

# THE DALLAS POST

## EDITORIALS

### Community would benefit from open discussion of issues

Our ears have been buzzing lately as we've heard through the grapevine that many people disagree with the positions we've taken in editorials that have appeared in this space. Unfortunately, our readers haven't been exposed to that criticism, since those who don't share our opinion have chosen not to share their point of view with the community. That's a shame; we all lose when discussion of public issues is muted.

The owners of The Dallas Post believe that one of the primary functions of a newspaper is to stimulate debate and discussion on issues of importance to the communities we serve. One way of doing that is to stake out principled positions in the editorial column, and by inviting those who agree or disagree to respond by writing letters to the editor. In that way, the reading public will be exposed to many sides of an argument, which leads to better decision making.

But both our supporters and detractors have not responded; they have chosen to express their views to one another but not to us or the community at large, and we're not sure why. Could it be that they think we won't print letters from readers who disagree? If so, we'll take this opportunity to assure them that we will print all letters that address issues important to the Back Mountain, provided of course that they aren't libelous. And if we had any question about a letter's content, we would contact the author to arrange acceptable editing to keep us both out of trouble.

Another reason often given for not writing letters to the editor is fear that one's spelling or grammar isn't up to par. Our policy is to correct errors before publication, so you needn't worry about that one.

It has been our experience that communities that openly discuss public policy issues become stronger and more progressive, in part because residents find that they can agree to disagree as long as the discussion is kept above a personal level. The Post wants to contribute to developing that kind of atmosphere in the Back Mountain.

We'll keep writing editorials containing our opinions; we hope you'll also share yours openly. Letters should be sent to: The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas, PA 18612. Usually, letters that arrive by Monday at Noon will appear in that week's issue of the newspaper. Please include your name, address and a daytime phone number so that we may verify authenticity.

### Clarence Thomas: qualified in only a most limited sense

Surely President Bush was being disingenuous when he told us that Clarence Thomas is the best-qualified candidate to replace Thurgood Marshall on the Supreme Court. That could be true only in the narrow context of Mr. Bush's perspective on what constitutes an acceptable nominee to the political forces he is trying to exploit in order to perpetuate his administration.

Mr. Thomas may be an earnest and intelligent fellow who has risen far beyond his roots. He may even be a champion of sorts for the kind of self-aggrandizing conservatism that is usually associated with those who choose to believe their accomplishments have come solely from their own effort; though in Mr. Thomas's case, his attendance at Yale under an affirmative action program belies that argument.

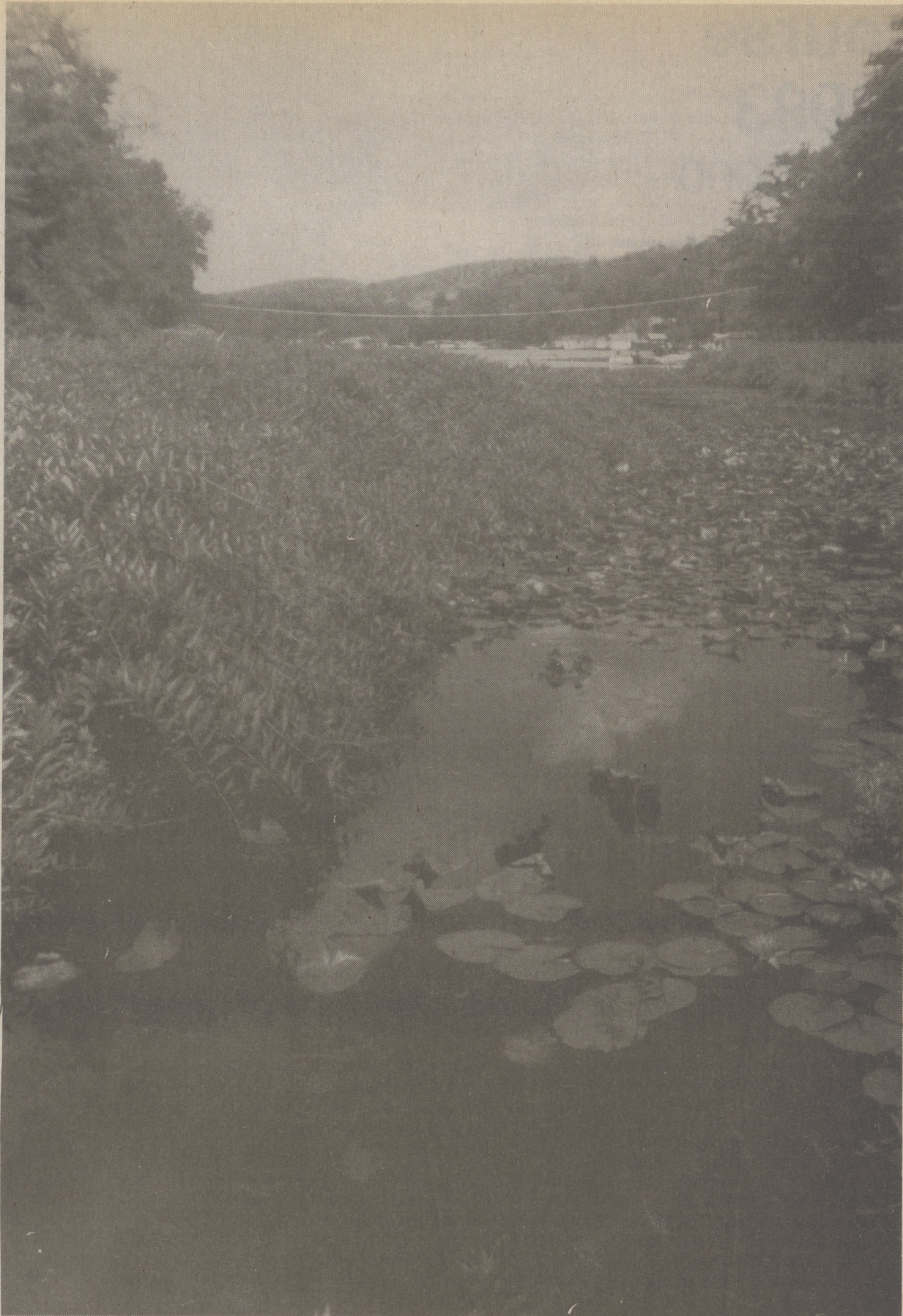
But when it comes to qualifications for the Supreme Court, Mr. Thomas falls well short, and his nomination smells more like a well-calculated political decision than a principled nomination. Mr. Thomas has less than two years experience on the bench and has had little opportunity to distinguish himself. Prior to that, his time was spent primarily as an administrator in the Reagan administration, especially as head of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, where he was known principally for slowing enforcement and arguing against his agency's mission.

That's not to say that Mr. Thomas couldn't surprise his detractors by becoming a substantial justice; in the rarified air of a lifetime appointment, others have done so. But wouldn't it be far better to begin with a nominee who has shown evidence of judicial depth and brilliance?

Mr. Thomas can be considered the best candidate for the Supreme Court only if the choice is limited to conservative members of a minority group who oppose a woman's right to abortion. That focus is too narrow, and it is an insult to the hundreds of better-qualified candidates who have been passed by in recent years. The Senate should exercise its constitutional power by rejecting this obviously political nominee, in the hope that Mr. Bush will respond by truly seeking out the most qualified candidate for this critical post.

### Do you agree? Disagree?

Editorials are the opinion of the management of The Dallas Post. We welcome your opinion on contemporary issues in the form of letters to the editor. If you don't write, the community may never hear a contrasting point of view. Send letters to: The Dallas Post, P.O. Box 366, Dallas, PA 18612. Please include your name, address and daytime phone number so that we may verify authenticity. We reserve the right to edit for length and grammar.



Lilies of the lake

Photo by Charlotte Bartizek

## Letters

### Recycling may be less helpful than it seems

Editor,  
In spite of the way it has been implemented, everyone knows what a good thing our new recycling program is going to be for the environment and the economy. However, some persistently annoying issues have yet to be resolved...

First, there is the matter of monopoly. In other countries (and possibly some parts of the United States), government-granted monopolies are a source of power and money for the political structure. Apparently, in such places, some men are willing to pay handsomely for their monopoly rights. These costs (along with overpriced services) are, of course, passed along to the hapless "customers" who have no other recourse. In a nation

which still claims to believe in free men and free markets, this is a troublesome issue.

Second, there is the issue of recycling vs. alternative methods of waste disposal. While it sounds logical that re-using previously produced materials would be more economical, than creating new materials, the fact is that, as yet, markets for the "recyclables" have not yet materialized. Currently, the question seems to be: Who will take the recyclables and at what cost?

A July 18, Wall St. Journal article by Prof. Clark Wiseman of Spokane's Gonzaga University discusses the problems that New York City is having in disposing of

its recyclables. It states that at around \$300 per ton, the cost has proven to be well in excess of the \$65 per ton figure that was originally estimated.

Prof. Wiseman concludes that: "The choking off of a viable alternative like low cost and environmentally sound landfills is wasteful of society's resources. Before continuing to run headlong toward politically popular but costlier alternatives—including recycling—it would be wise to give increased attention to the real cause of the so-called solid waste crisis".

I wonder if we all haven't been sold a "bill of goods"?

Hugh P. King  
Dallas

## Library news

### Great ideas and recipes are in the Back Mountain Memorial Library Cookbook

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Back Mountain Memorial Library cookbook is truly an exciting book. The title of the book is "Chefs and Artists" with the cover showing our new building front and back. The cover picture was done by Sue Hand, our own local artist. The back of the book shows a picture of the auction block and a list of the auction chairmen from 1947 through 1991.

The book was printed by Precision Litho-Graphics of Dallas and is divided into categories. The first category is Chef's Best—A gift to us, which features the chef's recipes; second is Something Special, which gives recipes from Barbara Bush, Ellen Casey, Wolfgang Puck and other celebrity persons; other items include Tid-Bits; The Salad Bar; Noon Time; From the Sea; The Birds; The mighty Main Dish; Give us This Day our Daily Bread; Sweets and Treats; The Cookie Tray; Cake Crumbs; Good and Plenty Pies; and Potpourri to conclude the categories.

The cookbook covers 380 pages of sheer delight and many recipes to experiment with. The books are available at the library for \$12.00 each. The bulk of the books will not be ready for a few weeks; one or two may be purchased at the circulation desk. These cookbooks

would make an excellent gift for someone who likes to cook.

The 45th annual library auction accountants are busy working on the financial end of the auction and have come up with some preliminary figures. There are still more bills to be paid and hopefully, more money to come in; however they now report a gross figure to date of \$63,035.09 with expenses of \$18,878.79 which would give us a net of \$44,156.30.

The final net profit will be announced at the August 6 library board meeting. Our projected budget for 1991 includes a profit from the 1991 auction of \$47,500, which means at the moment, we are down about \$3,000.

Thank yous are in order for Kerry Freeman and Craig Aicher who again were in charge of the auc-

tioners and block people for the auction, and they did an excellent job in recruiting and keeping things moving smoothly on the block. Our New Goods chairmen were new this year and they did a great job; hopefully to try again next year.

Frank and Carol Zeske did most of the calls and pickups themselves. The Dallas Rotary Club handled the Refreshment stand once again with Frank Schray as chairman and they have expressed a desire to continue in this position in 1992.

Maryan Daily did a super job with the Nearly Old booth again and we appreciate her endeavors for this area. The Book Booth did a great job with the able support of Priscilla Liput, Bennie Matchette and Mrs. Florence Crump. All in all, the volunteers that work for this library are just super.

## Only yesterday

### 60 Years Ago - Aug. 7, 1931 VANCAMPEN TO OPEN NEW DINING ROOM

Dallas Borough School Board at its meeting Wednesday night set September 5, as the date for the opening of school.

Dallas members of the Jr. O.U.A.M. are raising funds for the new green house being erected at the Orphans Home at Tiffin, Ohio, which will enable the home management to plant an additional 2 1/2 acres of fresh vegetables for the benefit of the children's health.

Herman VanCampen, progressive merchant of Shavertown, will open his newly built diningroom to the public on Saturday.

Dallas Nine bows to Beaumont 7-5 in the Rural League.

### 50 Years Ago - Aug. 1, 1941 FLANNERY SEEKS JUDGESHIP

Tech. Sgt. Chauncey W. Turner, Dallas, 109th Field Artillery at Indiantop Gap; Keats Poad, Dallas Township, Air Force Combat Command; and 2nd Lt. Alfred M. Camp, Trucksville, received promotions in the military this week.

Congressman J. Harold Flannery is seeking nomination for judge of the Court of Common Pleas in Luzerne County.

Wed - Margaret Barnard and Andrew J. Sordoni, Jr.

Kingston Township leads in the construction of apartment buildings to meet the greater demand for apartments in the Back Mountain area. R.G. Williams of Shavertown leads the way with four-family apartment dwelling on Spruce Street.

Raub's Hotel is the lone building standing that links Dallas with its past.

Vast farms of early settlers in Trucksville are broken into tiny lots and the old homesteads are gone, as the little country town became a well-settled residential area.

### 40 Years Ago - Aug. 3, 1951 STENGER GRADUATES NAVAL RADIO SCHOOL

Back Mountain Kennel Club to hold its seventh annual show at Irem Temple Country Club, August 19 with Mrs. Bart Collet as chairperson.

Fifteen Back Mountain Sunday Schools will picnic tomorrow at noon at Harveys Lake picnic grounds.

Toll Gate Lions Club sponsors a safety program to have the highway speed limit at 35 miles per hour going through Shavertown and adjoining communities.

Daniel J. Stenger, son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Stenger, Jr., Shavertown graduated from United States Naval Radio School at Norfolk, VA., following in the footsteps of his dad who served in World War I as Chief Radio operator aboard the Destroyer Shaw.

Engaged - Mildred Borton and Alexander Maloney Jr.

Wed - Clara M. Warden and F.E. Brenner.

"The Great Caruso" starring Mario Lanza and Ann Blythe, was playing at Himmler Theatre, Friday and Saturday.

### 30 Years Ago - Aug. 3, 1961 CONSTRUCTION OF NEW SCHOOL HALTED

Pickers halt construction at the new Dallas Senior High School. Edward Buckley was recently elected Commander of American Legion Daddow-Isaacs Post 672.

Eight-year-old Susan Polachek followed in her mother's footsteps last Tuesday when she was awarded the blue ribbon for turning out a perfect 4-H layer cake. Her mother, Mrs. John Polachek is considered one of the very best bakers in the Gate of Heaven Parish and sent in a winning name for a King Midas Flour bit of baking.

Engaged - Shirley Ann Darnell and Dr. William F. Hale; Mary Ellen Bunney and Gerald Gavigan; Carolyn Louise Gauck and Kenneth Thomas.

Wed - Carol Ruth Weaver and Thomas Richardson; Sharon Jean Butler and Peter V. Lukasavage; Linda Marie Louise Everett and Robert T. Kotyk.

Dogs and dolls compete for prizes at Dallas Borough playground in a program sponsored by Dallas Schools.

### 20 Years Ago - Aug. 5, 1971 CRAFT AUCTION TO HIGHLIGHT FALL FAIR

Kingston Township police interview about 25 teenagers about an area drug party.

Camp Onawandah, Girl Scout Camp for years, was sold to Harveys Lake resident Arnold Garinger and his partner, Bob Cumens, and the camp will reopen August 7 as a family recreation campground.

College Misericordia's 1971 Theatre 3 campaign nears its goals of 350 campaign benefactors.

Engaged - Leslie A. Vivian and Donald L. Irving; Nancy Ellen Lynch and Thomas Eugene Degnen.

## 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  
Production Manager

Eric Foster  
Reporter  
Jean Hillard  
Office Manager

Olga Kostrobala  
Classified/typesetting

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

Send your sports results to:  
The Dallas Post  
309-415 Plaza, P.O. Box 366  
Dallas, PA 18612