

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Huntsville Road needs repairs now

Anyone who has spent time driving on the poorer islands in the Caribbean will feel right at home on Huntsville Road between Dallas and Huntsville. That says less about the Caribbean than it does about the Back Mountain.

Too narrow for the volume of traffic it carries, with little or no shoulder in most spots, Huntsville Road is pockmarked with washouts, and frost heaves. Some motorists will go miles out of their way to avoid driving in the discomfort engendered in such a poorly maintained roadway.

Most of all, the horrible conditions on the road could cause accidents, as drivers swerving to avoid potholes may run into other cars or pedestrians. It's also possible that a vehicle's wheels may lose their grip on the roadway because of the wild undulations.

The state has put off planned repairs of Huntsville Road until 1991. Even then, they intend to repave only part of the road, and then to finish it in 1992. That is too long to wait for repairs to this now busy thoroughfare. Something should be done to restore the road to safe condition now.

A day of honor and remembrance

Monday is Memorial Day, a day on which we honor the courageous men and women who have given their lives in the service of our country.

Most of us have never faced the prospect of death in battle, and hope we never will. Chances are that the majority of the fallen soldiers never expected to face their fate either. But when bravery and honor were called for, they responded. For that, we owe our eternal gratitude.

It is perhaps a fitting tribute to those who have died in the service of their nation that the superpowers of America and the Soviet Union are moving closer to agreements that will make the earth a safer place. The sacrifices that they've made will not have been in vain if that proves true.

If you can't attend one of the formal ceremonies marking the day, we hope you will take time out to recall the enormous price others have paid to maintain our way of life, and to reflect on the hope that mankind finds peaceful solutions to conflict.

Water authority could offer solutions

It could be a big bureaucracy, and it may be expensive. But establishing a water authority may be the only way to offer Back Mountain residents some assurance about the quality and supply of water.

Over 30 water companies do business in the area, some large and some very small, most with no filtration equipment or consistent administration. As the Back Mountain has developed, it has been too easy for builders to simply drill a well, run some pipes and create yet another water company.

Perhaps a water authority need not be the cumbersome institution we might assume. If it did nothing more than establish and enforce consistent standards, and pass judgment on plans for new capacity and usage, it would be step in the right direction. Surely, without some overall regulation, water supplies in the Back Mountain will become more precarious by the year.



'Flooded shores of Shadyside Lake

(Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Letters

Lake resident praises DER response to water problem

Editor:

The D.E.R. has conducted yet another test of our wells at the Warden Place.

They checked seven wells, the results of these tests will be known on Monday. The residents of the Warden Place who have contaminated wells feel a great deal of gratitude toward the D.E.R.'s Bureau of Water Quality and Stanley Lehman. An example of

their concern for our plight is amply demonstrated by the fact that on one day's notice they had a man out here to conduct a test of our wells during a wet spell. I called Mr. Lehman at 3:30 on Wednesday and inquired if it would be possible for our wells to be tested on Thursday, (the next morning) as it would be an ideal time considering the state of the weather. Mr. Lehman said that if all his men were other-

wise involved he would come out and conduct the tests himself. As far as we are concerned the D.E.R. has done more than has been or could reasonably be expected from any state agency.

Perhaps they have a feeling for our situation. Consider the fact that many of us feel that the only completely safe use for our water is to flush the commode. For many

months many of us have been brushing our teeth with bottled water and preparing our food with boiled water. Dish washing with boiled water is also a very trying procedure. One does not miss the water until the well has run dry-or in our case has become contaminated.

Bill Mann
Harveys Lake

Says watersheds should be protected from development

Editor:

We all want pure drinking water, but it's no longer possible to just take it for granted. Reservoir watershed areas are increasingly under the threat of development. Disturbing and paving former forested areas decreases the acid buffering and storage capacity of the land, and promotes erosion and flooding. Surface runoff and underground seepage from developed areas will ultimately cause nutrient enrichment and bacteriological contamination of surface water.

The value of maintaining unde-

veloped watershed land should be evident to all residents who have suffered through Giardia epidemics caused by inadequate or malfunctioning septic systems within watersheds. The high construction and maintenance costs of water filtration plants necessitated by the development of watershed lands, will ultimately be passed along to the ratepayer.

Senator Raphael Musto has recently sponsored Senate Bill 1012 which would require the Public Utility Commission to approve any sale or transfer of designated watershed lands by a public

utility in the state. The public utility would have the burden of proof to show that the transfer would not have an adverse affect on either the quality or cost of service. The PUC would further require the utility to credit ratepayers for any net proceeds received from the sale of watershed lands.

I encourage everyone to write to their congressman and express their concerns about the quality and cost of drinking water. The watersheds of the Huntsville and Pikes Creek Reservoirs, may be in danger of development with the

transfer of PG&W watershed lands. Let's avoid the experience of water customers in New Jersey and New York, and protect our interests now with appropriate legislation.

Rob Lewis, chairman
Open Space and Recreation
Committee
Back Mountain Citizen's Council

to write your senator:
The Honorable (first name & last)
Senate Post Office
Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Library circulates more than 7,000 books in April

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Back Mountain Memorial Library circulated 7,078 books during the month of April; 4,164 adult and 2,914 juvenile titles. Book Club books taken out totaled 230; new books added were 146 and interlibrary loan books were 45. New borrowers totaled 141; 61 adult and 80 juvenile. Re-registering borrowers totaled 99. Reference questions totaled 350.

The luncheon with a special author sponsored by the "Friends of the Library" was held on April 27 at the Irem Temple Country Club with 104 people attending. The author, Catherine Gourley, reviewed her book, "The Courtship of

Johanna". The entire afternoon was a huge success.

The library staff is happy to welcome back for her second summer, Susan Scott. She is working for the library through the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency and will be working 40 hours a week. Susan is hired as a student aide and will be working on the inventory of the book collection in the library. Susan will be entering her junior year at Bloomsburg University in the Fall and is majoring in Elementary Education.

The excitement of the annual library auction is beginning to mount. This year will be the 44th

annual auction and is beginning on the July 4 with a craft show at 11 a.m. There will be hot dogs and soda during the day with ice cream and other refreshments available. A chicken barbeque is scheduled to be served between the hours of 5 and 7. There will be many other varied activities during the day with items to be auctioned off during the evening hours.

We have some special toys, which were donated for the odds and ends booth on display in the office area. We will accept items for the odds and ends booth any time when the library is open. Our bell campaign, which is the seed money for the auction has now totaled

\$206, which is a great tribute to our patrons. Come in and buy a bell if you have not done so, sign your name, donate your dollar, and we will hang your bell with the others.

We are also selling library auction shirts at the circulation desk of the library; hooded sweats, \$15.00; regular sweats \$10.00 and yellow tee shirts, \$5.00.

We welcome you to your library and appreciate the tremendous support we receive from our patrons. As we prepare for our 1990 library auction with our 5th female chairman, Connie Scott, we offer many areas for involvement. Come in and find your area of support.

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The Post asks: "What does Memorial Day mean to you?"



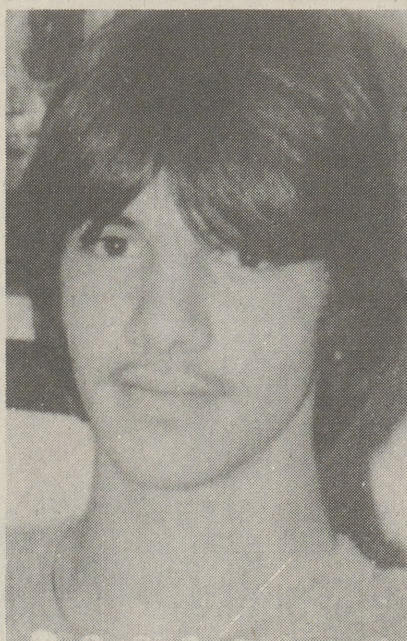
Nicole Harned
Senior

"It means honoring people who fought for us in war."



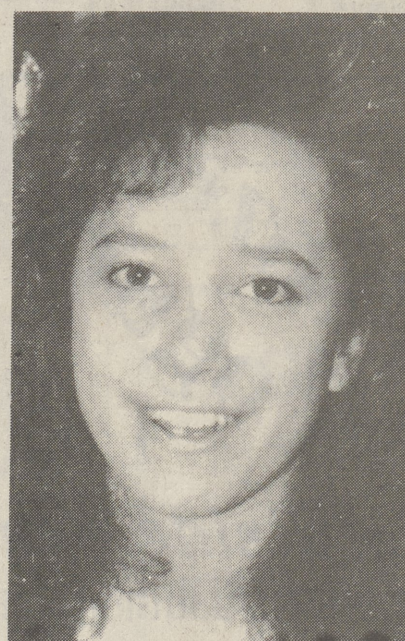
Sue DeKanic
Junior

"It's a day that we take to honor those who fought for our country."



Brian Strait
Sophomore

"It's a day to honor people who died in the war."



Bonnie Lzubenstein
Junior

"It's a day to take time to think of people who died for their country."



P.J. Goodwin
Senior

"It's a day that symbolizes the expense of many lives for the pursuit of democracy."