing Fire Company Monday night to lend support to the company.

The Legion's rededication ceremony last Sunday at Rice Cemetery spurred interest in the cemetery among residents of the community.

Wed - Arletta Gray and Howard Hallock.

Lewis A. Furneaux of Dallas will enter some of his poultry again this year in the Allentown Fair where last year he won a number of prizes for his fine poultry.

40 Years Ago - Aug. 26, 1949  
**DALLAS TOPS TRUCKSVILLE TWICE**

Dallas Township issued a statement on the Natona Mills controversy saying that the textile plant is still within the township despite ordinances and legal proceedings.

Dallas Borough School Board appointed Mrs. Murray Scureman as teacher of French, English and Latin, and Mrs. Ruth Him Folsam as teacher of business subjects.

The Kiwanis League's Dallas boys team took two straight games from the Trucksville team to win the pennant.

Wed - Marjorie Elkins and Victor McCarty; Barbara Biery and Arthur D. Lodtge.

30 Years Ago - Aug. 27, 1959  
**BOY SCOUT RESCUES THREE FROM WATER**

Shavertown Methodist Church's new addition will open September 6.

Harry Misson, Jr., 10-year-old Boy Scout from Trucksville, aided in rescuing three young people from the water this year, two from Bowman's Creek at the State Roadside Rest and the latest, an 11-year-old girl from the lake at Melody Park.

Supervising Principal James Martin announced that Dallas Borough Schools will begin term on Wednesday, September 2.

Engaged - Irene Sickler and Glenn Seward; Emily Marshall and Walter E. Steltz Jr.; Sarah Meredith Kear and Dr. Samuel James Braun.

20 Years Ago - Aug. 28, 1969  
**JUNIOR HIGH OPENS DESPITE PROBLEMS**

Despite some areas unfinished due to labor disputes, bad weather and a shortage of building materials, Dallas Junior High Building will open Sept. 3 and work will continue on sections of the building removed from the classrooms, while school is in session.

A new shopping center has been proposed by the First National Bank to be located between Routes 309 and 415 and facing the Suburban Restaurant.

Children of Mexican migrants are receiving elementary instruction at the Sutliff Farm in Sweet Valley.

Engaged - Gail Rumbaugh and John D. O'Brien.

Wed - Beverly Ann King and J. Michael Allen Lieb; Shirley Wyrsh and R.W. Stout.

10 Years Ago - Aug. 23, 1979  
**NEW LAKE-NOXEN SCHOOL PLANNED**

Groundbreaking for the new Lake-Noxen Elementary building has been set for early in October of this year with scheduled occupation set for 1981.

Carmen Ambrosino, executive director of Wyoming Valley Drug and Alcohol Services Inc. will present a program to Back Mountain Service Clubs on "How Not To" and then on "How to Handle It" when confronting a son and daughter on the drug abuse program.

Dallas Township Zoning Hearing Board approved Pheasant Run, a 35-home housing development on Country Club Road.

Wed - Pamela Lynn Walter and Larry Bruce Snyder; Patricia Kaminski and Joseph Kennedy.

Back Mountain Soccer Association will hold a late sign-up Sept. 4 from 6 to 9 p.m. at a place to be announced.

## State board approves more funds for land preservation

The State Agricultural Land Preservation Board recently approved an additional \$5 million in grants so local governments can purchase agricultural conservation easements.

Agriculture Secretary Boyd E. Wolff, who chairs the board, said the state has approved a total of \$25 million for grants to preserve agricultural land. He said that counties have contributed \$3.4 million in local funds to the program, and the state grant allocation was increased by \$5 million on order to meet matching fund formulas in the Farmland Preservation Act.

"We have been very pleasantly surprised by the support and enthusiasm of our counties," said

Wolff. "The amount of local funding support tells us that county officials have taken a look at our program and they like what they see."

Pennsylvania's farmland protection program is funded by a \$100 million bond issue approved by voters in a statewide referendum in 1987.

Funds are allocated according to a formula based on pressure of development, agricultural production and county appropriations.

Nine southeastern and southcentral counties will receive 66 percent of the \$25 million in matching funds allocated by the board. Each of those counties and nine others contributed local funding.

## 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

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

Ronald A. Bartizek  
Editor and Publisher

Charlotte E. Bartizek  
Associate Publisher

Edward Kraynak  
Advertising Acct. Exec.

Charlot M. Denmon  
Reporter

Rob Zapotoski  
Composition

Jean Hillard  
Office Manager

Olga Kostrobala  
Classified/typesetting

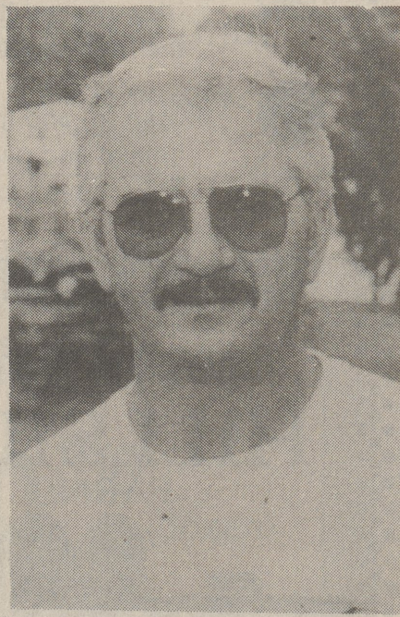
MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION  
AND THE PENNSYLVANIA NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER'S ASSOCIATION

# The Post asks: Have you ever had your drinking water tested?



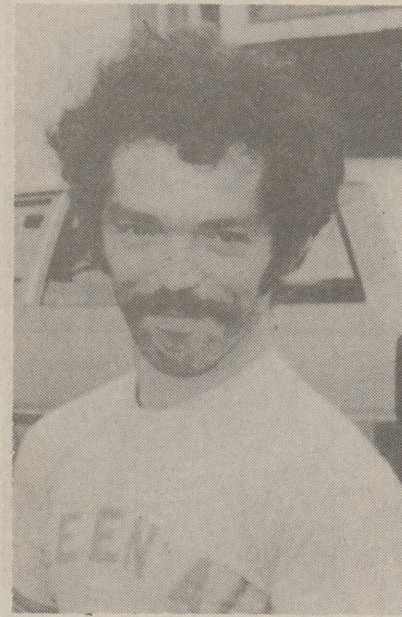
James Davis  
Dallas

No.  
"What could I do anout it if it does come back bad?"



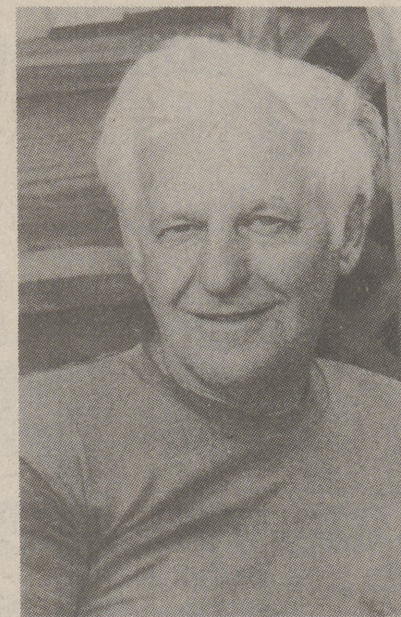
Joe Hudak  
Dallas

No.  
"We don't drink it anyway. I feel the water is good, but we prefer mountain water."



Denis Dunham  
Dallas

No.  
"I don't know. No one ever asked us to."



Lou Bobeck  
Dallas

No.  
"I have no problems with it. I get my own water jugs from springs."



Janet Tracy  
Dallas

No.  
"I trust our water company. There are laws protecting us."



James Davis, Jr.  
Shavertown

No.  
"I am confident about our water. I live high on a mountain."