

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Developers can be asked to shoulder bigger share of costs

A renewed plan to build 175 townhouses at Harveys Lake is bound to draw the attention of residents concerned about overuse of borough services and contamination of the lake's water. There is ample reason to be concerned, but not enough to rule out what could be a useful and productive project. Perhaps this will be an opportunity for the area to closely examine a development proposal and fashion solutions to potential problems.

There's no question that adding 175 households will strain the borough's roads, sewer and water systems. The lake has seen a resurgence of sorts in recent years and increased traffic already clogs Lakeside Drive on many occasions. Of greater concern, cars plunge into the lake with alarming regularity and little is being done to stop them. The state Department of Transportation's 10 year plan to install guard rails is too little, too late, and the borough claims not to have the resources to help out.

Here's where a new approach to large-scale development can help. In the past, municipalities absorbed the cost of improving roadways or adding service capacity, in the hope that tax receipts would eventually recover the outlays. But they seldom do, and other expenses often crop up, from more police coverage to street cleaning. In the end, all the community's residents have to some extent subsidized the development.

Instead, those who stand to profit from building should be required to pay a good portion of the initial cost of adding or improving services. Then, the taxes collected later can truly be used to improve the town, not simply to pay the out-of-pocket costs of growth. If a new sewer line is needed, or the roadway should be widened, the cost can be borne by the builder and added to the properties' price.

Developers may complain that such a plan places an unfair burden on them, but that hasn't proven true in other areas. The Back Mountain presents attractive opportunities for profit, and savvy developers know it. Forcing them to help maintain its charms will only help their efforts, not hurt them.

Harveys Lake and the entire Back Mountain can handle more growth if it is managed better than it has been in the past. Now is a good time to begin changing our approach.

Don't miss chance to clean up your home

Spring cleanup has a few days left in three local municipalities, and residents should make the most of them.

Dallas Borough and Dallas and Kingston townships coordinated their annual cleanups this year, and they last through Saturday. This yearly opportunity to dispose of junk like old tires and appliances is a real boon to residents since many items are virtually impossible to get rid of any other way. Just as importantly, if residents take advantage of the offer our communities will be neater, cleaner and safer.

Check the box elsewhere in this week's Post for details about your community's program—they're not all the same. Then take a little time to clean up the house and yard by tossing out that stuff that seems to come from nowhere and stay forever.



Bring out those lazy, grazy days of summer

(Photo by Charlotte Bartizek)

Letters

Put group homes in operators' neighborhoods

Editor:

We all should congratulate and commend General Townend, Dallas Twp. Solicitor, the three supervisors and Pooch Kozich, Zoning Officer for having the courage to uphold the Dallas Twp. ordinances - The laws we all must live by.

These men have been elected to perform under the ordinances as written, we are sure no one would suggest or want them to do otherwise.

Some few have suggested that the underlying reason these officials are taking action is pure discrimination not so, very unfair,

why criticize these men for doing their job, enforcing and following the law, shame on these few.

Dallas Twp. ordinances do permit boarding houses in some areas but the law does not in an R-1 Zone.

A boarding house operator serving women, college students, senior citizens, day care centers or whatever cannot do business in a R-1 zone - Dallas Twp. however does provide for boarding homes in other zoned areas.

Since Mr. Kotsul, the owner and operator of the Church Street boarding house and Linda Ross,

director seem to be suffering from a bad case of "NIMBY" (not in my back yard).

A very simple solution to the Church Street problem and a cure for their malady "NIMBY" - "Locate the Boarding House in Your Neighborhood". Mr. Kotsul or Linda Ross where you have educated yourself and hopefully your neighbors regarding the law, discrimination, and all other potential situations in connection with a boarding home business.

Robert A. Frey
Dallas

Lung Association slates Clean Air Week

Editor:

Air pollution has become unhealthy and very expensive. The American Lung Association has estimated that the direct and indirect costs of outdoor air pollution alone are approximately \$40 billion to \$50 billion a year.

Lung disease, including lung cancer, is the third-leading cause of death in this country. It's clearly time for every American to take personal responsibility for the air quality in this country.

Changing old habits, such as driving our cars everywhere we go, is one of the first steps we can take toward cleaner air. During Clean

Air Week, May 6-12 we can make a concerted effort in that direction.

On Thursday, May 9, 1991, the Lung Association is asking every motorist in the Wyoming Valley to hang up their car keys and use an alternative means of transportation, including walking, bicycling, using the LCTA-buses, 287-8463, or at least carpooling.

Studies show that 37 percent of air pollution is attributable to motor vehicles. By not driving for just one day, each of us can contribute significantly to improved air quality and a healthier environment. Perhaps we can even start a new,

healthier habit of hanging up our car keys at least one day a week, every week.

The Lung Association hopes that Wyoming Valley residents will support Clean Air Week and improve air quality by not driving on Thursday, May 9. It only takes a small effort by each of us to make a big difference. Remember "It's a Matter of Life and Breath".

Robert J. Staub
Program Associate
of the Wyoming Valley

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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
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Library news

Want to help? Library auction volunteers still needed

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The 45th annual Back Mountain Memorial Library Auction will be held from Wednesday, July 3 through July 7 on the auction grounds behind the library on Huntsville Road. Chairman of the 1991 auction is Monty Evans.

He is still searching for some committee heads for various departments and would welcome any volunteers who might be interested. Information can be obtained by calling the library.

Chairman of the antiques committee is Ernest Ashbridge; Odds and Ends, Sybil Pelton and Mary George with Jean Grimes; The Book Booth chairman, Mrs. Florence Crump with Ben Matchett and Priscilla Liput. The 2nd annual craft fair will be held on the Fourth of July with Connie Scott as chair. Additional activities planned for

the fourth include a chicken barbecue, items auctioned over the block, and a square dance in the early evening. The Kick Off dinner for this year's auction will be held Friday, May 17, at the Irem Temple Country Club. There will be music for listening and dancing and a mini auction after dinner. Reservations and information are available at the library.

The library will accept donations of books for sale at the auction and odds and ends for that booth. These may be brought to the library whenever the library is open.

The 3rd annual horse show sponsored by the library in conjunction with the auction activities will be held at the Luzerne County Fair Grounds on Sunday, June 23. Dr. John and Kathy Shaskas will chair the horse show. New books at the library: "Loves

Music, Loves to Dance" by Mary Higgins Clark is a suspense novel wherein a killer enacts a bizarre dance of death, his victims drawn from among the women who answer his personal ads in New York's trendy weekly magazines. The story reaches a swift and chilling climax, with nightmarish situations that lie just beneath the surface of ordinary life. An exciting story of the 'dancing shoe murderer'.

"The Seventh Commandment" by Lawrence Sanders is a provocative and fiendishly suspenseful when Hartford insurance snoop Dora Conti comes to New York to investigate the violent street murder of a jewelry magnate and discovers a 'Sodom on the Hudson', where intimacy is measured in carats and kilos, and greed is the fast food of love.

"A Soldier of the Great War" by

Mark Helprin is a novel of adventure and dreams, of music, storm, and the spirit. The young son of a prosperous Roman lawyer races horses across country to the sea, and in the Alps, he practices the precise and sublime art of mountain climbing. He is a student of painting and the science of beauty and he falls in love. Then the Great War intervenes. The story is filled with action and richness.

were never built," Sen. Lemmond said.

His proposal would close a loophole in the state's PENNVEST and Water Facilities Loan programs that requires the Public Utility Commission to grant rate increases to help utilities pay off the loans even when the customer received

no new services.

"When utility companies take out loans to build new facilities or provide new services, they take a financial risk," Sen. Lemmond said. "That risk should not be passed on to the ratepayers, and they shouldn't have to pay for services they never receive."

Only yesterday

60 Years Ago - May 15, 1931
CAMPAIGN TO SAVE YOUNG GAME BEGINS

Chairman of the Game Commission of the Dallas Camp plans to start an aggressive campaign against dogs destroying young game.

Rural League teams get into action with Dallas, East Dallas and Beaumont taking the lead.

Shavertown School exhibit of students work was well attended. Desert Vengeance starring Buck Jones to play at Himmler Theatre this Monday and Tuesday.

Farmers pay too much, a Penn State University economist said in a recent report.

50 Years Ago - May 16, 1941
BAILEY TO PERFORM WITH DALLAS BAND

Entire region backs the Back Mountain Memorial Day parade.

Twenty caught in roundup of unlicensed dogs with seven of 10 owners fined and the remaining owners to have hearings tonight.

State champion saxophonist Ben Bailey will appear with the Dallas High School Band Tuesday night in the band's spring concert.

The former Ritter one and a half frame building annex has been offered by the Oneida Lodge to the Dr. Henry Laing Fire Company for \$500, which the firemen will vote on tonight.

Ernest Culp, Alex and John McCulloch are inducted into the service.

Eastern tent caterpillars appear again.

Wed - Ruby Keiper and Daniel T. Morris, Jr.; Margaret Yop and Charles Pokich.

William H. Conyngham heads Eastern Pennsylvania Supply Company for 50 years.

40 Years Ago - May 11, 1951
TRAVER NAMED LAKE TOWNSHIP MAY QUEEN

Raymon Hedden will construct addition to Lehman-Jackson high school building.

Treva Traver is named Lake Township High School May Queen.

Three young Back Mountain Marine officers are in a special class at Quantico. They are Lt. Martin Baltimore, Lt. John Bednar and Lt. George G. Conyngham.

Engaged - Audrey Terrel and Charles Adlis.

Wed - Mary Lou Gilligan and Norman E. Stair.

East Dallas to dedicate horse field with colorful ceremony this weekend.

Kingston Township and Dallas Borough faculty members hold joint dinner meeting at Irem Temple Country Club.

30 Years Ago - May 11, 1961
TWO ELECTRIC STORMS CAUSE DAMAGE

Second terrific electrical storm brings rain, hail, destruction Tuesday. The first storm was Monday night but did not do the damage Tuesday night's storm did.

Construction of the new Dallas High School is still lagging with the sewage system unable to be ready before mid-August.

A new phone exchange is coming to Trucksville, John Landis, Commonwealth Telephone District Manager, stated today.

Kingston Township Planning Board ponders sub-divisions draft to be presented for approval to the supervisors before being presented to residents at a Town Meeting.

Engaged - Elizabeth Mary Trembath and Paul Green.

Wed - Margaret Barber and Stanley Cashmark; Sandra Felter and Milton Moyer.

20 Years Ago - May 13, 1971
WAR MEMORIAL ERECTED IN DALLAS

A new Back Mountain war veterans memorial will be erected in Dallas this week at Lake Street and Route 415, Dallas Borough intersection. The Dallas American Legion in cooperation with Dallas Council agreed to erect the memorial. Richard Disque donated the bronze plaque and Chapel Lawn the bronze eagle atop the monument.

Mrs. Dorothy Moore leaves the Dallas Post Office after 37 years of service and for the last seven years as assistant postmaster.

Dallas track team favorite to cop Class B title in Districts again this year.

Engaged - Donna Bell Priebe and Carl Martin Beck; Dorothy Janus Lewin and Marvin Glade Weiser; Judith Ann Sowden and Stephen M. Silic.

Wed - Carol E. Evans and Anthony T. Honko; Christine E. Race and Gregory Lynn Montross.

Stapinski's Pharmacy, Dallas' newest drug store, held its grand opening Thursday.