

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Regional recycling center makes sense

It's good news that the Dallas Area Municipal Authority, which will soon give up its responsibility for sewage treatment, may become a regional recycling center. That role would preserve the area-wide nature of the authority while fulfilling an important and growing need.

Dallas Township supervisor Frank Wagner has for some time been investigating recycling opportunities, and he is leading the effort to get DAMA involved. The authority seems eager to pursue the possibilities, with its board described as enthusiastic about the idea.

Recycling of waste is likely to be one of the touchstone issues of the late 20th century, as citizens respond to both the monetary and environmental cost of a throwaway society. Combined with other measures such as returnable bottles, recycling can save money, provide jobs and clean up our roadsides, streams and air. And it just makes good sense not to be unnecessarily wasteful—a lesson the current generation seem to have forgotten. It's good to see Back Mountain leaders taking a forward-thinking stand on the issue.

Establishing a suitable recycling center and programs may not be free initially, but the cost will surely be worth it in the long run.

Sunset Beach should stay open to public

Whatever else the outcome of current plans for Sunset Beach at Harveys Lake, public access should be retained. As the state-owned lake's only potential public area, Sunset Beach represents the last stretch of shorefront which residents may use for their enjoyment.

There's no question that the beach has not fulfilled its expectations in recent years, as it has been closed for lack of restroom facilities. Joseph Paglianite, who has been a part owner of the area since it first opened, now wants to take over all responsibility and says he plans to open it to the public next year. The catch is that there would be a charge to use the beach.

That's not a bad thing if the charge is reasonable and the beach is maintained. The real worry is that at some point the land would be developed so as to preclude its use as a beach. Given the value of waterfront property, that could be a real temptation to whoever was the owner.

It's a shame that such a wonderful resource, owned by the taxpayers of Pennsylvania, offers such limited opportunity for the enjoyment of the general public. It's important that what little access exists not be lost.

DA was right not to file charges in accident

Luzerne County District Attorney Correale Stevens' decision not to bring charges against the driver of a Dallas fire truck involved in a fatal accident last month brought a sigh of relief to many area residents. It is the correct decision, given the circumstances of the accident and the lack of negligence on the part of the driver.

There are significant lessons to be learned from this tragedy, but it would have poorly served the process to have laid the blame for it on any individual. Instead, we all must examine the factors that contributed to the accident, and how we can avoid another one.

Our examination should begin with the speed we drive in congested areas, and could include how we respond to emergency sirens while driving. Other concerns that need to be addressed are more visible signs warning that a fire house is located near the Dallas intersection, and the installation and use of better control systems for traffic lights at that crossroads.

Hindsight is always 20-20, but finding fault is less important than addressing the underlying causes of this tragic accident.

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 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.



The goose family takes a walk

(Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Letter

Calls rodeo cruelty to animals, not entertainment

Editor:
Well folks, it's that time of year again. Time to round up the family and drive to Benton for their Frontier Days Celebration to watch what is blankly referred to as entertainment and sport. In reality, rodeo is nothing more than an exhibition of cruelty, suffering and violence inflicted on animals.

The basic types of rodeo events include the "rough stock" or bucking event, steer-roping or busting, calf-roping, steer-wrestling or bulldogging and of course the "side-show" events. Taking part in these events are rugged, all American

rodeo cowboys portraying skill and courage. What the public doesn't witness is the pain and torment inflicted on rodeo animals by these phony bullies.

While waiting in the chute, rodeo animals are subjected to their manes jerked, ears twisted, tails pulled, faces struck with open hands, kicks, bites, jabbing with crooked steel wires, 10-volt electric prods called "hot shots" and finally bucking straps pulled to extreme tightness around the genital area. Normally docile, domesticated animals are cruelly incited in an effort to goad them

into a satisfactory frenzy to achieve what is considered seconds of supercharged excitement. Once the chute opens, bucking straps are pulled tighter, shoulders are continuously spurred, necks are twisted, legs are tied and neck-breaking jerks are applied at about 30 m.p.h.

When the rodeo is over and the crowd leaves, the animals are still suffering. There are broken bones, raw and bleeding wounds, splintered or broken horns, pain and shock. Some of the animals shudder for hours. Others are down and unable to rise. And those that

will not recover are carried off to the slaughter house. The majority of these animals never receive veterinarian attention and remain in this condition for hours, even days on end.

The rodeo is an immoral, out of date spectacle that needlessly exploits animals for human entertainment and profit. Please think twice before patronizing the rodeo this year. To a civilized society, pain and suffering intentionally inflicted on other living creatures in neither entertainment nor sport.

Melinda Dugan
Justice For Animals, Inc.

Library news

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Back Mountain Memorial Library has completed its first July 4 opening in the history of the 44 years of the library auction. The special new deal for the 4th was the craft fair and it was a huge success. There were 30 craft people with booths set up on the front lawn, the side lawn and the back lawn. Every vendor was satisfied with the sales for the day. The fair was held from 11 to 6 p.m., the temperature was 93 degrees and the sun was shining brightly all day.

The chicken bar-b-que was also new and this went over very well. Along with chicken, there was ribs and shish-ke-bobs. The food was delicious and the charcoal pit was indeed a drawing card to the festivities. The folk group, "Just Us" played music from the auction block during the day at specific intervals. The auction itself was held from 4 to 6 only to enable people to join family groups or attend the fireworks displays. All in all, our July 4 opening for the 44th annual Library Auction in the year 1990 went very well and gave us a start on our financial

goals for the yearly budget.

One of our loyal volunteers has a grandson, Jason Thomas, 12 years old, who lives in Buffalo, New York. It seems he has a home computer which he really enjoys and gave us some interesting facts which he located through the computer. It has to do with the worlds most populated cities. It seems the largest population is now in Mexico City with 14,000; Cairo is second with 11,000; and Sao Paulo is third with 10,100. These cities are in Mexico, Egypt and Brazil. Paris is 7th with 8,510; New York, 11th with 7,263 and London 12th with 7,000. These are interesting statistics and we thank Jason for sharing them with us. He definitely has a library connection.

The library has recently designated a handicap parking area in the first parking space nearest the library door. We have placed a blue and white handicap sign there and specified for their use only. One of our faithful library patrons, who needs a handicap parking area, came over to my desk the other day to say 'thank you' for doing this. She was so pleased to be able to use the place and wanted us to know. Thanks for the kinds words,

Cheryl Miskiel. Many of our patrons are appreciative of this special place.

New books at the library: "Message From Nam" by Danielle Steele is the story of the war in Viet Nam with all its power and tragedy and excitement. The journalist, Paxton Andrews, travels from Savannah to Berkeley and then to Saigon. For the soldiers she knew and met there, Viet Nam would change their lives in ways they could never have imagined. This is a monumental work about America's most recent

past and a powerful portrait of those who sent a message from Nam, which you will never forget.

"Coyote Waits" by Tony Hillerman is the story of Officer Jim Chee who sets out to find his good friend and fellow Tribal Policeman Delbert Nez. He is shocked to discover that Nez's car is in flames and Nez is unconscious inside. He burns himself badly to save his friend and is more horrified to discover that Nez has already been fatally shot. This is another mesmerizing read with a complex plot.

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The Post asks: "What do you like best about summer?"



Amy Hoover
Meadowcrest

"I get to go outside and have fun. It is better than staying home."



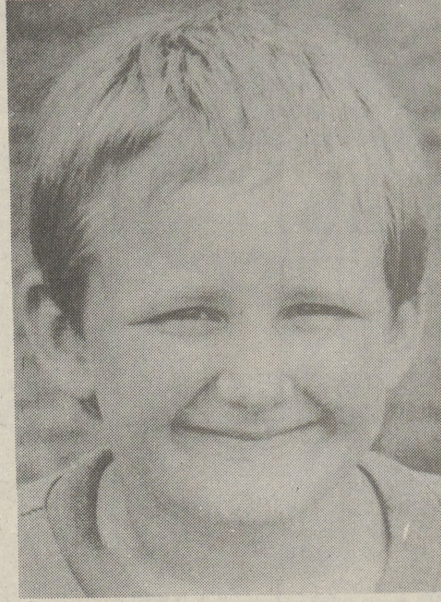
Jeanelle Opello
Kingston Township

"I can play outside. I like tennis."



Tiffany Capwell
Kingston Township

"We go on vacation and I can go swimming. What I like the best is that my birthday is in the summer."



Churck Yurkon
Shavertown

"I can go swimming and play tennis and we go shopping."



Jennifer Hoover
Meadowcrest

"Swimming and we went to the zoo last week."