

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Saying thanks in a tumultuous year

As America's unique holiday approaches, we have witnessed a year of remarkable human progress and devastating natural disasters. A feeling of satisfaction and gratitude that may come easily for the beneficiaries of a newly found openness with Eastern Europe will be hard to achieve for the victims of hurricanes, earthquakes or tornadoes.

The first Thanksgiving Day was called by the Pilgrims of Massachusetts to celebrate a fruitful harvest and safekeeping after a disastrous winter during which many of their members had died. In a gesture that was to be reversed by later settlers they invited the local Indians, who had shown the Pilgrims how to survive in the New World, to join them in a feast of thanksgiving.

This nation has moved far from its agricultural roots. That makes it more difficult for many of us to appreciate the cycles of rain and sun, cold and heat, that had such a dramatic effect on our forefathers. And many of us have grown not from Pilgrim stock but from the waves of later immigrants who came to work in the mines and factories of a later America.

But the idea of Thanksgiving Day is good for all of us, regardless of background or religion, creed or color. On reflection, most of us have much to be thankful for, but often we lack the time to appreciate it. Perhaps, in our modern world, we have become too busy to consider our own good fortune. Or maybe we have come to the misguided conclusion that we don't have enough as long as someone else has more.

We hope that everyone can find the time to take satisfaction in the good things they enjoy - health, family, friends or comfortable living conditions - whether they be great or small. And we hope those who can will find a way to share their prosperity with those less fortunate.

Unfortunately, as the material wealth of many of our citizens has reached record highs, homelessness and poverty have grown even more rapidly. This is an unconscionable situation in a great nation that likes to think of itself as kind and caring. On this Thanksgiving Day, let's rekindle the spirit of sharing that surrounded the first celebration, and vow to take action to offer help and comfort to those who have not yet shared fully in America's dream.

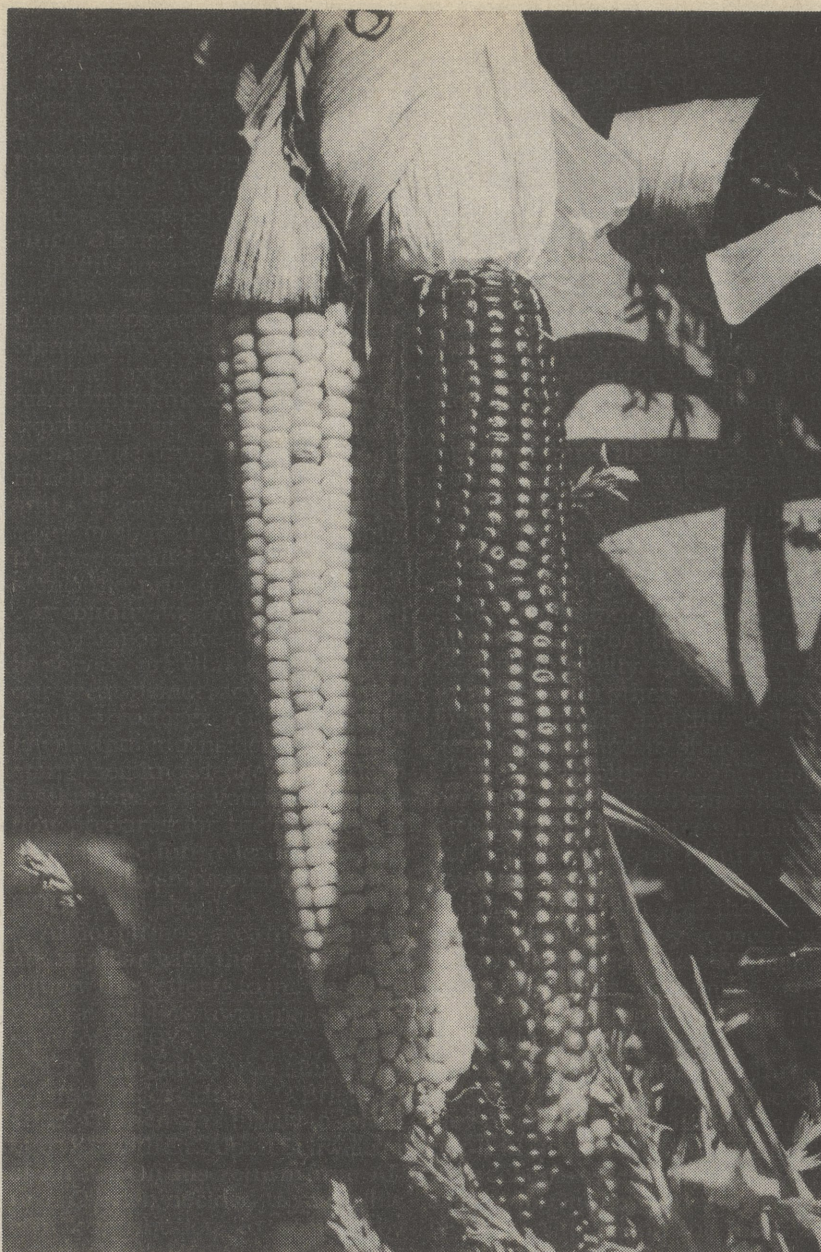
Local effort will mean a happier Thanksgiving

Many individuals and organizations in the Back Mountain have devoted their time, effort and money to making this Thanksgiving a little happier for those to whom the holiday would otherwise be just another day.

Judging only by the property values and material goods that are evident, it would be easy to believe that there are few if any needy families in this area. But Back Mountain residents are not immune to poverty and misfortune; none of us truly are.

Contributing to the cause were, among others, the junior class at Dallas High School, Cub Scout Pack 155, Trucksville, and several churches and related organizations.

Because of these caring people, Thanksgiving include the kind of meal and fellowship that most of us take for granted each year.



Corn-A-Plenty (Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Letters

Student encourages support of leadership program

Editor: My name is Janelle Kellman and I am a sixteen year old junior at the Wyoming Seminary College Preparatory High School in Kingston. I am writing this letter to give the readers a general awareness of the Hugh O'Brien Youth Foundation.

In this local and national society that we are a part of today, there has been a continuous movement toward economic, social, and political expansion. In order to maintain the movement toward the expansion of society, we need young Americans who are not only mindful of the blessings of liberty and self-government, but also are eager to share in the responsibilities they entail. Leaders who understand the principles upon which our country was founded, as well as the importance of faithful public service, are vital to the future of our great democracy. Our nation needs a younger generation with talent and enthusiasm. By deepening their knowledge of American institutions, the younger generation prepares for their duties as citizens and future leaders. Developing leadership potential is what HOBY is all about.

Although most area high schools are familiar with the HOBY foundation, this letter is to increase the general public's awareness of the spirit of HOBY.

The foundation was started by veteran actor Hugh O'Brien in 1958. O'Brien was highly inspired by a visit with Dr. Albert Schweitzer of Africa. On his return from Africa, O'Brien decided to make his own contribution to society by establishing HOBY. Since then, HOBY has motivated thousands of young people to realize their leadership potential by conducting annual seminars.

HOBY fulfills state and international purposes. The goals of the HOBY seminars are first, to provide a structured, intense setting for young people to interact with recognized leaders from the communities of business, education, the arts, government, and professions to gain a better understanding of the challenges and rewards as well as the frustrations existing in today's world; second, to present a diverse group of youth with a better understanding of our systems and the rewards those systems offer both for the individual and for the society, and finally, to allow the young people a better appreciation of the business world so they may share the experience with others in their communities.

Each local high school selects a sophomore student who will represent that high school. The high school sophomores are chosen to attend based on their emerging leadership ability, their ability to work well with others, their desire for new pursuits, and their willingness to learn and to share. The geographic size and number of schools in Pennsylvania dictates a need for three seminars; one each for the east, central, and western part of the state. This is the 12th year the seminars, sponsored by concerned corporations, Jaycees, Women's Clubs, Kiwanis, Optimists and others, are being conducted in Pennsylvania.

The Central Seminar is a three-and-one half day workshop modeled after the International Seminar and hosts 215 students from high schools essentially in the 717 area code. One boy and one girl will be chosen to attend the International Leadership Seminar (ILS) to be held in St. Paul, Minnesota in late July.

As a 1989 HOBY ambassador and as Luzerne County Coordinator for the Hugh O'Brien Foundation, I strongly encourage the public to get involved and provide full

support to the 1989 HOBY ambassadors. I also strongly encourage local organizations and businesses to sponsor our young leaders as they attend the HOBY Central Pennsylvania seminar. Full sponsorship is \$150, but partial sponsorships can be any amount. To the 1990 HOBY ambassadors, I extend much luck and many hopes that HOBY is as rewarding and special for you as it was for me.

Janelle Kellman
1989 HOBY ambassador
Luzerne County Coordinator
Shavertown

Only yesterday

50 Years Ago - Nov. 24, 1939 SCHWARTZ TO HEAD BASKETBALL GROUP

Community Welfare Federation is short of its quota but surpassed last year's goal by \$300.

Today, Nov. 24, is the last day for subscriptions to The Dallas Post to be turned in for bonus points on the biggest campaign ever.

Dallas experienced a partial blackout Monday night when a fuse blew out at the sub-station of Luzerne County Gas and Electric Corp. leaving residents without lights for at least a half hour.

"Red" Schwartz was elected temporary president of the new Back Mountain Alumni Basketball Association at the Tally Ho Restaurant.

Engaged - Ruth Schooley and Fred Woolbert; Kathleen Coolbaugh and Ogden Palmer.

Wed - Alberta Himmler and James Oliver.

40 Years Ago - Nov. 25, 1949 DALLAS PTA RAISES \$675 FOR PLAYGROUND

Dallas Township grid team is favored as they prepare to meet Kingston Township in the Thanksgiving Day game Thursday morning at 10 a.m.

Franklin Township votes to form a volunteer fire company.

Three stained glass windows have been donated as memorials to the Prince of Peace Church.

Dallas Borough PTA has raised \$675 for playground equipment in the school yard.

Gloria Rose Dolbear wins sixth place in a national "Cutest Kid" contest.

Mr. and Mrs. I.R. Elston will celebrate their 39th anniversary on Thanksgiving.

30 years Ago - Nov. 25, 1959 LEHMAN SCOTTIES WIN OLD SHOE

Pioneer Mfg. named Louis Berger and Samuel Shaskin as vice presidents of the company.

Dallas Rotary Club presented the Old Shoe Trophy to the Lake-Lehman Scotties football champions.

Clifford Balshaw directs Handel Messiah at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Wilkes-Barre.

Prince of Peace Episcopal Church plans its 10th annual bazaar in the parish house this Friday and Saturday.

Engaged - Louise Brzyski and Joseph F. Kubastil.
Harveys Lake Women's Club inducts nine new members.

20 Years Ago - Nov. 25, 1969 CENTRAL COMM CENTER SUGGESTED

Police cooperative survey meeting is disrupted by outburst, causing a delay until 1970.

Judge Hourigan rules election board must hear Harveys Lake voting case filed by William Hoblak.

A Central Emergency Communications System is urged by all municipalities for Luzerne County.

Penn State Campus Wilkes-Barre at Lehman hosted over 125 high school seniors at a career day.

Engaged - Julia Marie Katscock and John A. Elenchik.

Wed - Kathy Gydosch and Alan Heidig; Peggy S. Grosdidier and Biedler H. Gibbs.

O.J. Spencer proves to be outstanding leader for Lehman football team.

10 Years Ago - Nov. 29, 1979 AREA MEDICAL CENTER OPENS

Alan Landis, chairman of the Fall Fair Association fund drive, reported that the sale of the debenture bonds for the purchase of 25 additional acres of land is progressing slowly.

Dallas Post announces the 3rd Annual Back Mountain Holiday Decorating Contest.

Atty. Gifford Cappellini, council member at Harveys Lake, says new council will move to the authority building.

The new Dallas Medical Center is completed and following inspection, keys will be handed to the board and paramedic intensive care unit.

Dallas Coach Larry Schuler foresees one of the better Dallas mat teams.

Wyoming Seminary students provided Thanksgiving baskets to 11 families totaling 42 people in Greater Wyoming Valley.

Dallas Kiwanis schedules paper drive for Dec. 8.

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Janelle Kellman
1989 HOBY ambassador
Luzerne County Coordinator
Shavertown

Health fair drew big response

Editor: Thank you for publicizing the recent Community Health Fair sponsored by the Meadows Nursing Center. We had over 240 community members who visited the screening booths and over 500 screenings were completed for blood pressure, blood sugar and

cholesterol. We have gotten feedback from previous screenings, and community members do follow up on the results and get the care they require.

Sincerely,
Marilyn A. Gregorski
Health Screening Coordinator

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.

Highway information group works to improve infrastructure

By HOWARD J. GROSSMAN

Few citizens of the Commonwealth are aware of the existence of the Pennsylvania Highway Information Association (PHIA).

This organization, born 29 years ago has its major theme, the collection and dissemination of information concerning highway transportation and its importance to the economic well being of the Commonwealth and its citizenry. The Association is based in Harrisburg with a staff consisting of a managing director and assistant director and includes a volunteer Board of Directors responsible for coordinating the work of the organization.

The Board includes representatives of engineering firms, construction firms, planning organizations, economic development groups, chambers of commerce, tourism officials, local governmental association officials and others who study and assess those issues important to the improvement of transportation conditions in the Commonwealth.

For example, at a meeting of the Association's Executive Committee, special attention was placed on the key roles of the Pennsylvania Transportation Commission and the Transportation Advisory Committee. The Transportation Commission has the responsibility of establishing priorities for the Commonwealth 12 Year Transportation Improvement Program. The Commonwealth Program is reviewed comprehensively every two years, and 1989 marked a time in which the Commission held nine public hearings around the State to determine the priorities.

Within the 12 Year Program, the first four years are normally inclusive of projects which have proven to be technically feasible and financially capable of being designed and constructed. As the four years expire, projects are moved up, and other projects are added to the 12 Year Program.

The Transportation Advisory Committee provides an opportunity for 33 citizens appointed by the Governor, the Speaker of the

House, and the President Pro Tem of the Pennsylvania Senate, to advise the Secretary of Transportation on matters pertaining to the appropriate means by which transportation problems can be solved. The Advisory Committee operates through task forces as well as a Committee of the whole to respond to major transportation issues.

PHIA has undertaken a major campaign, including public forums around the State, for the purpose of educating the Pennsylvania citizenry as to highway needs. Major issues relating to revenue sources and the potential which may or may not exist for fuel or gasoline taxes both at the federal and state levels are the types of factors for which PHIA provides information and advice.

Issues relating to the diversion of highway trust funds for federal deficit reduction and techniques for advancing transportation safety are other avenues which PHIA promotes and debates. PHIA takes national and state studies, concerning various facets of transportation and publicizes the results of

these studies as they may impact Pennsylvanians. Communications are encouraged to State legislators, members of the Governor's Administration, Pennsylvania Congressional delegates, and others as to the needs which PHIA believes are necessary to meet the economic development of Pennsylvania, both present and in the future.

PHIA takes the long view that transportation is so closely tied to economic development and the well being of the commonwealth that a long range strategy for planning, implementation, and financing is a basic necessity which goes beyond current requirements and begins to seek creative and innovative thinking regarding the 1990s and the 21st Century.

In Northeastern Pennsylvania, as is the case in other parts of the Commonwealth, the highway system is incomplete. While the regional interstate system, in relation to the mileage network and the recent maintenance which the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation has provided is ex-

cellent, the major arterial system and secondary and local roads need constant attention.

In fact, major construction has been proposed in areas of Northeastern Pennsylvania such as the Lackawanna Industrial Parkway and the Greater Hazleton Beltway, along with the completion of the Cross Valley Expressway which is scheduled for 1991.

In the long run, the most important opportunities for stabilizing the economy of a region such as Northeastern Pennsylvania is to guarantee a completed transportation network which includes highway construction and maintenance, expanded public transportation, expanded interstate bus transportation, a viable rail freight system, and a para-transit system along with appropriate studies to determine the feasibility of restoration of some type of rail passenger service.

Howard Grossman is Executive Director of the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania, and a resident of Dallas.

Irem sponsors Christmas tree

A living evergreen tree honoring a relative or friend or in memory of a deceased loved one is being sponsored by the Directors Staff Ladies.

The Irem Temple Shriners' Christmas Tree is located in front of the Country Club's main building and will be officially lit at dusk on Thanksgiving evening by our illustrious Potentate, Walter H.R. Mohr.

Each contribution for one or more of the brightly colored bulbs (5 in all) will represent a different donation amount (i.e. Red - \$5.00; Green - \$10.00; Blue - \$25.00; White - \$50.00; and Gold - \$100.00). These contributions will be accepted up to and including Christmas Day.

Persons interested in contributing or requiring further information regarding this project may contact any member of the Directors Staff Ladies, Irem Temple Country Club, or by mailing to The Directors Staff Ladies, c/o Irem Temple Country Club, Dallas, Pa. 18612.