

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Traffic lights should be placed where the need is greatest

Reports that a traffic light will be installed at the intersection of Route 309 and Hillside Road in Kingston Township have raised hackles throughout the Back Mountain.

It's not that officials and residents here are opposed to traffic lights; quite the contrary. Back Mountain municipalities have been practically begging for permission to place lights at dangerous intersections for many years. Why do they have to ask permission, you might ask? Because, even when the municipality is footing the bill, PennDOT decides whether or not a light is justified.

Now, not only has PennDOT approved a light that Kingston Township didn't ask for, Luzerne County has joined in by agreeing to pay for it. What is going on here?

We wonder where the Luzerne County commissioners and PennDOT were when Kingston Township asked repeatedly for a light at the intersection of Route 309 and Franklin Street. Or when Dallas Township and Dallas Borough were within a few thousand dollars of the money needed to install a light at the intersection of Route 309 and Main Street, near Offset Paperback; perhaps the Back Mountain's most deadly spot.

And what about the need for a light where Center Hill Road and Route 415 meet in Dallas Borough? Anyone who has tried to enter or cross traffic there knows how dangerous and frustrating the process can be.

We aren't sure which is more outrageous - PennDOT's approval of a light at an intersection where only three years ago they refused to even permit an acceleration lane, or Luzerne County's willingness to pay for a light that local officials think may make the highway even more dangerous. We vote for the county, because they are closer, and should have been helping Back Mountain municipalities to get the lights they have needed for years.

Perhaps the answer to this riddle is that traffic conditions dictate that the light at Hillside Road is justified. If that proves to be the case, then there are at least three other intersections that deserve lights, and we will expect the county and PennDOT to approve and install them.

Lake residents need help from authorities

"It's not my job," seems to be the order of the day in Harveys Lake, as officials there show little interest in the bacteria contamination of residents' wells, and contempt for those who are trying to get some action to repair the problem.

Last week, the members of the Harveys Lake Sewer Authority ignored the complaints of 25 to 30 angry citizens who attended their meeting. What were the people angry about? Start with the fact that no one on the authority seems to know which houses are connected to the municipal sewer system and which are not. Since the bacteria in some wells has apparently included human waste, the residents are understandably concerned about whether or not their neighbors are hooked up.

Authority members say it doesn't have responsibility for correcting this problem; they say citizens must fix them themselves, since the contamination isn't in a public water supply. That is a truly specious argument, as the source of the bacteria may be public sewer lines. But rather than take prudent action by locating the source, the authority says that's not their job.

Perhaps the authority's reluctance to get involved stems from another source. Both The Post and William Mann, who has led action by citizens to solve this problem, have tried to gain access to the sewer authority's records, including any maps or lists of homes that are connected to the system. It appears - shocking as it may seem - that there are none.

We hope the Harveys Lake Sewer Authority changes its mood and agrees to cooperate fully with the citizens of the Borough in an effort to correct this dangerous condition. It may be embarrassing for the authority to do so, especially if it must admit to such poor stewardship of a public trust. But the truth will come out anyway, and it's still not too late for authority members to recover some of the confidence they have lost.



Black-eyed daisy

The last of summer's blooms grace this garden in Dallas Borough. (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Library news

The latest Back Mountain fashion - auction sweatshirts

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

Now that the cooler days of September have arrived, the Back Mountain Memorial Library has the perfect answer when the need for warmer clothing becomes important. We have a supply of navy blue crew and sweat shirts with the library auction logo in white on the left side of the front of the shirt. The crew shirts are selling for \$10.00 and the hooded sweatshirts sell for \$15.00. These sweat shirts are just enough warmth for these cool evenings and the proceeds from the sale will benefit the library. We also have sizes in these of small, medium, large and extra large. There are also library auction yellow tee shirts with brown logo available at \$5.00 each, in all sizes. These are available at the front desk in the library. These shirts would make nice gifts, birthday or Christmas, for members of the family. Just one more way to keep warm and help support your library.

The library staff members were thrilled and quite proud when Heather Hand won the title of Luzerne County Fair Queen at the fair last week. During her high school years, Heather volunteered her time here at the library and did a lot of work which allowed the staff to work on other projects. Congratulations, Heather, we are proud of you!

Mothers! Child psychologists tell us that all children WANT to learn—

to learn to play, to work, and to get along with other children. Sometimes, though, a bit of guidance is necessary from you to get your child started in the right direction. To better prepare yourself to give that guidance, visit your library and borrow authoritative books on child psychology and development!

New books at the library: "Hype" by Liz Nickles is a fabulously fast and funny new novel about a beautiful, jet-setting advertising executive. Cam McKenna is the stunning and savvy creative director of a major Chicago agency, living a life of high-powered excitement. This sinfully intimate, irresistibly witty novel vividly portrays a woman who embodies all the drives and desires, conflicts and confusions, of talented women everywhere.

"Silent Partner" by Jonathan Kellerman is a novel with the intensity of suspense, richness of characterization, and shockingly vivid portrayal of southern Californian decadence. The story involves Dr. Alex Delaware a psychologist-detective in a spellbinder of childhood terror and family secrets and Sharon Ransom, the lover who left him abruptly more than a decade earlier. She hints that she needs help, Alex evades her and the next day she is dead, an apparent suicide. A story of dazzling twists and turns of plot.

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 - Sept. 22, 1939 SHAVERTOWN FOLKS COMPLAIN OVER WELL

Sweet Valley is dry according to revised vote count which makes most of the residents happy.

Shavertown residents complaints accumulate as the Shavertown Water Company rushes to complete new well. James W. Gansel, substituting for Chief of Police Walter Covert, is the third generation of his family to follow police work and has enrolled in a six-month advanced course at the police school in Kingston.

Atty. Peter Jurchak, Dallas, headed the committee for the dedication of the new Luzerne Boulevard.

Wed - Ruth Ide and Glen Johnson.

Engaged - Martha Nicol and Raymond Elston.

40 Years Ago - Sept. 23, 1949 PTA TO PURCHASE NEW REC. EQUIPMENT

New Parrish Heights bus route meets with approval.

The Dallas Borough PTA will begin to buy equipment for a playground on the school grounds.

Four teams-Noxen, Shavertown, Jackson and East Dallas, will engage in the semi-finals of the Bi-County League.

Wed - Phyllis Zingerline and Harold Weiss; Lois May Griesing and Richard G. Phillips.

Racing purses at Bloomsburg Fair total \$54,000.

Dallas Chapter O.E.S. will sponsor a variety show Nov. 4 at Kingston Township High School.

30 Years Ago - Sept. 24, 1959 GRIDDERS BEATEN BY TUNKHANNOCK 13-6

Old Renard Band of Ruggles was featured at the Dallas Fair between 1900 and 1910.

Dallas Township police appear in full strength parking cars and handling the crowds at the Westmoreland games at Dallas Township Memorial Field.

Westmoreland gridders lose to a strong Tunkhannock team 13-6.

Wed - Margaret Maransky and Jack McClure.

Engaged - Linda Causey and Airman George B. Schwall.

20 Years Ago - Sept. 25, 1969 NATONA CONFLICT MAY RESULT IN NEW UNIONS

Dissatisfaction among the employees at Natona Mills may mean new unions representing them by next year.

Surveying is underway for the proposed sewage plant at Harveys Lake.

Fires destroyed the 12-room home of Joseph Ashley, Briar Crest Road, Idetown, early Friday morning.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Ide, Huntsville, is on the Autumn House Tour.

Wed - Linda Rowett and Stephen William Luebke; Nancy Hess and Robert Allen.

Dallas downs GAR 14-13 and the Knights defeat Hanover 14-6.

10 Years Ago - Sept. 21, 1979 LAKE-NOXEN SCHOOL HAS GROUNDBREAKING

Lake-Noxen Elementary School groundbreaking was held last Sunday with Gilbert Tough, Peg Anderson and Paul Crockett taking part in the groundbreaking.

Kingston Township has been reinstated as formal complainants against the Dallas-Shavertown Water Company and may represent the consumers at the PUC hearings in November.

Andrew Sordoni III criticizes the Harveys Lake Council's plan to purchase the beach.

Engaged - Kelly Dobinick and James Lyons.

Prince of Peace to celebrate its 50th Anniversary.

Lake-Lehman Knights defeat Bishop Hoban 10-0.

Villa Roma slo-pitch softball team wins the Rebel tourney by winning all but one game in the double-elimination competition.

Report from Harrisburg

Here is a summary of important events that occurred on Capitol Hill recently from Rep. Scott Dieterick, 120th Legislative District.

MORE RESTROOMS - Rep. Bruce Smith (R-York) this week unveiled legislation which would require more women's restrooms in all new public buildings in Pennsylvania. Calling the issue "restroom equity", Smith said the additional facilities are needed for women who are often forced to stand in lengthy lines to use the restroom, particularly in stadiums and arenas where large crowds gather. Smith noted that two scientific studies prove that women take twice as long to use restroom facilities and said that New York, California and Virginia have already passed similar legislation. Smith's legislation is aimed at all new buildings owned or leased by the state, its agencies and local governments. He said the bill would

also benefit elderly women, who outnumber older men, and women who accompany children to the restroom. "I sincerely hope that the private sector will consider similar policies in restaurants, theaters and auditoriums," Smith said.

PIGEON CONTROVERSY - Some 400 animal-rights activists protested the annual pigeon shoot in Hedges, Schuylkill County, this week calling for an to the fund-raising event. About 6,000 birds were shot during the day-long activity which raises some \$10,000 for upkeep of the community park. Protestors contend that the event is inhumane treatment of the pigeons. Participants argue that the shoot is only for sport and that the birds would otherwise be killed as part of pigeon control efforts in large cities. A bill has been sent to the House which would ban the activity in Pennsylvania.

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

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The Post asks: Do you donate blood regularly?



Rolley Schwartz
Truck Driver
Dallas

"I have given 60 pints and have several five gallon pins."



Jean Evans
Retired
Dallas

"I try to give every time if possible."



Donald J. Scavone
Truck Driver
Oak Hill

"I give whenever I have the time."



Jane Jolley
Nesbitt Employee
Trucksville

"I have O-positive blood and give regularly-10 times a year. I'm a Deca Donor"



Mark Engler
Warehouse Supervisor
Dallas

"I used to give regularly when I was at the bank but haven't for a while but I was called to come in so I dis."



Dave Katyl
Satellite Sales
Dallas

"I give regularly. The only time I don't give is if I'm working. This is my 14th time."