

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Citizens' Council has proven its value

This week, the Back Mountain Citizens' Council issues its first report to members and the community at large, and it is an impressive testimonial to the organization's strength and effectiveness.

Begun little more than a year ago, the council quickly moved beyond the theoretical stage and formed committees to address several topics of importance to the region. Reading the reports from each committee, one gains a sense of real concern and desire for action among the members.

It is noteworthy that nowhere in the report, and at no time in the many meetings the council has held thus far, has it been seriously suggested that the Back Mountain's growth should be stopped. In the beginning, it may have seemed to outside observers that this would be another "NIMBY" group - the kind who shouts, "Not In My Back Yard."

By now, municipal officials who may at first have considered the council either a fringe group or a threat, have come to realize that it is a gathering of talented individuals with real concerns. But they have also seen that the council's intention is to work with local governments whenever possible in finding solutions to present and future problems the area faces.

In many cases, council members bring impressive credentials to their area of interest. Their backgrounds include architects, college professors, successful businesspeople, ardent volunteers, farmers and many other professions and avocations. Often, members of the council have more knowledge and experience in their chosen area than do the governmental officials who hold responsibility for them.

That is not to belittle public officials, who are usually dedicated residents who volunteer their time to care for the business of our communities. On the contrary, we hope that officials come to recognize fully the vast resource that the Citizens' Council and its members can be. Properly used, the council can make government's job much easier and more effective.

As a growing area, the Back Mountain faces many challenges and pressures. A short list would include disposal of solid waste, protection of natural areas in the face of development demands, increasingly dangerous traffic and the social disruption that can come from rapid change.

The Back Mountain Citizens' Council can be perhaps the most important local institution in the formulation of answers to increasingly complex problems. It has already shown that it is capable of producing effective programs to benefit the area. One of the most successful was a six-part course in planning and zoning issues, which drew attendance from public officials and others earlier this year. A more recent example was a program on how to identify and protect precious wetland areas, held in late September.

We urge all residents of the Back Mountain to read carefully the council's report that is included in this week's issue of The Post. Then, the more people who can get involved the better. Financial support is necessary if the council is to continue and expand its work. But more important is the participation of as many residents as possible.

We are indeed fortunate to have a group of this quality in our region. We hope to see it flourish in the coming months and years.

Boy Scouts a good choice for young men

Now that school is back in session, young people are looking for activities to fill after school hours constructively. One good choice for young men is the Boy Scouts.

For nearly 80 years, the Boy Scouts of America has been guiding and molding many of this nation's future leaders. In addition to being good fun, Scouting is an educational program that develops character and good citizenship along with physical conditioning and life skills.

The Back Mountain is especially fortunate to have the dedicated leaders necessary to keep a strong Scouting program going. Many have been involved with the Scouts for years, others are relative newcomers. But they all share a great desire to see young men grow and develop to their fullest potential, and are willing to commit the time and resources needed to reach that goal.

If you are a young man looking for an activity that brings not only enjoyment, but that also really improves your life, look into Scouting. We're sure you will be glad you did.



Mums the word

Chrysanthemums like these at Darling's Farm on Hildebrandt Rd., in Dallas are ready for market. (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Letters

Harveys Lake councilman corrects editorial

Editor:

I'm responding to your recent editorial "Meeting Change Could Slow Public Discussion". This change was made long ago, in 1982, at the request of the citizens of Harveys Lake. The citizens made this request on the basis of their feeling it did them no good to have an opportunity to speak after all business was discussed and the items on the agenda voted upon. They wanted to express their opinions and concerns before council took action. The new Democratic majority on council honored this request.

We are normally 15 to 20 minutes into our meeting before we come to the public input portion of the meeting. I always ask two or three times if there is anyone else who would like to speak before closing the floor on public discussion. Most council members stay following the meeting for further

discussion and/or comments with any resident who has anything further to say.

We have an open-door policy and look to our residents for their input and support. In fact, we've held several informal "town meetings" on topics that we felt were of great importance in obtaining public input. In a recent election, we even put an item on the ballot to get an accurate feeling from our residents, prior to spending their tax dollars.

We consider ourselves to be an "accessible" council and very visible to our residents. We need and want their input! If a majority of our citizens request to have the public input portion of our meetings changed to the end of the meeting, as was done in years past, we will accommodate that request. They are the taxpayers and the voters, and will always have their say under my administration.

Edward Kelly, Chairman
Harveys Lake Borough Council

Thanks Meadows residents

Editor:

Many thanks to all the good people of the Meadows Apartments who so generously contributed to a fund raising process by giving donations and providing a spaghetti dinner for resident, Dan Gabel's speedy recovery from an

illness which confines him to the Hahnemann University Hospital of Philadelphia.

Many thanks from a grateful family.

Mrs. Dan Gabel.

Library news

Library needs more municipal support

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Back Mountain Memorial Library Board of Directors has recently completed a study of the library's book circulation and a municipality comparison of percentage usage. Attorney Bruce Rosenthal, vice president of the board of directors, and Elizabeth Lloyd, president, have co-signed a letter which has been mailed to the person in charge of each of the nine municipalities which the library serves.

The library needs and appreciates the support of these municipalities. The library serves a population of 31,630 individuals, according to the 1986 census.

Total circulation in 1988 was 78,846 books, representing an increase of 25% in the last five years. The support for the library from the nine municipalities and the two school districts has not

kept pace with the growth in the library's budget and its capital expenditures for improvements to better serve the community at large.

Attorney Rosenthal has worked up charts for yearly comparisons on book circulation and municipal support based on the book usage by members of the particular municipality. The library would like to increase its municipal support based on the number of books circulated to the individual municipality.

The library has grown and improved visibly over the last five years, but not without a strain on all of its resources of support. As our Back Mountain area continues to grow, and from all appearances prosper, it would be most appropriate for our municipalities to support the library as a non-profit institution that adds culture and enrichment to our community and its expanding citizenry.

New Book Club books: "The Captive" by Victoria Holt is a spell-binding tale of adventure cloaked in mystery, murder and romance.

In Rosetta Cranleigh's 18th year, her happy if uneventful life is suddenly shattered when her first ocean voyage ends in a shipwreck off the African coast. Only the quick thinking of a mysterious young deckhand, John Player, saves her and the debonair Lucas Lorimer from the merciless rage of the sea. Rosetta discovers the truth about murder; and the secrets locked within her heart.

"Pillars of the Earth" by Ken Follett is a story of split-second suspense that reaches beyond the expected to achieve a brilliant and remarkable novel. There is intrigue, fast-paced action and passionate romance and the extraordinary time—the 12th century; the place—feudal England; and the subject—the building of a Gothic cathedral.

Against the richly imagined and intricately inter-woven backdrop, the master storyteller draws the reader irresistibly into the intertwined lives of his characters; their dreams, labors and loves.

Only yesterday

50 Years Ago - Oct. 6, 1939 REPUBLICANS SHOW GAINS IN DALLAS

A 20-year old Outlet resident was arrested at his home Wednesday night and charged by police with being the Peeping Tom who has been annoying residents. He was placed under \$1,000 bail.

New registration figures for Dallas and vicinity show that the Republican party has regained many of the voters it lost during the last six years to the Democrat party.

This week's cold weather delayed work on the new Lutes Corners-Evans Falls highway.

Dallas firemen are prepared to start their drive for new members in the borough and the township.

Kingston Township football team who upset Clarks Summit last week, hopes to defeat Ashley tomorrow at the Trucksville Athletic field to win their second conference game.

Wed - Louise Webb and Andrew Kolesar.

40 Years Ago - Oct. 7, 1949 SANDS' HOLSTEINS WIN AT BLOOMSBURG FAIR

Kenneth Farrell who served three years of a life sentence in Eastern Penitentiary for the murder of Charles Randall has learned to read and write while in prison and is now learning a shoemaker's trade in the prison.

Contractors on the newly relocated Route 115 between Castle Inn and Lehman hope to have the road completed this year if good weather continues.

Ralph Sands Holsteins win against tough competition at the Bloomsburg Fair.

Wed - Peggy Gramley and David T. McCreary; Dorothy Culp and Robert Krebs; Constance Will and Harold Shaw.

Shavertown, who won two games over East Dallas, will host Noxen, winners of two games over Jackson in the semi-finals for the Bi-County championship.

30 Years Ago - Oct. 8, 1959 ED BROMINSKI NAMED NEW DALLAS COACH

G. Wesley Cave has been named vice president and general manager of H.A. Whiteman Paper Company in Wilkes-Barre.

Ed Brominski's appointment as head football coach of Dallas High School football team met with widespread favor among Dallas fans.

William Moran, Dallas High School teacher, is inducted as commander of Daddow Isaacs American Legion.

Engaged - Margret R. Ferguson and A/2C Ralph W. Swartz.

20 Years Ago - Oct. 9, 1969 TRUCKSVILL WATER WOES ON THE MEND

Water problems in Trucksville seem to have cleared up with the exception of Rice and Hickory Street, according to Rev. Charles Gomer, Jr., chairman of Kingston Township Water Commission.

Sally Jervis named executive director of Penn's Woods Girl Scout Council.

Engaged - Linda Nestor and Mark Dymond.

Anniversary - Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Leibenguth, 50 years.

Meyers defeats Dallas Mountaineers 26-6.

10 Years Ago - Oct. 4, 1979 'JUG HANDLE' TURN ONTO 309 IS OPPOSED

Back Mountain readers protest the possibility of a "jug handle" at the connection of Route 309 with the Cross Valley Expressway claiming it would create a bottleneck.

The Post asks: "Where do you go to see the most colorful fall foliage?"



Denise Scavone
Sweet Valley
Secretary

"Our home is in the mountains and all I have to do is go outside to see the most beautiful fall foliage"



Faye Birdsall
Dallas
Self-employed

"I sit right on my front porch on It'll Do Farm where the scenery is just awesome."



Judy Falzone
Tunkhannock
Hair Stylist

"We drive through the Endless Mountains where the foliage is gorgeous."



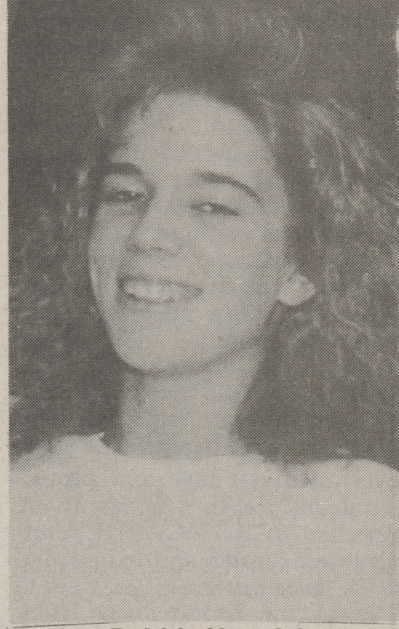
Debbie Kempa
Swyersville
Secretary

"I usually go to Ricketts Glen because there are such a variety of colors."



Tammy Powers
Shavertown
Student

"I like to go to Lake Jean at Red Rock, the colors there are always beautiful."



Debbie Yamrick
Shavertown
Student

"I like to go to Ricketts Glen. It's a nice ride and the colors are beautiful."