

# THE DALLAS POST

## EDITORIALS

### After war: Let's learn to avoid conflicts

Emotions that had been repressed during the seven months of the occupation of Kuwait, and particularly in the past six weeks of conflict, burst forth last week when the war in the Persian Gulf came to an unexpectedly early end. Americans felt relief, Kuwaitis felt joy, and Iraqis felt...well, it depended on how seriously they had taken the bluster emanating from their leader. Many clearly did not accept the justness of their cause and were more than happy to grasp any excuse to surrender. Surely there are some who genuinely believed their aims were righteous and for whom surrender was a bitter pill to swallow.

As the fighting went on, it became more and more obvious that Iraq's vaunted military might was a figment of Saddam Hussein's imagination. Other than Scud missile attacks, the last of which lamentably took the lives of 28 Americans, Iraq was able to generate virtually no offensive power, while the coalition forces dominated every phase of the action.

America and the coalition nations obviously take great satisfaction in the performance of their soldiers and weapons. After years of being ridiculed about \$600 toilet seats and major weapons that supposedly didn't work, the armed forces and their contractors are receiving a well-deserved pat on the back for the huge advantage those high-technology devices provided our side. And our fighting men and women proved that a well-trained volunteer force is more than a match for poorly-motivated conscripts.

But let's not forget what we've recently learned—this was far from an even match. To use yet another sports metaphor (as if there weren't enough tossed around during the conflict), this now seems to have been akin to the Boston Celtics playing basketball against the Dallas High Junior Varsity; there was never any question who would win, only by how much.

All wars—no matter how large or small, fast or slow—have in common the tragedy wrought upon the victims. The tremendous coalition success is little consolation to the families of the dead or injured, the homeless or the dispossessed. The realities of war will never fully leave them. It is in their memory that we must vow to work ever harder to discover betters ways to avoid and settle differences.

### Group home protests are premature

Some people who live in Dallas Township near a proposed group home for mentally-handicapped people appear to be putting the cart before the horse in their protests against the facility. The house, which would be home to five persons who the owner says will be supervised by counselors, is located in an R-1 residential zone.

The latest complaint was that the because the residents pay room and board, the home will in fact be a commercial enterprise. But since the township defines a family as up to five people who live together, related or not, it's hard to imagine that argument holding up in court.

It's unlikely that this issue would even have arisen had five or six non-handicapped people moved into the house. But our society still harbors bias against disabled persons; to the point that the home in question hasn't yet been occupied but the protests have been ongoing for several weeks.

Perhaps a group home doesn't belong on Church Street in Dallas. But if it is allowed under the law, its residents must be given the opportunity to live there without undue attention unless their actions degrade the standards of the community.

### Letter

### Wants Martin Luther King Day honored as a holiday

Editor: We have noted with dismay the failure of the city of Wilkes-Barre, as well as a number of public schools in Luzerne County, to observe Martin Luther King Day as an official holiday.

The Interfaith Resource Center for Peace and Justice is dedicated to fostering tolerance, respect and understanding among people of diverse cultural backgrounds. We urge the labor unions representing city employees to make the exchange of an existing paid holiday in favor of Martin Luther King Day and to do so in time to take effect in January 1992.

Cooperation of the four unions involved in this matter would make it possible for Mayor Namey to proclaim Martin Luther King Day an official city holiday. It would also reflect the recognition and appreciation of local labor unions for Dr. King's efforts on behalf of labor unions when he met his tragic and untimely death in Memphis, Tennessee.

In addition we urge all public School Board members and super-

intendents who are planning their 1991-92 school calendar to close all public schools in observance of Martin Luther King Day. Such observances are equally important in rural districts as they are in cities. In-school celebrations prior to Martin Luther King Day may provide an opportunity to educate the children in our public schools about the contributions of African Americans, in general, and Dr. Martin Luther King, in particular.

By "doing the right thing" our labor unions and educators will not only help foster tolerance, understanding and respect of all of the members of our community for one another, but they will also inspire men, women and children of all races to stand taller and prouder on Martin Luther King Day.

Interfaith Resource Center for Peace and Justice

Sr. Constance Kozel, Director  
Elly Miller  
Steering Committee  
Coordinator



Over winter water

(Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

### Library news

### Waterballs collection from Rae Ellen Zekas now on display at Back Mountain Library

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The display case at the Back Mountain Memorial Library is showing a very unique collection of waterballs borrowed from Rae Ellen Zekas of Shavertown. Rae Ellen is 7 years old and in second grade at Gate of Heaven School in Dallas.

She began collecting these waterballs in 1987. These are the round balls filled with water and some items and when shaken up, they have either snow or colored fragments floating in them, and are mounted on a solid base.

The display includes A Walt Disney Christmas musical, remembrance of a visit to Disney World, in which the Disney figures revolve to the tune of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas". There is a mountain scene with a revolving train through a tunnel that plays "Winter Wonderland".

There is an Easter Rabbit in his basket from 1990 and a unicorn musical with glitter and floating bats; an angel musical with the tune "Joy to the World" and a small girl with a Christmas Tree which plays "My Favorite Things".

"Bringing Home the Christmas Tree" plays "I'll Be Home for Christmas" and a large kneeling Santa Claus by the manger with Baby

Jesus plays "O, Come All Ye Faithful." A winter wonderland scene plays "Silent Night" and the scene from the "Nutcracker Ballet" is special to Rae Ellen as she has seen the Ballet every year since she was three years old.

The display is set around red, white and blue materials to commemorate the United States of America and the peaceful situation which now exists in the Middle East. Also included with the display are many smaller waterballs from various souvenir trips which are not musical but show off well in the collection. This display will be at the library until March 27.

The Luzerne County Library System, of which the Back Mountain Memorial Library is a member, is sponsoring a photography contest for grades 3-6, grades 7-12 and for adults. This contest is part of the National Library Week celebration April 14 through the 20th this year.

The contest will include a drawing contest for preschool through grade 2. Winners will be chosen in each age category. All first place winners will go on to a countywide competition. The contest is open to amateur photographers and each contestant is limited to two entries.

The photographs must illustrate the theme, "Year of the Lifetime Reader", showing the pleasures of reading throughout life. Photographs may be black and white or color, unmounted and no bigger than 8 x 10 and taken since January 1, 1990.

Photos must be submitted to the library no later than March 16, 1991. Local judging will be held the week of March 17-23. All further contest information will be available at the library.

The 45th library auction committee held a very enthusiastic meeting last week in order to formulate plans for the 1991 auction which will take place on July 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 on the auction grounds behind the library on Huntsville Road in Dallas.

Monty Evans is general chairman with Ernie Ashbridge serving as antiques chairman. Connie Scott will be in charge of the 2nd annual craft fair in conjunction with the auction, which will be held on the 4th of July.

Monty is welcoming anyone who is interested in becoming involved with this summertime activity to attend the next auction meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 26, 7 p.m. The auction is a great way to become involved in a fun activity which is the financial backbone of your library.

### Women's Pathfinder nominees requested

The Wyoming Valley Women's Network is seeking nominees for the 1991 Pathfinder Awards which will be held on the Wilkes-Barre Campus of Penn State at Lehman.

Established in 1985, the Pathfinder Award recognizes the women of this county who have challenged the traditional assumptions of women's roles and have blazed new trails.

Nominations may be submitted by any person or organization. The deadline is April 15. All entries must include the name, address and information about the nominee's background, including details which would qualify the candidate for selection as a Pathfinder Award recipient.

Nominations should be sent to the Wyoming Valley Women's Network, c/o Esther Cutin, Pathfinder

Chairperson, 45 Mallery Place, Wilkes-Barre.

Past recipients of the award include Helen O'Connor, Phyllis Mundy, the late Ethel Price and Martha Reese, all for accomplishments in the political arena; Marge Benovitz, Stephanie Wychock, Negro Women's Community League (Joyce Davis, president), Susan Sordani, Patricia Davies, Anne Vernon and Nancy Noonan, for achievements in the field of educa-

tion; the Rev. Anita Ambrose, Sr. Julian Baird, R.S.M., and June Blum Colubock, for their work in the religious field; Lea Casala and Sr. Barbara Craig, R.S.M., for their peace activist work; Evelyn Gurbst, for efforts in developing child care programs; Sr. Siena Finley, R.S.M., for her work in ethics; and Phyllis Belk, Harriet McGeehan, Audrey Wynn Spence, Shawn Murphy and Susan Nensiel for their work on behalf of women's equity.

### 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 their 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.

### Only yesterday

#### 60 Years Ago - March 13, 1931 FIFTH ANNIVERSARY AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

Dr. Henry Laing Fire Company members discussed plans for a new home but decided to shelve the project until the return of better times.

John L. Sullivan of the Meridian Ball Room is planning a St. Patrick Day party for the benefit of St. Therese's Church in Shavertown.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Shavertown will observe its fifth anniversary this Sunday.

G.A. Kuehn reflects on his 50 years as druggist in the Dallas area.

A pool tournament at Fernbrook Inn has been providing lovers of the sport with many thrills during the past week.

Back Mountain basketball league closes its season with Lehman in first place.

#### 50 Years Ago - March 14, 1941 POST OFFICE REDUCES AREA RURAL ROUTES

Rural Routes from Dallas Post Office will be reduced to three April 1 and Addison Woolbert, now carrier on Route No. 4 will be transferred to the post office at Alderson where he will take over a route now handled by Harry Allen, Jr.

Dallas Borough Council will be asked by the State Department of Highways to pay land damages incident to the construction of the proposed new highway from Dallas to Harveys Lake.

Dewey Edwards, applies the Golden Rule to his insurance business.

Wed - Alice Evans and Clyde Robbins; Gertrude Bolling and Leroy Loomis.

Engaged - Florence Louise Hazletine and William Monk; Violet Kline and Harry B. Snyder.

#### 40 Years Ago - March 9, 1951 PETITION SUBMITTED FOR KINDERGARTEN

Next week Banks Construction Company equipment for digging sewers and constructing roads will move into the Luzerne Housing Authority acreage near Trucksville Gardens.

Petition for a kindergarten was brought before the joint board of Dallas, Borough and Kingston Township Schools by Mrs. Charles Eberle Monday night.

Sportsmen will help improve game lands at Mountain Springs. Wed - Catherine Haughney and Cpl. Richard Culp.

Engaged - Marguerite A. Greenwood and Carl R. Loucks.

Harter High School defeats Lehman 50-46 Friday night at Dallas Township High School.

#### 30 Years Ago - March 9, 1961 SHAVERTOWN TEAM WINS CHURCH LEAGUE

Linear Corporation promotes Daniel A. August to Production Planning manager.

Westmoreland Mountaineers 16 game winning streak was ended this week by a strong West Hazleton team.

Shavertown team wins the championship in the Back Mountain Church League by defeating Harveys Lake 54-50.

Engaged - Carol Louise Wagner and Harry S. Forman, Jr.

March is membership month for the Back Mountain YMCA.

Heart Drive is being conducted in all areas of the Back Mountain.

The display of modern farm machinery will be at the Farmers Outing at Centermoreland Garage, March 23, beginning at 10 a.m.

#### 20 Years Ago - March 11, 1971 DALLAS AREA SEWER PROJECT IS UNDERWAY

Construction begins on the Dallas area sewers. The Dallas Area Municipal Authority's proposed sewer project will serve Dallas Borough, Dallas and Kingston Townships.

Arnold Garinger, Harveys Lake, was named to fill the unexpired term of Carl Kern on the Lake-Lehman School Board.

Patricia Gregory filed her petition at the courthouse Monday to run as a candidate for one of the three seats on the Dallas School Board.

Lake-Lehman's Jeff Sieber clamped Comet Kan Vachris Saturday night before more than 3,000 fans to earn the District title at 180.

Engaged - Linda Jean Wimmer and William H. Baker, III; Elaine Grace French and Barry Leon Ray.

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