ITORIALS

Program helps young offenders, community

Community service for youthful offenders instead of fines or worse punishment seems like a good idea all around. In assigning service instead of penalties, the law gives juveniles who have committed relatively minor offenses the chance to experience the satisfaction that comes from doing something for others.

Another benefit of this program is that youngsters who lack positive role models may come to know adults who will demonstrate different values than those they may have been exposed

Borough Manager Milt Lutsey administers the program in Dallas, and it has already shown good results. Lutsey is hoping local service clubs and organizations will come up with projects that youths can tackle, and do some good while making up for the bad. If you know of any suitable work, please let Lutsey or District Magistrate Earl Gregory know.

New librarian joins a vibrant institution

Welcome to Mary Ellen Tirpak, who has been selected as the new head librarian of the Back Mountain Memorial Library. In accepting this challenge, Ms. Tirpak will join a vibrant, growing institution that enjoys the support of hundreds - perhaps thousands - of area families.

The Back Mountain Library serves a diverse clientele who live in separate communities attend different schools and churches, but who rely on one library for sources of entertainment and enlightenment. No one will ever know how many young minds were inspired by the discoveries they made at the library, but certainly there have been many.

Ms. Tirpak has plenty of material to work with in shepherding the Back Mountain Library during a time of growth in the area. The staff and volunteers are dedicated and the physical facility offers tremendous potential for expanded uses. We look forward to reporting on the library's activities and accomplishments in the coming months and years.

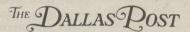
Black Knight wrestlers sport impressive mark

It has already been an impressive season for the Lake-Lehman Black Knight wrestling team, as they carry an 11-0 record into the final two meets of the regular season. Their performance is made even more notable by the fact that the squad includes only six seniors.

This year's success is yet another in a long list of mat accomplishments by Lake-Lehman teams at every level. Coaches Phil Lipski and Tom Williams came up from the junior high level where their squads sported a 54 meet undefeated streak

and won two district titles. When asked, Lipski and Williams are quick to point out the hard work and dedication their wrestlers bring to the sport. In addition to the varsity team, the school's jayvees are always ready to help out, and the junior high program is training the varsity stars of tomorrow.

Congratulations to the Knights on a great year, and best of luck as they grapple toward an unblemished record.



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Library news

Planning begins for this year's library auction

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The 1990 library auction committee met in the reference room recently and set up new committees and procedures for the 44th annual auction.

This year's auction will begin on the 4th of July with some very special activities in honor of the holiday. There will be space to rent to craftsmen and food vendors on the 4th and special holiday food at the refreshment booth. A Kick-Off dinner dance will be held on a Thursday evening in May to which invitations will be mailed.

Committees for the auction include: Antiques with Hope Chollak as chairman; Odds & Ends, Sybil Pelton; Books, Priscilla Liput; Publicity, Nancy Kozemchak; Grounds, Joe Dwinchick; Auctioneers, Craig Aicher; Horse Show, Kathy & John Shaskas; Food booth, Jim Cocolin and Dallas Rotary Club; Finance, Ken Breznay of People's Bank; Chance items, Joanne Runner and children's games, Kathy Shaskas.

Connie Scott with Co-chairman, Monty Evans. A new sound system will be installed and in operation before the auction begins. The New Goods committee will

be chaired by Peggy Harvey with Paula Scott as co-chair. The Horse Show will be held Sunday, June 24. The next meeting of the auction committee will be Tuesday, Feb. 27 at 7:30 at the library. All community members interested in volunteering to work at the auction are invited to attend this meeting.

We have a copy of the Bicentennial Commission's Official 1990 Calendar. The calendar celebrates the establishment of the American judicial system under the Constitution. It contains photos, portraits, biographies and vignettes as well as special segments on Patents and Copyrights and the U.S. Census.

The title page of the calendar reads, "The Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution in cooperation with

Chairman of the 44th auction is the American Library Association presents "With Liberty and Justice for All".. This is commemorating the bicentennial of the Judicial Branch of Government. The copy of this calendar will be displayed on the bulletin board at the li-

The Back Mountain Memorial Library is cooperating with the Dallas Borough Council and the local magistrate in providing community service work for young people who are required to do at least 16 hours of work at some worthwhile endeavor in their community.

Milton Lutsey, Dallas Borough manager, consulted with me and we agreed to find work here in the library for them to do. Our first young boy worked for eight hours in our lower level book store and then painted the cellar stairway and performed many other odd jobs for the other eight hours on Saturday. This is a great example of community cooperation for some needed projects in a local institu-

Only yesterday

60 Years Ago - Feb. 14, 1930 **BUILDING BOOM EXPECTED IN 1930**

Building boom forecast for the year 1930 with new construction to take up the slack estimated at well over nine million dollars.

A plot of land for sewerage disposal plant offered to borough council at half the cost quoted three years ago.

Despite being in the hospital convalescing from accident injuries, Ziba Howell and Otis Rood are looking forward to the coming election for county superintendent of schools with many of Howell's friends working on his campaign while he convalesces.

Lake Township cagers win over Dallas Township 28-19 in close

50 Years Ago - Feb. 16, 1940 JIM KNECHT IS HIGH **BASKETBALL SCORER**

Fourteen and one half inch snowfall halts traffic, stalls plows, closes schools and downs Kunkle phone lines.

1940 World Fair to open May 11 in New York City.

Engaged - Helen Jeter and Ellsworth Wilto; Evelyn Templin

and Frederic J. Eck. Jim Knecht is high scorer in the Back Mountain Basketball League. He is on the Dallas Township team.

40 Years Ago - Feb. 17, 1950 SCHOOL BOARDS TALK ABOUT JOINTURE

Lake, Monroe and Noxen school boards met again to discuss a joint high school.

Wilkes College students choose Marilyn Malkemes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P.M. Malkemes at May

Burglars entered the Dallas and Shavertown Acme Markets and made away with 200 cartons of cigarettes

Mrs. Lloyd Kear leads discussion at the Back Mountain Book Club at the library Wednesday afternoon.

Engaged - June Ann Kistler and Albert Livingston Adams; Nancy Hislop and Ray Daring.

Wed - Ruth Shirley Monk and Martin A. Quinn.

Kingston Township team defeated Dallas Township 90-45, tying the record set previously by Harter Township.

30 Years Ago - Feb. 18, 1960 LIBRARY AUCTION TO GET BIG PUBLICITY

Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction will be given nationwide publicity this year in General Motors advertising in Life, Look, Saturday Evening Post and scores of other publications.

Shavertown native Lee Tracy flew East from the West Coast to begin rehearsals on the "Best Man", a new Broadway show.

Wed - Carol Zaleskas and Richard Lincoln; Nancy Carol Haskins and Karl Curtis Besteder.

20 Years Ago - Feb. 19, 1970 **NLRB SETS UNION VOTE** AT NATONA MILLS

The National Labor Relations Board set March 5 for a union election date at Natona Mills.

Dallas High School cagers hold 13 game winning streak with victory over Wilkes-Barre Township. Engaged - Ruth Mildred Hosier and Gordon L. Alexander; Suzanne Jan Moen and Michael Richard Gusher, Jr.; Karla Penman Ray and Edmund David Nark-

Wed - Barbara Totino and Gerald J. Wisnewski.

State agency has aid available to help Back Mountain cope with growth

By HOWARD J. GROSSMAN

been sewn into the fabric of the Back Mountain through the establishment of the Back Mountain Citizens Council.

As a result of the formation of this organization, major steps have been taken to highlight issues of importance to Back Mountain municipalities and the officials and citizens who serve and live in this major growth area of Luzerne County. Public forums have been held on topics such as wetlands, state tax reform, growth management, and the importance of the 911 emergency telephone system.

Most important, the Planning and Zoning Committee of the Back Mountain Citizens Council established a series of seminars held in the Spring and Fall of 1989 to help provide information and guidance on appropriate techniques by which future growth can be shaped and managed to be positive and healthy.

Beyond this step, an annual event has occurred with municipal

fall of 1988 and 1989 to hear a The dimensions of progress have report on progress being made relative to many of these topics. As a result of the meeting held in early October of this year, a decision was made to hold a public forum on the 911 system.

Steps are underway to consider ways and means by which an upto-date area wide comprehensive plan can be prepared for the Back Mountain. This process is being discussed in connection with the feasibility of establishming some type of inter-municipal cooperative program among the local governments of the Back Mountain in the form of an informal association or a council of governments.

It has been reported that funds may be available from the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs concerning the opportunities which exist to form a council of governments and/or carry out an area-wide comprehensive planning

For example, the Department of Community Affairs has a program to financially support councils of

officials gathering together in the governments in Pennsylvania. In the most recent fiscal year, 28 such councils of governments received financial support from the

Another funding source is the State Planning Assistance Grant Program (SPAG). This program provides financial assistance up to \$12,500 to carry out a comprehensive planning program in one or more municipalities. These funds must be matched, but opportunities exist to consider techniques by which financial resources can be obtained for this purpose.

Cooperation among municipal governments in the Back Mountain to enhance the opportunities to develop a modern comprehensive plan would go a long way to achieving stability and proper management of the use of land as the area, county, and region enter the decade of the '90's and plan their destiny into the 21st century.

Among the elements which might be considered in relation to a planning program in the Back Mountain are the following:

A map of the Back Mountain area to be prepared at a scale suitable for planning and presentation purposes

Demographic Information

Population, economic, and housing data compiled and evaluated for the Back Mountain area. Results of the 1990 Census could be utilized, in part, for this purpose. From this information, forecasts could be made of popular expectations to the year 2010. **Economic Information**

An analysis could be prepared of the economy of the Back Mountain, designed to enable Back Mountain municipalities to take into account the economic impact of development decisions as they are made in subsequent years.

Land Use Analysis

An analysis of existing land uses could be made at the area wide level. A map would be prepared showing the various existing land uses in a generalized fashion for the Back Mountain area and lead to a land use plan for the region.

Transportation Plan

A transportation plan for the Back Mountain could be prepared. The plan would take into account highway transportation and public transportation. The plan would be designed to meet the needs of the area to at least the year 2010. **Community Facilities Plan**

An analysis could be made of the various community facility needs in the Back Mountain area. A questionnaire survey could be undertaken of community facility service delivery organizations in the Back Mountain. **Special Conservation**

Opportunities

A special evaluation could be made of the conservation opportunities in the Back Mountain.

Special Development **Opportunities**

An analysis of unique development opportunities which may exist in the Back Mountain could

be undertaken. **Wetlands Analysis**

Special attention could be given to wetlands located in the Back

natural features analysis, the special conservation opportuntiies analysis and other aspects of the plan would take into account the location of wetlands in the area. Carrying Out The Plan Recommendations would be

Mountain. The land use plan, the

made relative to possible changes to local governmental ordinances, sub-division regulations, and other development tools as required. **Fiscal Analysis**

An analysis of fiscal considerations relative to recommendations found in the Area Wide Planning Program could be made. This analysis would include evaluation of the impact of the plan on the fiscal health of Back Mountain communities.

Copies of a final report would be prepared in sufficient quantity for distribution to local governmental officials and others.

Howard Grossman is Executive Director of the Economic Development Council at Northeastern Pennsylvania. He lives in Dallas.