

## THE DALLAS POST

## EDITORIALS

## Sec. Cheney's show not worth the price

As Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney proved last week, mindless waste and plain old dumbness aren't restricted to one end of Pennsylvania Avenue. Overreacting to news that he had written 20-odd checks when insufficient funds were in his account at the so-called House Bank, Cheney proceeded to conduct a half-hour-long press conference complete with huge blowups of his account statements, ostensibly to prove that he was unaware of the overdrafts.

Lighten up, Dick! You're taking yourself a little too seriously. We understand; you were just a lowly member of Congress when this happened, and we're sure you never had any inkling that you could write checks in advance of making a deposit. After all, only about 300 of your colleagues were doing it, so it must have been a secret.

We have only one question. How much did it cost the taxpayers for you to do your wounded pride act? Surely those impressive blow-ups and the time your staff spent researching and rationalizing added up to a pretty penny. But I guess that's what taxes are for; so that the powerful can maintain their myth of superiority — at our expense, of course.

## Teachers show class in contract agreement

Negotiating labor contracts is seldom an easy task, but the result last week in the Dallas School District was well worth the pain and aggravation. Everyone involved deserves commendation for their effort, and in the end their good sense. Now the district can get on with the real business at hand, delivering high-quality education to the students.

The final outcome was made possible because a majority of the district's 142 teachers realized that it was logical in today's economy to accept a more modest wage increase than the union leadership had originally asked for. They knew that an average five percent annual raise and improved benefits were not skimpy when compared to the rate of inflation and the lower raises — if any — most of their neighbors had gotten in recent years. And all the teachers must be congratulated for dismissing the strike option so that students and parents did not have their lives disrupted unnecessarily.

The compromise contract was also a demonstration of the effect citizens can have on their own fate. While you can question some of their tactics, it's hard to fault the principle for which the Dallas Taxpayers' Forum was fighting — the right to have real influence on a decision that will affect their lives. In between, school board members took the heat from all sides and wisely charted a course that led to an acceptable agreement.

While the debate was intense, it was usually focused on the issue and not on personalities. Some teachers felt that they were attacked unfairly, but by and large their qualifications were less at issue than their pay raise. Perhaps the tenor of the discussion helped them to realize how different was their perspective from that of the general population.

Because the new agreement sets salaries for only two years — more than one fourth of which has already passed — the district and its teachers will be negotiating again before we know it. We, and the entire Back Mountain, hope the next round is quicker and less divisive than the last.

## Brighten your day while fighting cancer

As spring arrives (for good, we hope), it's time again for an annual tradition that may help find a cure for a deadly disease. The American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days fundraising program uses the symbol of the first flower of spring to illustrate the hope of eliminating cancer.

While many businesses and individuals placed their orders in advance of this week's distribution of the flowers, it's not too late to help. Bunches of daffodils will be on sale Friday at businesses in the area, and every purchase will mean a little more money to continue the fight against this killer.

You can brighten your day and perhaps help to lengthen someone's life by stopping to buy a bunch of daffodils this week.

## 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 a daytime phone number so that we may verify authenticity. The Post does not publish anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit for length and grammar, but will call if we think editing might change the meaning.



Sure sign of spring

Photo by Charlotte Bartizek

## Letter

## Kingston Twp. supervisors protest cable TV price hike

Editor:  
The Kingston Township Board of Supervisors, at their regular monthly meeting held March 11, 1992, unanimously passed Resolution 1992-3, protesting the recently announced cable television increase by Tele-Media Company of Luzerne County.

The announced rate increase will become effective April 1, 1992. The increase reflects an enormous 12 percent rise in the basic cable rate paid by the company's subscribers. The Supervisors feel that

this rate increase is simply not fair based on economic conditions, inflation rates, or any other criteria.

The Supervisors believe very strongly that Tele-Media is taking advantage of its status as an unregulated monopoly. The Township has no power to regulate cable rates. As with all local regulations, enabling legislation must be passed by higher levels of government to grant the regulatory power to local governments.

The Supervisors have acted to

the limit of their authority. It is now up to the Tele-Media subscribers who will be affected by this increase to write to Senator Spector, Senator Wofford and Representative Kanjorski urging them to pass legislation regulating cable television rates, or granting that power to local governments. The Supervisors also urge subscribers to contact Tele-media officials to voice their opposition directly to the source of the rate increase.

The Township is also reviewing F.C.C. regulations promulgated in

1991 regarding effective competition. The Township will do everything within its authority to protest this rate hike which is being thrust upon our citizens by Tele-Media.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our opinion on this matter of great importance to our residents.

FOR THE KINGSTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
Jeffrey K. Box  
Township Manager

## Library news

## Raffle of 'Opportunity Quilt' will benefit girl with tumor

By NANCY KOZEMCHAK

The Back Mountain Memorial Library will have on display for the next few weeks the Opportunity Quilt, which has been a group effort of the Parent Enrichment Group of the Trucksville Nursery School. The mothers of the children in the school took on the quilting project in an effort to raise funds. This has rekindled an interest in the early American art form and has resulted in a blue and cream colored, queen size quilt with a star pattern. The promotion hopes to raise funds for classroom equipment for the nursery school, and has recently aided in the installation of a chain link fence in the play yard at the school.

The quilting group would also

like to support the Wendy Reese fund. Wendy is a three year old child from the nursery school who has been hospitalized at the Geisinger Hospital in Danville with a cancerous tumor. Tickets for an opportunity to win the quilt are \$1; proceeds will benefit the Parents Group and the Wendy Reese Fund. Tickets may be purchased at the library; Back Mountain Quilt Works, Dallas; or chairman of the project, Kathy Ashton, phone 696-3941. The quilt drawing will be held at the nursery school on Sunday Sundae, April 26 and the winner will be notified.

The Book Club of the library met in the reference room recently to begin the new season. The treasurer's report showed 188 members have joined the club for 1992

with a contribution of \$1,219.56 in dues to purchase books for the Book Club shelf. The program was presented by our children's librarian, Marilyn Rudolph. The topic of her talk was "The Splendor of Thailand," revolving around her recent trip to that country. The program consisted of a lecture, pictures and a video. The next meeting will be Monday, April 13 at 1:30.

## New books at the library:

Book Club purchases, "Fortune Is A Woman" by Elizabeth Adler is a new novel that sweeps the reader up in the lives of bold-spirited women who struggle to escape the bonds of fate. Francie Harrison was the unwanted daughter of a San Francisco multi-millionaire

and at 18, she was disowned by her brutalizing father and forced to make her own way. Annie Aysgarth, a dutiful daughter, was a convenient servant to her widowed father. The two women's paths crossed for the first time in the aftermath of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. A rich narrative filled with passion, suspense and surprise.

"Mating" by Norman Rush is the winner of the 1991 National Book Award. This novel is a comedy of manners on the grandest scale. It revolves around two Americans on the loose in developing Africa. She is an anthropologist, a woman men are drawn to and she has a bankrupt thesis project and a solvent alternative plan to bend her extraordinary talents.

## Only Yesterday

60 Years Ago - Mar. 25, 1932  
KINGSTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS OPERETTA

Dallas Community Club will hold a card party April 1, at College Misericordia to benefit the unemployed in and about Dallas.

Dallas Township PTA and members of the school board met with Mr. Rasmus, State Landscape Gardener in a movement to beautify the school grounds.

Kingston Township High School will present an operetta "The Count and the Co-ed" at the high school auditorium on Thursday and at the Shavertown Church basement on Friday.

Shavertown earned the right to enter the semi-finals of the Rural League when they defeated Lehman 42-22, at the high school gym.

50 Years Ago - Mar. 27, 1942  
SCARLET FEVER HITS THE BACK MOUNTAIN

Residents of the Dallas Area between 18-48 will be given the opportunity to take written exams, sponsored by the U.S. Civil Service Commission to qualify for clerical or carrier positions at the Post Office the latter part of next month.

Due to a tire shortage the tannery in Noxen showed 40 new bikes in their parking lot as workers are riding their bikes to work.

The Scarlet Fever epidemic has reached the Back Mountain Region with eight cases reported in

Dallas Borough and Kingston Township alone and one physician is treating more than a dozen scattered throughout this section.

Wed - Alma Nelson to Frederick M. Drake.

40 Years Ago - Mar. 28, 1952  
'DECISION BEFORE DAWN' PLAYING AT THE HIMMLER THEATRE

William Guyette prominent Back Mountain businessman and veteran was elected President of the Kingston Township Veterans Association.

Shavertown Volunteer Fire Department has set a goal of \$1,500 for its annual membership and fund raising drive which will open May 12.

"Decision Before Dawn" starring Michael O'Shea, now playing at the Himmler Theatre.

Pfc Dale Kocher is on a 30-day furlough at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rodell Kocher of Harveys Lake after spending 41 months overseas.

30 Years Ago - Mar. 29, 1962  
JAMES BESECKER HONORED BY ROTARY

James F. Besecker, one of the staunchest community supporters Dallas ever had was honored by Dallas Rotary Club at its 35th dinner dance held at Irem Country Club.

Opening of the U.S. Post Office, Wyoming National Bank and Back

Mountain Hardware Co's new buildings in the Back Mountain Shopping Area at Shavertown will provide a gala occasion for all Back Mountain residents.

Sixty five top musicians and their directors from seven school of the West Side Conference will present a band concert at the Dallas Senior High School auditorium Thursday evening.

Sister M. Celestine, R.S.M., president of College Misericordia, expressed appreciation to the teachers and administrators from the Dallas area who were among the 400 educators who attended College Misericordia's 3rd Annual Reading Conference.

"Town Without Pity" starring Kirk Douglas now playing at the Dallas Drive-In Theater.

20 Years Ago - Mar. 30, 1972  
TELECABLE TO ADD THREE CHANNELS  
Preliminary Plans for garden

type apartments have been laid before the Dallas Borough Planning Commission. The apartments, approximately six in number, are to be built on the former Risley property on Huntsville Road and Lehman Avenue.

Atty. James Lenahan Brown filed a motion for argument before the PUC in Harrisburg on legal questions in the interest of several local complainants who oppose the 17% increase granted to Luzerne Electric Division of UGI Corp.

Back Mountain Telecable Co. is geared to start three more channels, by importing New York City Channels 11 and 9 and Philadelphia Channel 17 for its cable customers by the beginning of next week.

Dallas High School gym was jammed with 1,000 children and their parents at the annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Dallas Junior Woman's Club. Highlight of the afternoon was the appearance of Mr. Easter Bunny.

Rep. George C. Hasay is co-sponsoring legislation dealing with automobile insurance cancellation that will be introduced in March.

Hasay said the bill will prohibit cancellation or a refusal to renew automobile insurance as a result

of an accident which was not the fault of the insured person.

"Insurance companies should not be allowed to cancel policies because of accidents that were the not fault of the insured," Hasay said.

## 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.

Eric Foster  
Reporter

Paul Rismiller  
Production Manager

Grace R. Dove  
Reporter

Olga Kostrobala  
Classified/typesetting

Jean Hillard  
Office Manager

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