EDITORIALS

THE DALLAS POST

Dallas teachers' union makes outrageous contract demands

Questions about the motivation behind the Dallas Education Association's (the teachers' union) support for higher taxes in the district will be answered this week with the announcement of the union's demands for a new contract.

Information given to The Post by sources with knowledge of the union's request say that the proposal calls for an average 9.7% wage increase each year for five years along with new benefits to be paid for entirely by the taxpayers. Those are clearly excessive demands in light of prevailing economic conditions and by comparison with the ability of most residents to pay the taxes that will be needed to support them.

Incidentally, if you want some idea of where these pie-in-thesky demands come from and where the statewide teachers union wants them to go, read the column elsewhere on this

It's a shame that the greatest amount of debate over education centers on budgets and salaries. Surely parents, teachers and taxpayers agree that the quality of the result, not its cost, is the most important topic. Unfortunately, the teachers' union (not necessarily all teachers) has tried to brainwash the public into believing that high salaries are inextricably linked with improved student performance. Yet it reacts in horror to suggestions that salary levels be linked to teacher performance via merit-based pay plans.

It seems the Pennsylvania Education Association and its affiliates have decided that their only constituency is their members, not the young lives they are supposed to stimulate.

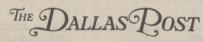
Trash hauling flap is out of control

The battle between independent trash haulers and the Dallas Area Municipal Authority is a surprising outgrowth of the region's move to a mandated recycling and garbage collection system. While many people expected confusion over the new rules and regulations, few could have anticipated the threats and potential lawsuits now being talked about.

There is no question that handing the entire collection contract to one hauler is harmful to others serving the area, but it's doubtful that the action was illegal. All haulers were invited to bid on the DAMA contract but to do so they had to prove that they had enough size and financial muscle to perform. Some of the ones that did not bid are now in the forefront of the protest

against the new system. Perhaps the most puzzling aspect of this situation is some residents' vehement insistence that choosing a garbage man is one of their fundamental freedoms. Individual rights are the cornerstone of the American way of life, but there are many cases in which the good of the general populace overshadows

private wishes. As the old saw says, "You're right to extend your fist ends at my nose."



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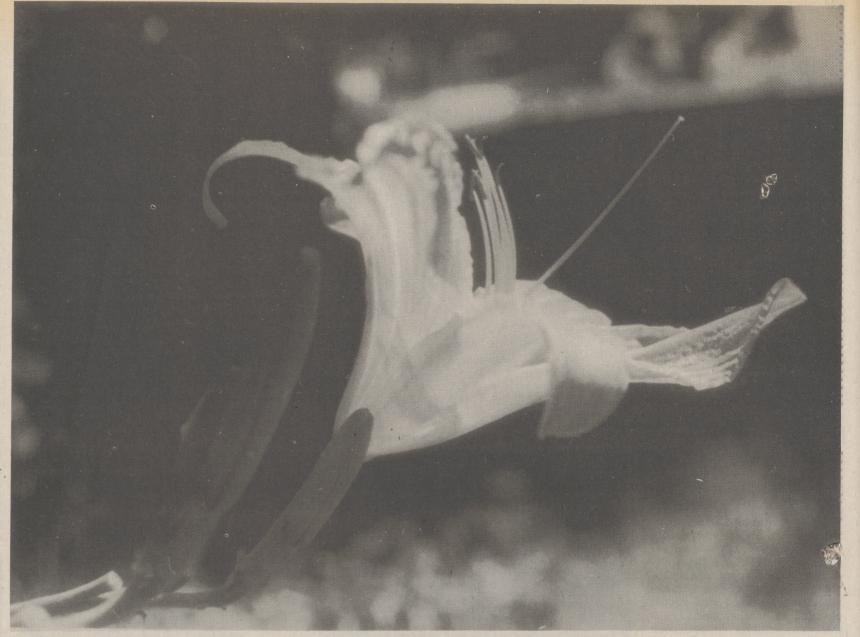
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Letters invited

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



Gay day lily

What the state teachers' union wants

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a word-by-word copy of the Pennsylvania State Educations Association's bargaining goals for 1991, as they appeared in the PSEA's statewide magazine, "The Voice." They are reprinted here so that local readers can gain some perspective on the origin of contract demands in the Dallas and Lake-Lehman school districts.

The following are the official bargaining goals that PSEA local associations will seek to accomplish in the 1991 round of bar-

Compensation Philosophy

PSEA members should be paid similar salaries based on educathe district in which they are employed.

PSEA members should be paid salaries comparable to those of other professionals of similar education, training and responsi-

The career salary should be attained in no more than 10 years by every member holding an ad-

vanced degree. PSEA local associations should establish plans that enable them to implement compensation scales with entrance salaries of at least \$37,500 and career salaries of at least \$75,000.

Professional salaries at these levels will attract and retain skilled educators who can prepare students to be competitive in a global Fund provides this protection. economy and labor market.

GOAL 1

Every local shall negotiate a salary package that

 provides minimum starting salaries for all professional employees of \$25,000.

provides a complete salary

reduces the number of steps

of any salary schedule with more • provides a minimum average

tion and experience, regardless of salary increase of eight percent plus increment, and · provides the professional

employees' contracted hourly or daily rate for professional duties related to curriculum, planning, development, consultation, or implementation of any programs designed to improve the instructional process which are performed during non-contracted hours of

Benefits Philosophy

PSEA and PSEA-Retired members and their families should be protected from financial loss due to sickness, injury, and death.

protection, members must have control of their benefit program.

The PSEA Health and Welfare

• Every PSEA member also shall have fully employer-paid family dental insurance, family vision insurance, family prescription insurance, life insurance, and income protection insurance. To achieve this goal, a local association shall add at least one additional benefit or improve an existing benefit.

 No PSEA local association shall accept insurance caps or reduction of benefits.

 Every PSEA local shall attempt to reduce the financial burden of health care insurance for retirees.

Educational Environmental Philosophy

PSEA members are committed to quality education. Therefore, every PSEA member should teach in an environment which is conducive to learning.

GOAL 3

Every PSEA local shall negotiate at least one of the following improvements for elementary and contract language pertaining to secondary teachers.

 contract language which establishes or improves class size, • contract language which guar- opment.

To ensure the highest level of antees adequate preparation time during the student day for all teach-

> contract language which establishes voluntary and involuntary transfer procedures.

Organizational Necessity Philosophy

It is in the best interest of the Association and the administration to have an effective, efficient working relationship, which can be achieved by promoting a cohesive local association and by recognizing the local president's responsi-

 Every PSEA local association president shall be given released time during the student day to perform the duties of his/her of-

· Every PSEA local shall negotiate a fair share clause.

Professional Improvement Philosophy PSEA members should be given

the opportunity to develop profes-

GOAL 5

Every PSEA local shall negotiate

 sabbatical leaves • induction, and

· continuing professional devel-

Library news

Horse show was success, cookbook in the works

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The third annual Back Mountain Memorial Library Horse Show was held Sunday, June 23 at the Luzerne County Fair Grounds. In spite of the rain all day Saturday, the day before, which is the day most horsemen prepare their horses for travel; the show was a success

Dr. John and Kathy Shaskas, co-chairs of the show, were pleased with the results, the attendance, and the entire performance. The Horse Show committee would like to thank the sponsors of the show and the Dallas Rotary Club members for taking charge of the refreshment stand at the show.

Thanks also the faithful friends

of the library who made brownies, project which requires many hours held in 1946 and showed a net hoped-for goal; however, the weather did play a part in that. The library staff thanks Dr. John and Kathy for a very successful horse show and for all they do for the library through the year.

The first Back Mountain Memorial Library Cookbook is being put together by a loyal and very willing group of volunteers. This is a major

cup cakes and sweet rolls to sell at of devoted time and talent. The the booth. The secretary's booth cookbook is dedicated to all our was managed by Connie and Paula "Readers", young and old, large Scott and they handled the paper and small, and especially to Mrs. work. Dr. Shaskas also wants to Florence T. Crump for her dedicathank all friends of the library from tion to children and libraries. At Winterview Farms who donated the age of 96, Mrs. Crump still their time and experience. The makes the library her most imporprofit from the show should net tant concern and the children's close to \$4,700; down from the involvement in libraries her number one objective.

Lemmond in the front of the book, 1945. The first library auction was a sample will be available.

profit of \$3,000. The net profit from the 1990 auction was \$50,000. Our library is entirely supported

without taxation and could not exist without total community participation. The "Friends of the Library" organization consists of anyone who makes a contribution to the library, monetary or through volunteer time and energy. This is There is a congratulatory letter the group who are producing this from our own Senator Charles cookbook and it should be a fantastic item when it is finished. The wherein he states, the publication book will have 400 pages with truly reflects the spirit of our li- unusual recipes and celebrity rebrary. There is a brief history of the cipies from Barbara Bush, Ellen library and its beginning with the Casey and Wolfgang Puck. Orders charter accepted on February 1, may be placed at the library, where

Only yesterday

60 Years Ago - July 17, 1931 **NEW ROAD PLANNED** TO HARVEYS LAKE Two hundred thousand trees are to be planted in Luzerne County

this year being furnished by the state to persons who applied for the trees. Luzerne County Commission-

ers to study plan for new road from Luzerne to Harveys Lake.

Handicapped by lack of water fire companies from Dallas and Harveys Lake were forced to devote their efforts to saving adjoining residences from the flames that destroyed the Ralph Husted home along the highway at Idetown.

Engaged - Ruth Elizabeth Schoonover and Sereno F. Alling.

"Kick In", starring Clara Bow is playing at Himmler Theatre.

50 Years Ago - July 18, 1941 **DEER SEASON CLOSED** TO SAVE HERDS

Dallas Water Company agreed to install fire hydrants in Central Dallas. Tuesday night may be the finale

of the all-out defense collection of aluminum. Dallas Borough Council hopes

the \$30,000 WPA project for the borough lasts until all roads are completed. Engaged - Eleanor Frances Prushka and Frank E. Novis; Jean

Nelson and Jack Roberts. Wed - Janet Louise Thomas and William S. Lee, Jr.; Elizabeth

Ohlman and Willard Neuls. Closed season on anterless deer is declared as the great herd di-

40 Years Ago - July 13, 1951 TOMATO CROP LOOKING GOOD

Perfect weather prevails for the Fifth Annual Auction.

Prospects for the green tomato crop in the Back Mountain are ALMOST FINISHED excellent this year, according to James Hutchinson, Luzerne County Extension agent.

Construction at Lehman School brary Auction. booms as cinder blocks work be-

Prince of Peace Church men plan weiner roast for wives. Wed - Clair Searfoss and Pvt.

Archbald Brooks heads American Red Cross. Trucksville Firemen's Fair starts

James LaBar.

Wednesday.

Patterson Grove Camp meeting to feature a famous clergyman.

30 Years Ago - July 13, 1961 **NEW HIGH SCHOOL**

There was standing room only at this year's Back Mountain Li-

The new Dallas Senior High School is to be finished by mid-August.

Robert Adams; Jane Harrison and on Sunday at 4 p.m. for the new Novitiate Junibrate buildings to house approximately 200 young ties Sisters of Mercy.

sand lot team in Wyoming Valley

they meet Tunkhannock Friday night and Pringle Sunday. Wed - Beverly Anne Crispell and S. Ray Wandell.

Berti and Sons bowling team took first and second half honors in the George Shupp League.

College Misericordia will present a workshop in modern methods in arithmetic July 19, 20, and 21 in Walsh Memorial Auditorium.

20 Years Ago - July 8, 1971 SANDY KABESCHAT IS Ground will be broken in Dallas HORSE SHOW QUEEN

Dallas Township offers police help to its neighboring communi-

Opening ceremonies of the two Dallas Dairy, only undefeated day Lehman Horse Show were heralded by a parade along Route

will try to remain that way when 118 featuring Lake-Lehman's topnotch band under the direction of John Miliauskas. A bunco artist hit a Dallas

homeowner taking her for \$370 for alleging to have repaired her roof. St. Paul's Lutheran Church

sponsors group in an outdoor theatre production 'Cinderella' in the lot alongside the church. Franklin Township firemen to

hold annual bazaar. Sandy Kabeschat was crowned 1971 Lehman Horse Show Queen

Friday evening. Wed - Marilyn Hooper and John Carey; Dorothy Janus Lewin and Marvin Glade Weiser; Tacqua Jones and Elwood C. Ide Jr.; Doreen Ann

Johns and Ernest Gay II. Westmoreland Teeners defeat Lehman-Jackson 14-12 in the-

Teeners League.