

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Dallas Borough plans show leadership

Dallas Borough has made a timely and wise decision in contracting to have its ordinances reviewed and rewritten. In so doing, the Borough Council has acknowledged that it is time to prepare for the pressures that are sure to arise. In fact many are already here.

As the ordinances are drawn up, the Council should put particular emphasis on these areas:

- Seeing that zoning laws provide for a balance between development and open space, commercial and residential areas.
- Requiring that those who want to profit from development will pay for the increased services their projects demand.
- Writing codes to deal with litter and trash that detracts from the enjoyment of residents and visitors, and lowers property values.
- Restricting and controlling signs, so that eventually the unattractive jumble that now exists is replaced.
- Providing an effective mechanism enforcement of ordinances, and for penalties for violation of borough rules adequate to both deter abuse and to pay for needed services.
- Requiring review of ordinances at particular intervals, so that they are not allowed to go out-of-date.

The Borough Council also has taken the forward-thinking step of forming two new committees; one to deal with waste disposal and recycling and another for future planning. Members of those committees will not want for subjects in the coming months and years, and borough residents will benefit by the foresight shown in establishing them.

The Back Mountain will be watching the Borough's leadership on these issues with eagerness. We wish them all success.

Time for more action on child abuse

Abuse of children is perhaps the most heinous of crimes that one person can perpetrate on another. Yet, whenever serious abuse cases attract the eye of the media, it is almost inevitable that part of the story is that agencies whose mission is to protect children have been aware of previous abuse by the same individuals.

The most recent to gain attention is the tragic death of 16-month-old Bryan Huntzinger in Wilkes-Barre. His mother's live-in boyfriend has been charged with murder in the case, and it has come to light that just one month ago the Luzerne County Children and Youth Services agency was notified that he had abused his 3-year-old daughter. After a brief investigation during which the child was removed from her father's custody, she was returned home.

We've read that story before - far too many times before. An abusive parent or other relative, perhaps with a record of drug use or worse, is given custody of the very child they have been accused of harming. It's time to change a system that can't protect the helpless any better than that.

It's almost as if our legal system regards children as possessions, which belong to their parents in that same way that an automobile or a home do. After all, if someone wants to destroy the inside of their own home, nothing can stop them.

But children are not possessions. They are precious lives, given to parents to care for until they are able to live on their own and do the same for their children. When children are abused, emotional as well as physical damage results, and it cannot be corrected with a fresh coat of paint.

The state should intervene more often and more effectively when one human being abuses another. That undoubtedly means there should be more places for abused people to stay while sorting out their lives, and more caregivers to help them. That will cost money. But it costs us far more to neglect the welfare of our citizens, and not just in dollars. The currency of our society's compassion is devalued whenever abuse is allowed to continue.

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 their 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.



Snowy peaks

(Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Only yesterday

60 Years Ago - Jan. 24, 1930
DALLAS THRIFT AND LOAN TO OPEN

Cold weather hampers the Dallas Water Company as freeze-ups keep Earl Monk's repair men at work for hours repairing a series of freezes occurred.

J.L. Sullivan, proprietor of the Meridian Restaurant and Subway Pool Parlor, completed a purchase of various fountain and restaurant equipment from Jackson Soda Parlors in Wilkes-Barre.

Dallas Thrift and Loan Company to open offices in the Sullivan Building on Main Street, Dallas, Feb. 1.

Local sportsmen distribute 500 pounds of grain to feed the birds who are unable to find food in the freezing weather.

Dallas High School girls basketball team hits its stride with a win over Jenkins Township.

50 Years Ago - Jan. 26, 1940
FIVE MILLION POUNDS OF ICE SHIPPED

Dallas Borough Council plans to get estimates from WPA on the cost of installing sidewalks.

Greater Dallas Rotary Club sponsors a meeting to stimulate interest in backing Gov. Arthur

James Job Mobilization Campaign. Wed - Katherine Stolarick and Richard H. Disque; John Baur and Juanita Gress; Helen Ayres and Robert Streader.

Dallas Township defeated Dallas Borough 45-33 to break the two way tie between the two teams for first place.

Five million pounds of ice has been shipped through Dallas as cold blasts speed the annual harvest.

40 Years Ago - Jan. 27, 1950
MARY BENALLACK ELECTED TO LEAD WOMEN'S CHORALE

The U.S. Civil Service Commission announces two examinations for vacancies at Sweet Valley, Shavertown and Trucksville for postal carriers.

All Back Mountain Volunteer Firemen enjoy a get-together at the Irem Temple Country Club.

Miss Mary Bennallack was elected president of the Dallas Women's Club Chorale at its second annual dinner party at the Country Club.

Engaged - Gloria Florence Sickler and George Parrish; Doris Kemmerer and William Laity; Jane Davis and Charles Mitchell.

30 Years Ago - Jan. 28, 1960
GASOLINE BLAST RIPS ROSENCRAN STATION

Engineers visit the Back Mountain to study a long range plan for a sewage disposal project.

Gasoline explosion rips through Rosencran Station on Route 115 about 2 1/2 miles from Ruggles Corners.

Key Club admits six new members.

After almost a month of wandering, a 13-year-old cocker spaniel owned by Roberts turned up 15 miles away from home at White's Ferry and was identified by the store owner who had seen the dog's photo in The Dallas Post.

Engaged - Ruth Ann Galka and Ronald Sans; Phyllis Helen Crocker and Robert D. Edwards.

Wed - Lois Gosart and Charles W. Jenkins; Ethel Gilmore and George Yurko.

Dallas High School cagers win 62-39 over Sugar Notch.

20 Years Ago - Jan. 29, 1970
SEN. WOOD TO RUN FOR REELECTION

"Sesame Street", one of educational TV's most popular children's programs may die for Pennsylvania

viewers next Saturday due to the lack of funds, Northeastern Newspapers Inc. learned this week.

Harold J. Rose Jr., 25 Harris Hill Road, Trucksville, is one of the youngest bank presidents in the United States. Rose, 34, was named president of the Wyoming National Bank at Tuesday's reorganization meeting.

State Sen. Newell T. Wood has announced he will run again for reelection to represent the six counties of the 20th Senatorial District.

More than 200 of her community and professional followers honored Mrs. T.M.B. Hicks at the Sunday tea in her honor at College Misericordia.

George B. Sordoni was appointed assistant treasurer of the Commonwealth Telephone Company in Dallas.

Tex Wilson, 103-lb. wrestler for Dallas put the Mountaineers ahead for the first and only time of the evening Saturday night by pinning his opponent in 5:56, using a Turk ride into a bar arm and chin for the fall. Dallas lost to Woodrow Wilson in the exhibition meet 31-10.

Engaged - Nancy Ellen Lynch and Thomas E. Degnen; Margaret Ann Vardzel and Richard Ash.

Wed - Lillie Ferrey and Ralph S. Bowman.

Library news

Lions donate funds for large print books

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Back Mountain Memorial Library Board of Directors is pleased to welcome to it's board, two new members; Benedicta Matchett of Overbrook Avenue, Dallas and James Cocolin of Machell Avenue, Dallas. These new board members will be introduced at the library's annual meeting, which precedes the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 6.

The Dallas Lions Club has contributed \$500 to the library for the purchase of material for the

visually handicapped. Large print books will be purchased with the bulk of this money and hopefully a few of the popular audio cassette tapes, which so many people enjoy listening to while they are traveling, as well. The library has a large collection of these large print books, which include most of the favorite authors. Thanks to the generosity of the Dallas Lions, we will purchase many more of the new titles in 1990.

Michelle Price of Hunlock Creek arrived at the library last Satur-

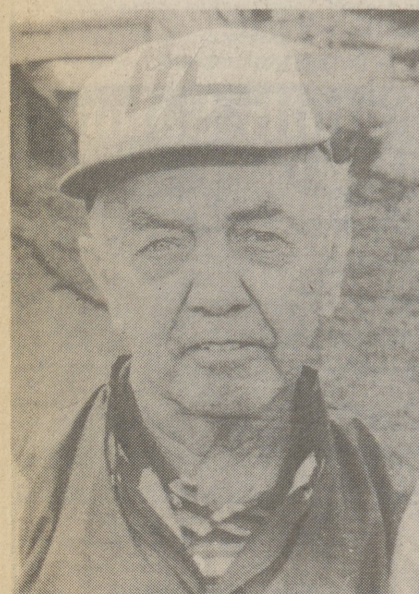
day looking for something to do in the children's room for seven hours that would qualify her requirements, it seems, is a seven hour service to community project and we are delighted she chose to do her work here in the library. She read and straightened the books in the children's room, shelved returned books, and helped with our special project of clipping the Campbell Soup labels.

The library is now selling magazines in the foyer of the library for 10¢ each. These are magazines donated to us, which we usually

sell at the auction, but have now made them available on a daily basis. There are current titles of sport magazines, news and dessert, cars and American Heritage in the rack at the present time. We will accept magazines suitable for sale at the circulation desk whenever the library is open.

The 1990 library auction committee will meet at 7:30, Tuesday, January 30 at the library with Connie Scott, chairman of our 1990-4th of July opening auction-conducting the meeting.

The Post asks: Do agencies act fast enough to save abused children?



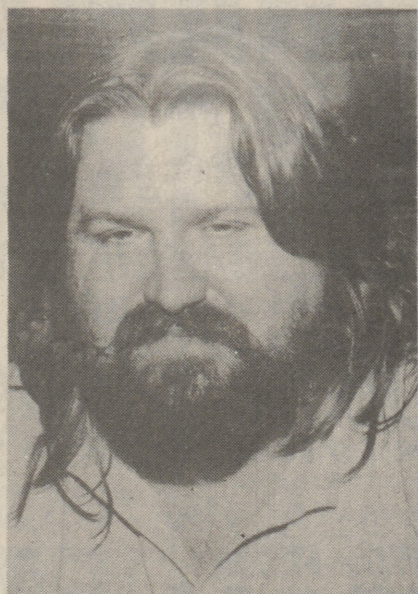
Francis Dunham
Dallas

"No, in some cases they don't"



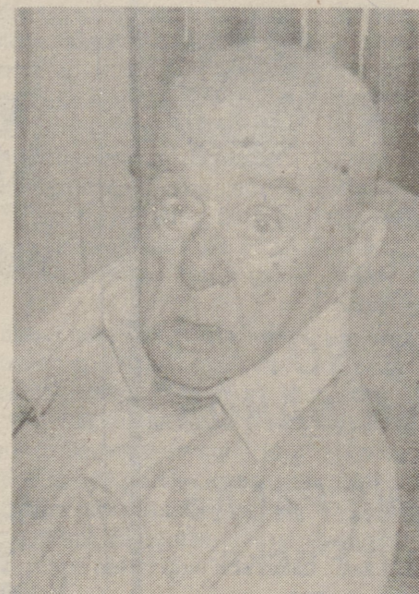
Mildred Fowler
Dallas

"No. They screw around to long. Do to the abuser what they do to the kids. That would help stop child abuse."



Thomas Schmidle
Trucksville

"No. From what I have seen, They do not really follow up on their investigations."



John R. Fowler
Dallas

"No. I do not know why not though."



Patricia Roginski
Shavertown

"No. There are not enough laws passed."