

Rumble

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Route 309 and to prevent accidents. Since they were installed, residents and business people in that area have been complaining about the noise and the vibration when traffic goes over them.

At the March meeting, two residents presented a petition to council bearing the signatures of 27 residents and 10 business owners requesting removal of the offending strips.

A larger contingent of residents and business owners attended Tuesday's meeting to complain that the noise from the vehicles going over the strips kept them awake at night and hurt their business.

Others complained about the lack of action from officials. "It is annoying that council doesn't do anything about the problem," remarked Dr. James Stallone. Dr. Stallone's office is in the professional building along Route 309 and he said it is impossible to treat patients properly with the noise and vibrations from the rumble strips.

"Just filling in strips will not solve the problem," Dr. Stallone said. "Neither will smoothing them over do it. Council members are elected by the taxpayers to be their representatives and champions. Isn't it possible for them to investigate where there is a slush fund of some kind for such problems, or else raise taxes?" he asked.

Jim Davis, owner of Jedidia's Restaurant disputed council members' claim that the strips had eliminated accidents. "The strips are useless. They're dirty and noisy and they are not slowing down traffic. The council claims there have been no accidents, there was one in front of my place two weeks ago. They don't hear about the non-reportable ones, the fender benders.

"They don't have to put in a flashing light. There are other alternatives such as fluorescent signs, reflectors or several large signs farther up the highway warning drivers to slow down," Davis said.

"Council members were asked very nicely by Linda Stallone to consider the alternatives, but all that was said that there haven't been any accidents since the strips were installed. That's just a judgment statement, there's no way of being certain the strips prevented accidents," Davis said.

Fred Brokenshire lives next to where the strips were installed. "The council had PennDOT put a large bunch of the strips in the highway right by my bedroom window. The township supervisor filled it in because it was in their jurisdiction.

"There are too many, too deep and too wide," Brokenshire said. "They could have just a couple instead of so many, it would work just as well. Even people in New Goss Manor can hear the noise when cars go over them. If they have to, put a light or a large sign farther up the hill and raise the taxes. The council members should be representatives of the people.

"I have lived here for 30 years and enjoyed my home, now the noise and vibration is devastating," Brokenshire concluded.

Residents are hoping something is done before the next council meeting or they said they will be there once again to request that something effective be done to eliminate the problem.

Recycling

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feel that if we can cut the amount of trash going to the contractors, then in a couple of years we can cut down on the garbage bills for the borough," said Abod. He added that he feels the trash load can be cut by approximately 70 percent by recycling.

Participation from the community is not limited to the recycling, according to Abod. The councilman is hoping to get volunteers out to help clean up the roadway as well.

The road cleanup is being done in cooperation with PennDOT. Anyone helping will be given vests and gloves, and will also be given refreshments. Abod says that chil-



Opened its doors

Kingston Township Manager Jeffrey Box, left, talks with some members of the public at last week's Open House. The township elected officials and employees held the first-ever open house to show the public the inner-workings of the government.

When it was over Box said that he felt the idea was a good one and that those members of the public who showed up enjoyed what they saw. (Photo by Rich Johnson)

Harveys Lake Police Department joins Mid-Valley Narcotics Unit

By RICH JOHNSON
Staff Writer

In an effort to stop the drug problems in the area, the Harveys Lake Borough Council has authorized its police department to become a member of the Mid-Valley Narcotics Unit.

The unit consists of 24 police departments throughout the Wyoming Valley, whose members take part in drug investigations in the various communities.

Harveys Lake is the latest Back Mountain police department to join the narcotics unit. The Dallas Township, Dallas Borough, Kingston Township and Jackson Township police departments were already members.

According to Harveys Lake Assistant Police Chief Ronald Spock, the decision to get involved with the unit is a good one. "There is a drug problem out here and now we can work towards stopping some of the things going on," said Spock.

The move to join started with members of the police department and the borough council. When presented, the idea was accepted

by the whole council at its meeting last week.

"We have been working to get involved for the last 18 months," said Spock. "Now people are seeing that there is a problem in the area and we can do something about it," he added.

By joining the narcotics unit, Harveys Lake will be able to take part in drug investigations throughout the area. Spock says that one member of the police department will be chosen to work with the task force. Which officer will take part in the program has not yet been officially decided.

Spock is not the only person pleased that the borough decided to get involved with the program. A member of the narcotics unit, which ranges from Mountaintop to the Back Mountain, says that the program can only benefit from more members.

"The more members the merrier," said the member, who asked to remain anonymous for investigative purposes. "So far the program has been excellent. We have opened hundreds of cases and made hundreds of arrests that we wouldn't have been able to do without the program."

Since the area program began in March of 1988, money, cars and property have been seized through drug investigations.

Under the program, the members sign a jurisdictional agreement in which a member can conduct drug investigations in another members area.

The program is funded through the state Attorney General's office and concentrates on drug surveillance, investigations and raids.

In other business at the meeting, the council:

- Approved an ordinance which would extend the borough's sewer line into Hemlock Gardens. Residents of Hemlock Gardens expressed their opposition to the ordinance and informed the council that they have contacted an attorney to look into the situation.

- Heard from Edna Vivian, of the Luzerne County Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). Vivian told the council that MADD is going to set up a program at the lake to educate the public about boating and alcohol. A program has been scheduled for June 2 at the lake.

Earth Week activities planned at school

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Writer

Westmoreland Elementary students have planned a series of activities in observance of Earth Day and Earth Week.

Each student has been asked to bring in newspapers each day of Earth Week beginning with April 23. Chapter 1 students will be responsible for collecting the papers each morning from their homerooms and taking them to the cafeteria. The papers will be stacked on the stage during Earth Week and will be picked up for recycling, Friday, April 27.

Donald Flic, biology instructor at Wyoming Seminary will speak to the first grade students and will

bring with him some stuffed wild life animals to use in discussing ways to help keep wildlife safe.

Third grade students plan to have a project for each day including constructing an Earth Day

mobile, discuss energy conservation and make a poster for their door at home; discuss nature's recycling program and take part in planting five items in the soil to determine which items decay.

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Campaign

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solicitation.

His campaign chairman is Pat Judge of Keystone Auto, who serves on the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority. Judge, originally from Kingston, now resides in Forty Fort. Phillips also resides in Forty Fort.

His son is very active in his campaign and his wife is also active. This is Phillips' seventh year as a county commissioner.

"The campaign is beginning to step up its pace, but it's going well and I have been very well received by the residents in all the communities."

Incumbent Scott Dieterick, once a resident of the Back Mountain, now resides in Kingston. His home at 100 South Maple St., Kingston is also his campaign headquarters.

"The campaign is going very well, it's right on track," Dieterick said. "I have been getting calls of support from people asking what can they do to help, most of them non-political residents."

"Red Jones is my campaign manager and I have the support of the Forty Fort Council and the mayor as well as the Kingston Council and the mayor's support.

"I have done house-to-house solicitation, but my constituent and legislative work come first. I will be doing some radio and newspaper advertising and I have done some direct mail and will do more."

Dieterick said he will have a

Back Mountain Rally at the Dallas American Legion, April 27 and another one May 4 at the VFW in Kingston.

"The campaign is beginning to speed up and the tempo is quickening. I will use some signs but meeting people is the most important part of a campaign in my opinion," Dieterick concluded.

Phyllis Mundy of Forty Fort, the lone Democrat candidate, said it is to her advantage to be the sole candidate.

"It gives me time to get my volunteer organization in gear. I have been in the Back Mountain, Wilkes-Barre, Exeter, Forty Fort, Wyoming and Pittston. Being active in the League of Women Voters and having been president, I know many of the people and their concerns.

"Joe Giovaninni and Joe Durako of Forty Fort, a Republican, are my co-chairmen, so I have bipartisan support."

Mundy said she has been doing some door-to-door solicitation, attending a lot of events and coffee klatsches. She is also working on a youth project so she has been working with people in the courthouse.

"Since I have no opposition in the primary, I feel I have to direct my attention to the work ahead for the general election. That is where I need to place my emphasis," Mundy ended.

The Post, Citizens' Council to sponsor candidate forum

The Dallas Post and the Back Mountain Citizens' Council have joined forces to sponsor a candidate's forum for the five Republican candidates in the race for state representative from the 120th District. Democratic contender Phyllis Mundy declined to participate in the event.

The forum will be held starting at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 6. The Penn State Wilkes-Barre campus in Lehman has donated use of its Science Lecture Hall for the evening. Will Conyngham, vice president of the Citizens' Council will serve as moderator.

The five candidates are the most running for any nomination in Luzerne County this year. They include: Scott Dieterick of Forty Fort, the incumbent; Andrew Kotch of Trucksville; Clarence J. Michael of Dallas; Jim Phillips of Forty Fort; and Anne Vernon of Trucksville.

The forum will allow each candidate to make a five minute opening and a two minute closing statement. In between, each candidate will be given the opportunity to answer three questions from the public. A coupon on which residents may write a suggested question is included in this issue of The Post. Members of the audience

will also be able to fill out question forms upon arrival the night of the forum.

A board of three disinterested persons will select the questions, which will be presented to the candidates by the moderator.

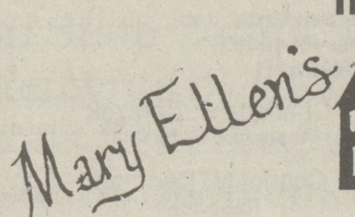

"The Citizens' Council is delighted to be able to co-sponsor this event," Conyngham said last week. "Many of our concerns are important issues that a state representative should be able to address, and we want to help the process of selecting him or her."

The Back Mountain Citizens' Council formed in mid-1988 to address issues related to the growth and development of the Back Mountain region. Since its inception, the group has sponsored workshops and formed committees to investigate several areas of interest such as waste removal and recycling, and preservation of open space.

Post publisher Ronald Bartizek said the forum is a logical extension of the newspaper's role in the community. "While we will make no endorsements in a primary race, it's important that the public have as much information as possible on which to base their vote," Bartizek said. "This forum should add to the discussion of issues critical to the Back Mountain."

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