

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Dump the dumpers

Kingston Township officials have issued a warning against illegal dumping in that community in an effort to stop the trashing of roadways there. We hope they succeed and that residents will assist in any way they can.

The Back Mountain is an attractive area but some people - residents and transients alike - lack the sensitivity to appreciate that fact. Apparently they don't mind living in a pig sty. Perhaps their homes look the way our roadsides do after they finish dumping their garbage on them.

Residents can help prevent this illegal and unsightly activity in a number of ways:

- First, don't be a dumper, even of small pieces of trash. Keep some sort of container in your vehicle in which to put papers, food wrappers and similar items.

- Teach your children by example. If our youngsters grow up with the habit of disposing of trash properly, at least the next generation won't have to deal with this problem.

- Discourage those you know from disposing of trash improperly. If you are with someone who thoughtlessly tosses anything from the car, let them know you don't approve. It's hardly likely you'll lose a friend over this, and you just might change someone's behavior.

- Report any incidents of illegal dumping that you witness. Get the license plate number of the vehicle involved and call the police. It's your civic duty.

- Clean up in front of your property. It's a dirty job, but someone has to do it. One message we don't want to send to the slobs is that we don't really care enough about trash free roadsides to clean them up. Trash invites more trash - cleanliness discourages it.

Perhaps if enough Back Mountain residents show that we care about keeping our communities clean, crackdowns on illegal dumpers will become unnecessary in 1990.

Borough must take charge of water fix

Often the target of criticism, the state Department of Environmental Resources deserves congratulations for its willingness to investigate the sources of the contamination of wells at Harveys Lake. Lake resident William Mann earns even more credit for doggedly pushing local and state officials until the sources could be found.

Now that DER has determined that sewage leaking from on lot septic systems is the cause of the bacteria that is tainting residents' drinking water, it's time for the Borough to take charge and see that the problem is solved. The department can act only as an advisor at this point; it says it has no authority to force change when individual wells are involved.

Since the problem stems in large part from homes that are not connected to the borough's sewer system, the first order of business is to pinpoint the offenders. While DER has verified only one source at this time, it is virtually certain there are others.

The only accurate and comprehensive way to accomplish this is to inspect every home that is within range of the municipal sewers and therefore should be connected to them. That will take time and manpower to complete. But certainly borough and sewer authority officials can enlist the help of individual citizens for so important a cause.

Time is of the essence, since the health of Harveys Lake residents is at risk as long as untreated sewage can make its way into drinking water supplies.

Outrageous return of the 'property' tax

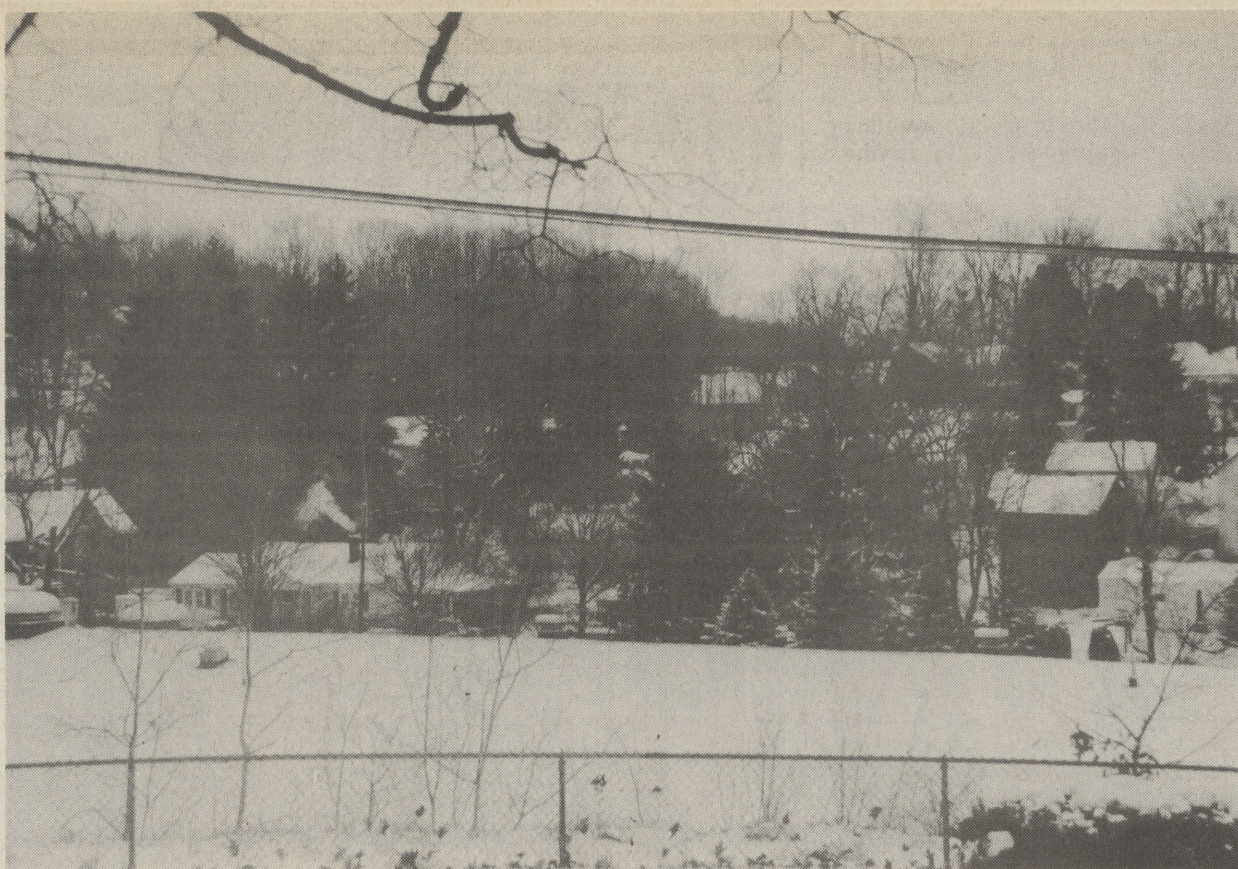
In an all too familiar display of cowardice, the Luzerne County commissioners last week voted to reinstate the absurd tax on "personal property" that had been repealed last year.

"Personal property" as defined by this outmoded and unfair statute is money invested in out-of-state stocks, bonds or bank accounts. That means that if you have put your retirement funds in a money market account that is headquartered outside of Pennsylvania, you'll again have to pay \$4 of every \$1,000 that it earns to the county.

The commissioners like to brag about the growth Luzerne County has seen in recent years, despite the fact that actions like this have acted only to discourage it. Rather than bite the bullet of real estate reassessment, they toy with taxes that affect a relatively few residents - read that voters - but throw up red flags to potential employers.

In addition to being inequitable, the premise of this tax - that the county can improve its standing by discouraging investments out of the area - was proven wrong decades ago. There is possibly no more insular region in America than ours, and few have fared so poorly over the past 50 years.

Perhaps the reorganization of its government into a strong manager mode would begin to move Luzerne County away from such foolishness as this tax on "personal property." It's worth looking into.



A snowy blanket

Dallas Borough was covered with several inches of powdery snow last Friday.

Dept. of Community Affairs can aid local governments

By HOWARD J. GROSSMAN

Many opportunities exist by which local governments in North-eastern Pennsylvania can find outside resources to help carry out goals and services of importance to local residents. Many of these programs are administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs (DCA). Officials and residents alike may not be aware of the great variety of services offered by DCA which can enhance the way in which technical assistance and funding is made available.

It is virtually impossible to list all of the DCA programs which can benefit local governments. The following represents some of the programs which have direct application to the important role which local governments play in encouraging economic growth and community conservation.

1. Community Conservation and Development. This program helps

low income residents escape poverty through job creation and other direct services which benefit the economically disadvantaged and their community. Funding is provided for training, technical assistance and other purposes to non-profit agencies that want to start businesses and employ or provide needed services to these low income residents.

2. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. These funds are provided to Commonwealth municipalities that are not direct federal entitlement communities, with grant funds needed to address local community development needs in the areas of housing, community facilities, economic development and public services.

3. Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Program. This program provides a range of services and activities having a measurable and potential major impact on causes of poverty in a commu-

nity or areas of the community where poverty is a particularly acute problem. Program activities include outreach and referral, nutrition programs, transportation, daycare, employment and training, and economic development programs.

4. Council of Governments. This program promotes cooperation between neighboring municipalities and encourages communities to discover the municipal functions they can perform together, more efficiently and effectively than they can separately. Emphasis is placed on grants for projects that effect cost savings. Administrative funding is available for three years for newly formed Councils of Governments.

For further information, contact the Scranton Regional Office of DCA, 360 State Office Building, 100 Lackawanna Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503 or the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania, 1151 Oak Street, Pittston, PA 18640.

Only yesterday

60 Years Ago - Jan. 4, 1930 **DALLAS BORO GETS NEW POLICE CHIEF**

Ed Avery resigns as chief of police of Dallas Borough and accepts appointment as chief of police of Kingston Township.

William Elston of Dallas will be appointed chief of police Dallas Borough at Monday night's council meeting.

Bi-county basketball teams will open their season this week with the exception of Dallas Borough.

The talkies at Himmler's Theatre have been well received by all those who have seen and heard them at the theatre.

Subscription price for The Dallas Post is \$1.00 per year paid in advance.

50 Years Ago - Jan. 5, 1940 **SHAVERTOWN WATER CO. TANK EXPLODES**

The explosion of the Shavertown Water Company tank New Year's Day will not cause a shortage, manager Les Warhola promised.

All borough officers were re-elected when Dallas Council reorganized Wednesday night.

The new transportation company's bus schedule which leaves Mt. Greenwood section without service Sundays and holidays brought protests from residents of that area this week.

Wed - Florence Gallagher and Ted Woolbert; Eleanor Kulkois and

Matthew Petritis, Jr.; Doris M. Schmoll and Donald J. Clemow; Mary Elizabeth Snyder and Theodore 'Ted' Loveland.

Engaged - Evelyn Templin and Fred Eck.

Dallas Borough quintet wins opener in the Back Mt. Alumni League.

40 Years Ago - Jan. 6, 1950 **SMITH TAKES OATH AS BURGESS OF DALLAS**

The home of James Kozemchak, facing Huntsville Reservoir, was judged the most attractively decorated in the Christmas lighting contest sponsored by Dallas Businessmen.

Herbert A. Smith, Machell Avenue, Dallas was sworn in as Burgess of Dallas Borough.

If applications are approved, Bernard Banks of B.C. Construction Company said at least 50 low rental homes will be constructed on the old Dallas Fair Grounds this summer. The Banks Company are developers and builders of Elmcrest.

Engaged - Doris Patricia Fela and Jesse T. Fox Jr.; Rita Shields and Curtis J. Neuner.

Six Back Mountain high school teams will open their season tonight.

30 Years Ago - Jan. 7, 1960 **CAGERS WIN OPENER AGAINST LAKE-LEHMAN**

Fred Lamoreaux was elected president and roadmaster of Dal-

las Township supervisors.

Kingston Township begins the new year with an open house in the new building.

Wed - Laura Ruth Perkins and James Perry Fidler.

Westmoreland cagers win opener over Lake-Lehman 58-54 in the North League.

Gate of Heaven Altar and Rosary Society installed Mrs. J. Warren Yarnal as president at Monday night's meeting.

Church League will hold its first Booster Night of the season Saturday night with the drawing taking place between games.

20 Years Ago - Jan. 8, 1970 **DALLAS POLICE FIGHT GANG ON MAIN STREET**

Dallas police fight brutal bar-room gang in front of a tavern on Main Street, Dallas.

Harold R. Major, Lehman and Frederick W. Anderson, Shavertown, were sworn in as district magistrates in a ceremony at the courthouse Monday by Judge Bernard Brominski.

Fred Lamoreaux was unanimously re-elected chairman of the Dallas Township board of supervisors at the meeting Monday night.

Dallas Mountaineers captured the 4th Annual Wilkes-Barre Invitational Basketball Tournament by defeating Pittston 77-65.

Lake-Lehman cagers placed second in the annual Wyoming Valley Invitational Christmas Tournament which was held at



Here is a summary of important events that occurred at the State Capitol recently, supplied by Rep. Scott Dietherick, R-120th Legislative District.

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

AUTO INSURANCE MEETINGS

- Efforts to reach an agreement on auto insurance reform continued this week when Gov. Robert P. Casey and Senate Majority Leader F. Joseph Loeper (R-Delaware) met to discuss the impasse blocking a plan to reduce auto insurance costs. Following the discussions, it was announced that aides appointed by Casey and Loeper and an aide from the House would meet to attempt to draft a proposal in the next few weeks. It would then be considered by the Legislature in late January. The House, Senate and governor's office failed to pass a reform package before the holiday recess.

RIOT COMMISSION REPORTS

- A panel appointed by Gov. Robert P. Casey to investigate the riots at the Camp Hill state prison and violence at other state institutions criticized the prison administration this week for poor management and for ignoring warnings of potential violence. The commission concluded that a second day of rioting could have been avoided at Camp Hill "if appropriate action had been taken by supervisory personnel and management". The report noted Corrections Department Commissioner David S. Owens' "hands-off" approach to the riots.

SPECIAL EDUCATION RALLY

- Some 200 concerned parents, advocates and students of special education in Pennsylvania rallied in the Capitol this week protesting proposed changes in regulations governing special education programs. Rally participants called on the state Education Department and the Casey administration to revise the proposals claiming the new regulations would have a severe negative impact on existing programs and special education students.

West Side Central Catholic. Central Catholic took first place.

Wed - Lynn Elizabeth Batey and Howard William Dover; Anne Elizabeth Glenn and John Lawrence Zielaskiewicz; Sharleen Vander Pauwert and Don Stephen Burnett.

10 Years Ago - Jan. 2, 1980 **CRANE'S WIN DALLAS POST HOUSE CONTEST**

Construction of a Cross Valley Expressway can begin soon if substitute local funding sources can be found, according to a spokesman for PennDOT's Dunmore office.

The Dallas Post judges declared the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Crane, Outlet Road, Harveys Lake, as the grand prize winner in the Dallas Post Holiday Decoration Contest.

Nora Barlow, Dallas freshman at Elizabethtown College, will be one of the 11 women's basketball players to spend two weeks touring Hawaii.

A great team effort kept the Dallas Mountaineers in the battle for first place in their home Invitational Tournament, Thursday night, as they defeated Lackawanna Trail, 85-49.

Dallas wrestlers placed fifth in the Easton Holiday Tournament with Sean Kavanagh winning the 167-lb. class title.

Dallas Township for the first time in eight years increased taxes by two mills for residents, from three mills to five mills.

Library news

Library Book Club set records in 1989

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Book Club of the Back Mountain Memorial Library held its December meeting in the reference room at the library. Guests attending were members of the Friends of the Library, volunteers at the library, and interested members of the community. After the brief business meeting, a Christmas program was presented by Inga Goldsmith, titled, "Christmas in Denmark". This was a most interesting presentation including all the traditions and customs of Denmark and many souvenirs and mementos from Denmark. There were 45 women attending the tea and it became a very festive and interesting afternoon. The Book

Club will not meet again until the third Monday in March, 1990.

The Book Club dues for 1990 is now payable at the library. Membership is \$10.00 for a single and \$15.00 for a double membership. This dues money is used to purchase special books which remain on the Book Club shelf for members only for the first six months and then are shelved in the main reading room for all members of the library to enjoy. Book Club members numbered 233 for 1989 which realized \$2,085.00 in funds used to purchase books for the shelf. This is the largest membership and the most money ever realized for the Book Club since its beginning. This organization is a great asset to this library.

New books at the library: "A Ruling Passion" by Judith Michael transports us into the high-stakes world of television broadcasting, where three lives are intertwined in a dangerous dance of love, intrigue, revenge, and murder. Shattered by her husband's death and the mysterious loss of her fortune, pampered socialite Valerie Sterling suddenly finds within herself a will to make it on her own. She becomes an investigative reporter at the cable TV network and creates a story that engages the heart and mind; an intricate drama. "The Minotaur" by Stephen Coonts is a riveting story of a top secret new Advanced Tactical Aircraft and the hunt for a Soviet craft. Jake Grafton is back! After

flying A-6 Intruders in Vietnam and, 17 years later, commanding an air wing aboard a supercarrier in the Mediterranean, Jake, now grounded, is assigned to the Pentagon, where he is in charge of developing the Navy's new top secret stealth attach plane, the A-12. Faced with political and technical problems, Jake soon finds himself drawn into a hunt for the Minotaur, a hidden Mole.

"Queen Lear" by Molly Keane is a novel which carries us into the long hot summer mornings of childhood, and the pungent winter evenings of baths after hunting and grand dinners and giddy romantic intrigues. The story courses through the events of two decades.

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