

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Death on Route 309;
when will it end

How many more fatal accidents must occur on Route 309 before something is done to better control traffic on the highway? The latest in a long string of deaths occurred last week when a Noxen woman was killed after her car was struck head-on by another.

Individuals, companies and municipalities have tried through the years to have more traffic signals installed on Route 309 between Trucksville and Dallas, to no avail. That's in large part because Pennsylvania's twisted regulations place the burden of paying for traffic lights on the local municipality, but give the state Department of Transportation the final say on their installation. One of PennDOT's requirements is that a certain number of fatal accidents has occurred at a site where a light is requested.

So there you have it. Not until several more people have unnecessarily lost their lives will the state even allow the installation of traffic signals. But even then, lights would have to be paid for by the local governments in which they are installed, even though traffic flows through from numerous communities.

Route 309 should at the very least have a series of lights that are synchronized so that motorists who obey the speed limit can drive non-stop from Luzerne to Dallas and beyond. Surely modern technology allows this sort of setup to be installed at a reasonable price, measured not only in dollars but in lives saved. But this can occur only if the state steps in and takes seriously its sworn duty to protect its citizens.

Our elected officials — local, county and state — should mount a serious and open effort to persuade the state that the lives of our neighbors are more important than PennDOT's questionable regulations. Until that occurs, families will face the grief of the needless loss of loved ones killed by the omission of the traffic controls that are so obviously needed.

You can soften
impact of recession

"How's business?" used to be such an innocent question. Today, with news of a recession blasting at us from all directions, it can be an invitation to a thirty minute discourse on the intricacies of economic theory. But judging by many local firms, the answer isn't as bad as the headlines would suggest, though this is no time to be careless.

How should consumers and businesses react to leaner times? Experts suggest with appropriate caution, being careful not to become overextended, but not by radically slashing spending. Doing that would only add to the severity of whatever sluggishness exists.

You can help soften the impact on our own area by buying locally whenever possible. One Dallas store sends out reminders on overdue bills that read, "Please pay us, so that we can pay him, so that he can pay you." That's sort of how it works. Good business people will reinvest their profits in expanded product or service lines, providing more jobs that result in more trade for everyone.

The short term outlook may seem a bit bleak, but in the long run, the Back Mountain will be a great place to live and work, as it already is.

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 DALLAS POST

Published Weekly by Bartsen Media, Inc.
P.O. Box 366, Dallas PA 18612
Telephone: 717-675-5211

Ronald A. Bartizek
Editor and Publisher

Charlotte E. Bartizek
Associate Publisher

Peggy Young
Advertising Acct. Exec.

Charlot M. Denmon
Reporter

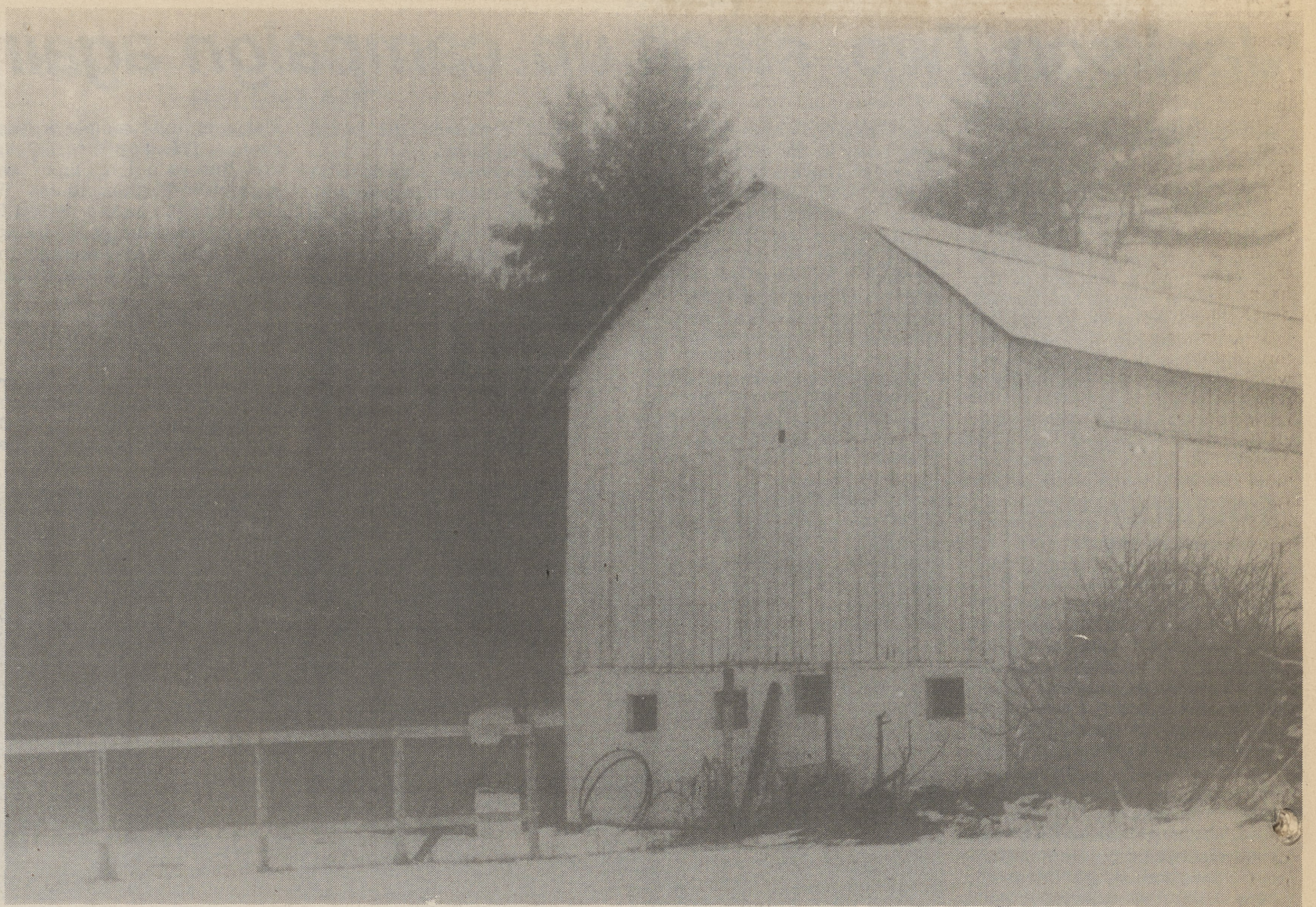
Paul Rismiller
Composition

Rich Johnson
Reporter

Olga Kostrobala
Classified/typesetting

Jean Hillard
Office Manager

MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION
AND THE PENNSYLVANIA NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER'S ASSOCIATION



Misty morning

(Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Library news

Robbie Johnson's music boxes on display

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Back Mountain Memorial Library is showing a unique collection of music boxes in the display case in the office area of the library. These music boxes are borrowed from Robbie Johnson of Harveys Lake. Robbie is 10 years old and is in 5th grade at Tunkhannock Schools.

There are 14 music boxes in the display and the unique thing about them is they all play the same tune: "It's A Small World". The first one Robbie received was a Christmas present from Santa Claus when Robbie was five years old. It is a drummer boy with cannon. Robbie really liked the tune and he heard it many times when his Dad was a strutter for the Irem Temple String Band and when they would play this song, Robbie would dance to the music. Since that time, he has received music boxes for Christmas each year, even though it is sometimes hard to find one which plays this particular tune. There is a teddy bear holding a

football; and a rocking bed with a mouse sleeping while the music plays and the inscription reads, "Not a creature was stirring".

The display includes a beautiful wooden horse which was new last year. He found one during the summer one year in Massachusetts at a Christmas store, which is a kaleidoscope. There are two simple looking buttons and when they are pushed, they also play music. His 1990 Christmas music boxes included a 2 tier train on a mountain with light and trains moving when playing and a neat Mickey Mouse watch which plays the tune, and has 12 flags of different countries instead of numbers on the face. There is Donald Duck, a book from Disneyworld and a new special cup from his God-mother, which plays when it is lifted up.

This is a marvelous display and will be at the library until January 30. At this particular time in our world and our lives, this display reminds us of the titles of four

popular songs: "We're In This World Together"; "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"; "Let There Be Peace on Earth"; and "It's a Small World After All".

With the arrival of the last mail in December, we received some checks for Friends of the Library contributions and I am very happy to announce that the final grand total for the 1990 Friends campaign has reached \$9,021. This is the largest amount for the Friends donations ever received and we wish to thank all of our loyal supporters and patrons for their contributions.

The Book Club dues for 1991 is now due. Membership is \$10.00 for a single and \$15.00 for a double. Payments may be made at the circulation desk in the library or mailed to 96 Huntsville Road, Dallas. There are new books on order for the coming year which will be appearing on the Book Club shelves soon. New interested patrons are invited to join the Book Club. Stop in and ask for details.

New books at the library: "Fall Quarter" by Weldon Kees is the unpublished novel edited by James Reidel. It is so good that its publication more than 40 years ago. Kees abandoned all hopes for it as one of the events of the year in American fiction. Weldon Kees was a poet, critic, composer and photographer and he disappeared in 1955 when his car was found near the Golden Gate Bridge. His fate remains conjectural. The book includes prose and fiction and books of poetry. Weldon Kees 1st revisions to Fall Quarter occurred in 1954. This is the only surviving novel by Weldon Kees.

"Jurassic Park" by Michael Crichton contends the dinosaur is back on earth-alive, now, in the story. It is told with an almost documentary verisimilitude, is an account of the attempt, through a hair-raising 24 hours on a remote jungle island, to avert a global emergency—a crisis triggered by today's headlong rush to commercialize genetic engineering.

Only yesterday

60 Years Ago - Jan. 9, 1931
DALLAS HAS NO POLICE OFFICERS

Dallas Borough Council fails to appoint a police officer at the January meeting. Until they do, if the service of an officer is needed a State policeman may be obtained by calling the barracks at Wyoming.

The Noxen Post Office was looted by thieves who took \$65. St. Therese's Parish, Shavertown, will sponsor a card party and dance at Orlando Hall, Wilkes-Barre, January 29.

Shavertown Branch of the Nesbitt Hospital Auxiliary met January 2 at the home of Mrs. O.L. Harvey, Franklin St., Dallas. The film "Derelict" starring George Bancroft was playing Fri-

day and Saturday at the Himmler Theatre.

50 Years Ago - Jan. 10, 1941
POST OFFICE MAY GET HIGHER RATING

Workmen for Banks Construction Company are pouring the cement for the over-pass at Fernbrook on the new Dallas-Trucksville highway.

Back Mountain Basketball League teams are ready for the opening whistle tonight.

Plans for a new three-way highway from Dallas to Harveys Lake may be delayed by the war.

Mt. Greenwood Kiwanis Club members vote to change the name of the club to Dallas Kiwanis Club. Dallas Post Office may get second class rating due to its large

volume of holiday business and high total receipts, according to Postmaster Joseph Polack.

Dallas Borough Council approves new \$35,000 WPA street drainage project.

Engaged - Ruby Kelper and Daniel Morris, Jr.

40 Years Ago - Jan. 12, 1951
FIRST NATIONAL HITS \$4 MILLION MARK

W.B. Jeter, president, First National Bank, Dallas, told stockholders that the bank hit the \$4 million mark during November.

The Prince of Peace Episcopal Church now has a big brass bell furnished by the Lehigh Valley Railroad in its church belfry.

L.L. Richardson is elected president of the Rural Building and Loan.

Harveys Lake Lions hear plan for the formation of a 'Back Mountain Chamber of Commerce' from businessman Arlean Bowlan.

Engaged - Shirley Jones and John Stolarick.

Harter cagers defeat Dallas Borough cagers 66-57.

30 Years Ago - Jan. 12, 1961
FINE INDICTED FOR INCOME TAX EVASION

John S. Fine, former Governor and Republican political boss indicted with his brother-in-law for income tax evasion.

Robert Maturi is named president of Dallas Kiwanis.

Oakland Raiders sign Robert Coolbaugh, former Dallas Township football star.

Rustlers steal 900-pound bull from Brown Dairy Barn at Vernon.

Milton 'Tiny' Gould exchanged several rare and antique firearms for a 1928 Stutz 'Bearcat' with a nationally known Connecticut manufacturer of pistols.

Engaged - Barbara Ann Okrasinski and John Q. Yapple, and Beverly Ann Crispell and S. Ray Wandel.

Wed - Linda Ruth Franklin and Alan S. Root.

Westmoreland cagers rout Lehman 83-33.

20 Years Ago - Jan. 14, 1971
AREA TOWNSHIPS GO WITH POLICE MERGER

Dallas Area Municipal Authority received a multi-million dollar check in payment for bonds sold to a 16-member brokerage syndicate.

Atty. John Reinert appointed to public defender staff.

Dallas Township and Kingston Township form first complete police merger. Herbert Updyke, Kingston Township and Frank Lange, Dallas Township were appointed co-chiefs of the Back Mountain Joint Police Force.

Dallas wrestlers defeat GAR 36-9 under Coach James Bambrick.

Engaged - Linda Louise Hagenbaugh and Kurt Schneider.

Economic development news

State assistance program helps poor neighborhoods

By HOWARD J. GROSSMAN

A little known but key program to help improve impoverished neighborhoods and communities by creating a local partnership between community based organizations and the corporate community has been part of Pennsylvania's tools for community improvement since 1967.

In that year the Neighborhood Assistance Act was passed creating the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) as the first program of its kind in the nation. The program improves impoverished areas by either providing eligible services to residents of that area or to low income individuals, or by physically improving the area through housing rehabilitation.

Most importantly, NAP is not a grant program but an incentive program that provides tax credits to corporations that make contributions to, or administer directly,

an approved program. Five types of contributions to approved projects that qualify for tax credits are possible including cash, equipment or supplies, technical assistance, real estate, and job training.

Corporations receive a 50% tax credit on their corporate net income tax for any contribution to an approved project. These are limited to \$500,000 in contributions per fiscal year, or \$250,000 in tax credits. Business firms, insurance companies, banks, saving and loan and trust companies are eligible to receive tax credits.

With the passage of a 1986 amendment to the Neighborhood Assistance Act, franchise and capital stock taxes have now been included as eligible taxes for credit under the program.

NAP is administered on the state's fiscal year, July 1st to June 30th. The Act provides 8.75 million dollars in tax credits to be allocated to approved projects each

year. Program activities must focus on clients whose income does not exceed 125% of federal poverty income guidelines or residents of an impoverished area. The NAP applicant must define an area as impoverished each time a proposal is submitted.

Eligible services are limited to the following:

Community services including any type of counseling and advice, emergency assistance, or medical care furnished to individuals or groups in an impoverished area.

Crime prevention including any activity which aids in the reduction of crime.

Education including scholastic instruction or scholarship assistance to an individual who resides in an impoverished area that enables him or her to meet educational requirements for available employment or to better prepare for opportunities. The program includes demonstration, model, or

innovative activities which fulfill the purposes of the Act, including literacy programs.

Job training including instruction for individuals which enables them to acquire vocational skills and either become more employable or seek a higher grade of employment.

Neighborhood assistance including the furnishing of financial assistance, labor, material, or technical advice to aid the physical improvement of part or all of an impoverished area.

As part of the effort to extend the Neighborhood Assistance Program, the 1986 amendments created the Enterprise Zone Tax Credit Program. Corporations receive a 20% tax credit on their corporate net income for any contributions to an approved project. The Act provides \$4,000,000 in tax credits to be allocated to approved projects each year under the Neighborhood As-

sistance Enterprise Zone Tax Credit Program. The same definition of impoverished area utilized for the Neighborhood Assistance Program is utilized for this program only if the impoverished area must have been designated as an enterprise zone.

More information concerning NAP and the Neighborhood Assistance Enterprise Zone Tax Credit Program can be obtained by contacting the Bureau of Human Resources, Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs, 358 Forum Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120 (717 787-1984) or contact the Scranton Regional Office of DCA, 360 State Office Building, 100 Lackawanna Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503 (717 963-4571).

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