

THE DALLAS POST

EDITORIALS

Charlot Denmon's spirit lives on in college scholarships

Charlot Denmon's abiding interest in young people will be honored later this spring when a graduating senior at each of our local high schools is awarded a college scholarship in her memory.

Until her death last September, Charlot "Tooties" Denmon served this newspaper for 20 years as its most consistent, knowledgeable reporter and editor. She served her community even longer and never more than when she supported young people on their journey to maturity. At The Post, Tooties never missed an opportunity to publicize their accomplishments in the classroom and on the athletic field.

When Mrs. Denmon died last September, The Dallas Post began the fund that will be divided to provide scholarships of more than \$700 each to two deserving students.

The recipients, Jeremiah Van Orden from Dallas and Jennifer Smith from Lake-Lehman, were chosen on the basis of their academic and athletic performance. Those who knew Tooties well couldn't miss her enthusiasm for student-athletes, especially those who worked hardest to earn their rewards. In selecting the recipients, The Post and school personnel tried to choose them as she would have.

We at The Post are grateful to all the contributors to this fund; you have helped sustain Mrs. Denmon's memory in a way we believe she would have approved of.

Public officials must keep public in mind

Zoning is one of the most important concerns of citizens, especially if they own property. Their comfort, and to a large extent their financial well-being, is dependent on what uses of property are allowed in their neighborhood. For that reason, it is desirable that local government officials make every effort to inform residents of their municipality when changes in zoning are being considered. That has not happened as often or as well as it should in the Back Mountain.

In the latest example, The Post published an article in last week's issue pointing out some of the changes that are being proposed in Dallas Borough. Our story was triggered by a letter from a borough resident who feared that some aspects of the new ordinance would be detrimental to the borough. The letter implied that the new zoning codes were written to disguise an intent to allow intensive development in the borough. The author also pointed out that the ordinance had received a "first reading" in April and thus could be legally adopted at the next meeting of the borough council with little public discussion having taken place.

Borough officials responded that a legal notice advertisement had been published saying a new zoning code book was completed and would be considered at an upcoming council meeting, and that public hearings devoted specifically to discussion of the new ordinance were planned, although no dates had been set for those hearings.

Of greater concern, two weeks after the first public reading no map was available showing the new zoning layout. Certainly, common sense would suggest that the new code not be approved until residents have had adequate opportunity to inspect a completed map that clearly illustrates the zones.

Most of these complaints have now been answered. A public hearing has been scheduled for May 20 and a map showing the proposed zoning scheme has been created. Now it will be up to the citizenry to show whether or not they care.

The point of all this is not to question the integrity of the elected and appointed public servants in Dallas Borough, but to ask once again that all governmental bodies in the Back Mountain make a greater effort to invite public participation. Certainly, if someone from the Dallas Borough planning commission or council had approached The Post about a story that would have outlined the proposed zoning changes and the reasons for them, they would have been welcomed.

It is more important now than ever that public officials make the process of government open and accountable. Not only is that the best way to avoid an often-misguided skepticism of authority, it will encourage the interest and cooperation of citizens who possess knowledge and expertise that can help make our communities better places in which to live.

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 your 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, but will consider withholding names when appropriate. We reserve the right to edit for length and grammar, but will call the author if we think editing may change meaning.



Forsythia come out of hiding

Photo by Charlotte Bartizek

Letters

A tribute to late Dr. Paul Andrews

Editor: Eastertime, a time of celebration of new beginnings, new growth of the beauties of the earth, new life, was a time of reflection for me. As I walked into Saint Frances Church on this holy day, I remembered not being able to walk.

In 1978, in an unfortunate accident, I fractured my ankle. Through the care and skill of Dr. Paul Andrews, my severely injured ankle was surgically repaired; as a direct result of his care and attention, I was walking once again

within a few months. His kindness to me personally and professionally eased my anxiety and reduced my stress during a very difficult time of my life. He repaired my ankle, and he cared for me through this trauma.

I thanked him many times for his conscientious skill, his courtesy, his kindness to me while I was disabled. I did not make public note until now because I understood that he was a man of humility, a man who did not thrive on

public acclaim, but rather found his personal and professional gratification in the success of his work as he saw people like me walk again.

I acknowledge his success publicly now, to remind us all that we are diminished by his illness, by his inability to practice the art and the science of orthopedic surgery and by his recent passing to his ultimate reward. Ask not for whom the bell tolls...

Eleanor T. Buda
Sweet Valley

Preventing pet overpopulation is humane

Editor: Every year in America, up to 15 million dogs and cats are killed simply because there are not enough good homes for them.

They are sentenced to death for the "crime" of being born. Thank heaven most shelters at least try to administer that sentence in the most merciful manner possible.

But there is an alternative. Doesn't it make infinitely more sense to prevent pet overpopula-

tion through reproductive control than to try and "cure" it by killing these poor animals?

Of course it does!

Especially when you realize that two uncontrolled breeding cats, plus their kittens and all their kittens' kittens if none are spayed or neutered, have the potential to multiply to more than 80 million cats during a 10 year breeding life.

In addition to making sense from a humane perspective, it also

makes sense from an economic perspective. Every dollar spent by a community today on spaying and neutering dogs and cats can save \$18 in the next 10 years.

Let's urge our officials to promote more aggressive spaying and neutering programs to stop this killing of innocent animals.

If each animal owner acts responsibly there would not be a problem of overpopulation.

Edith Hacker
Dallas

Parent says it's time to appreciate teachers

Editor: As a parent who is involved in school activities on both elementary and secondary levels, I would like to make a few comments regarding the teachers of the Lake-Lehman School District.

During Teachers Appreciation Week, let's put aside the salary disputes and contract issues and view our educational system through the eyes of our children.

They see: The awesome teacher who makes learning math fun, the teacher who takes time to help them with their computer banners, the teacher who always does innovative things to keep them interested, the teachers who made the RIF Program special by baking cookies and decorating T-shirts to

fit the book themes. Those teachers who make an extra effort to include parents in their many projects, particularly the reading teachers. The teachers who gave up a Saturday to join the students in "Make a Difference Day" activities. The music teachers who put in countless hours working on their musical programs.

They see the teacher who takes the time to teach them how to take proper care of American Flag and the teacher who helps them be creative with their special bulletin board project. They see the principals who have helped and supported countless projects including a special program to help ease the transition from elementary to secondary school for both parent

and student.

They see the teachers who double as coaches and end up wearing many hats such as counselor, Big Sister or Brother or just being there to talk when needed. They see the time and effort put into making our "Peer Helper Program" work...enabling senior high students to talk to and tutor elementary through junior high school students.

I ask you as a fellow parent, to please stop and think of the many positive things that take place in our school district before you indulge in the now popular sport of teacher bashing.

Mrs. Joyce Birt
Parent and Taxpayer
Lake-Lehman School District

Red Cross offers HIV/AIDS instructor training

The Wyoming Valley Chapter, American Red Cross, will conduct an HIV/AIDS Instructor Education Course at the Chapter House, 156 S. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, from 6-10 p.m., on four successive Wednesdays, May 27, June 3, 10 and 17.

This 16 hour course, conducted in four 4-hour sessions, provides

for quality instruction in HIV infection and AIDS. Instructors, completing the requirements, will be able to present facts about HIV infection, including AIDS, with a non-judgmental and culturally sensitive perspective and thus be

able to teach effectively in the community.

Persons interested in registering are asked to call the Health Services Office, 823-7162, ext. 35, for additional information. There is a charge for materials.

Only yesterday

60 Years Ago - May 6, 1932 CLARK SMITH HONORED AFTER SAVING TWO FRIENDS FROM DROWNING

Clark D. Smith, 16, Dallas was among the six Pennsylvania residents cited for awards by Carnegie Hero Fund Commission of Pittsburgh in recognition for heroism. Smith saved two playmates from drowning in icy waters of Harveys Lake, Jan. 10, 1931.

Kingston Twp. School Board directors at their regular meeting approved 19 students for graduation, but no action was taken on the naming of teachers at the High School.

Dallas Township opened the 1932 Bi-County League Baseball at Trucksville and won by the score of 14-2.

Dallas Borough schools are observing National Music Week. Interesting chapel programs have been arranged by Ruth C. Palm, the music supervisor. An opera "Spring Glow" will be presented on Friday by the first six grades.

50 Years Ago - May 8, 1942 MORE AREA MEN ARE NEEDED FOR MILITARY SERVICE

With the list of the first and second Selective Service registrations nearly exhausted, officials of Local Board #1 at Wyoming and Board #5 at Shickshinny are prepared to induct men from the February 16 draft enrollment for military service.

Residents of four additional streets, Wellington, Claude, Jackson and Parrish subscribed 100% this week as the Street-Signs-For-Dallas continued. Collections for street markers on Main, Church and Baldwin are reported nearly completed.

"Kings Row" starring Ann Sheridan and Robert Cummings now playing at the Kingston Theatre.

40 Years Ago - May 9, 1952 FRED CASE WILL TAKE OVER LAKE-NOXEN'S MATH DEPARTMENT

Fred Case, Noxen will take over the Math Department at Lake-Noxen Township schools in September, in addition to coaching basketball and baseball according to decision of the Joint School Board. He replaces James A. Krum who left to accept employment with the Radium Corp. of America.

The Cancer Drive is way below quota according to Mrs. Harry Ohlman, chairman with a total of \$460.75. The quota is \$2,000. On Tuesday evening children from local schools will make a door to door canvass for last minute contributions.

Harris Haycox was sworn Tuesday by Justice of Peace James Besecker to fill the unexpired four year term of Timothy LaBar, deceased at the Dallas Borough Council meeting.

Wed - Florence Yockavitch to Ziba Smith.

30 Years Ago - May 10, 1962 DALLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX WILL REMAIN AT 78 MILLS

Dallas School budget tentatively set at \$1,139,750 for the 1962-63 school year was thrashed out at the executive session Tuesday night. Millage will remain the same at the present level of 78. Per Capita tax will increase from \$10 to \$12. Budget will be available for study at the school office. Adoption of the budget will take place at the June 11 meeting.

The crowd at the Library Auction Kick-Off Dinner at the Irem Temple Country Club exceeded the estimated attendance and late comers had to have emergency seating. Door prize, a Hot Point Electric Range was won by Mr. and Mrs. T. Hillyer, Machell Avenue.

Aunt Jemima Pancake Festival at Dallas Senior High School raised \$2,000 of the \$5,250 needed; to send the Key Club Drill Team to the Kiwanis International Convention in June.

20 Years Ago - May 11, 1972 HUNGRY CROWD ATTENDS ELBY'S GRAND OPENING

Despite inclement weather a large crowd of interested and hungry patrons were at the opening of a new restaurant in the Back Mountain as borough and company officials formally cut a ribbon to open Elby's Restaurant.

Sr. Ann Horgan, RSM, math instructor at College Misericordia has been named to succeed retiring Dean of Women Sr. May Joel Magill, RSM. Sr. Ann will assume the responsibilities of office August 1.

Wed - Carolyn R. Gass to Thomas M. Brennan; Janice Palmoski to Robert Slimak.

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