

# THE DALLAS POST

## EDITORIALS

### A century of service, and more to come

It is a pleasure and a privilege to have produced the Centennial Edition of The Dallas Post this week. It is also a humbling experience to know that we are a small part of the life of such a long-lived institution.

Continuing the operation of an enterprise such as The Post is more than simply running a business; it is also an exercise in stewardship. All businesses and institutions that have existed for any length of time have developed loyalties to and from employees and their families, and many have similar ties to their customers and constituents.

But a newspaper, particularly a local one, reaches deeper into the community than almost any other institution. For most people, a few brief mentions in the local paper is the extent of the public notice they receive in their lifetime. For others, seeing information about themselves, their families or their organizations in print is an affirmation of sorts, and if they don't appear, we hear about it.

As Mrs. T.M.B. Hicks, "Hix" to all who knew her, said of editing a local newspaper in her book *Just Cancel My Subscription*, "Scratch a resident on his sensibilities, and you scratch three second cousins down in Burning Brook."

"The editor is dealing, not with an unseen clientele, but with his next door neighbor and the teacher in the next block."

"Readers are people. People who read the weekly sheet from cover to cover, bawl out the editor if a name is misspelled in a roster of those present at Mrs. Whozit's tea, take exception to an account of a neighborhood fire, and hold out sore toes to be stepped on."

Publishers and editors often complain about feeling like the town pump - used by everyone and cared for by no one. That's because, in a curious reversal of the public's perception of the press, we usually hear only about our errors and omissions, and seldom about our week-to-week triumphs.

But then we remember that the people in the Back Mountain have cared enough about The Post to assure its survival these 100 years. If they didn't, they wouldn't complain - they just wouldn't care.

That says something good about The Post, and at least as much about the communities it serves. Without readers who understand the benefits provided by a local newspaper, The Post, like many small newspapers, would have vanished, either forever or by being combined with other newspapers into something larger but less intimate with the community.

One of the great challenges in newspaper publishing today is to reach the new resident. Usually unfamiliar with the area and someone who came only for career advancement, new arrivals are often reluctant to become too involved with their neighbors, feeling that they will probably be off to another new place before long.

It is a shame that so many newcomers feel that way, for they have much to offer the Back Mountain, even if only for a brief time. And it is unfortunate that they miss out on the opportunity to participate in the life of their hometowns. Those who do know that they receive as much in return as they give.

Whether you are a long-time reader or a new one, a Back Mountain native or a recent transplant, we hope you enjoy reading this special edition of The Dallas Post. Rather than the end of an era, we regard it as simply the beginning of The Post's next 100 years. We hope you will share it with us.

### Contract without strike a credit to both sides

While the formal settlement hasn't taken place, it appears that teachers and the administration of the Lake-Lehman School District have come to terms on a new contract. To have done so without disrupting the district is a credit to both sides.

Too often, teacher contract negotiations have broken down and resulted in strikes, to the detriment of students and the community at large. Only a couple of weeks ago, the prospect of that occurring in the Lake-Lehman district was being talked about seriously. Now parents, teachers and administrators can breathe a sigh of relief that cool heads and reasonableness have prevailed.

#### 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.



Barn at Hayfield #2 (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

### Library news

#### Lions donate large print books

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

Thanks to the generosity of the Dallas Lions Club, the Back Mountain Memorial Library has a large collection of large print books.

The Lions Club is very interested in doing what they can for the visually handicapped and these large print books are one of the ways that these people can enjoy reading. We now have large print books available by most of the favorite authors and are ordering current ones when they are printed.

Some of the recent purchases include: "Zoya" by Danielle Steel; "The Body in the Library" by Agatha Christie; "Three from Galilee" by Marjorie Holmes; "The Legacy" by Howard Fast; "Evil Under the Sun" by Agatha Christie; "Ride a Pale Horse" by Helen MacInnes; "Crescent City" by Belva Plain; "Windmills of the Gods" by Sidney Sheldon and "The Silk Vendetta" by Victoria Holt.

The library is much appreciative of this donation from the Dallas Lions Club which enables us to purchase the large print books.

The library staff was very happy to read about Brad Barket, a Dallas native, who captured first place in the Reebok-Artcarve Cross Country Race Saturday in Van Courtland Park, New York. He finished the 1 1/2 mile race in 9 minutes, 19 seconds to win the youth age division.

Brad is a seventh grade student at Wyoming Seminary and was competing against 13 and 14 year olds. He had entered the race for the Wilkes-Barre Striders and Wysocki's Running Club. The Barkets are library patrons and supporters and we congratulate Brad on his race.

A beautiful new memory book has been donated to the library in memory of Mr. Russell W. Frantz by Mrs. Rose Frantz Davis. It is a children's book and will be found in our children's room with the memory books. The title of the book is, "Do Not Disturb" by Marg-

ery Facklan; and covers the mysteries of animal hibernation and sleep.

A fat woodchuck snuggles down into its winter burrow and falls into such a deep sleep that it looks almost dead. A little brown bat hangs upside down in someone's attic all day, waiting for night—and hunting time—to come. These animals are in dormant states in which body temperature drops and heart rate and breathing slow down, sometimes dramatically.

Cats sleep away more than half their lives. Ocean mammals have to remember to breathe while they sleep. If they don't come up for air, they drown. Scientists think that a whale may sleep on one half of its body at a time. While the right side of its body sleeps, the left half of its body can stay awake to remind the whale to come up for air. Huge animals seem to need less sleep than tiny ones. Each animal follows the built-in pattern of its species to survive the cycle of seasons. A remarkable book.

### Only yesterday

#### 50 Years ago - Oct. 20, 1939 KING BRAVES WAR TO RETURN TO HOMELAND

War or no war, Mrs. King, mother of Robert King of Trucksville, sailed from New York this week to return to her home in Scotland.

800-year-old Buddha in the exquisite oriental temple at Stanford, Conn., provided the background for Faith Hope Harding, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Harding of Trucksville. The child is claimed to be a mystic with supernatural powers.

Wed - Helen Evans and Joseph Elenchik; Meta Nothoff and Charles Hoffman.

Luzerne High School's softball team is favored to defeat Hanover in tonight's game.

#### 40 Years Ago - Oct. 21, 1949 OHLMAN HONORED AS OUTSTANDING CITIZEN

With orders pouring in from widely separated parts of the United States and Canada, and with local heating contractors and dealers visiting the plant daily, Coal-O-Matic's new Anthra-flo, low cost anthracite burner, may win the markets lost to oil.

Marchers from all Back Mountain communities are asked to join in the Ninth Annual Halloween Parade which will be held in Dallas, Monday night, Oct. 31.

Kingston Township, Lehman and Dallas Township football teams will all play at home this week. Kingston Township will play Tunkhannock, Dallas Township the Red Rams of Factoryville, and Lehman will meet Avoca's Green and Gold.

Harry Ohlman of Dallas is named Outstanding Citizen and received the Frank Hemelwright Award at Irem Temple Country Club dinner held by the joint service clubs.

Wed - Doris Shupp and Sharp Cyphers; Margaret Pavlick and Robert F. Moyer; Virginia Irene Wasser and Benjamin Pieczynski.

#### 30 Years Ago - Oct. 22, 1959 95 PINTS OF BLOOD DONATED BY LINEAR

Linear employees gave 95 pints of blood to bloodmobile on Wednesday.

Inability of architects Lacy, Atherton & Davis to get specifications for alternate heating into the hands of contractors in time for them to be included in their bids for the new Dallas High School Building forced the Dallas School Authority to postpone opening of bids until its November meeting.

Dallas Rotary Club is preparing to serve 1,000 at its annual turkey dinner Thursday evening in the Jackson Township Fire Hall.

Westmoreland team to meet Edwardsville here this Saturday.

Wed - Margaret Reese Ferguson

and A2/C Ralph Walter Swartz. Engaged - Grace E. Gray and Robert Lutz; Louise Williams and John Fink; Nancy Carolyn Hoffa and Richard Edwin Clark.

#### 20 Years Ago - Oct. 23, 1969 STUDENT LUNCHROOM BOYCOTT STILL GOING

The resolution to vote on whether to provide a two-mill tax to support the library will not appear on the ballot as voters expected due to an error in placing it on the ballot on time.

The recent boycott on student lunches in the Dallas School District seemed far from settled when remarks made by a citizen at last week's board meeting resulted in a flare up of tempers between Louis Rubino and director Jack LaBerge.

If two new petitions filed recently are approved by the county's Election Board, there will be two new polling places in Dallas Election Day. The first change indicates voters in the fifth district will now vote in the newly-completed Dallas Township Building instead of at Piskorik's Store in Fernbrook Corners and Dallas Borough's south district will be changed from the observation building at the top of Huntsville to the Dallas Borough Elementary School.

Mrs. T.M.B. Hicks announces her retirement from The Dallas Post after 30 years of service.

Engaged - Eleanor Jones and Richard Yanalunas.

Wed - Catherine Cawley and John Balara; Helen Mae Ide and John W. Frederick, Jr.

Dallas downs Plains 37-6. The annual Dallas Halloween Parade is set for Oct. 26.

An Open House will be held at College Misericordia, Sunday, Nov. 2, from 2 to 5 p.m.

#### 10 Years Ago - Oct. 25, 1979 REP. DEMS. TO JOIN HL POLITICAL CANDIDATES

Luzerne County Commissioners are claimed to be sidestepping the Main Street Bridge project in Shavertown, behind Evans Rexall property.

Installation of a soid medial strip in the center of the highway between Center Street and Franklin Street, Shavertown, is opposed by residents.

Luzerne District Atty. Chester Muroski, associated with the district attorney's office for 11 years says the office is not the place for on-the-job training.

Harveys Lake this year has Republican Democrats in their political battle for the council.

Wed - Robin E. Doebler and William F. Ostrum.

Engaged - Theresa Casterline and Michael Ely.

Pittston Area defeats Dallas 39-0 and Coughlin shuts out Lake-Lehman 33-0.

Students at Dallas High School are making use of new computers.

### Letters

#### Calls for return to county property tax

Editor:

Since Commissioner Jim Phillips has taken credit for convincing his fellow commissioners into abolishing the Personal Property Tax which cost Luzerne County \$1.5 million of tax revenues in 1989, no sympathy should be given to his singing the county budget blues.

The PPT is not a tax on property but a 4 mill tax on each dollar of out of state financial investments. Phillips claimed the tax was unfair because it taxes market value of investments whether they drew

dividends or not. Really, Jim, if the owners of approximately \$350,000,000 (yes 350 million) of investments are not drawing \$30 to \$35 million in dividends, why don't they simply turn them over to the taxpayers of our county. I'm sure they will gladly pay the PPT.

In December 1988, Commissioner Frank Crossin said there is

no equality today with property taxes and that we have to supplement, if not eliminate property taxes. You got that right, commissioner. Now you can back up your words for announcing a return to the PPT in the 1990 county budget perhaps at a future commissioner meeting.

Raymond A. Ripa  
Swoyersville

#### Thanks The Post for coverage of Teener's League baseball

Editor:

On behalf of the players, coaches and officers of the Back Mt. Sports Club, I just wanted to take a moment to thank you for the excellent coverage you afforded the Back Mt. Teener's during the recently completed baseball season.

As an officer of the league, I was just as thrilled as the players to see the excitement and joy on their faces when seeing their name in

newsprint. The feedback from the parents as well as the sponsors was also nothing but positive.

Once again, thank you for covering the action and we look forward to continued support from The Dallas Post in the upcoming seasons.

Gary J. Kostrobala  
President,  
Back Mt. Sports Club

### The Post asks: "Should teachers be prevented from striking?"



Marie Ritts  
Oak Hill  
Retired

"I believe teachers deserve every penny they earn. They have to be counselors, baby sitters, psychiatrists, confidants and much more. If their districts don't pay them enough they should be allowed to strike."



Dorothy Park  
Dallas  
Aide

"When teachers strike it is hard on the children because they have to make up the time but sometimes it is necessary especially in low-income areas."



Jane McMichael  
Dallas  
Library employee

"I don't believe teachers should always be prohibited from striking. There are exceptions when it is necessary for them to strike in order to be paid comparable to other districts."



Wanda Harrington  
Lehman  
Sales Clerk

"Yes, I believe they should be allowed to strike. They put up with a lot from many of the students and deserve to be paid the same as other professionals."

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